



# Grace Notes

February 2021

**"Is this not the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the captive free and break every yoke?...then your light will break forth like the dawn...you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings." - Isaiah 58:6,12**

These verses from Isaiah were a focus recently during an OHFI retreat (of which HANNAH is a partner). What an amazing vision these words inspire... to bring about justice... freedom...dawning light...repairers! From these verses came the statement "Let us be known as restorers of families" What an incredible privilege it is to be part of bringing restoration to people's lives. Bless you all for being part of this vision in whatever way you do.

Below are some stories of the hope HANNAH brings to families who need the words of Isaiah to be true for them.

## Romania

Ilona has been able to continue to visit the families associated with HANNAH and bless them with Christmas shoe boxes generously donated by Malta Love Service and the Philothea Klub (CE).



A Present

A New Scarf

A New Hat

A New Jacket

Because the children have spent most of their lives together in an institution, they see each other as family. To keep these important connections going Ilona has brought the children together regularly from their different family situations to cook, learn and have fun at the CE house. They have all loved these times and eagerly looked forward them.

HANNAH works in Romania to bring Hope and Nurture to children and families who struggle to care for their own. The work currently centres around children living in institutional care while building links with their families and communities.

**Hannah's prayer is also HANNAH's prayer ...**

*"There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God... He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap"*

1 Samuel 2 v 2,8.

HOPE AND NURTURE  
**HANNAH**  
NURTURE AND HOPE

Ilona writes: "After finishing eating, I let the children outside to play in the snow. They loved it. Time passed by so fast. The children helped with cleaning up the CE house and then everyone was brought home. It was around 7 pm when we got back to the CE office with the cars.

A special 'Thank you' to Erno and Örs and Ilona's Dad for volunteering their time to help Ilona to make these excursions and visits happen. Some places are not safe for Ilona to go to on her own therefore it is important to have someone to accompany her as well as providing transport. Bless you.

### **Andika's family**

Andika is currently living with her mother but she has other brothers and a sister in state care. Her mother Katalin would dearly love to have them all home but needs to show that she has a home suitable for all the children. Until recently many Romanians could work in western Europe earning enough money to make changes to their life styles. However, with covid-19 there are less jobs available and these jobs are not so easy to get hold of. Please remember Katalin as she seeks to strengthen her relationship with her children and plans toward providing them with their own home.



## **Changes in work situations**

### **Kati**

Please remember Kati as she prepares to return to work for HANNAH and CE on the 8th of March. Zsolt will take time off his work to care for the children until they turn 2 years old in May, after which they will go to day care, if available and open following the current covid restrictions. This is a trying time for them as they make these adjustments and particularly so, as there is no guarantee that child care centres will be open full-time by then.

### **Ilona**

Ilona has recently accepted an offer of fulltime employment with the nutrition company she has been working for part-time during the past year, as well as HANNAH. We will be very sad to see her go. She brought wonderful teaching skills and knowledge to the work of HANNAH, establishing the work in the community through the upheavals of the past year due to covid-19. She showed great courage and tenacity in doing so. This is not the final 'goodbye,' We will write more in the next newsletter to acknowledge her and the work she has done. If there are any comments or remarks you would like to make then please email me and I will present them to her. Thank you.

## **2021**

In spite of the changing circumstances around the world we hope that you were able to have a blessed Christmas and beginning to the new year 2021. We were very blessed in NZ to be able to travel freely within the country so that many could spend Christmas and New Year with family and friends.

## **Prayer**

Please pray...

- For Katalin's plans for her family.
- For Kati as she prepares to return to work early March.
- For Ilona as she leaves HANNAH and moves on to other full time employment.

## **For more information contact:**

Alice and Ken Winter  
Phone: 64 (0)21 029 61 545

Email: [alice.w@hopeandnurture.org](mailto:alice.w@hopeandnurture.org)  
[www.hopeandnurture.org](http://www.hopeandnurture.org)

## **Donations :**

**Via Open Home Foundation International:**  
ANZ Wellington  
01 0505 0602787 83  
Reference: HANNAH ROMANIA

**Via HANNAH – Hope And Nurture Trust:**  
ANZ Wellington  
01 0677 0140312 00