



June 2014

QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care
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★ ★ ★ WANTED ★ ★ ★

Today is a day when many of the children at El Oasis and in El Salvador are wondering why they don't have sponsors like the other kids. It is difficult for them to understand this. They want to have people in their lives that they can call "Padrino" or "Madrina," meaning godfather or godmother. They have lost so much in their young lives, especially those they would consider as family, and this is something that means the world to them.

You and I know these special people as "Sponsors." For the children, the term sponsor is not anywhere near enough. For them, these people are "My Family." Those children have such a strong desire to "belong" to a family and they fill that need through those that become sponsors for them. These orphan villages are not fully sponsored, and there are many chil-



dren who go without the feeling of this special kind of love that sponsorship provides for them.

The young people **WANT** to have this special bond with someone, someone that they can look to for guidance, for love and hope in their lives. Are you one of those people? Perhaps you are looking for something as well that will provide the blessing of love and hope in your life? Maybe you, or someone you know would be perfect for this kind of relationship?

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PLEASE SPONSOR ME!

I need a sponsor. I am 16 years old and live in Congo. Please return this coupon to sponsor me each month. God bless you for helping me have a chance.

\$30 \$60 \$ _____

(800)422-7729

Sponsorship Department



A Personal Note

I wish you could have seen their smiles and heard the boisterous laughter pouring from the gazebo at the children's village in Romania recently. The children had been divided into the boys group and the girls group, and the objects of their interest and enthusiasm were two hastily wrapped packages filled with small treats. A rousing game of "pass the parcel" unfolded, and the children were having a grand time. Even the older boys, the ones who initially hesitated to get involved, were living it up.

Music started and then suddenly stopped, and whoever held the package carefully removed a piece of paper on the parcel and found their treat. This was repeated until all the children had something special from the event and a happy memory to take with them.

After the game and laughter subsided, the children spilled out onto the field where they enjoy playing soccer. I joined them and was chosen to be on one of the teams. The final treat in the boys' parcel was a new soccer ball, and the kids were eager to put it into play. Back and forth and up and down the field went the ball. Whew! Can those kids play! They've really grown up since the days they were just toddlers and I played with them at the receiving center.

Many of you have supported these children in this project through the years. And if you have, you know that most of these kids are part of this project because their parents abandoned them as infants. The years have passed, and most of the children are now teenagers, doing what teenagers love to do—playing games and jokes on one another.

I was privileged to be a part of a small group that visited these children last month. While it was interesting to tour the facilities and see some of the latest developments at this project, the part we enjoyed most was interacting with the children. They seemed pleased with our visit as well. Here are updates on two of them.

If you knew the story about Costel, you'd be surprised to see the change in him since he came as a two-year-old. Abandoned in the hospital, Costel lacked nurturing care and showed signs of neglect. He rocked back and forth in his crib. This was how he had learned to comfort himself. Over time and with ample amounts of love and care, Costel has been able to find restoration from his rough start in life. He's 18 years old now—tall, strong, and aiming to be a responsible young man. He wants to be involved in sports and maybe become a physical education teacher. Your support has helped to make his transformation possible.

Cosmina was also abandoned by her parents. I was excited to be in Romania over 10 years ago when the administrator transferred her from the receiving center to our first children's home. She's 15 years old now



[The boys play "pass the parcel"](#)



[The new greenhouse](#)

Living by the Word

What shall I return to the Lord for all His goodness to me? Psalm 116:12 (NIV)

and has grown into a lovely young lady. When we visited the kids in their homes, they proudly showed us their own rooms. When visiting in Cosmina's room, which she shares with 2 other girls, we noticed there was a sewing machine on a small table. When we inquired about it, she said she is learning how to sew and enjoys it. She was pretty shy about it, but when we asked if she had made anything, she went to her closet and displayed a skirt that she had created. She is on her way to learning a valuable skill.



[Cosmina \(on the right\) with roommate](#)

These children remind me that the process of restoration from an abandoned toddler to a responsible teenager is subtle. It's slow and steady. At many steps along the way there are challenges, especially when a child realizes he or she has been abandoned by parents whom they may know nothing about. This is the reason why your continued support of these children is so very critical to help them blossom into young adulthood. It's unthinkable to abandon them again—especially when they've come so far.

The children in Romania have some pretty urgent needs right now. The first thing is increased prayer support. Because we have such a high concentration of teenagers, the number of teenage-related issues has also increased. We have an Adventist psychologist on staff, and she is doing a good job. However, we also believe that inherited tendencies and evil forces are hard at work trying to counteract the care and value-training these children receive. Would you commit to pray for these children especially that they will be protected spiritually, physically and emotionally from influences that prevent complete restoration?

The other need the children have right now is increased financial support. We are thankful to have a loyal and committed group of generous individuals who provide sponsorship funds for specific children and the overall project as well. Yet, the needs continue to be greater than the supply of resources even when 100% of sponsorship support is sent to children's projects. Would you consider joining the current support base by sponsoring this project or an individual child on a monthly basis? Children like Costel and Cosmina continue to depend on people just like you to support them on the path towards independence and realizing their dreams.

