

# VISION

Christmas 2020/New Year 2021



*To cure, sometimes; To help, often; To comfort, always.*

Children  
in Distress



# We Wish You Happy Holidays

**W**e have reached the end of 2020, a year full of challenges and uncertainties. Yet the fact is that you have been with us through this difficult year. Your support has given us the certainty that there is a tomorrow.

Despite all the difficulties generated by the global pandemic, we managed to gather our resources and face serious challenges, medically and financially.

The fight is not over, but together we will certainly face any challenge.

Thank you for believing in us and in what we do. Thank you for making tomorrow exist for our little charity.

We who are in the front line wish you all Happy Holidays full of light and peace, your home filled with lots of love, laughter and yummy smells!

*Valentina Zaharia*

**CEO UK and CEO Romania**

P.S. Our annual Thanksgiving Celebration service was streamed October 17. You still may watch it at <https://youtu.be/Aag2mADiZWg> . To date, the service has been viewed 307 times. Our thanks to Vlad Radut, our IT wizard, and the Rev Steven Smith, who created and coordinated the service.



# A year of challenges and achievements

When we told you that 2020 was hard, we did not mean the direct work with the children. This always has been the easiest thing and with the greatest reward. This year was difficult because of the necessity of responding to the COVID pandemic and complying with the government's requirement to renovate St Margaret's hospice, both at the same time.

The most difficult thing was to adapt to the uncertainties and expenses resulting from the government's issuance of sporadic COVID rules. Requirements were often issued in the morning with compliance mandated by that evening or the next day. We were not given instructions on how to comply, and we

did not receive any financial support to assist in compliance. For example, in the spring we were given 24-hour notice that St Margaret's staff was required to quarantine in the hospice for 14-day shifts. This meant that we had to locate and purchase 14 beds, bedding and pillows within 24 hours. PPE also was required for each staff member, as well as daily meals.

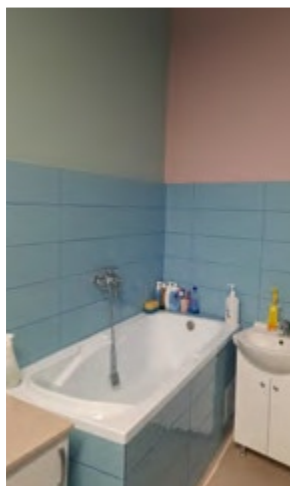
Of course, the rules were aimed to protect the children and staff. We knew compliance was in our own best interest, yet it meant additional human resource challenges and financial expenditures. At the same time, our funding sources in Romania and the UK collapsed. Hence our COVID Appeal. You, our supporters,

so generously responded to our cry for help by contributing £36,000. Your donations not only gave us the financial support we desperately needed it also gave us the joy of feeling that we are not alone. In Romania our children's survival rate does not cause governmental or societal soul-searching; they are just statistics and numbers. The fact that from the beginning of the pandemic through mid-November all children and staff have tested negative (COVID tests are required every week for staff and every two weeks for the children) shows that with your help we have done our duty properly. We have managed to stay safe so far, but the fight continues as the current daily

infection rate in Romania is higher than it was last winter and spring.

At the same time we were required by the government to renovate the hospice as part of the annual accreditation and licensing procedure. We created more privacy for each child as well as more communal family space. We added colour through paint and tiles to make the space more inviting. As you look at the photos, we hope you agree that we succeeded in reconfiguring and beautifying the hospice.

Despite that difficulties of this year, with your support we really believe that **EVERYTHING WILL BE WELL.**



# St Margaret's Little Ioan is adopted



**I**oan (John) was so little when he arrived at 5 months that you could hold him in one hand. He had been abandoned in hospital at birth. Although Ioan came to us with several serious medical conditions, we were not scared by his diagnoses or medical history. We saw in him what we see in all the children who come to us, a little one who needs lots of love and care.

Ioan eventually recovered from his medical conditions and grew into a perfect and charming boy. He returned our love tenfold. We were blessed to be with Ioan when his first tooth came, he took his first step and said his first word.

A wonderful spiritual connection

was created between Ioan and St Margaret's former psychologist Oana as soon as Ioan arrived. Oana is sensitive and delicate, inventive and creative, gentle and good. Oana really wanted Ioan baptized, so she stepped in to be his godmother.

