

Hello everyone!

Once again, we are trying to write down in outline what has been happening over the last period. I think we can all agree that it has been, and unfortunately still is, a very bizarre period. But that certainly doesn't stop us from working through it and doing what we believe needs to be done. Although we have to act wisely and certainly not cause any problems, because the restrictions do not allow much for the time being.



On the other hand, it does give us some time to adjust to our new family situation. Madalin is quite a challenge in our family. He has been with us for almost four months now and every day seems we have to start from scratch, but fortunately we can already see some positive changes in him.





Stoves for the cold winter

A few weeks ago, thanks to your help, we were able to purchase no less than 18 stoves for the poorest of the poor. Many more families need one. But we focused in the first place on the widows, old couples and families with many children where it is still just that little bit more struggling, to get even a small step forward.

We are very grateful that we could do this, it's already bad and hard enough, let alone that you have to sleep in this freezing cold every night again without any heating. Although we enjoy sun-drenched days here, it easily reaches -9°C at night. And we can expect even colder weather.

Moms and Toddlers

Kinderprogramma's even op pauze

Unfortunately, again we have to temporarily stop the children's programs. We simply cannot risk this. Having about 80 children together, who don't care about social distance and such, would only invite problems we fear. Too bad for them of course, because they love to come to us and play and learn, and simply be loved for who they are. Hard for them to understand, because there, especially in the Roma village, no one cares. Restrictions or no restrictions, people still live there as before. And so far, fortunately, no one got sick there. And it's not that they live in isolation or anything. The many girls who prostitute themselves on a daily basis are constantly in contact with a lot of drivers. But still, I think it's important that we from our side respect the rules as much as possible. What is not allowed, is not allowed.



Ook voor de kleinsten een korte break

The programs with the moms and their little sprouts had a nice start, but also had to be stopped. Hopefully not for long. A small group of about 10 moms, each with one or two of their children, were welcomed each Wednesday in the centre. It is always an incredible, wonderful and blessed time. Young mothers together, a cup of coffee, encouraging and educational talks, always linked to a fun activity with mother and child. Fortunately we have our dear volunteer Dinah, who ensures that Jessica does not have to do it alone. As with so many other things, we can always count on her loyal help. The preparation and the activity are taken care of by both. A beautiful and very nice cooperation.





Helping hand Dinah

Dinah is also always available as a nanny. She often comes to take care of our children so that we can continue working and sometimes just to give them a good time. Romanian village schools are finished at noon. We are so grateful for our dear Dinah, that we can always count on her!

Finally also a better hitting for ourselves

Also at home, after almost seven years, it is finally warm everywhere in the house. All previous winters we always slept with a pile of blankets on top of us, there were even times that we wore a hat in bed. But thankfully those winters are over and we have pleasant warmth everywhere.

Let me explain. In our house we have a wood stove that we used for the full autumn and winter period until now. But it mainly provided a very warm living room and a warm kitchen. So the rest remained very cold. We also have another wood burner to which a circuit of radiators is connected. This was installed before we lived here, but this was not done quite right, with the result that these radiators too just heated mainly the living room and kitchen. Thanks to some personal donations we were able to start building some rooms upstairs about three years ago.

We are incredibly grateful for this, because before it was very tight, but until now we had to do without any heating upstairs. And with temperatures of -20 outside during the winter, it is certainly not warm inside. Fortunately, our good friend Jisreel came to visit us for a week to roll up his sleeves. And together we adapted some pipes, and pulled the circuit further to the bedrooms. Our handy friend laid all the pipes and I soldered everything together. Quite a job, but we did it. Not only did we have a wonderful time of fellowship, but now we can heat our whole house with a single burner. How grateful we are for this!!!



Doctors office

Also in the centre itself we worked very hard and created not only a super cosy space for the moms and their babies. But finally we also finished the doctors cabinet! What a blessing for the people!

For one and a half years there has been no family doctor in Geoagiu. An absolute disaster for the Roma. This meant that they had to travel to Orastie every time. It is only a 20 minute drive, but for them it is hardly doable. They don't have cars, so they have to pay someone to bring them. But they don't have money either, and if there is any money at all, they have to choose between eating something or going to the doctor. And anyway, almost no one wants to take them because they are dirty gypsies. If they do get to the doctor, it is fortunately for free... Or not! It should be free, but the gypsies have to pay anyway. Indeed, that's how it goes here.

