



Romania Mission Manual

Please Print Your Name In The Line Above and
Please Bring This Manual With You On Your Mission Trip

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Map

Can you find
Targu (Tirgu) Mures?



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Livada Ministry Snapshot

OUR VISION

Provide care for vulnerable children that produces Christ-like disciples in Romania.

OUR MISSION

Engage, evangelize, & equip Romanian orphans and at-risk kids for life & ministry.

OUR VALUES

Jesus-Focused, Relational, Grace-Oriented, Biblically-Based, Disciple Making

Livada Orphan Care is committed to helping orphans and at-risk Gypsy kids find their place in this world through a blend of Christian social work, humanitarian aid and ministry. Our holistic approach begins by nurturing orphans in the cradle and ends with them becoming faithful, interdependent, contributing members of society.



People were bringing little children to Jesus to have Him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, He was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And He took the children in His arms, put His hands on them and blessed them. -Mark 10:13-16

Basic Training

Part of a successful trip begins now as you prepare to go. All team members are required to complete the following basic training before they leave.

Basic training includes:

PRAYER

Each team member should be committed to prayer. Three areas of prayer should be covered.

1. Personal, daily prayer. This should be for all different aspects of the mission project: your teammates, those you will minister to and preparation of your own heart.
2. A prayer support team should be developed. Prayer is the most vital link in your mission. Each member of your team should recruit a group of people that will pray for you and for your team from now until you return to the States.
3. Prayer for Livada Orphan Care, the children we work with and the country of Romania. God is doing and will continue to do amazing things!

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Each team member should write out his/her personal testimony and practice sharing in front of others: in both formal and informal settings. Your testimony is a powerful tool that the Lord will use while overseas.

SUPPLIES

Each team/individual will collect, pack and transport the designated supplies needed for ministry. (This list will be sent to you or your team leader.) This is a great way to get others involved.

SHARING/CREATIVITY

The Livada staff will have most of the preparation done prior to your arrival, but we also want your team members to be able to creatively display their gifts. If your team has special skits/games to share, please let the LOC staff know beforehand. Please think through any extra materials needed for these activities. These supplies will need to be brought in by your team. (*This is not a requirement.*)

READING

Each team member should read this manual thoroughly and be familiar with its information. This manual should be with you at all preparation meetings and should accompany you overseas. The information in it could prove very vital.

LANGUAGE

Each team member should spend some time becoming familiar with the native language. Vocabulary sheets are included in this manual (pg 21-24) and will be covered in your orientation either here or in Romania. Once on your trip, you will want to know as much of the language as possible to communicate with your newfound friends...and to be able to find the toilet when necessary!

FORMS PACKET

Before your team leaves the United States, each member must complete the Forms Packet and include a copy of your passport. Your leader will provide the Forms Packet and returned them. Team Leaders should make a copy of all passport information for personal records.

HEART

Each team member should come over with a servant's heart, willing to help out where needed and excited about what God is going to do in and through you!

FLEXIBILITY

Be flexible!! This is essential while traveling and working in another country.

Cultural Information

The Right Cultural Attitude

It is easy to go into another culture with a superior mind-set that causes you to negatively judge those who Christ sent you to love. You may find yourself slipping into a critical spirit that condemns or laughs at values important to your national friends. Below are some suggestions to help you minister with a positive cultural attitude.

Observe

Become an investigator of the culture you are visiting. Ask lots of questions. We tend to make assumptions before we observe. For example, you might say, "These kids are dirty." It would be better to observe that they are not able to clean up as often. Our way is not necessarily better, just different.

Get used to feeling needy

In your new culture you might feel like a two-year-old. For example, you can't ask where the Post Office is and don't even know what it looks like if you could.

Be adventurous

Try to keep a creative attitude about trying to speak the language. Feel free to gesture with your hands to communicate, and you can always ask questions.

Defer to your national friends

Romans 14 talks about giving up certain freedoms because they offend others. Remember that you are a guest in their country. If you have a question about wearing something or doing something that may be considered offensive, ask your national host first.

Be able to laugh at yourself

Don't take yourself so seriously you can't laugh when you make mistakes.

Expect to feel out of place

Culture shock affects people differently. You may experience some stress and frustration as you try to deal with a new language and different sights, sounds, smells and tastes. You may want to go home. Ask your teammates to pray for you when you are feeling discouraged. Bear in mind that you are only overseas for a short time. Remember, Christ is our ultimate example of one who left His culture to bring us salvation. Ask Him to strengthen you and to help you through this! (Philippians 4:13)

Pray

Ask God to cover any unknowingly offensive deed toward someone. Remember, love covers a multitude of sins.

Remember...

Be FLEXIBLE (like Nadia Comaneci)!

A Perspective on Romanian Culture

Adapted from an article by Tom Keppler entitled, "Some Thoughts on Romania, Ministry, and Culture."

The following perspectives are not authoritative. They are based on personal observations made by Americans over the past decade as Romania has transitioned from a communist state to a free country. This information is meant to be of assistance to Christians coming over on short-term trips to Romania.

1. Some Romanians are less time-conscious than Americans and Western Europeans; they are a Latin culture.
2. Romanians generally respond to things more intuitively; the Romanian culture is an emotional culture.
3. Beauty and the aesthetic are very important to the Romanian people.
4. Protocol and manners are very important especially as it relates to official matters.
5. There is a lot of bureaucracy in Romania. Things can take a long time to do.
6. As in all important matters – relationships are key. This is more so in Romania.
7. When Romanians are in a discussion or a meeting, the interaction style can be loud, energetic, and emotional. Many times they appear to be angry at each other when, in fact, they are not.
8. The most common leadership style is autocratic as opposed to democratic. Governmental leaders tend to view themselves as royalty as opposed to public servants.
9. Romanians will often be more inclined to say "yes" to proposals or ideas from Westerners, even if they are not in total agreement. Be sure to ask and not tell.
10. Life in Romania is more spontaneous than planned. Time management is a growing concept.
11. Hospitality and helping each other are highly valued in Romanian culture.
12. Romanians are generally very polite and courteous.
13. Gender roles are very clearly defined both in the Christian society and society at large. Men are usually not homemakers and rarely help out with inside chores. Although most women work outside the home, they are also responsible for the management of the home.
14. When reaching an agreement through an interpreter, many times the Westerner assumes that certain things were understood on the part of the Romanian when, in fact, they were not. One must be very careful not to overestimate the effectiveness of communicating through a translator.
15. There is a lot of corruption in Romania which tends to cause people to find "creative alternatives" to doing things the straightforward "right" way.

The Holy Kiss

The holy kiss is a traditional Christian greeting. The term comes from the New Testament, where it appears five times:

1. **Romans 16.16a** — "Greet one another with a holy kiss" (Greek: ἀσπάσασθε ἀλλήλους ἐν φιλήματι ἁγίῳ).
2. **I Corinthians 16.20b** — "Greet one another with a holy kiss" (Greek: ἀσπάσασθε ἀλλήλους ἐν φιλήματι ἁγίῳ).
3. **II Corinthians 13.12a** — "Greet one another with a holy kiss" (Greek: ἀσπάσασθε ἀλλήλους ἐν ἁγίῳ φιλήματι).
4. **I Thessalonians 5.26** — "Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss" (Greek: ἀσπάσασθε τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς πάντας ἐν φιλήματι ἁγίῳ).
5. **I Peter 5.14a** — "Greet one another with a kiss of love" (Greek: ἀσπάσασθε ἀλλήλους ἐν φιλήματι ἀγάπης).

