

INTRODUCING RALUCA, THE NEW HOME OF HOPE MANAGER

Raluca began volunteering at

JOIN US AT THE AUCTION AND MEET HER IN PERSON!

Camp of the Good Shepherd in the summer of 2016. The first thing I noticed about Raluca was her compassion for the children in the Placement Centers. I can remember thinking that she had leadership potential. As I have worked closer with her these past 2 years and watched her maturity catch up to her passion, I knew this July it was time to offer her an employment position at Home of Hope!

Raluca is the eldest of 8 siblings and has experienced both tragedy and triumph in her personal life and I asked her to share a little here of her own story. She will share more at the fundraisers and I encourage everyone to attend for an evening of fellowship, encouragement, and

to support and celebrate our ministry.





"My father left our family when my mother was pregnant with my younge<mark>st</mark> sister. After that, my mother and I raised my younger siblings. My mother, who is the strongest woman I know, helped me along all this time and I can say for sure that I got where I am now because of her advice and mostly because of her prayers. She taught me everything from cooking to being a proper lady and to always know that God is in charge even when it seems life is meaningless. I always loved English and in high school I earned my Cambridge English degree. At University I received my degree in European Middles Ages and Archaeology, it was my curiosity interest.

I always enjoyed volunteering and I especially looked for opportunities to work with the children from the Placement Centers. A few years ago, a doctor told me I may never have children of my own. I like to think that instead of just one or two children, God decided to have me help take care of

hundreds! After my first summer volunteering with Heart of Hope I couldn't wait for the next summer. When this summer came I signed up for 2 weeks; but my boss from a restaurant wouldn't let me free. I knew God wanted me at camp, so I quit my job and signed up for all the camps. You can say it was a leap

of faith, but I didn't imagine I would end up with a new job and a new perspective after all the camps. It was one of the best decisions I ever made in my life.

I believe the opportunity I have with this job is most of all God's plan. am the eldest of 8 and I feel like all of my life has led to this moment. By taking care of my family for so long, I know I have the skills to manage Home of Hope and take care of the young women there. I really can't believe I am coming to the States! The way God took care of my passport and visa - I really have no words to describe how happy and grateful I am. On a personal note, I also have dreamed to see an ocean and put my toes on a sandy beach! I am OVER JOYED to participate to the events in Portland and Camarillo and meet more wonderful people who help the children in need of my country. God's Blessing to all of you."



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE "PRESENCE OF HOPE" ANNUAL DINNER AND AUCTION!

We are thrilled to invite you to our annual auctions happening this year in Portland and Camarillo! Please consider inviting your family and friends to attend so they too can hear stories of hope and encouragement from those in need in Romania.

There is no cost to attend either event, and doors open at 5:30 for check-in and silent auction bidding, with dinner and the evening program starting at 7:00.

Thanks to generous donors, we've been given a \$20,000 matching grant, and there will be a variety of auction items to bid on. You'll have the opportunity to meet volunteers that have traveled this very vear to provide hope and healing to the hurting, as well as meet our special guest speaker, Raluca!

Your partnership has blessed thousands of children this year and we invite you to celebrate another year of ministry with us!

REGISTER NOW AT: WWW.HEARTOFHOPE.ORG We look forward to seeing you there!



LESS THAN 90 SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS!

Want to have your Amazon Christmas shopping help a child in need in Romania? When you shop at Smile. Amazon.com, we receive 0.5% back!



To sign up, simply go to: smile.amazon.com, select Heart of Hope Ministries International as your favorite charitable organization, and start shopping from the Amazon Smile page.

Thanks for partnering with us as we provide for those in need!

A NOTE FROM **DEBBIE:** SO looking forward to seeing each and every one of our dear partners in person at one of the fundraisers. Your attendance is a personal blessing and encouragement!

Yours in Partnership.

and your Depose HHMI Board