

# Face of a Child Distribution

December 2007

A team of 4 traveled to Moldova from December 8 to 16, 2007 representing Grace Chapel in the distribution of Face of a Child packages. They visited both orphanages and villages with spiritual and physical food and gifts. Before items were distributed to each group, we had the opportunity to tell the people that these gifts were nothing compared to a greater gift that is available to them – the gift of God’s love and eternal life that is free for the asking. We explained that the gifts we distributed were sent by people who love God and wanted to share God’s love with them. We told them that their pictures were on refrigerators and in Bibles all over New England, and that people were praying for them by name. In one instance this message was also broadcast on television! It is hard to judge the spiritual impact on the children, but one thing is certain – the children (and adults) understand that there is a God who knows who they are, loves them and cares for them.

## Blindești

*Village: 100 Children & 80 Elderly*

After a 3+ hour drive, we were met at the school by the mayor of this village of several hundred people. The village was hit hard by the drought – many are struggling to feed their families. The school had no room large enough for everyone so we distributed packages outside in a light drizzle. Some of the children treated us to a short concert. The music teacher played the accordion while the teachers and Little Samaritan staff sang traditional songs. The government used to subsidize food for this school, but stopped the subsidies. Pray for this village as they think about the next planting season – they have no seeds because of this year’s poor harvest. After distributing bags of food to the elderly, we visited homes of several village families who were handicapped or unable to get to the school for their packages.



Excitement was on all the children’s faces as we pulled the packages out of boxes. Ruslan from LSM told a story of another group – one of the visitors hugged a child and the child started crying. The visitor tried to find out what was wrong and the child said that it was the first time he had ever been hugged. We gave out lots of hugs here!

## Little Samaritan Soup Kitchen

*Serving: 80 Elderly per Day*

We had the privilege to help package food and serve the elderly at Little Samaritan’s soup kitchen. A wonderful, godly woman named Eugenia leads the group in song and worship each day. Many more meals are sent home to shut-ins by the people who come. The seniors were also treated (?) to a concert of Christmas Carols by the team.



## Sărata Nouă

*Orphanage: 156 Children*

The snow began today and never stopped until we left Moldova. The orphanage at Sărata Nouă is a drab, grey building without indoor facilities. The director does what she can for the children, but \$1.25 per day per child cannot cover all expenses. Our gifts help tremendously with the children’s needs.



## Strașeni

*Veterans: 50 Veterans*



Those who served in the military struggle with small pensions and little hope. We were able to share God’s love and give them hope in Him, while also meeting some of their physical needs. And our visit

was taped by a local television station. The entire village heard message of God’s love that evening!

### Orphanage:

85 Children

All the children were outside waiting for us when we arrived. Many were wearing the same cloth jacket, better suited to a warm spring day than the snowy cold. What a joy it was for them to open the packages and put on warm winter coats, hats and mittens. After our special meal they went outdoors and really enjoyed their new coats. God also showed us the Face of a Child version of “loaves & fishes”



here. We were short a few packages (even with the extras). At the last minute we realized that the duffel bags that had been lost luggage for a few days were in the van. There were 2 coats the exact sizes we needed for them!

### Senior Citizen's Home: 20 Elderly

Here we met both the residents and a godly man who ministers to them. Pastor Nicolai was once a high level government administrator (similar to a governor). He decided to read the Bible. He read for 3 years until he decided that the words were true and gave his life to Christ. At that time he quit his job and has been working for the Lord ever since. The senior citizens see God's love through this wonderful man who shares his life with them.



### Cişla

Village: 125 Children & 100 Elderly

The elderly of the village were at the school waiting for us when we arrived. As we pulled up to the school a man leaving with a piece of the furnace on a horse cart, an indication of the condition of much of the country. Food for the elderly was first here. Many people were shut-in and their children or neighbors picked up their packages for them. Seeing the eagerness with which the elderly accepted the food made us realize just how valuable this gift is to them.



Next we gave packages to the children who were crammed into the largest space in the school – a hallway. During the introduction Ruslan asked how many of these children had written letters to Little Samaritan radio station and

over half the children raised their hands. It was amazing to see the impact of the radio ministry in the villages, some of which have no Christian church and no pastor. The radio is often their only way to hear of God's love.

### Sofia

Village: Home Visits

We distributed much needed food to several families in the village.

- In one family the grandmother had been paralyzed for 6 months. The mother had to return from working out of the country to take care of her. They now have almost no income and struggle daily.

- Another family has 5 children, 2 of whom were in different orphanages because the family didn't have enough money to feed all of them.

- The last family had a heartbreaking story of an 82 year old woman caring for her 64 year old son, James, who had fallen ill and was

paralyzed and bed-ridden. The son had been married, but his wife left him when he got sick. A saintly neighbor comes daily to help care for the son. They have



no money to take him to a doctor to treat his illness. Little Samaritan Clinic gives him medicine for his pain whenever they can. We prayed with them and the son acknowledged the prayer even in his weak condition.

### Cupcini

Orphanage: 87 Children

This orphanage is an example of the impact one dedicated woman can have in children's lives. Galena has been a full-time local missionary to the children in the orphanage for the



last 11 years. Now nearly all of the children are Christians and some of those who have left the orphanage are ministering in local churches. Galena said that although the children have accepted the Lord,

many of them need to develop a deeper relationship with God. Some of the orphans attend a local Baptist church where they are fed spiritually.

Please pray for all of the children, elderly, infirmed and the many saints who faithfully serve them.

## Please Pray for:

### *Blindești*

- Food and fuel to take them through the winter
- Seed and a good crop next year
- A pastor and church for the village

### *Sărata Nouă*

- Missionaries to share the gospel with the children
- Indoor plumbing for the orphanage
- Repairs to the floors and linoleum to cover the concrete (\$200 per room for 17 bedrooms)
- Additional tables, chairs & dishes so the children can all eat at once

### *Little Samaritan Mission*

- Wisdom as they determine the future focus and goals of the organization in serving the Lord in Moldova and elsewhere
- Funds to keep the Soup Kitchen serving the elderly
- Approval of licenses and no government restrictions on proclaiming the gospel through the radio station

### *Jesus Savior Church*

- Continued church growth through their many outreach programs (Special Evangelistic Services, Summer Camps, VBS, Youth Programs, Computer Classes, English classes)
- Completion of the Sunday School Building to enable more effective ministering to the needs of the congregation
- Wisdom for pastor Vitalie as he leads the church

### *Strașeni*

- Strength and wisdom for Pastor Nicolai as he ministers to the children and senior citizens
- Materials (wood for the shop and fabric/thread) to enable the orphanage to utilize the new wood shop and sewing equipment that was donated to them
- For the faithful ministry of Jacob who joyfully and selflessly serves the local church

### *Cișla*

- Heat for the school
- Continued interest in hearing the gospel on Little Samaritan radio, and changed lives as a result
- A pastor and church to for the village so the children (and adults) can grow in their faith

### *Sofia*

- Effective medical care for James and grandmother
- Strength for the caregivers
- Lidia and Anatole who daily serve the needs of the orphans and villagers – send medical and dental teams to assist them; heal Anatole's back and continue to give both of them the strength and love to serve

### *Cupcini*

- Assistance for Galena as she struggles to help nearly 100 children learn and grow in their faith

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Ruth Chu, Bethany Stobbe, Sue Leach, Susan Rutgeron