Superficially, there was nothing new in the practice of Christians greeting one another with a kiss: cheek kissing was the normal way that men in the ancient western Mediterranean would greet one another. However, the New Testament's emphasis on its being a holy and love (*agapē*) kiss meant that it quickly developed into something more than a greeting. The writings of the early church fathers mention the holy kiss as forming the introduction to the regular Sunday Eucharist in the early church. In this way it still remains a part of the worship in traditional churches (Eastern Christianity, Roman Catholic Church and liturgical Protestant churches), where it is often called the *kiss of peace* or *sign of peace*, or simply *peace* or *pax*. In these churches, it is usually performed before the preparation of the altar for the Eucharist.



Romanian Orphan Culture

1. All children come from absolute poverty. Even with the ills of the institutional system, the government of Romania is trying to provide basic food and shelter for them.
2. Most workers do not receive enough money from the state to run group homes properly. These settings can be prison-like in some cases and ideal in other cases.
3. In general, at the larger orphanage institutions, the children get bathed two times a week and are given a stack of clothes to last the next several days. The conditions are usually better at the state group homes and much better at the private group homes. The hospital wards where the abandoned babies are housed are usually clean, but the children are unfortunately neglected because of the lack of extra workers to care for them.
4. Most do not have life skills or social skills. Most have not learned how to cook, clean, save money, spend money wisely, take care of personal items, speak properly, act normally in social settings, etc.
5. Many have behavioral disorders because of the lack of proper nurture, attention, and/or education in their early developmental years. If some of these disorders are diagnosed early enough and treated properly by caring professionals, the kids can develop out of them.
6. Many of them are "detached" from people and reality. They have no permanent bonds with other people who consistently care for them; thus, they harden themselves on the inside. Interestingly, they will offer overwhelming affection to a total stranger. This environment can cause attachment disorders that can adversely affect them the rest of their lives.
7. All of the younger children infected with HIV are in a special hospital. Some of the older teenagers that are HIV positive are in state group homes. Most of these children and youth are no longer housed in the general orphanage population.
8. Most are behind in their education for their age. In our experience, the average child/teen is two years behind. They are not properly encouraged within the orphanage system. Many times the personnel, themselves, lack a good education. Thus, the blind are paid to lead the blind. There is a general lack of how to properly educate and encourage a child by the employees who are called "educators" in the orphanage system. For some orphans, being older than their peers is shameful.
9. Medical care is poor and minimal. Dental care is non-existent unless it is brought in by someone other than the government or unless it becomes a medical emergency.
10. You will see physical scars on some and numerous emotional scars on so many others. Most of the children and teens have witnessed or experienced sexual abuse.
11. All orphans want a home and a family.
12. Most children do not have visitors. Guests desiring to see the children are required to get permission from local child protection authorities to visit the orphanages. No pictures are allowed unless approval is sought beforehand. The Romanian government wants to protect children from being exploited and to protect themselves from more bad press. Weekly programs have to be approved a year ahead of time by a county council.
13. Most do not own the clothes on their back...even that is a property of the state.
14. Each of these orphans has a tragic story to share about how they ended up in the orphanage. For many, this is hard to share. Please be sensitive.

Romanian Gypsy (ROMA) Culture & History

To Understand The European Roma Problem

by René Zanellato of Gypsy and Travelers International Evangelical Fellowship (G.A.T.I.E.F) Foundation

The Sad Period of Slavery

For the Gypsies in Romania, it all began in the 13th century. As free men the Rom arrived in Valachie and in Moldavia. Very rapidly, the Valaques and Moldavians Lords began to reduce the Gypsies to slavery. Landowners, princes and Monasteries had taken severe actions in opposition to the Rom. Then, many already tried to flee toward the west. Others, in face of the cruelty, fled to hide in the Carpates Mountains.

It is under the reign of Rudolph IV (1331 – 1355) that the first stories on gypsy slavery were discovered. The Roms were then registered as being the Noble's ownership, the Monasteries clergy and the landowners.

But, it is under the reign of Basil le Loup (1634-1654) that a law concerning the slaves' gypsies is issued. In 1500 the Romanian term "Gypsy " becomes synonymous of "Rob" which means slave. During that period we could classified the Gypsies slaves in different categories: the slaves of peasants, houses, nobles, monasteries and of the church.



Poster about the sale of Roma, Gypsies slaves on May 8, 1852

Translation: Sale of Slaves Gypsies in the city of Amiaza on May 8, 1852 by the Minister of Mr Elias, Notary... 18 men, 10 Boys, 7 women, 3 girls, in excellent conditions

The law of Valachie cites the following articles:

- The Gypsies are born slaves
- All children born of a mother slave are slaves
- All landowners have the right to sell or give his slaves
- All gypsies without landowner are the property of the prince.
- The legal marriages cannot be done between the person free and slaves
- The marriages between slaves cannot be done without the consent of the landowner.
- The courthouse, according his or her age, condition and profession, must fix the price of the slave.

The Gypsies are sold and bought at the slaves' trade fair. In the 19th century the price of a slave was, in general, the value of a gold coin per kilo without consideration of familial ties.

"It was not rare to see, in the streets, some human beings with feet and hands chained, some of them having iron rings around their neck, they were whipped, deprived of food, kept naked in the snow or in the freezing rivers. The wife taken away from her husband, children taken away from their parents' arms and were sold to the four corners of Romania." - Citation of Kogalniceanu, 19th century

In the 19th century, we could count over 400,000 gypsies slaves. Some rebelled and made gangs. It was not until December 23rd 1855 that the gypsy slavery became illegal in Moldavia and February 8th 1856 in Valachie. But it was not until 1864 that slavery and bondage were definitively abolished in Romania.

But sadly, yet today, in the mind of many Romanian the gypsies are always seen as suspicious characters.

The Walk of Shame

After this sad period of Gypsy slavery, the sufferings of the Rom kept on and from the very beginning of the 20th century, circumstances began to worsen yet again. In the 20's the economic situation deteriorate in Romania. An atmosphere of racism develops in the country. Some pogroms against the Jews and the Gypsies begin to appear in divers cities.

"We must fight against the Gypsy peril of genetic poverty of the Romanian people."
-Ion Facaoaru partisan of Ritter's Nazis thesis

In 1941 the Transnity was annexed to Romania and in the same year was decided the sterilization of Gypsy women. In Mai 1942 Ion Antonescu, chief of government, orders the census of the Rom population, 208 700 gypsies are accounted. In Transnity, on June 1st began the deportation of the Rom nomads. The orders were given to not inform the Rom of their destination.

