



Căminul Felix

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www.caminulfelix.org



Monthly E-mail update available

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Dear friends and dear sponsors,

We hope you are well! With joy and gratitude in our hearts we are thinking about you again and hoping that you will enjoy a beautiful and relaxing summer! Even though in the last several years the economy in the whole world has been suffering decline, which created a wave effect upon the lives of physical entities, families and companies, and, even though, at times, Caminul Felix also felt the decline of the economy, our projects are nevertheless going on, and this motivates us to remain engaged in the pursuit of being good managers of the resources that God gives us, thus honouring your gifts, which often come from sacrifices.

Therefore, we always remember the power of God to bring life in the midst of difficulties and we hope that the life stories you read in these newsletters shall be for you an encouragement to continue to support this ministry. As you will see in the story of Mihaela's life, the lives of many children can be touched and changed. Thanks to the ministry of Caminul Felix and thanks to your support, more and more lives are touched every year!

We thank you and wish you many blessings!





Adriana Takacs, mother of 11 children in Cypress House, will share the life story of her and her husband:

Our names are Adriana and Zoli Takacs. I come from a family with a faithful mother and an Orthodox father, who passed away last year. Since I was a child, my mother tried to sew in me the faith that dwelt in her.

My husband Zoli also comes from a family with a faithful mother, but he was father-orphaned from the age of five. Zoli had a difficult life, being raised only by his mother, a mother who worked hard to be both mother and father for him, trying to offer him a good education and a childhood as happy as possible.

Even though we are both from the city of Turda, we met in Cluj, another city. We were both working in Cluj, I as a nurse and Zoli as a dispatcher at a company that produces cement, concrete and aggregates. We married in 2008 and, even though we had other plans (to take up residence in Cluj), God's plan was different.

Zoli understood "part" of God's plan for his life only after he arrived at Caminul Felix. If until that time there were a lot of questions, lots of "whys", much bitterness and sadness, after arriving in Cypress House he started to understand "why" he had been left without a father since childhood. Who can understand someone left without parents, better than a person who actually went through that?

Therefore, we are at Caminul Felix not because we wanted to or because we are better, wiser or more capable than other people, but because God, in His plan, wanted to bring us here and we decided to listen to Him and follow him wherever He would lead us. At first we didn't understand this plan, but what I can strongly declare is that everything that we do here,

this entire ministry is not done by us, but by Him, and we are mere instruments in His hand.

What I noticed from the little experience that we have here (a year and a half) is that "there is more happiness in giving than in receiving" (Acts 20:35b). Besides our biological daughter, Rebeca, who is a year and eight months old, God gave us here ten more wonderful children: six girls and four boys. When looking at these children, when looking at their needs, I find the above assertion very true. There is more happiness in giving a smile to a child whose sad eyes are filled with tears, maybe even cast away his sadness and tears, and instead bring only smiles on his face. There is more happiness in giving a hug to a child who does not know what a hug is; oftentimes such a child remains inert and stiff when you take him in your arms and warmly hug him, not knowing that he can use his little hands to bring you closer to him. But in time, by offering him many hugs, you start to notice that he is not only learning, but even starting to offer hugs himself. There is more happiness in giving love and affection to the children that God sent in your family, than to expect to first receive such things and only afterwards to be able to offer them to others. There is more happiness in giving a home and a family to a child who was left without it by fate, but to whom God offered it once again.

We have the opportunity to offer a home and a family to these children, thanks to you, our sponsors, who support this ministry financially and through your prayers. We would like to thank you for everything you do for us, as a family, and for Caminul Felix. May our God from Heaven reward all the efforts you do for us.

Child story

Mihaela Lingurar is a wonderful 10 year old girl hiding a painful past. Mihaela's father murdered the girl's mother, leaving her and her siblings orphans. Mihaela has five siblings, three of which are in our family, with her. She arrived in our family in March 2010, after living for two short periods of time in a Child Placement Centre here, in Oradea. Between these periods, she lived with an aunt who took care of her and her siblings for a year.

When she first walked in our house, I remember her sad eyes, her face countenance exuding so much pain and unhappiness. She was so silent and shy that we didn't succeed in getting many words from her. It's true that it took her a while to adapt to the new family, the new parents, brothers and sisters. Mihaela is very loved by her biological

brothers, having been sister and mother for them at home. She often took care of them, prepared food for them, as their mother did not fulfil her parental duties.

We are grateful to God because, in time, the sadness in Mihaela's eyes is gone; she started to be more cheerful, more lively and enthusiastic and a lot more open and communicative. We are very happy for her, because she managed to learn how to read well (when she came here she did not know any letter), she writes beautifully and handles Maths pretty well too. She is a hard-working and sensible girl, aware of housework needs, sometimes anticipating them and offering to fulfil them. She is very responsible and careful when a younger brother is left in her care, she is loving and obedient. We are happy to see God working in



Mihaela's life, to see progress. It is true that progress is achieved in baby steps, but we know that these baby steps are important for her future development.

Adriana Takacs



Simona Puşcaş

Simona Puşcaş, Editor



THE HAPPY HOME

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Estate Planning and Living Family Memorials

In recent years we have become a comfort to families who initiated contributions to the ministries of Caminul Felix as part of their estate or as living memorials. It is our desire with humility and respect to become the living testament for your family and friends in their time of grief, offering some comfort as a life giving partner in ministry to these once abandoned children. Such a decision should only be made in complete confidence, so we invite you to contact us directly or through our partner organization for more information of ways to establish a living family memorial.

Sponsorship Office

For many years at this time of the year, we have written a request to you, our supporters and friends, asking for an extra donation for summer-camps and holidays for our families. We know that those weeks are important for our families. It gives them time to stay together and we know that those days are very much appreciated. It is an extra cost for Caminul Felix, and that is why we are asking you if you would like to give an extra gift for this purpose. You can direct your gift with a message: Family camps for CF-families.

Eli Filip & Lisa Egerbo



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