Fortunately for them, our doctor's cabinet is finally ready and our good friend Ariana is so pleased to come and do a free consultation. Ariana is a doctor and does this with all her heart. Roma were so dumbfounded that a doctor treated them with dignity. Doctor Ari looked at them as she talked to them politely and in a loving way. She didn't even hesitate for a second to touch the children. For us and the Romanians this is the most normal thing in the world, but for the Roma it was an incomprehensible experience. And then again in times like these. How grateful we are to the Lord that we can do this! And especially, that she wants to do this!!!





Animals, animals

Also with the animals things are still going very well. We continue to breed and are very happy when we can give the people an animal. Too bad for the animals, but very good for the hungry stomachs. Currently we breed them for them, but the idea still remains that with time the Roma can do it themselves and thus provide for themselves. This is also something we take for granted, but even though they would love to try, the hunger is too big. And the people are just too happy to have something decent to eat. In the spring, the first "breeders" should be starting. Curious 🗵

Fortunately we still have farmer Bavo in our midst who is still fully committed to the organization. But especially the animals are something that he takes as good as completely on him. The animals have a good and free life before they are slaughtered. Something that we consider very important.

Bavo's EVS contract ended last month, but our dear boy still wants to stay for a while. Of course we agreed, he is a real hard worker. We pray and believe that as long as Bayo stays, God will provide. He is a real added value and also in his life the Lord and His kingdom now come first. So no worries for tomorrow, but enjoy today!









We are ready to get started!

And yes!!! Now we are going to say it again, but now we are finally there... All the paperwork is finally in order for the works on the centre in Geoagiu. Our project leader already brought a contractor and inspector, so ... we can basically start. There are already some budgets for the foundation, but veeeeery much is still needed. Maybe someone feels like putting something together? Haha who knows. Many small ones make a big one. Please pray that we can get started soon and that the budgets will come in. Exciting, exciting!!!

And now that we have also come to the end of the year, looking back on a very eventful year, we look forward to 2022. Do not look up too much to the situations around you, but look up to the Finisher of our faith in Whom all hope lies!!! Enjoy the holidays, your family and friends, your children, parents, grandparents, ... What is more beautiful than to have each other, to love and care for each other. Be a joy to each other! Be a Light in these times. We wish you a very Happy New Year.

TO HIM BE ALL HONOR AND GLORY!!!!!!!

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Single donation or monthly amount.

Support project PeLunca:

IBAN: BE29 1030 4919 8064

BIC: NICABEBB

PayPal: www.paypal.me/pelunca

Support family Priem:

Family Priem

IBAN: BE24 8601 1087 6638

BIC: SPAABE22

PRAYER

- Keep praying for our whole family please, further health, wisdom, protection....
- Especially with Mădălin joining us. It has been a serious rollercoaster so far.
- Pray for wisdom regarding the organization, what to do and what not to do. Especially during periods of severe restrictions.
- Pray for the children of Geoagiu who again are not allowed to come to the programs.
- Also the program with mothers and little ones will be cancelled for the time being.
- Pray for the renovations to the center, that we will be able to work with the right contractor. Pray for finances for this as well.
- Pray for DI. Sotalca who helped us so much with the paperwork, that he will be blessed abundantly.
- Pray also for Bavo who decided to stay and serve.
- Pray that God will provide us with a new van, ours is almost falling apart.
- Pray for workers worldwide, the harvest is great and time is short!
- Pray that we never fall short of faith.

PROJECTS

- Create social surveys and help with basic needs
- Pelunca Family Files (PFF): build houses, rebuild, purchase stoves.
- Pelunca Food Parcels (PFP): Compose and distirbute food packages
- Pelunca Child Program: Financially adopt a child
- Provide baby's with powdered milk
- Sort clothing and give packages to the families
- Childand youth activities (sports, games, relaxation, biblereading
- Medical Support (Doctor, Purchase of medicines, ...)
- Social support (helping teenage mothers, provide ID cards and other papers)

CONTACT

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THANKS

- So grateful for our beautiful family, our wonderful children and our life here.
- Thankful for everything that could be realized in the past period.
- Thankful that the piles of paperwork for the center are finally finished (at least for now) and that we finally have the authorizations to start working.
- Grateful for the first contacts with a contractor.
- Grateful for all the things we can still do and are allowed to do; we are certainly not bored yet.
- Grateful for Dr. Ariana and the consultations that are now finally held at our center.
- Thankful for our home church, always so encouraging and such a blessing to be able to dive into God's word together.
- Thankful that we may be children of the Most High.
- Thankful for His infinite love, support and faithfulness!