"In one week they were 15,000 to arrive. They were in a pitiful misery, they were many elderly persons, and some of them were naked, tell a witness."

On September 12, 1942 the deportation of the sedentary Gypsies began. Men, women and children were deported and put on the train. They are authorized to take only one bag. Everything else is confiscated (houses, lands, cattle...). The raid for the Roms sedentary lasted eight days. All was done without any consideration and with violence. Only the families of those who are soldiers are safe.

In Transnistry the conditions of life are disastrous: famine, cold and typhus were making ravages. Those who try to evade are killed. Some are completely naked even during winters. It is estimated up to 35,000 Gypsies died in deportation.

If Romania has since little recognized its part in the responsibility in the deportation and the death of more than 300 000 Romanian Jews, it has never wanted, until this day, to recognize its responsibility in the deportation and the death of 35,000 Gypsies.

Ion Antonescu, chief of the government at that time, is, yet today for certain Romanian, a national hero but he is for all the ROMs a war criminal with the Gypsy genocide on his hands.

More recently in 1965, after Nicolae Ceausescu came to power, he confiscated all the jewels and objects of value from the Rom families. Eighty percent of the children of the "orphanages mouroirs" (same place where old people were left to die) were Gypsy children and it can be evaluated to 50-60% the rate of mortality due to the conditions of life in these establishments: minimum of care, aids epidemic, hepatitis and cholera provoked by the material of transfusion non sterilized.

Since the Revolution

After December 1989, which saw the fall of the dictator Ceausescu, began a period of racism and "anti-Gypsism." Since then, a campaign of anti-Rom is manifested in all Romania.

Some pogroms are caused:

- On December 24th 1989, in the city of Virghie, two Gypsies are assassinated and houses are burnt.
- In Turulung, 36 Gypsy houses are set on fire on January 11, 1990.
- January 29, 5 houses are set on fire in Reghin.
- In Lunga, January 5, four Roms are assassinated and six houses burnt.
- In Adereni, in 1993, 4 died and 14 houses burnt
- In Sabolciu, March 13 about 15 men armed with baseball bats have attacked a Gypsy neighborhood without any reasons.
- On May 8, 2002, 200 soccer supporters attack a Gypsy area of Bucharest in screaming, "the Gypsies, out of Romania."
- On the 13 and 15 of June miners arrived in Bucharest suppress a manifestation anti-Iliescu and go to a Gypsy camp in the area, the camp is burnt, the men are beaten and the women raped while the police remained watching and indifferent.

Police violence's, municipal police the sole purpose to chase the Roms out of town, segregation in the school and at the employment, discrimination to the access of cares and social helps, newspaper articles and televised news presenting the Gypsies like delinquents. Some slogans posted regularly translate the anti-Rom propaganda "Death to the Gypsies or the Gypsies out of Romania."

We can understand better the distress of this people and the reasons pushing them to flee a hostile country where racism exists still today at the doors of Europe.

There are between 2 to 3 million Gypsies in Romania, and all that's been done in the domain of education, health, training, protection and health for the children is minute, but we keep hope that the situations can change, especially thanks to the Gospel. We will continue our efforts to improve the life conditions of these rejected and despised people.

(Some historical resources and citations: HOB OCTBTb n°10 Dec 2002)

On the road: Centuries of Roma history

Beginning a series on the modern-day plight of Roma Gypsies in Europe, by BBC Russian for the World Service, Delia Radu traces the ethnic group's nomadic history back to northern India.

"Who are these people?" asks the man behind the counter in the photo store in Southall, an area also known as London's Little India. He is handing over my order: a hefty pile of colour photographs, of which a picture of two Roma women and their children (above) is the first." They look just like the Banjara in Rajasthan - that's where I come from," he says. He points to a beautiful print on the wall, showing a glamorous group of female Banjara dancers. The similarity is striking.

Historians agree that the Roma's origins lie in north-west India and that their journey towards Europe started between the 3rd and 7th Centuries AD - a massive migration prompted by timeless reasons: conflicts, instability and the seeking of a better life in big cities such as Tehran, Baghdad and, later on, Constantinople.

Some of these Indian immigrant workers were farmers, herdsmen, traders, mercenaries or book-keepers. Others were entertainers and musicians. They settled in the Middle East, calling themselves Dom, a word meaning "man".

"Post-war European governments on both sides of the Iron Curtain denied the Roma Holocaust survivors any recognition or aid"

To this day they retain their name and speak a language related to Sanskrit. Large numbers moved into Europe, where the D, which was anyway pronounced with the tongue curled up, became an R, giving the word Rom. Today's European Roma (the plural of Rom) are their descendants.

'Untouchables'

Maybe because they were carrying customs and memories connected to their Hindu gods, the Roma were regarded as heathens in Byzantium and were assimilated into a heretic sect: "the Untouchables" or Atsingani. This designation is the root of the words used for "Gypsy" in most European languages, such as the French "Tzigane" and the German "Zigeuner".

Gypsy

See also: *Gypsy (term)*

The English term Gypsy (or Gipsy) originates from the Greek word for "Egyptian", Αἰγύπτιοι (Aigyptioi, whence modern Greek γύφτοι gifti), in the belief that the Romanies, or some other Gypsy groups (such as the Balkan Egyptians), originated in Egypt, and in one narrative were exiled as punishment for allegedly harbouring the infant Jesus. This exonym is sometimes written with capital letter, to show that it designates an ethnic group. The term 'gypsy' appears when international research programmes, documents and policies on the community are referred to. However, as a term 'gypsy' is considered derogatory by many members of the Roma community because of negative and stereotypical associations with the term.

As described in Victor Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, the medieval French referred to the Romanies as *egyptiens*. The term has come to bear pejorative connotations. The word Gypsy in English has become so pervasive that many Romani organizations use it in their own organizational names.

In North America, the word gypsy is commonly used as a reference to lifestyle or fashion, and not to the Romani ethnicity. The Spanish term *gitano* and the French term *gitan* may have the same origin as a reference to Egypt.

By the 14th Century, journeying further into Europe, perhaps fleeing the Turks or perhaps the plague, the Atsingani were to be found in Bulgaria, Serbia, and Greece. They worked on the land or as craftsmen but in two Romanian principalities, Wallachia and Moldova, they were pushed into slavery and feature prominently in property deeds.

About a century later the Roma fled towards Ukraine and Russia. Some presented themselves as pilgrims or penitents, and like any such group wandering throughout Europe during that era they were given aid or shelter. This welcoming attitude changed dramatically around the year 1500.

Historians believe this might have happened because the numbers of the immigrants grew bigger, but they also were seen as spies for the Turks, and consequently hunted and killed by decree. This led to what some historians dub "the first Roma genocide" - a period of fierce repression. There were hangings and expulsions in England; branding and the shaving of heads in France; severing of the left ear of Roma women in Moravia, and of the right one in Bohemia.

Following these expulsions and killings, large groups of Roma travelled back East, towards Poland, which was more tolerant. Russia was also a place where the Roma were treated less heavy-handedly, notably being allowed to retain nomadic or semi-nomadic ways of living, as long as they paid the annual taxes - the "obrok".

