



Global Hope's Monthly Newsletter,
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Living Letters - The Final School Bell - A Letter from a Mother's Heart - by "Mama Rodi" Stepan (translated by Jacci Knight)

But the only letter of recommendation we need is you yourselves! Your lives are a letter written in our hearts, and everyone can read it and recognize our good work among you. Clearly, you are a letter from Christ prepared by us. It is written not with pen and ink, but with the Spirit of the living God. It is carved not on stone, but on human hearts. -- 2nd Corinthians 3: 2-3 (New Living Translation)

According to the calendar, it is summer, when generous Mother Nature encourages us with her warmth and amazing colors and smells. In this mother's heart, it is the end of one season and the beginning of another ~ but neither summer nor fall. On June 11th, the final school bell sounded for the 12th grade students in Arad, and for two girls in particular at Ana's House. We celebrated alongside Oana and Sanda as the high school closed its doors once more.

The last day of school. The final bell... they are moments that will remain in our minds, like memorial stones. Maybe you wonder why they are important to Roni and me? It's because they are a *kind* of first fruits of our labor that we, as parents, get to see.

We met the girls when they were just children. Together we entered the school of life; we learned together and we grew together. We are joyful and grateful to God that He gave us the gift of being their parents. Like the girls, we too realize that we have arrived at the end of one road on this "journey". We did our best to make the journey pleasurable, interesting, and beneficial for them, in hopes that it would remain that way in their minds and in their hearts. I would like to believe that the passing of time will prove the goodness and purity inside Oana and Sanda, and that others will see



Oana and Sanda
GRADUATION DAY!

it. I pray they will show love and respect to those around them, forgiving, and demonstrating that one can overcome the labels put on "abandoned children" in Romania.

They have begun to understand that excellence doesn't come for free, and everyone must decide for herself how much she is willing to pay. I'm proud of them for realizing that they "can," when everyone else told them "you can't."

Defining moments in our lives bring to mind other times when emotions flooded our bodies. Today, I think back on the *first* day of school: the nervousness as we walked for the first time through the school gates, the classmates, *report cards*, and all the other moments we hold onto in our memories.

Watching them on their graduation day, I thought about the beautiful moments we've lived and how we tried to become a family ~ and we are indeed a family. I remember both the good and the difficult times we faced over the last nine years. In the end, we have learned to value one another. We learned to ponder, to dream, and to find restoration together. We learned to value the power of patience, courage and of consequences.

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I remember our desire to draw near to our Creator God, and how we combed the Scriptures. I remember the nights when we gathered around the Word, looking for ways to apply it to our lives and trying to identify our actions and words that weren't in accordance with *His* way. Like fruit from these "roundtable" gatherings, both girls decided to give their lives to Christ and be baptized.

With care, we tried place the tools of beauty, grace, and purity firmly in their hands through our words, actions, and ideas. Whatever they build from here, the most important thing we learned along the way is that we need one another.

When I look back, I thank God for His goodness and love. He chose to take us down a path that has made us more like Him. And, of course, we could not have made it this far without the support and help of our dear sponsors. Thank you for your gifts. I know that it is not easy to help someone else when you also have need of help and support. I thank God for your faith. Even if you have not had the opportunity to meet us personally, you have contributed to the raising and the development of these children. I commend you for your constant faithfulness that has been proven over these nine years. We know that it has not been easy. With your support we have raised, not children, but *young women* that the Lord will surely use.

We are ready for a new beginning and a new season of life. We're at the start of a new road and I pray for *my children*, Oana and Sanda, that they will "love the Lord with all their heart, soul, and mind," and that they will grow to desire to serve Him in all that they do.

With love and gratefulness,
Mama Rodi





COLLEGE FUND

Get Involved! To make a donation toward Oana and Sanda's college tuition fees, go to www.globalhope.org, or send your gift to: Global Hope, P.O. Box 1052 Broomfield, CO 80038

Summer Time! ~ A note from Walter Williams

"Nevertheless, the righteous will hold to their ways, and those with clean hands will grow stronger." Job 17:9

The spring closes and brings a welcome change of season, leading into full on summer time—always the busiest time of year in Romania for those who serve in mission here.

It's a time to work, hope, and watch the gardens grow. And also a time to share a few updates and pictures of how the Global Hope family of children have grown...