Oana did not stop there. She decided to adopt Ioan, and for almost 2 years she went through the bureaucratic hoops of the adoption procedure. Now Oana and Ioan are a family. They complement each other so beautifully. For CiD there is no greater joy than to complete our mission: **to cure, sometimes; to help often; to comfort always.**



# St Margaret's Mihaela's COVID care

**M**ihaela is a one-year old who was abandoned in hospital at birth. She arrived at St Margaret's after spending the first 10 months of her life in hospitals for several surgeries to correct her hydrocephaly. Even after arriving at the hospice, Mihaela was not in very stable condition. She soon needed to return to hospital for surgery and treatment following a cranial hemorrhage. Mihaela was in hospital for three months and returned to the center in October.

Following protocol, upon return Mihaela was placed in an isolation unit for 10 days to monitor whether she had caught any hospital infections.

Four days after returning from hospital, Mihaela was tested for COVID during the fortnightly tests of children. Mihaela showed no symptoms but

tested positive. (She is the only one who tested positive.) We arranged for immediate hospitalization because of her hydrocephaly and other conditions. After a two hour wait for an ambulance Mihaela was transferred to hospital. The delay was the result of the public health authorities not knowing to which hospital to transfer Mihaela.

Mihaela remained stable throughout her hospitalization, although St Margaret's had to provide the medication specific to her condition because the hospital did not have it. After 14 days in hospital the authorities required her to be discharged even though she still tested positive. Despite our objection because of safety concerns for our other children, Mihaela was returned to us.

Mihaela has been placed in a special COVID isolation room. The special isolation room was created for her out of our physiotherapy room. St Margaret's takes all necessary measures to care for Mihaela and reduce the risk of infection of the other children and staff.

Thankfully Mihaela has now tested negative and returned to the general unit. Happily, she was baptized November 15. Please pray with us for Mihaela's continued recovery.



# St Margaret's

## Cristina gives us a lesson in times of pandemic

Cristina is a child aware of everything around her and of every emotion transmitted. She is a sensitive and empathetic girl. She has a beautiful smile.

We became even more aware of Cristina's special nature during these pandemic times. At first she was confused that she had to stay indoors. She missed her volunteer friends who used to visit very often. To reduce her anxiety, the staff tried very carefully to give her an explanation for each question. When summer came, Cristina wanted to see the world outside of which she is familiar, trips to the park, to the theatre, to Comana monastery and the nearby animal farm. It was difficult to see the sadness in her eyes when it was discussed why we could no longer go on outings.

In time, Cristina began to understand and accept the situation. She told

her friends in the hospice that they must remain indoors to stay healthy. She worked to buoy their spirits. She enjoyed having the quarantined staff with her. She enjoyed the summer days in the yard's inflatable pool. She dived into the holiday preparations. She taught that there are many ways to escape and embrace isolation. This was good for the staff to experience, as they too were quarantined in the hospice for two-week periods. Cristina was just as positive and brave when COVID testing began at St Margaret's. She encouraged the other children not to be scared and not to cry. She continues to encourage them when the fortnightly testing comes around.

Cristina is that special child who teaches us gratefulness, acceptance and how together we discover joy in simple moments.



# St Margaret's

## LOCAL VOLUNTEERS

Our medical and social assistance student volunteers from the University of Bucharest have not been able to visit St Margaret's children since COVID restrictions were announced in March. Nonetheless, they have continued their support and love for the children from a distance.

They acted swiftly and decisively to help us from the very beginning of the pandemic. The entire country was in a major crisis due to lack of protective equipment. Volunteer Maria enabled us to receive 100 reusable masks. Four of the medical volunteers, Raluca, Antonia, Maria and Ionuț, dedicated their birthdays in support of St Margaret's, encouraging friends and colleagues to donate to CiD instead of giving them gifts. The entire group of volunteers made birthday donations to the four. These four volunteers also are part of the Facebook campaign asking people to dedicate their birthdays for CiD children, and each has included a short video as part of their campaign.

These volunteers spread the CiD spirit and recruit new volunteers. Currently the number of medical volunteers has risen to 25. The volunteers are ready with fundraising plans for Christmas

and next year, including the annual Faculty of Medicine's Christmas Fair.

Decorations and goodies are offered to aid St Margaret's. We are extremely grateful for these dedicated and compassionate volunteers. We hope to be with them in person soon. They are an important part of the great CiD family. With them we are stronger and can overcome any obstacle!