Children Removed

In contrast, the policy of the West, especially during the Age of Enlightenment was to "civilise" the Roma through brutal forced assimilation. The repression included: 24 strokes of the cane for the use of the "Gypsy language"; forbidding Roma to marry among themselves; restricting the numbers of Roma musicians; taking away children as young as four years old from their parents and distributing them among the neighbouring towns, "at least every two years". In some cases these policies did force Roma to become assimilated. But many took to the road again.

The persecutions culminated in the Holocaust, or Porajmos - "the Devouring" - as it is called in Romany. The Roma found themselves among the first victims of Nazi policies. They were sent to die in the gas vans of Chelmno, and were subjected to gruesome experiments in the extermination camps. Up to 500,000 Roma are believed to have been killed under fascist rule.

Poverty-Stricken

Yet post-war European governments on both sides of the Iron Curtain denied the Roma Holocaust survivors any recognition or aid. In the communist bloc some managed to reach the modest living standards of the era, most often at the price of giving up their language and identity, while the majority of Roma continued to lead poverty stricken lives on the margins of society. In many cases there were special policies towards Roma, including coerced sterilisation (Czechoslovakia) or forcing them to change their names and hiding their dwellings behind concrete walls (Bulgaria).

The demise of the communist regimes in 1989 in Central and Eastern Europe was followed by an upsurge of anti-Roma violence in almost every country. Today, six million out of the estimated 10 million European Roma, live in Central and Eastern Europe. Up to two million are to be found in Romania, whose established Roma slave markets horrified Western travellers until as late as the 19th Century.

Decades of communism and the recent admission of Eastern countries into the EU seem to have made little difference to their history of exclusion and poverty. Most Roma families live in small shacks with no electricity or running water. International institutions calculate that Roma poverty rates are up to 10 times higher than those of the majority population where they live, while their lifespan is 10 - 15 years lower.

Story from BBC NEWS:
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/europe/8136812.stm>
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Going to Church in Romania

If your group has the opportunity to visit a church in Romania...

What Should I Expect In A Typical Church Service?

Church is considered a place of worship. A Sunday morning worship service in Romania may be similar to your average church service. However, most of the Romanian churches are a little smaller than the average church and it will probably seem a little cramped. The services usually last about 2 hours. A normal morning might look like this - the first is like Sunday school (usually in a sermon format with all ages in attendance) and the second is the worship service. Depending on the church, music can range from traditional hymns to praise and worship. Sometimes poems or other writings will be read. Most likely, we will be able to provide translators to either translate from the front for everyone or to sit near you and translate for small groups of you.

How Should I Act?

The name of the game is conservative. That means that you should dress conservatively and act accordingly. To make sure that we set a good example, we will work through a specific program with the pastor and/or youth leader. Horseplay or loud talking can be considered rude even when it is not during a church service. Our presentation/program within the church can be a great encouragement if we work with their culture instead of against it. Gum chewing while speaking to a group is rude anywhere. Also, while speaking to a group, do not put your hands in your pockets as it communicates insincerity in their culture. This does not mean that the service will be a bore. In the past, the Lord has amazed us by what He has done in these services. Just be respectful. When they stand, you stand. When they sit, you sit.

What If They Ask Me To Share A Greeting?

Sometimes they will ask foreigners to share a greeting from your home church (just like in the Bible). If you speak and are translated, please speak clearly, slowly and avoid using slang and idioms. (i.e. This church is "da bomb" might not go over so well if literally translated.) Think through what you want to say as a greeting ahead of time. In small groups, sometimes everyone is asked to give a short greeting. If the church is small enough, all of the males may be asked to give a greeting. If this is the case, the Livada staff will assist you further.



A Practical Guide To Using Our Spiritual Gifts

When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. - Acts 19:6

Intelligibility in Worship

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy. 2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit. 3 But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. 4 Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church. 5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongue, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified. -1 Corinthians 14:1-5

The criterion of intelligibility (14:1-25):

According to Paul the goal of everything that takes place when Christians gather together is edification (14:1-5; see vv. 12,17, 26). Essential to assure the achievement of this goal is intelligibility; everyone, believers (14:6-19) and unbelievers (vv. 20-25) alike, must be able to understand clearly what is being said if they are to be built up by it. The burden to be intelligible rests on the shoulders of the speakers, not the listeners. Nevertheless, it is the Spirit, who grants the gift of prophecy and/or interpretation, who enables those with the gift to speak in such a way as to be understood.

Paul's preference for prophecy over tongues expresses three essential concerns (14:2-5). He prefers speech that addresses man rather than God, is intelligible rather than esoteric, and builds up the church rather than the speaker. His concern for relevance and helpfulness to all those who gather for worship determines his emphases here. Edifying oneself is not wrong, it is simply not the reason Christians gather for corporate worship (see Heb. 10:23-25).

In 14:18 Paul claims to speak in tongues; in fact, he claims to speak in tongues more than all of the Corinthians. Precisely what he means by this and why he feels compelled to boast of this is debated by interpreters? Some assume that he refers to his multilingual gifts, suggesting that Paul "speaks more languages" than the Corinthians (Carter, 220; Clarke, 6:276). But this view is impossibly flawed by the fact that *mallon*, more, is an adverb modifying speak rather than an adjective modifying tongues. Paul's preference for prophecy and depreciation of un-interpreted tongues-speaking is not due to any personal deficiency. Did the Corinthians doubt that he possessed this or other spiritual gifts (see 2 Cor. 10-13)?

Whatever boastfulness Paul may be guilty of in 14:18, he retracts in v. 19. Tongues are useless in the church. The contrast between his preference in church for five intelligible words to ten thousand words in a tongue is striking—all the more so because ten thousand was the largest word for a number available in Greek. Intelligible (14:19 NIV) is literally "with my mind" (NRSV; see 14:14-15; intelligible in 14:9 is literally "easily understood"). The purpose of Paul's intelligible words is to instruct others, to make himself understood (from *katexo*, as in the English "catechism"). Only intelligible communication is capable of edifying others.

Paul's solution to the problem of the negative response of unbelievers and these others to tongues -

speaking is not to exclude them from Christian gatherings. It is instead to exclude un-interpreted tongues from these assemblies and to limit severely even interpreted tongues (14:27-28). In light of the strikingly different responses of unbelievers to tongues (v. 23) and prophecy (vv. 24-25) as Paul envisions them, it is surprising that he does not totally exclude tongues from church. But he does not (see vv. 27-28, 39). [Paul assumes that church meetings might be effective for evangelism if everyone prophesies (14:24-25). He envisions a succession of four responses by unbelievers or inquirers to this, moving them from conviction for sin to a confession of faith and, presumably, to their conversion. Would that God's presence were so overwhelmingly real in our churches that the unconverted might be compelled to turn to faith!

Intelligibility must be a concern not only in churches of the charismatic movement. Wesleyan churches at times use clichés and shibboleths that are unintelligible to unbelievers and nearly meaningless to the younger generation. Our message must be communicated in common language.

