

## Employee Spotlight: Maria Belaciu

Matt Gibble, Global Hope Missionary

Raising children is not an easy task. This does not come as news to many of you. Anybody that has spent time around children knows that patience, understanding, compassion and love are absolute necessities in rearing children. For years, our supporters have heard about the children of Global Hope. From time to time people hear bits and pieces about the staff that raises the children.

As an organization, Global Hope is blessed to have many gifted people responsible for the direct care of the children here in Arad. I would like to begin to profile our employees so that all of you might begin to know them a little bit better. It is a privilege to work alongside these brothers and sisters in Christ.

Maria Belaciu came to work for Global Hope at Ana's House in October of 2004. As an organization, we knew that we needed additional help for the staff at Ana's House to manage the responsibilities of a house with ten children.

Maria lives on the same street, Strada Constitutiei, as the children's homes of Global Hope. Maria is married to Doru, and has two grown sons, Cipri and Bogdan. Her son Cipri lives at home with Maria and Doru, while Bogdan serves with the military.

I remember the day that we interviewed Maria for her current position. She invited us into her home and in typical Romanian hospitality made coffee for us. We visited with her and told her that we needed

someone to help part-time in the afternoons and evenings with cooking and cleaning. With Maria living close by the houses, it would be easy for her to get to work each day.

About ten days later, Jaci Knight and I met with Maria to inform her that we had decided to hire her on as a staff member. We explained what her job responsibilities would be and what she could expect. After we had discussed the details of her position, I asked Maria if she would like to pray. I remember that I prayed in English and Jaci translated the prayer so that Maria would understand. As we closed in prayer, I raised my head and saw tears streaming down Maria's face.

(Continued Next Page, Tanti Maria)



Maria Belaciu is surrounded by the children of Ana's House.

## Third Children's Home Planned!

Giving Update From Ike Elliott, Chairman, Global Hope

### An Amazing Gift

Global Hope has just received an amazing giving commitment from a Colorado family to cover the cost of creating a third Global Hope children's home in Romania. So far, the gift is anonymous, but we so thankful to this generous family for providing a gift that will bring new life to additional children in Romania.

We are beginning the planning stages for the third home by meeting with our Romanian contacts and discussing the greatest current needs there.

### Child Development Center Funding Completed

We have raised enough money (over \$10,000) to

complete the Child Development center, through a combination of a generous and anonymous stock donation, together with the proceeds from the Global Hope Christmas trees at several area churches, including Phillips United Methodist, Grace United Methodist, and Broomfield United Methodist churches. Thanks to all of you for providing a great new facility to be used for tutoring for abandoned children, vacation Bible School, and Christian outreach in Arad, Romania.

Walter Williams is moving to Romania next week to supervise the renovation of an abandoned house on our property to create the Child Development Center.

### Operating Expense Budget for 2004

What is the annual cost to operate two children's homes in Romania? About \$68,000. That's our annual budget to cover the cost of raising fifteen children in Arad, Romania. The largest expense item is the salaries for our Romanian staff, which accounts for just over half of the annual cost of operating these homes. Food and cleaning supplies account for about \$12,000 of the cost of the homes, transportation is about \$7000, utilities are about \$6000, and educational expenses are \$3600 per year (see chart of House Operations Budget on page 2).

Currently, our House Operations Budget is our biggest

## Mission Corner

Global Hope sends mission teams to Romania for one or two-week periods throughout the year. This year, the teams are focused on working with children and on construction/renovation projects at the Houses of Hope. Nine mission teams are scheduled so far for 2004, though only two teams have space remaining:

June 10-June 24th  
12-member team  
4 slots still open  
\$495/person

July 31-August 14th  
12-member team  
1 slot still open  
\$435/person

Fees do not include traveling to Arad, Romania. Please contact [info@globalhope.org](mailto:info@globalhope.org) if you are interested in joining a mission team!