On behalf of the children, thanks for all you continue to do for them. May God bless you for the difference you are making in the process of restoring the life of a child.

In His Service, for His Kids,


Kent Greve

International Development Director

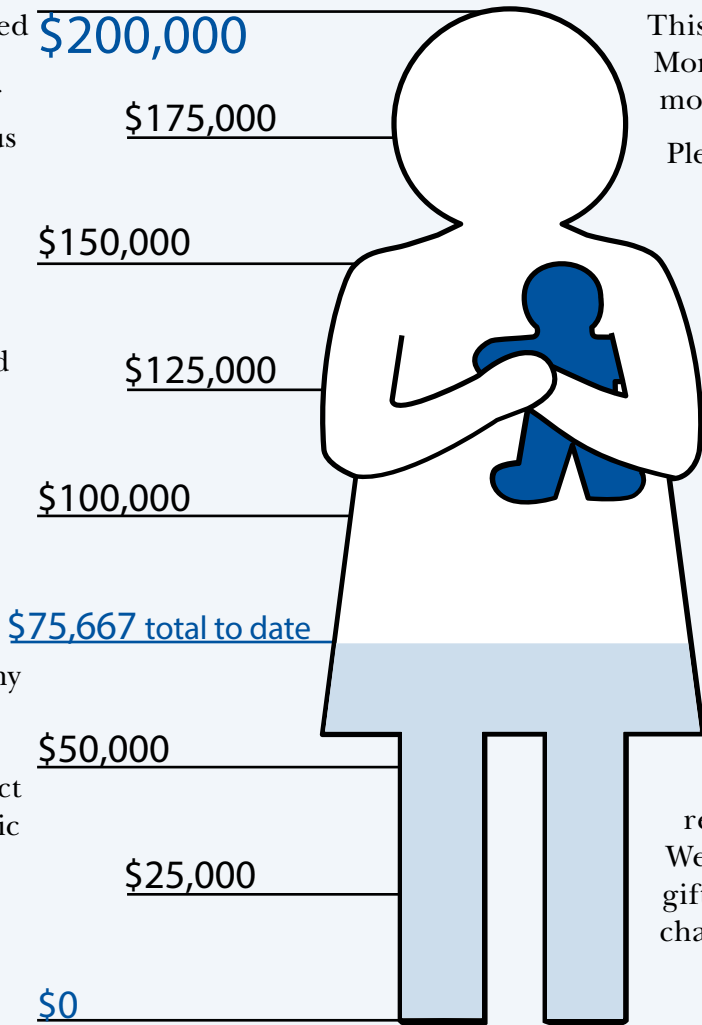
P.S. Sponsoring a child in Romania or any other country where ICC assists orphaned and abandoned children is easy. Just call Alanna at 800-ICC-PRAY or visit www.forhiskids.org/sponsor.php. The children need you and thank-you for your support!

Matching grant update!

We have been blessed with a matching grant proposal of \$200,000. The anonymous donors of this grant wish to inspire you to send an extra-ordinary donation to help fund this grant. Your donation will build "Alcyon's Angel Fund" and provide something very special for the children!

"Alcyon's Angel Fund" is the last line of defense against project budgets falling short as sponsorships do not entirely cover the expenses of many of ICC's projects. When needed, "Angel Funds" are sent to "rescue" project budgets ensuring the basic needs of the children.

We ask that you not steer your recurring donations towards this grant.



This grant is intended for "New Money" not given as a regular monthly donation.

Please phone our home office, mail your donation to ICC or give online. Be sure to let us know that you are answering the challenge for "New Money" for the children of ICC.

We are also accepting pledges for this challenge! If you do not have the extra funds today, you may contact our office and make a pledge that you can fulfill by August 31st, 2014.

This challenge is simple. Your gift of love will be doubled! That is a 100% return on your donation! We are sure the result of your gift will culminate in lives changed for Jesus.

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Continued from front page

Well, I can tell you from personal experience that this is a special blessing unlike others in my life. The privilege and honor that I feel to be able to be "special family" for a child searching for that is something that I would not trade for anything else. My life has been blessed far more than any little bit that I have given. I think that yours would be as well if you make this

choice today. Please contact Alanna at the ICC Vancouver Office if you would like to start something in your life that will enrich you and a child beyond your imagination!

Doug Congleton
ICC Executive Director



A Legacy of Love

*P*roviding for the future through planned giving

Contact Joel Reyes at ICC for more information on how you can become part of the "Legacy of Love"

(800) 422-7729
Joel@ForHisKids.org

Occasionally when we ask for funds for a specific need we receive more in donations than we requested. In those instances when we have received more money than we solicited, those extra funds will be placed in "Alcyon's Angel Fund." In order to protect the privacy and safety of our children, ICC uses fictitious names when referring to minor children in the Que Pasa.