(taken from the Asbury Bible Commentary)

Good Order in Worship

What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. 27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. 28 If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God. 29 Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. 30 And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. 31 For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged. 32 The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets. 33 For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord's people.
- 1 Corinthians 14:26-33

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophecy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way. -
1 Corinthians 14:39-40

Translators & Volunteers

Language barriers can be both fun and challenging, but we hope you have a pleasant experience with your translators while in Romania. Get to know them, pray for them and pray with them. They are a vital part of your experience – they are your voice!

How Do I Use a Translator?

Our goal is to surround each short-term participant with a number of Romanian translators. While ministering, you may be a color group leader, a station leader, a small group leader, etc. Whether you are speaking to the youth as a group, leading a craft station or having a one-on-one conversation with a child, here are some tips on how to use a translator:

- Look at the person or people you are speaking to – do not look at the translator. (*Just like you would normally do.*)
- Make eye contact and stay focused on the person/people.
- Speak about two sentences at a time, making sure to complete a thought. This will make translating easier.
- There will be pauses in the conversation or in the talk you are giving to the group. Use this time to choose your words wisely in order to communicate clearly. The more simple, the better.
- Finally, there will be times when you want to communicate with a child and there may not be a translator with you. Know that our Romanian staff is there to assist you but keep in mind- courtesy goes a long way. Be sure to ask for their help versus commanding them to help.

You may form a special bond with a translator/volunteer. A gift is not required, but you may want to leave something with them as a special thank you. Suggestions: praise CDs, soaps/lotions, key chains, stationary, baseball caps, picture frames, Christian books, inexpensive jewelry- e.g. small earrings or a leather necklace, taking a picture of them and mailing it back to them, etc.

As you travel, be aware that the ideal gift is light to carry, takes up little space and is not breakable. Things that may spill or leak can be placed in zip lock bags.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE ON TRANSLATOR LOVE . . . What is this?

It occurs when you build a close relationship with a translator/volunteer that distracts you and him/her from ministering to the orphans effectively. We encourage you to love your fellow Romanian leader, enjoy the ministry week with them and to pray for them after you leave. Just as with the orphans, we encourage you not to promise the moon to your leaders as well! For example, unless you have a college scholarship, an airline ticket and a visa from the American Embassy in your pocket, DO NOT promise or even hint at bringing them to America. All of us are there to focus on and serve the orphans.

To be very clear upfront: We do not permit or tolerate the romantic connection between teams and volunteers, interns and team members, and interns/team members and orphan kids. This means not sitting on each other's laps, no flirting, and under no condition walking off and being alone with someone (especially a child) of the opposite sex. It may seem simple, but it was a problem with some visitors previously.

Money

US Dollars vs. Euros vs. Lei

While on this mission trip, you will be dealing with foreign money- the Romanian Leu (plural "lei").

USD vs. Lei -> 1 RON = .33 USD
-> 1 USD = 3 RON Ex. \$5 would be 15 RON

For current exchange rates, go to www.xe.com

Livada Money

Your trip cost is all-inclusive*. It covers everything from the moment you are in Livada's care. Please remember that the Livada staff will cover the cost of budgeted snacks, meals, taxis, etc. The only money you need to bring is for souvenirs or shopping.

**If you would like to order something other than what is provided at meals/snack times, you may do so at your own expense.*

How Much Do I Bring?

For a short-term mission trip, we suggest you bring \$50 - \$100 to spend on souvenirs. If you are the type to "shop 'til you drop" and have many gifts to purchase, we suggest you bring more. You will most likely have the opportunity to shop both in town and in Romanian villages. Do not flash the big bucks around. The economy in Romania is still struggling to come out of the devastating remnants of communism. Besides that, it is not wise for your safety- especially in the bigger cities. Ladies, always keep your purses attended - especially in crowds, in the city or on the bus.

There are ATMs (bancomat) available. Some cards from the US are not accepted, though. If possible, check with your bank/credit card company before leaving the States. See if your card is compatible and let them know you will be out of the country. You may also want to check for any withdrawal fees.

One More Bit of Advice...

We ask that you please not discuss money issues with our volunteers or staff in Romania- including the cost of the trip, salaries, cost of meals, clothes, etc. Money can be a sensitive issue – the cost of living is drastically different for our Romanian friends, and it is just better left unsaid. Most Romanians have a perception that all Americans are rich – whether you are or not.

Thank you in advance for being sensitive to the culture.

Food

You can expect to eat very well while you are on this mission trip. While in Romania, expect lots of meat, potatoes, bread, tomato and cucumber salads, pasta, etc. Past trip participants have told us how pleasantly surprised they were with the food. We know you will not be disappointed.

Romanians eat their biggest meal around 1:00 or 2:00 in the afternoon. The evening meal is usually lighter and is often eaten around 8:00 pm.

The Golden Rule of Food in Romania from Luke 10:8
"When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you."

(Our paraphrase: ***"You get what you get, and you don't throw a fit."***)*

Snacks

You may choose to pack snacks to enjoy while traveling and while in Romania. We suggest cheese crackers, trail mix, granola bars, raisins, peanuts, pop-tarts . . . anything that will withstand heat and travel. You may also want to have extra to share with staff, volunteers or translators. They like trying the kinds of snacks we enjoy.

*If you have diagnosed food allergies, please let your team leader know prior to the trip and have him/her inform the Livada staff ahead of time so that we can prepare accordingly.



Sarmale and mamaliga:
minced pork stuffed cabbage rolls and corn meal grits



Vinate:
smoked eggplant and mayo spread



Zacusca: eggplant and red pepper spread

Romanian Vocabulary

We have included the Romanian alphabet and the pronunciation of some different sounds on this first page. Count on the fact that you will pick up some words and phrases throughout the trip on your own. Romanian is contagious! Let us go over some basics.

Romanian is a phonetic language. If you know how to pronounce each letter, you will know how to put them together and pronounce any word in Romanian.

Alphabet: a ă â b c d e f g h i î j k l m n o p q r s ș t ț u v w x y z

Different sounds:

ș = sh (shower)	ț = ts (Pittsburg)	c = ch before an "i" or "e" (beach)
ch = k (bike)	g = j before an "i" or "e" (juice)	j = zsh (Zsa Zsa Gabor)
gh = g (bag)	ă = uh (but)	â and î = ("gulping sound")

Vowels:

a = ah (father) e = eh (bay) i = ee (beet) o = oh (pole) u = oo (pool)

Note: Any Romanian word starting with "e" is pronounced with an English "y" sound at the beginning. (Ex. "este" is pronounced yes-te) Also, "i" on the end of the word is almost silent. It is like a subtle "huh" is put on the end of the word.

Numbers:

Unu	1	Șase	6	Unșpe	11	Șaișpe	16	Treizeci	30
Doi	2	Șapte	7	Doișpe	12	Șapteșpe	17	Patruzeci	40
Trei	3	Opt	8	Treișpe	13	Opteșpe	18	Cincizeci	50
Patru	4	Nouă	9	Paișpe	14	Nouășpe	19	Șaizeci	60
Cinci	5	Zece	10	Cincișpe	15	Douăzeci	20	Șaptezeci	70
								Optzeci	80
								Nouăzeci	90
								O suta	100

și = and (pronounced *she*)

To say in between numbers, say the number and add "și" + primary number (ex. 31 = treizeci și unu)

To say your age: (if under 19) "Am ____ ani."