# Izabela learns more and more



Since Izabela's arrival as a three-month old infant in June 2013, she instantly became a favourite of the St Andrew's specialists and caregivers. Izabela arrived accompanied by a thick medical file which included various severe conditions and grim survival prognoses and shoulder shrugs from the doctors. Izabela was born prematurely, at the foetal age of 36 weeks. At birth she suffered from perinatal hypoxia, which required neonatal resuscitation measures, followed by respiratory distress and mechanical ventilation. At 17 days old Izabela underwent a tracheostomy. Izabela comes from a family who cannot hear or speak, and she suffers from the same condition.

From the very start of her time at St Andrew's, the team has offered Izabela tender loving care and the chance of a healthy and dignified life. Izabela has been hospitalized repeatedly due to her multiple life-threatening medical conditions. At St Andrew's she has required special care, such as aspiration of the tracheostoma, aerosols and permanent monitoring due to suffocation risk caused by an accumulation of secretions. In 2014, Izabela was recommended retroauricular hearing aids, and with them she now notices louder sounds, although she is not able to pinpoint the sound source.

Today Izabela is energetic, curious,

and full of smiles, with a definite mischievous streak. To develop her psychomotor level we use movement games and exercises and practice daily personal autonomy skills. Izabela now can take a piece of paper to the trash, get in and out of bed on her own, wash her hands and face and eat by herself. Several times she has taken her bowl to the sink to wash it, copying what she sees the staff do. After seeing the staff wear masks, Izabela asked for a mask and wears it on and off throughout the day.

We are delighted with Izabela's quick learning. With the support of our multidisciplinary team, she has a bright future. Izabela will reach continue to reach unforeseen milestones and fill our hearts with sheer pleasure.



# St Andrew's Celebrating Claudia's birthday

October is a special month for St. Andrew's hospice because it brings an important milestone and celebration, Claudia's birthday on October 29. Each year this day is dedicated to Claudia, our beautiful and kind young lady who stole our hearts a long time ago. This year Claudia turned 15 years.

Claudia arrived at our centre during her infancy. From the beginning she proved to be an incredibly special and gifted soul. She used to be frail and tiny, carrying a complicated diagnosis on her shoulders which made her sick most of the time. Despite her trial she proved that she is a fighter and stronger than the eye can see. Everyone is fond of her, a peaceful child, always smiling and with a kind word of wisdom for her peers. She attended kindergarten and moved on to a nearby elementary school. There she fit right in. She made lots of friends and won the hearts of both her teachers and fellow students with her perseverance, dedication and hard work.

Due to the difficult worldwide pandemic and the accompanying restrictions which do not allow visitations or

large parties, we decided to celebrate by throwing an small party at the hospice with the children and staff. Claudia received lots of presents, and enjoyed (in our humble opinion) a delicious and gorgeous looking cake decorated with fireworks. Her best friend and sidekick Izabela was by her side at all times, taking it all in.

Claudia was emotional and delighted with the party and declared it a beautiful day. She spent quality time with her St Andrew's family of love and care, AND she got to open lots of presents! It was indeed perfect!!!

Happy anniversary, Clau! We love you!

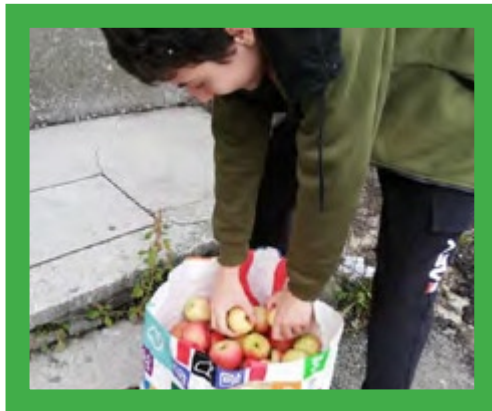


# St Christopher's

## Our children make a humble surprise

The arrival of autumn brought much joy to our children with lots of fun and recreational activities in St Christopher Centre's garden and orchard. This year we were not able to go apple picking in large numbers, as we used to, but we still invited some of our children over a period of days to participate in our impromptu autumn festival. They had lovely mornings and afternoons, basking in the sun's warm rays, picking apples, telling jokes and stories, singing, and taking in nature's pleasures. As during previous years, these beautiful and fragrant apples will reach the homes of the children in our care and will provide a healthy snack during the harsh winter months.

The children kindly asked us not to forget Laurentiu, their autistic friend. They know he requires a complex diet full of fresh fruit and vegetables, and they said that the apples are the perfect food for Laurentiu. According to the old saying, an apple a day keeps the doctor away. We packed a bag of apples and went to Laurentiu's home. He has lived with his grandparents since he was two years. His father abandoned his wife and son, and his mother was not involved in his care and rearing. Laurentiu's mother works in Italy and sends help



whenever she can. Laurentiu's autism is quite challenging for his elderly grandparents, who have their own medical issues, Grandma with cardiac disease and Grandpa with Alzheimer's, and struggle to pay for Laurentiu's expensive daily therapy sessions at home.

