



QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

April 2017

A Publication of International Children's Care
P.O. Box 820610 Vancouver, WA 98682-0013

(360) 573-0429 • FAX: (360) 573-0491
VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.ForHisKids.org

A Life Transformed—Thanks To You!

Editor's Note: Early last year, we featured Stela in the Que Pasa. Here is more of her story and a personal testimony.

Today, Stela is a healthy, vibrant young lady thanks to you! It was your generous support that made it possible for Stela to become a part of the ICC family in Romania. Her life now is quite different from how it started out.

When Stela arrived, she showed signs of serious neglect. She had been abandoned and left in a children's hospital in Bucharest. After three months, no family visited and the authorities brought Stela to the ICC Romania receiving center.

She received nourishing food and loving care. Soon she was growing and developing like a healthy child!

It can't be underscored enough just how much of a difference your support makes when you help provide a child with food and shelter and nurturing support. The transformation is dramatic!

But as you well know, the progression from childhood to an adult is a long process. That is why your continued help is so critical to, and appreciated by, children like Stela!

When it was time for Stela to go to school she thrived and was at the head of her class. But things dramatically changed for her at adolescence. Stela suffered emotionally and acted out.

The root cause?

Being abandoned and knowing that her mother had kept other children! Why hadn't her mother kept her, too?

“When Stela arrived, she showed signs of serious neglect. She had been abandoned and left in a children's hospital...”

Your generous support enabled Stela to receive the counseling and support that she needed during those turbulent years. In time, her feelings of inferiority subsided, and through a group of Adventist young people Stela became more conscious of God's work in her life.

Three years ago, Stela was accepted into the Adventist high school in Bucharest. She



Stela's life has been transformed because of your support. Recently she made the decision to be baptized.

is currently a Junior and has another year to go before she graduates. Stela is diligent in her school work, serious in studying the Bible and has decided to be baptized!

Recently, Stela shared her testimony which includes many heartwarming memories and a dream for the future that you can help make possible through your continued support!

.....
“I'm thrilled when I think of my childhood at ICC.

Continued —

A Life Transformed—Thanks To You! cont'd

“I have memories everywhere, memories of all my ages, and memories of every stage of my growth.

I remember the evenings when we spent time as a family after the moments of worship. We were discussing and playing games.

If I look in the yard, I remember the worship moments at the end of Sabbath in the gazebo in our beautiful yard. I remember when the volunteer group joined us [from Holland] at the end of the Sabbath and we spent a lot of time singing and Lambro was playing his guitar. At the end, he shared with us bananas from Dimitri (in the picture below at the back left). It was like a good grandfather sending sweets to his grandchildren.



Thanks to the faithful support of donors like you, Stela, (child on the right), received the loving care she needed.

We had competitions. We had a week to memorize some Psalms, and in the evening of the Sabbath day, we used to recite it. Those who knew it better were awarded. All these warm moments helped me to feel important, to think ‘I’m not alone, even if my mother left me.’



Stela has fond memories of a mission group from the Netherlands. She especially enjoyed closing the Sabbath with Lambro Triantos leading the singing with his guitar.

If I look to the garden I remember how funny the potato harvesting was. We were a group on a row, and each group tried to be the first to pick up all the potatoes from the row. At the end, we used to enjoy delicious ice cream.

I remember our trips to the local forest and the picnics and the games we played there. I loved so much to pick up a flower and to bring it to the ladies who cared for us.

I remember the times we were singing with the choir... these are some precious memories. I remember the time spent in the car during the drive to the place of the concert. Someone always took care to bring something sweet for us, the children.

I remember our trips to the seacoast. We were playing in

the water, and our caretakers called us to eat donuts with jam or chocolate. All these memories make me realize that life is a good thing.

There was a time when I was upset with God and with



Stela enjoyed the times she and the other children sang as part of ICC Romania's children's choir.

people around me, because I thought I was different and not good enough for my own family. After a while, all these nice memories I had from the campus were an important aspect that helped me to change my

A Life Transformed—Thanks To You! cont'd



Stela wants to combine her childhood dream of being a surgeon with the desire to help other children who live in difficult circumstances.

point of view. Now I've decided to give my life to God and to be baptized.

When I was a child I dreamed of becoming a surgeon and traveling around the world. Now I'm thinking of finding something that will combine my childhood dreams with the possibility of supporting other children in difficulties.

I like to imagine that sometime in the future we will gather all the children who grew up together at ICC and all the people who cared for us in any way. Then we could see the pathways in life each of us took.”

One of the younger girls recently admitted that she had been having doubts about God and was moving toward being an atheist. But after spending time with Stela, talking and reading



During the potato harvest Stela, with the other children in Romania did their best to be the first of several teams vying to collect all the potatoes in their assigned row. Once the potatoes were all harvested, it was time to enjoy ice cream.

together, she was thinking again that God is real.

Today, thanks in part to your faithful support, Stela is a wonderful role model for the younger girls on the ICC Romania campus. The girls love her, and she looks forward to weekends and vacations when she can return home from boarding school and visit them.

Because of you Stela, and children like her, have experienced a true transformation in their lives. Thanks for all you do for “His Kids.”



Stela [on the right] with her sister. Thanks for supporting “His Kids.”

The Transformation Is Not Complete Without You!

Stela has come a long way from being an abandoned child to accepting Jesus invitation of becoming a child of God! She dreams of one day being a doctor and helping children, just like she was helped by you. She wants to pay forward your generosity.

But Stela, and many other children like her, need your help to continue their schooling so they can pursue their dreams for the future. **Please send in a gift of support for a child like Stela today by using the response coupon included with this letter.** On behalf of the children, thank you for your caring support!

The Children Need Your Help!

Every \$1 donated sends up to \$4 of "life support!"

Sometime within the next month, we hope to load a 40' container with donated supplies. We will then ship these supplies to "His Kids" at the ICC Las Palmas Children's Village in The Dominican Republic.

Sending these supplies is an extra-ordinary way to bless the children because you'll be sending them things they need desperately—food, bedding, clothes, home items and appliances, industry supplies, the list goes on and on. As you can see, a container provides a "life-support" supply for the children and their needs.

And here's the neat thing—when you send a gift to support the shipping costs, every \$1 you send is quadrupled sending up to \$4 worth of vital materials and supplies!

What a blessing it is to see the children and staff unload one of these containers. It's just like Christmas! Everyone lines up and starts passing the "gifts of love" items down the line where it is placed in a secure storage area. The excitement is at a fevered pitch! It is truly a sight to behold!

The container is nearly ready to be loaded. This is your last chance to quickly send in supplies or a donation to help cover shipping costs, or the funds to purchase last-minute items for the children of Las Palmas. For a specific list of needed items visit our website today at ForHisKids.org.

Every donation, whether financial or an individual item, is very much appreciated by the children. Please help ASAP by providing your financial support, donations of goods or better yet, both!

God bless you for your support with this compelling need at Las Palmas!



More items are still needed to fill the container for the families at Las Palmas.



The container for Las Palmas cannot be sent until it has been loaded. The kids are anticipating the arrival of the supplies. You can help send the container to Las Palmas by donating needed items or contributing funds to help with shipping costs.



A Legacy of Love

*P*roviding for the future
through planned giving

You can leave a lasting legacy
in the life of an orphan child.

Contact Doug today
for more details.

(800) 422-7729
DougC@ForHisKids.org

When soliciting funds for a specific need, we occasionally receive more in donations than requested. In those instances when we do receive more money than solicited, those extra funds are placed in "Alcyon's Angel Fund." To protect the privacy of our children, ICC uses fictitious names in the Que Pasa when referring to minor children.