(If 20 or over) "Am _____ de ani."

(ex. I am twenty-four years old. = Am douăzeci și patru de ani.)

Vocabulary

Pronouns		to be	to have	to go
I	Eu	sunt	am	merg
You (informal)	Tu	esti	ai	mergi
He/She	El/Ea	este	are	merge
We	Noi	suntem	avem	mergem
You or Y'all	Voi	sunteti	avesti	mergeti
They	ei/ele	sunt	au	merg

Romanian

English

Write pronunciation as you hear it

da	yes
nu	no
bine	ok
vă rog	please (plural/formal)
te rog	please (singular/informal)
mulțumesc	thank you
mersi	thanks
cu plăcere	with pleasure (you're welcome)

bună dimineață	good morning
bună ziua	good day
bună seară	good evening
noapte bună	good night
salut	hello/goodbye
ceau/la revedere	goodbye

Mă numesc_____.	My name is _____.
Îmi pare bine	It is nice to meet you.
Cum te cheama?	What is your name?
Câți ani ai?	How old are you?
Am_____de ani.	I am ____ years old.
Ce faci?	How are you? What are you doing?
Ce mai faceți?	How are you? What are you doing? (plural/formal)
Bine, și tu?	Good, and you?
Îmi pare rău	I am sorry.
Înțelegeți?	Do you all understand? (plural)
Înțelegi?	Do you understand?

RomanianEnglishWrite pronunciation as you hear it

Nu înțeleg.

I don't understand.

Poftim?

Used when you need something repeated

Cum se spune în
românește?

How do you say _____ in Romanian?

Cât costă?

How much does this cost?

Unde?

Where?

Când?

When?

Cum?

How?

Ce?

What?

Cine?

Who?

Care?

Which?

De ce?

Why?

De ce nu?

Why not?

Ajutor!!

HELP!!

Ascultați!

Listen up everybody!

Liniște!

Be quiet!

Acum

Now.

Aici

Here.

Acolo

There.

Asta

This/that.

Hai!

Come here!

Haideți!

Come here you all!

Stați jos!

Everybody sit down!

Stai jos!

Sit down! (singular)

La masă!

Come and eat!

La dreaptă

to the right

La stânga

to the left

Drept înainte

straight ahead

Cât e ceasul?

What time is it?

Unde este?

Where is it?

Toaletă

Toilet

Unde este toaletă?

Where is the toilet?

<u>Romanian</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Write pronunciation as you hear it</u>
Prieten(ă)	friend	
Frumos/frumoasă	handsome/beautiful	
Ce mișto!	How cool! (slang)	
Ești beton!	You are cool? (lit. "You're cement!")	
Șmecher!	Sly/cheater/crafty	
Mă	dude/man (slang)	
Isteț	clever	
Dulce	sweet	
Minunat	wonderful	
Soră	sister	
Frate	brother	
Ai frați?	Do you have siblings?	
Bani/banii	money	
Inimă	heart	
Copii	children	
Sunt obosit(ă)	I am tired.	
Mi-e foame	I am hungry.	
Mi-e sete	I am thirsty.	
Micul dejun	breakfast	
Prânz	lunch	
Cină	dinner	
Pauză de dulciuri	Snack Time	
Puțin	a little	
Pâine	bread	
Margarină	margarine	
Unt	butter	
Apă	water	
Apă plată	plain water	
Dumnezeu	God	
Isus	Jesus	
Slavă Domnului!	Praise the Lord.	
Dumnezeu să te binecuvînteze.	God bless you.	

Romanian

Te iubesc
Noi te iubim
Noi vă iubim
Isus te iubește!

Zîmbește
Zîmbiți
Eu sunt cu tine
Este bine

English

I love you.
We love you.
We love you all.
Jesus loves you.

Smile!
You all smile!
I am with you.
It's OK

Write pronunciation as you hear itBaby Hospital VocabularyRomanian

Dă-mi mână.
Hai să cântăm.
Ha să ne jucăm.
Hai la mine.
Nu-i voie!
Nu-ție frică.
Nu plânge.
Vreau un pupic.
Mergem afară.
Uite-te la mine!
Fund
Caca
Piși/Pișu
Este ud.
O sa îl schimb.
Pot să vă ajut?

English

Give me your hand.
Let us sing.
Let us play.
Come to me.
Don't do that!
Don't be afraid.
Don't cry.
I want a little kiss.
We're going outside.
Look at me!
bottom
#2
#1
He/she is wet.
I will change him.
May I help you?

Write pronunciation as you hear it

Packing List - Ladies

- Toiletry kit - shampoo, soap, toothbrush and toothpaste, etc. Don't worry about bringing lots of make up. You can have that beautiful natural look! Just know, if you run out of something, most likely somebody on your team or the markets in town will have it.
- Sunscreen, mosquito repellent (summer trip)
- 2-3 pairs of long pants (jeans, slacks and/or sweats) - It can be cold, in the early mornings and at night.
- Shorts (use discretion in length)
- T-shirts
- Underwear
- Socks
- 1 piece- swim suit - please be modest and use discretion
- 1 jacket and/or 2 long sleeve shirts and/or a sweatshirt for summer trips- Again, the evenings can be cool.
- (Winter/Fall clothes/shoes substitutes of above items if non summer trip)
- Tennis shoes (plan on getting them dirty)
- Anorak or waterproof jacket
- Over-the-counter medications
- Gifts for translators- optional (see list on p. 18)
- Small packs of purse-size Kleenex
- 1 towel, several washcloths, and 1 beach towel for swim time (summer trip)
- Snacks (granola bars, raisins, peanuts, pop tarts, etc.) Basically anything that can withstand travel and heat.
- Bible, notebook and pens
- Crocs, flip-flops or water sandals
- A copy of your passport
- Spending money for souvenirs
- Travel alarm clock
- Anti-bacterial hand cleaner and travel wipes
- Zip-Loc bags for ease in packing
- Camera
- Ear plugs (if needed)
- Pillow (optional)

Optional - Church Stuff

- Skirt/dress/pants for church - dress cool and casual - it is hot!
 - Casual shoes (to wear with church outfit)
- Americans should dress conservatively in Romania. Please do not wear any jewelry except for a watch, wedding band and simple earrings. Anything valuable you will probably want to take.
 - Some, but not all, of our national friends will probably wear the same clothes several times because of their limited budget and wardrobe. It will be fine for you to plan to do the same. Pack enough so that you will not have to wash but don't over do it. Most participants over pack! By the way, the general rule is, "You pack it, you carry it."
 - You are allowed one suitcase and one small carry-on. Before traveling, check with your airline and see what their weight limits and costs are because some have changed. (Note: You are allotted 1 carry-on bag and 1 check-in bag with the maximum weight of 50lbs.) We would also suggest wheels. It is wise to have a spare change of clothes in your carry on in case of lost luggage. Currently, airlines charge for extra bags. Team leaders should decide if supply bags are needed and budget accordingly.