We were welcomed into their humble home with delight. They were grateful for the surprise apples. Laurentiu immediately grabbed an apple and started to eat. We learned they are his favorite fruit. His grandparents thanked us for the learning material and therapy ideas we have given. We feel incredibly blessed to be of use, and we will continue to bring hope to all our dear families found in need.



# St Christopher's

## Two sisters who care



In keeping with our tradition, we recently celebrated "Animals Day." Sisters Andreea and Georgiana showed us once again their big hearts for saving animals abandoned by "soulless" people (the girls' word). They brought a cute little puppy they had rescued. His name is Auras. He follows the girls everywhere and is their friend and protector. The girls adopted Auras and brought him into their home, which already includes cats and other dogs.

On the same day last year Andreea brought a bunch of puppies she had found on the side of the road. The sisters do not care for orphaned animals only on this day. They do this all year round. The girls share their food with the little souls, not worrying that their own portion of food is shrunk. Their sole goal is to care for animals until they can find them a home or adopt them themselves. The girls' home is humble, and their parents face financial challenges because their mother is the sole source of income during the pandemic. Nonetheless, Andreea and Georgiana show us with their solar hearts how one can be generous even when one has little in the way of material goods.

Andreea further showed her generous heart by raising money to buy her

younger sister a smartphone. The girls' school is online because of the pandemic, but since the family does not have a laptop, tablet, computer or landline, a smartphone is a great help for keeping up with school. Georgiana did not have a smartphone, so she could not readily communicate with her teachers and school peers and had to depend on friends to bring her handwritten notes and homework, and activities sheets and tests that they had downloaded. St Christopher's did what we could with tutoring and counselling Georgiana, but having a smartphone was the ideal tool for preparing for her upcoming capacity exam.

Georgiana could barely keep her composure when Andreea gave her a smartphone. It is not a new one but it is the best gadget in the world because it greatly helps with school. Georgiana does not see it as a way of accessing social networks or a gadget to play games and waste time. It is for school.

Andreea and Georgiana again show us that it is possible to be happy, generous and caring even when material possessions and money are lacking. Andreea and Georgiana, thank you for teaching us valuable lessons.

# COVID challenges in the UK

Like other parts of the health and care system in the UK, Children in Distress has faced difficult challenges this year.

## Glasgow Office:

To comply with the Scottish lockdown, our Glasgow office is closed and staff work from home. This has brought challenges such as limited access to the office to retrieve mail and files; however, the staff adapted quickly and well to their new work environment.

The major issue we faced was the cancellation of 2020 fundraising activities. We looked forward to a busy, enterprising and fun year, with marathons in Glasgow and Bucharest, art exhibitions, volunteer appreciation day, CiD's Little Helpers' day of fun, volunteer thank you teas at our charity shops and church carol sings. All were cancelled, along with our annual supporters' tour, which gives donors and sponsors time with the children at St Margaret's, St Andrew's and St Christopher's.

## Our Shops:

Our three charity shops in England were required to be closed at the first lockdown. This had a significant impact on this year's revenue. All plans for special promotions such as Mother's Day, Easter and our D-Day were cancelled. When the lockdown ended for a period

and our shops reopened, we were overwhelmed by the support we received from the local communities and the commitment and dedication of both staff and volunteers. Sadly, the reopening was brief, with our shops required to close with the second lockdown.

## Donations:

COVID has brought a steep decline in donations. Yet when we asked for emergency help through our COVID special appeal, many of you generously gave so we could meet our budget challenges. Thanks to you we received over £36,000, which greatly helped us meet our increased pandemic expenses and lessen the impact of decreased donations.

## Volunteers:

We are extremely concerned about the effect of the pandemic and lockdown on our wonderful volunteers. Both the office and the shop managers keep in touch with our volunteers. We also established a dedicated mobile phone for volunteers and supporters to call when they needed a friendly chat.

We have all been in this together. We have learned new skills to help get us through the current situation and any future challenges. We are ready to face whatever 2021 brings.