Teo is taller than Simona and sister Sanda in the background. They are all cleaning and working together on a little farmhouse project. For several years, Tata Roni and family have been working this garden to stock their pantry. They have an opportunity now to use the house with 3 rooms, 1 bath, kitchen and a bedroom. So, we've been renovating. It looks great and this space can be utilized in a variety of ways. With help from a special donation, we were able to buy 30 laying hens, a few turkeys, and food to feed them. With Roni's motivation to see this project through, it has potential to host guests, kids, and to share the traditional Romanian way of life with those who visit.



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Summer Time! - continued from page 2



Global Hope continues to support 10 of our children now living in “foster families.” Here are brothers Luci(16) & Simon (11) who live with the Miclea family, and Flavius(14) who is visiting. Luci and Flavius have grown tall, both over six feet. Simon has some catching up to do. He makes up for it however with a tall and strong spirit! I have a lot of catching up to do, too. These boys are tough. They need attention and activities to burn energy and keep them engaged in positive ways.

Ioana is smack dab in the middle of a ready-made family with a very accepting younger brother and sister. Ioana is making good progress following major back surgery to correct severe scoliosis, and walking some with a cane now. The Gibble family put forth a mighty effort to facilitate an opportunity for Ioana to live with them in Colorado for a short time to receive intense physical therapy; a long process that did not yield a visa. God seems to have Ioana where she needs to be right now.



A bright future seems more possible for the youngest at Ana’s House, Lisa (5), and for the two oldest Sanda (20) & Oana (18), who both graduated from high school!



The future is brighter for all the children living under the umbrella of Global Hope. They are all so full of HOPE, for many reasons: they have grown up with stability, and love, and the blessing of God’s promise and provision.

Wow! It is so exciting to watch them all grow. Of course, life has come with many hardships and there will be more to come. It has not been easy, and we do not want to pretend that all is rosy. So many hands and feet have supported these children for 10 years now. Praise God! The house parents are another story of love, commitment and sacrifice.

I believe our future service in Romania must be intentional with God’s provision, utilizing the funds and donations that are connecting hands-on blessing with those who are giving and receiving. Every year brings more change within an increasingly difficult economy and developing country. It is a pleasure to share the blessings and focus on all that God has given.



Global Hope Golf Tournament 9th Annual

Fees Include

- Lunch
- Range Balls
- 18 Holes of Golf
- GPS Navigation System
- Evening Reception and a raffle ticket

Evening Reception & Silent Auction

- Join Our Sponsors
- Michelob Ultra, Omni Hotels, St. Anthony North Foundation, Southern Wine & Spirits of Colorado, Pepsi Bottling Group, and the Denver Broncos.

Registration & More Information

- www.globalhope.org
- Over 97% of your gifts go directly to our mission to care for orphaned and abandoned children in Romania and Kenya.

**Omni Interlocken Golf Club
Broomfield, CO**

SAT. AUGUST 21st

**18-Hole, 4-Man
Modified Scramble**



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An Opportunity for Global Hope ~ and YOU!

King Solomon—the wisest man in the Old Testament—told us, “Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work.” That’s why I’ve been so encouraged by a new friendship forged with Mission Increase Foundation (MIF), an organization committed to helping ministries like Global Hope grow in our understanding of Biblical truths that relate to fundraising and non-profit work.

Last month, Global Hope was approved for a matching grant from MIF for *up to* \$20,000. In order to receive this grant, Global Hope will hold a fundraising dinner and share our vision to serve abandoned children in Romania and Kenya with our dinner guests. We will also take the opportunity to ask our guests to sow into our vision by making a donation. MIF will match up to \$20,000 of the funds we raise. This is an unprecedented opportunity for Global Hope, *and a giant step toward more effectively bringing hands-on Christian love to hurting children!*



However, you are the essential ingredient in order for this dinner to be successful! There are roles, both large and small, that need to be filled. Most will only require a few hours of your time. We invite you to participate with us in doing God’s will by serving in the cause that He has called us to carry out together.

If you are near the Denver area, and would like to help us plan and carry out our fundraising dinner, please send an email to Jacci Knight at info@globalhope.org.

To learn more about Mission Increase, visit their website at www.missionincrease.org.