Packing List - Men

- Toiletry kit- Make sure you pack shampoo, soap, toothbrush and toothpaste, etc.
 - Sunscreen, mosquito repellent (summer trip)
 - 2 pairs of long pants (jeans, slacks and/or sweats) - It can be cold, in the early mornings and at night.
 - 3 pairs of shorts
 - T-shirts
 - Underwear for each day
 - Socks
 - Swim trunks
 - 1 jacket and/or 2 long sleeve shirts and/or a sweatshirt for summer trips
 - (Winter/Fall clothes/shoes substitutes of above items if non summer trip)
 - Tennis shoes (plan on getting them dirty)
 - Anorak or waterproof jacket
 - Over-the-counter medications
 - Gifts for translators- optional (see list on p. 18)
 - 1 towel, several washcloths, and 1 beach towel for swim time (summer trip)
 - Small packs of purse-size Kleenex
 - Snacks (granola bars, raisins, peanuts, pop tarts, etc.) Basically anything that can withstand travel and heat.
 - Bible, notebook and pens
 - Crocs, flip-flops or water sandals
 - A copy of your passport
 - Spending money for souvenirs
 - Travel alarm clock
 - Anti-bacterial hand cleaner and travel wipes
 - Zip-Loc bags for ease in packing
 - Camera
 - Ear plugs (if needed)
 - Pillow (optional)
- Optional – Church Stuff
- 1 polo type shirt
 - 1 pair of khakis/pants for church
 - Casual shoes (to wear with church outfit)
-
- Some, but not all, of our national friends will probably wear the same clothes several times because of their limited budget and wardrobe. It will be fine for you to plan to do the same. Pack enough so that you will not have to wash but don't over do it. Most participants over pack! By the way, the general rule is, "You pack it, you carry it."
 - You are allowed one suitcase and one small carry-on. Before traveling, check with your airline and see what their weight limits and costs are because some have changed. (Note: You are allotted 1 carry-on bag and 1 check-in bag with the maximum weight of 50lbs.) We would also suggest wheels. *It is wise to have a spare change of clothes in your carry on in case of lost luggage.* Currently, airlines charge for extra bags. Team leaders should decide if supply bags are needed and budget accordingly.

Schedule Examples

All schedules are examples and are subject to change.

Camp Team Schedule

Monday – Thursday

- Load bus/vans and arrive at camp/facility site
- Morning Orientation
- Prayer, Load the bus, arrive at rented gym facility, set up, rally for kids arrival
- Once kids arrive:
 - Form Teams/Decide on Team Names
 - Introduce Theme
 - Team Competitions, Music, Games, and Ice breakers
 - Rally, worship, talk, dismiss to stations
 - 4 rotating stations: memory verse/craft/recreation/& snack-small group-testimony-or-storybook

Friday

- Morning: The Grand Finale is the “blessing time” at the end of the event at which we pray over every child.
- Afternoon: Field trip to a local outdoor pool complex or other designated activity site.

Baby Hospital Ministry Schedule

Monday – Friday

- Morning orientation, supply prep, and prayer
- Van Taxi to Ludus from Targu Mures (45 minutes)
- Morning Shift (approximately 10am-1pm) *lots of praying, playtime, holding, singing, changing, feeding, etc.
- Lunch in Ludus
- Prayer
- Afternoon Shift (Approximately 3-6pm)
- Depart for Targu Mures
- Evening Schedule varies if joining a camp team for dinner, etc.

Ministry in Romania

Throughout our time in Romania, there has been significant growth and transition in the ministry of Livada Orphan Care. Today there are five main areas of focus: 1) Christian full-time, family-style residential care in our LOC group homes, mentor apartments, and private foster care 2) The continuation of Christian outreach to orphans in state care 3) Prevention of Abandonment ministry in Gypsy villages 4) Cradle Care to abandoned infants and 5) the Romania without Orphans Alliance. This includes:

- After-school programming - educational support, scholarships, tutoring, computer training, youth clubs, counseling
- Saturday programming – activities for all ages: field trips, crafts and on-going teaching in Bible studies and life skills
- Specialized medical, dental and psychological care - as required by specific children
- Daily/Weekly outreach to the abandoned babies in village hospitals and at-risk kids in Gypsy villages.
- The summer camp season - where the foundation for our outreach ministry is established each year, allowing 400 children to spend a week at camp, supervised by short-term teams from the United States and Europe. This season is spread over the months of June, July and August.

While busy meeting the goals of our ministry, the Romanian government (seeking to enter the European Union) accelerated its plans to move children out of the governmental institutions into the homes of identifiable family members, foster care or smaller government-sponsored group homes. It became clear that Livada needed to proactively respond to these changes in order to continue working with these children outside of the traditional orphanage environment.

With private donations, we have purchased and completed our group homes. Teams came in to construct these homes and then time was spent customizing the homes to our special needs. Now finished, our children live in these group homes with their house parents. This type of home requires a large support team for 24/7 care. Thereafter, the development of private foster care, a therapeutic home, and ongoing mentor apartments have also been added as ministry outlets.

Due to the opening of these group homes and our mentor apartments, we found ourselves with a total of 30 children and teens in our full-time care so far. With that, Livada Orphan Care (operating through its Romanian counterpart, Fundatia LOC) responded to this need for additional focus. This has also necessitated a restructuring of our Romanian staff and a recognition that our weekly programming must now extend beyond the area in which the orphanages are located and embrace the surrounding towns and villages to prevent abandonment in the first place. Livada uses the platform of orphan care to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and to expand His kingdom and build the Church in Romania.

The Different Types of Kids We Serve

Abandoned Kids/Orphans

Most of the children have biological family members that are still alive somewhere. Some even grew up in a family for several years. For many varied and unfortunate reasons, their families could not take care of them. Sometimes it was because the parent(s) could not afford to raise them, other times it was because the parents divorced or widowed and could not care for them. Other times they were removed from the home because of abuse and/or neglect.

Some children see their birth parents several times a year. They can go on vacation with their families and can go on a "home" visit periodically. Others have a "family" who cares for them and acts as their family during holidays and vacation time. They come and visit and serve as their family even though there is no biological relationship.

Some have siblings scattered among other orphanages/villages. Others have siblings with them in the same orphanage. There are some who have a sibling or two that have been adopted and therefore are struggling with the reality that they will most likely not be adopted.

Some children have biological parents in the same town as the orphanage and yet never get visited.

Some have lived on the streets.

At-Risk Gypsy Kids

Most of the children have biological family members with whom they live. All are poor. Most have experienced some sort of abuse. There is a high risk of abandonment in these poverty pocket villages in which we minister. There is a high level of human trafficking in certain villages. Through our church partnerships, many will have attended church before. Some of these children do not eat every day. Many only have the clothes on their backs and some are forced to beg, collect metal scraps, etc... for their family. Many have not attended school regularly because of poverty, shame, or lack of proper guidance. Most have no idea how to hope for anything better than what they see daily. These kids are usually poorer than the kids who have been abandoned into state care but face many of the same issues. Livada is working in their villages with church partners to prevent their abandonment and to share the Good News.