# The Janson & Roberts Scholarships

**W**e are now in the second year of the Dr Michael Janson and Varuni Roberts Scholarship program!

CiD established the scholarship program last year in the rural schools of Arges County. The program provides funds to ten economically-disadvantaged children in 8th grade who have strong academic records. Each scholarship provides the child with 4,000 Lei (£730, €820, \$975) to aid them in purchasing laptops/tablets, other school necessities and clothing. The program is funded from a portion of the generous legacy left to CiD by Dr Janson and his wife, Ms Roberts, in 2019.

During COVID times, Romanian schools are teaching online. Many children in rural areas do not have laptops or tablets, so they are not able to attend school. Through the scholarship fund CiD aims to ameliorate this problem for ten students every year.

Applications for this school year were due November 20. We will give an update in the next Vision about the students who are awarded scholarships for this school year.

The program has been written about in a local Arges newspaper. The article is in English and may be viewed at <https://www.ziarulactualitatea.com/24232>.





Dear Friends

## Re: Christmas Shoebox Appeal/Gifts from the Heart

A number of you have been in touch to enquire whether the 2020 shoebox appeal is going ahead in this time of COVID. Yes, we went ahead, working around COVID restrictions in the UK and Romania. We realise that the COVID 19 situation is constantly changing, but we also know that your shoeboxes will bring so much joy to the Romanian children and elderly who receive them. If we did not continue many of them would miss out on what may be the only gift they receive this Christmas. Thanks to you we will distribute over 5,000 boxes in December in various locations in Romania.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

We also thank the following volunteers for their efforts in collecting and sorting the shoe boxes in the UK: Roy, John & Jenny, Gerry, Tracy, Marie, Melanie, Gwen, Paddy, Bryn, Gina, Andy, Catherine, Ynez, Robin and Kath.

All shoeboxes have been collected and leave the UK for Romania November 30. However, it is not too late to contribute a box. Our Gifts from the Heart program allows you to select and donate gifts for a child or an older person. CiD will purchase your selected items in Romania in early December and fill boxes with those gifts. You may view gifts and order them on the "Love in a Box" page of our website, [www.childrenindistress.org.uk](http://www.childrenindistress.org.uk). Thank you for your support in giving those in need happy holidays.



# Creative Christmas Shoeboxing!!!

**W**e all know the difficulties faced this year in not only delivering, picking up or distributing our shoeboxes. Some of us also had trouble locating boxes and paper because of closed stores due to the lockdown.

However.....That did not stop one of our supporters, Roisin Flynn. Roisin purchased flat pack boxes but had a slight problem with gift wrapping. But that did not deter her. Roisin got creative and decorated the boxes herself all in a 2-week period.

That takes real dedication. Thank you so much Roisin, we are so grateful for your contribution and your continued support.



# Archbishop of York Junior School shoebox appeal success

The following is an article from The York Press, October 28, 2020, written by Haydn Lewis:

CHILDREN at a York primary school have been putting others first in the run up to Christmas again this year.

Archbishop of York Junior School in Bishopthorpe are long-term supporters of the 'Love in a Box' shoebox appeal organised by the Children in Distress charity and despite everything this year has brought, the school community's determined commitment to this charity was just as strong as ever.

Teachers Sally Sutton and Tracey Richards, who in 2013 were lucky enough to visit Romania and see first-hand the work of the charity, received a steady flood of contributions all morning in the form of over 200 carefully wrapped and filled shoeboxes, gift items – including beautiful sewn bags, numerous lovingly created hand-knitted hats and soft toys and more



than £700 in monetary contributions.

They said: "It was so wonderful to see the thoughtful, generous gifts that families and individuals had assembled to make their shoeboxes special for every single person that will receive them.

Having seen where these gifts go, we know just how precious these boxes are and how they will be treasured for years to come.

"Everyone arriving with a shoebox had a little story to tell about what they had brought which clearly showed the love and care that had gone into every Christmas shoebox. We feel very blessed that our school, church and community joined together to demonstrate support for this charity and help to continue the work that one of the founder members of Children in Distress, Eddie Errington, began 30 years ago. Sadly, Eddie is no longer with us but his legacy lives on which is testament to his devotion to the children of Romania for whom he worked so hard. All the donated items are now safely on their way and we would like to thank everyone, from the bottom of our hearts, who helped to make this year's collection such a success."

## Shoe Boxes at Christmas

'Twas the night before shipping, all the gifts had been packed,  
Everyone was asleep, cos they had worked oh so hard.  
The stockings were hung in the hospices with care,  
In hopes that Santa's helpers would soon be there.

With lockdown upon us, and COVID worldwide,  
We took extra precautions, wiping down twice.  
No way were we stopping, all hands-on deck,  
Christmas was coming, and we are all set.

