



HEART OF HOPE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

GIFT OF HOPE CHRISTMAS 2025



The Christmas 'Gift of Hope' program for the first time provided Christmas gifts to children in the foster care system in Sibiu, Romania. The majority of these children attended camp with us this summer and we wanted to encourage those relationships and bless these children at this special time of year. Child Protection Services was very open and intrigued by our idea to hold a 'Christmas Party Open House'. We invited foster parents to attend as well, but only one foster parent was able to attend. The majority of foster parents do not have cars and so Child Protection Services provided transportation to our two locations, one in Medias and one in Sibiu.

At each location we had a Christmas devotional, caroling, and then the children were able to come through the gift line to choose their own Christmas blanket, socks, shower gel, shampoo, deodorant, game or toy, keepsake mug with chocolates, and Christmas devotional book, as well as a box of chocolate to give to their foster parent.



It was a memorable and joyous time for all with many thanks from the Child Protection Services for remembering these children in need. For foster children living too far from either open house location, HHMI staff and volunteers home delivered Christmas gifts as seen here!





Christmas distributions continued with the children residing in state care at what used to be called orphanages, then placement centers, and now family group homes with 12 children per house. This new step helps keep numbers lower per destination and each family group house has its own staff.

At Left: Camp volunteer and team leader, Ruth, with children from the family group home in Turnu Rosu. These children are all classified as Special Education and Ruth and her Romanian volunteers have a special love and talent for working with these dear kids at camp!



By December 15th all the children and staff at the family group homes will have received this year's Christmas gifts from us. Last spring there was a fire at one of the homes and some of the children were transferred to a home that we were unaware of. When those children came to camp, they asked where we were at Easter – and we said we didn't know where they had gone. They kept saying it was ok they thought that's what happened because they know we have never forgotten them! They were happy to see our volunteers this Christmas season, and at each and every place visions of camp are dancing in their heads for 2026!

We will end 2025 in partnership with my friend Caty that has a very small ministry to children in 3 impoverished communities providing after school tutoring and humanitarian assistance. This is the same partner we did the 'back to school and lice removal program' with in September. At the end of December, we are providing funding to provide new warm blankets, hygiene items, and food to those in need. Please watch our Facebook and Instagram pages for updates the week of Christmas!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Debbie and your
HHMI Board