## Operating Budget and Giving Update (continued from page 1)

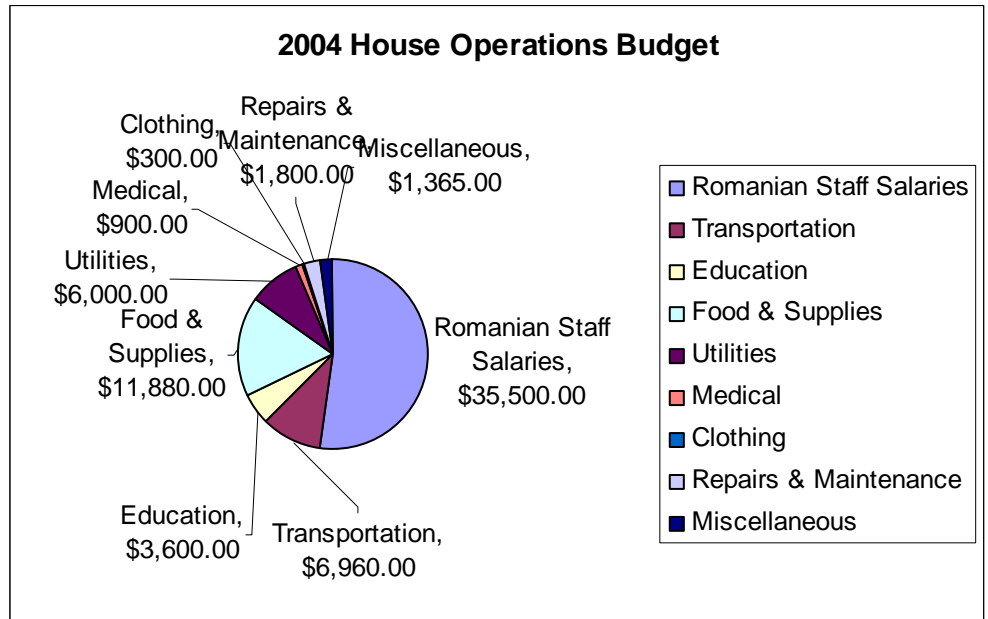
giving need. We have funded the first 6 months of the house operations budget for 2004, but currently have no funds on hand for the second half of the year. We need \$34,200 in donations to cover these costs.

Also, with the coming creation of a third house, we will need to expand the operating budget to cover operating costs for that house, so depending upon when the third house comes into service, and depending upon its purpose, we should expect to see the annual Romanian operations budget grow by roughly 50% in 2005.

To Give to Global Hope, please make your checks payable to "Global Hope" and mail to:

Global Hope  
PO Box 1052  
Broomfield, CO 80038-1052

Thank you for your generous support for the children of Global Hope!



## Tanti Maria (continued from page 1)

I had not realized at the time what this new job meant to Maria.

Since that day in October, I now know what those tears were all about. Tanti Maria, as we affectionately call her, has become part of our family within Global Hope. On Christmas Eve, she and Doru joined us Christmas caroling until 2:00 in the morning. House after house she helped usher the children in and out of the houses as they sang the praises to the savior that was born that night.

I have been in the van with the children when they see Tanti Maria on the street and enthusiastically shout, "Tanti Maria, Tanti Maria!"

She faithfully arrives at work in a wonderful, loving mood and is always smiling. Whenever I greet Maria, she reacts as if I have been gone for years and have just returned. Her arms are open and she welcomes me into Ana's House.

She provides a tremendous example of Christian love and hard work for the children. Her relationship with our house parents, Rodi and Roni is like a beautiful dance as they work together in perfect harmony, creating a home for the children.

When there is a need for help at the last minute, Tanti Maria can

always be counted on to show up at a moment's notice. In the past when we have been gone on excursions with the children, Tanti Maria prepares a meal so that as everyone arrives home they can have a hot meal.

Maria Balaciu has been a remarkable gift to all those she comes in contact with. It is no accident that she is with us, working for God. God continues to provide for our every need as we trust in Him and count on Him for provision. I would ask that you say a short prayer of thanks for what Maria has brought to the family of Global Hope. She will be touched to know that you are praying for her. Thank you!

***I raised my head and saw tears streaming down Maria's face. I had not realized at the time what this new job meant to Maria.***

**Did you know that Global Hope saves over \$4.00 per year for each person that switches from paper mail to email distribution?** We publish newsletters every month, with even-numbered months distributed only by email. If you would like to join our email newsletter list, please email us at [info@globalhope.org](mailto:info@globalhope.org) Thanks!