Down at the yard we had a great deal of help,  
From Melanie, Marie and Tracy, our trusted wee elves.  
With the deadline approaching and no end in sight,  
Volunteer elves were called to pack things nice.  
With Santa Roy at the helm, and elves picking up boxes,  
No way were we ever going to give up!

With everything sorted, collected, and packed,  
It was time to breathe but not to relax.  
The parcels in transit, and our fingers crossed,  
Please Santa oh Santa do not let them get stopped.

All presents arrived, and we could finally say  
There was no way COVID had beat us today  
And all of the children would like you to know  
You all helped save Christmas....Now all they want is snow!!



## Something to Smile About

With Christmas coming we'll all be buying presents for loved ones. Online shopping has been part of our lives for many years, even more so now because of COVID. Online shopping is safer and more convenient, and now there is another reason to shop by mouse.

Children in Distress has joined Amazon Smile, a program to support charities without costing purchasers a single extra penny. Amazon Smile is a great way to help raise money for CiD's vital services.

And it could not be simpler!

1. Go to: [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk)
2. Sign in with your usual Amazon details (email, password) or create an Amazon account
3. Choose Children in Distress as your charity (you can search by our name or charity number **SC039383**)
4. Shop! It's that easy.  
Amazon will donate to CiD 0.5% of the

value of eligible purchases you make. You'll be surprised how quickly it all adds up. Please note that CiD will not receive your personal information or details of what you buy.

Note that you must go to [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk) to access the program. The regular Amazon web address will not work for contributing to CiD. So we suggest you consider to bookmark the correct address in your browser.

Please let your family and friends know about this great and simple way to help CiD. If you have any problems or questions, get in touch with us and we will help you out.

Happy shopping and Happy Christmas!



Turn everyday online shopping into FREE donations to CiD.

Shop at 4000 well known online shops and sites and at the same time raise funds for CiD.

Children in Distress are pleased to let you know that we have joined millions of other charities in signing up to Easy Fundraising.

With the current Coronavirus situation around the world, online shopping has increased dramatically. But what if you could shop and support Children in Distress at the same time...

By signing up to Easy Fundraising every time you shop online via their website, Children in Distress will receive a donation (with no added cost to yourself).

Also, for every friend you refer to the site who joins up Children in Distress receives an additional £5!

Now doesn't that make shopping sound even more fun!!!

For more information or to sign up to Easy Fundraising visit: [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

# LEGACIES



Photo: Dr Michael Janson and Varuni Roberts

A legacy gift is a specific donation left in a will. It is commonly known as ‘gifts in wills’ or a bequest. Legacies are one of the most significant contributions one can make to a cause one wishes to support or continue to support after one’s death.

Leaving a legacy gift to Children in Distress is an ideal way of making a better today for children who may not have tomorrow. Legacies do not need to be large, even a small amount or percentage of your estate can make a huge difference in the lives of children in physical or economic need. Every bequest allows CiD to continue to be a caring family for the sick and abandoned children in our care or to support the education of children with a huge cognitive potential but without economic resources to pursue their potential.

There are different types of gifts in wills. Some of the most common ones are:

**1. Residuary gifts** - A share, or sometimes all, of an estate after all other distributions have been made.

**2. Pecuniary gifts** - A specific sum of money.

**3. Specific gifts** - A particular non-monetary item, such as property, antiques, jewelry or stock shares.

The generous legacy left to CiD by Dr Michael Janson and his wife Varuni Roberts in 2019 has been directed to their expressed purpose – to directly help the children of CiD. Using a portion of the legacy, CiD established the Arges County Scholarship Program. This is an ex-

cellent project which awards funds to economically-disadvantaged children with strong academic records to purchase necessary school supplies such as laptops or tablets as well as clothing. At the same time the Arges Scholarship Program honours the memory and gracious generosity of Dr Janson and Ms Roberts, a couple who demonstrated their care for the welfare of others through their bequest and bequests to other children’s charities.

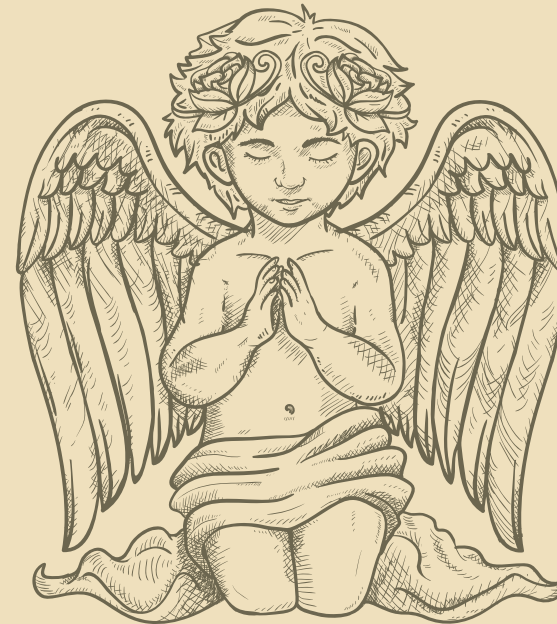
Seeing the success of the Arges Scholarship Project, we encourage you to consider becoming our partner to establish or support similar projects. Ideas for new projects are very welcome. Legacies are an opportunity to leave behind something that will enrich the lives of children in need.

To learn more about CiD and our existing projects, visit: <https://www.childrenindistress.org/>, <https://www.cid.org.ro/>, <https://www.facebook.com/FundatiaCIDRomania>, <https://www.facebook.com/childrenindistressUK>,

For more information or to discuss a bequest, please contact **Valentina Zaharia, CEO UK and CEO Romania, at vali@cid.org.ro; 0040 (0) 21 2103121, Radu de la Afumati 16, 020667, Sector 2, Bucharest, Romania.**

## In Memoriam

We remember our friends and supporters who passed to life eternal in 2020:



Sheila Berry  
Marjorie Bourne  
John Brace  
Joseph Leonard Brockley  
Marie Caltieri  
Phillip Carlin  
David Cullingworth  
Joan Daley  
Mrs C A Davies  
Heather Dean  
Mr D Folgate  
Mrs B Hobbs  
Bruce Hurn  
Stan Jackson  
Barbara Joyce Jefferies  
Ms H Kirkbride  
Mrs J V Livingstone  
Alison Macdonald  
Mrs M J Minney  
C Pownall  
Mr S B Sinclair  
Peter Smith  
Catherine Philomena Vahey  
Derek Webster  
Helen Wenham  
Joyce West  
Ian Wildbore

And we remember our child Clara-Maria Popescu, who passed to life eternal in 2020.

May they all rest God’s love.

## CHILDREN IN DISTRESS 2021 Calendar



Calendar 2021

We offer our very own, first ever, Children in Distress calendar. Each month of 2021 we show pictures of all our amazing, beautiful children so they can be on display and in your hearts all year round.

The cost is only £5. To order a calendar simply go on-line to [bit.ly/CID21](http://bit.ly/CID21). It will take you to our website, where you can place an order. The system automatically will change other currencies into English Pounds. Alternatively, you can contact the Glasgow office to order, (44) 0141 559 5690, [admin2@childrenindistress.org.uk](mailto:admin2@childrenindistress.org.uk).

## Fundraise for our children

Children in Distress relies entirely on donations, fundraising and legacies to deliver its mission to care for abandoned children with life-limiting conditions. Our mission is to help them achieve their maximum potential or offer them the best possible end of life care.

Our volunteers and supporters have always been the backbone of our charity, complementing our small staff team. Now, more than ever, we need your help and support with our fundraising. We would love for you to consider fundraising for us in whatever way you can. We will offer you all the support we can to make your fundraising efforts a success.

Here are some world (online) ideas/ thoughts:

- Murder Mystery Evening
- Gala Dinner and Auction
- Bingo
- Sale or auction of goods from our shops
- Raffles
- Face to face options:
  - When the world allows us to get back out there, there are many more opportunities open to us -
    - Sponsored walks
    - Charity cycle rides
    - Hook on the back of other major events to raise funds
  - To discuss your fundraising ideas and/or your willingness to help, please contact:
    - Valentina Zaharia: [vali@cid.org.ro](mailto:vali@cid.org.ro)
    - Simon Errington: [s\\_errington@sky.com](mailto:s_errington@sky.com)
    - Tina Connelly: [Tina.Connelly@childrenindistress.org.uk](mailto:Tina.Connelly@childrenindistress.org.uk)

# Have Your Say!

It's important we know what we're doing well and what we should improve. Please take a minute to answer a few quick questions and help make our magazine and charity better.

To thank you, we've a **£15 gift voucher to win**. Just add your details overleaf to enter (this is optional). We'll separate them before we look at the answers and won't share your responses with any other organisation.

When complete send to: Children in Distress, Ladywell Business Centre, 94 Duke Street, Glasgow G4 0UW.

Or, you can complete it online at: [www.bit.ly/SurveyCID](http://www.bit.ly/SurveyCID)

### Vision Magazine

Please tick one for each:

- |                         |                                     |                                      |                                    |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| How often you read it   | <input type="checkbox"/> Always     | <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes |
| How much you read       | <input type="checkbox"/> Most       | <input type="checkbox"/> Quite a lot | <input type="checkbox"/> A little  |
| How interesting it is   | <input type="checkbox"/> Very       | <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly      | <input type="checkbox"/> A little  |
| Motivates you to help   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes   | <input type="checkbox"/> No        |
| You receive Vision      | <input type="checkbox"/> Too rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> About right | <input type="checkbox"/> Too often |
| Design and quality is   | <input type="checkbox"/> Good       | <input type="checkbox"/> Okay        | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor      |
| It's easy to read       | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes        | <input type="checkbox"/> Varies      | <input type="checkbox"/> No        |
| <b>This</b> edition was | <input type="checkbox"/> Good       | <input type="checkbox"/> Okay        | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor      |

How much should we talk about (tick one for each):

- |                  |                                |                                      |                                   |                               |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Our children     | <input type="checkbox"/> A lot | <input type="checkbox"/> Quite a lot | <input type="checkbox"/> A little | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| Our volunteers   | <input type="checkbox"/> A lot | <input type="checkbox"/> Quite a lot | <input type="checkbox"/> A little | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| Staff / Trustees | <input type="checkbox"/> A lot | <input type="checkbox"/> Quite a lot | <input type="checkbox"/> A little | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| Fundraising      | <input type="checkbox"/> A lot | <input type="checkbox"/> Quite a lot | <input type="checkbox"/> A little | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| Ways to help     | <input type="checkbox"/> A lot | <input type="checkbox"/> Quite a lot | <input type="checkbox"/> A little | <input type="checkbox"/> None |

How can we make Vision magazine better?

Continues overleaf

To enter our competition to win a £15.00 gift voucher, enter your details below. This is optional. We'll contact the lucky winner in January 2021.

Name .....

Address .....

Town ..... Postcode .....

Email.....

Enter email address and tick box if you'd like to receive occasional emails from us. You can unsubscribe anytime and we won't share your details.

## About Children in Distress

How much do you agree with the following (tick one for each):

- |                                    |                              |                                 |                             |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| We've enough funds for our work    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Keep you updated on our work       | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Communicate well with you          | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Value our supporters               | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Have a clear vision for our future | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> Mostly | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

## Website and Social Media

How often do you visit the following (tick one for each):

- |              |                                |                                    |                                 |                                |
|--------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Our website  | <input type="checkbox"/> Often | <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> Never |
| Our Facebook | <input type="checkbox"/> Often | <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely | <input type="checkbox"/> Never |

Please tell us how we can attract more supporters, improve any aspect of our work, or any other suggestions you have.

DONATE TODAY



Donate  today

I wish to pay by cheque / postal order / or Mastercard / Visa / Maestro (please delete as appropriate)

(I enclose a cheque / postal order for £..... made payable to Children in Distress)

Card No

Valid from Date..... Security No..... (Last 3 digits on reverse of card)

Expiry Date..... Maestro Issue No.....

Signature..... Date.....

Donate  monthly from today **OR**

Donate  and sponsor a child today

Account Holders Name:.....

My Account No.....

Bank Sort Code..... Starting Date .....

To the Manager - (Name and address of Bank)

Signature..... Date.....

Official use only. Please pay to the account of Children in Distress (Acc no 10101169) at The Royal Bank of Scotland, 10 Gordon Street, Glasgow G1 3PL (Sort code 83-07-06)

## Your personal details

Name.....

Address .....

Postcode..... Tel No .....

Email.....

- To reduce the cost to Children in Distress, I do not require a receipt.
- I am a taxpayer and authorise CiD to reclaim the tax on my donations since 6 April 2000 and all future donations (unless I notify otherwise) as Gift Aid donations.
- Please send me more information on sponsoring a child.  Sign-up to receive occasional email newsletters from CID

Children in Distress, Suite 30 Ladywell Business Centre, 94 Duke Street, Glasgow G4 0UW Tel:(44) 0141 559 5690 [www.childrenindistress.org](http://www.childrenindistress.org) E-mail:admin2@childrnindistress.org.uk Scottish Registered Charity Number: SC039383

*Merry Christmas*



*To cure, sometimes; To help, often; To comfort, always.*