Adoptable Orphans

Currently, there is a moratorium on international adoptions of Romania children. Please pray that the LORD will move on the behalf of the orphans and allow the ban to be lifted.

Most importantly, please keep in mind...

These orphans are the poorest of the poor. The populous of Romania is generally poor, and these kids are poorer than the average Romanian.

The vast majority of the orphans you will meet have been ministered to before this summer. Some have even accepted Christ.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE DO NOT MAKE PROMISES YOU CANNOT KEEP.

You may make a connection with certain kids and want to save them and bring them home... in the process you may promise them the moon and, *unless you have the moon in your pocket*, simply love on the children and teenagers in Jesus' name for the time God has brought you to Romania. *This goes for the Romanian leaders you meet as well.

The Kids We Serve

Full-Time Livada Christian Family-Style Residential Care

- Casa Rebeca
- Casa Ana
- Casa Juliana
- Casa Nadia
- Casa Rene Orphan Graduate Shelter
- LOC Mentor Apartments

LOC Graduates: many reside in Targu Mures and are part of on-going monthly family meetings and holiday events.

Foster Care in villages: Adoption and Family Services

Orphan Graduates

Many of the orphan graduates from state care find that they have no place to go. We strive to assist these vulnerable young adults to find housing, employment, and a stable church family.

Reghin Group Homes and Orphan Apartments

Teenagers with learning disorders, behavioral disorders and special needs

Reghin offers these kids a special education technical degree, which is not always helpful with employment thereafter. They can learn carpentry, tailoring or masonry. To supplement this, Livada offers:

- Weekly Teen Club
- Weekly Teen Girls' Club (for the girls in state run apartments)
- Humanitarian Aid
- A Christmas Party
- Monthly Birthday Parties
- LOC Summer Camp

Gypsy Village Ministry

Prevention of abandonment efforts through weekly kids clubs, humanitarian aid, mom's clubs, and crisis intervention ministry to poor Roma families and kids. We have strategic partnerships with church plants and are planning to assist with Day Center ministry (preschool and after school programs for at-risk Roma children and their families.) The best type of orphan care is prevention of kids becoming orphaned.

State Group Homes in rural villages around Mures county

(Sarmas x3, Campanita, Balauser, Santana, Miercurea Nirajului x3, Sancaiu de Mures x11, Zau de Campie, Tarnaveni x3, S.I.R.U., Sincai)

Children and teens live in these homes from ages 3-21.

We have partnered to run Livada Orphan Care Follow-Up/Orphan Outreach clubs in most of these homes. The content of the ministry to each home depends on the needs of each group of kids. Some clubs help out with after school programs, tutoring, private lessons, etc. Others are purely focused on Christian Bible lessons and spiritual encouragement. Livada also offers:

- Weekly LOC clubs
- Dental Assistance
- A Christmas Party
- Monthly Birthday Parties
- Trauma training for all group home parents
- Playground Construction/Maintenance
- LOC Summer Camp

Ludus Hospital Abandoned Baby Ward

There are currently 40-50 children who reside in the hospitals in our county. There are more who are rotated in and out depending on the season. The abandonment rate in Romania is the same as it was 20 years ago. Approximately 5,500 babies are abandoned every year in Romania. Now, instead of baby orphanages taking care of these children, the hospitals are forced to serve as "temporary" caregivers. The babies are cycled between the relatives who do not want them and the hospitals who cannot care for them long term. Therefore, we go to the hospitals to assist the doctors and nurses by taking care of the feeding, changing, diapering and clothing of these little ones. Our major goal is to hold them, talk to them and pray over them so that they are loved, nurtured and stimulated to develop properly. Livada also offers:

- A daily therapeutic Holding/Caring Ministry
- Humanitarian Aid
- Social Work Assistance
- Foster Care & Adoption Services

Baby Hospital Information

*“Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you. See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands...”
Isaiah 49:15-16a*

We are so glad you decided to participate in the work at the baby hospital! We are excited to see the Lord’s hand at work here. Many of the babies we work with on a day-to-day basis come from poor, unstable home environments and many are developmentally delayed. Our goals are to show them God’s love, encourage them toward strengthening their gross motor, fine motor, and verbal skills, and pray over them as we play with them. In order to maintain the confidentiality of the babies we work with and a good working relationship with the hospital staff, please keep in mind the following guidelines.

We are guests of the hospital, please keep all comments about hospital care and staff positive. We are grateful that they allow us to do what we do on a daily basis and many of the staff understand English. We view our work with the hospital staff as another great opportunity to minister!

- Be friendly and smile. Say Hello (or ‘Buna’) upon arrival and Thank You (or ‘Multumesc’) when leaving.
- If you are visiting with your child under the age of 15, please stay with them at all times while at the hospital. If your child would like to hold or play with a baby please assist them in doing so.
- Since we are in a hospital, we need to limit “hall traffic” because of germ-risk, so please do not wander the halls with the babies or go back and forth between rooms.
- Babies from the infant side must stay in their rooms and not go to the toddler side or vice versa.
- When indoors, only 2 people are allowed in the infant rooms. A LOC staff member will pre-assign you to an infant room or toddler room, then we will alternate you with other team members throughout the day/week so each child and team member has an opportunity to work with different children of different ages.
- Naptime Hours: The little babies have quiet time from 11:00-1:00 & the toddlers from 1:00-3:00. Livada staff members will advise you if flexibility is possible.
- If babies are wet through clothing, ask a Livada staff member for a change of clothing...but if we take 3 layers of clothing off we will need to put 3 layers back on before departing, even if babies appear hot.
- The children love to go outside during nice weather. We can play in the outdoor area provided by the hospital. If you would like to take a child to the play area please ask a staff member. Staff members need to know where the children are at all times. Children cannot be taken off hospital grounds.
- Please do not mention anything concerning Livada’s ‘Foster To Adopt’ project to the hospital staff, Livada staff members, or to each other when on hospital grounds. We are happy to discuss this project with you at another time during your stay.
- And as always...please be flexible☺ If you have any questions, please ask!

Pictures, Facebook, Video and More . . .

- One Time Visitors: To help all of us stay focused on our mission and respect the rules of the hospital, please be discreet with your camera and limit photos to 2-3 per team member.
- Cradle Care Team Members: To help us stay focused on our mission during the week picture taking will be reserved for the last day of your trip.
- Please do not post any photos of the hospital, inside or outside, on any social forums, ie Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google, Pinterest, Vine, etc. without permission from LOC staff.
- You may post one or two photos on Facebook and other social media sites or you with the children. Please keep post descriptions positive and general, for example "cute baby." However, babies' names, location of the hospital, the words 'abandoned or 'adoption,' or anything specifically related to the child are not permitted. Any comments of this nature, made by you or another, must be deleted.
- Filming is allowed but limited. If you need a short video to share with your church or supporters please talk with a Livada Staff member prior to hospital arrival and special arrangements can be made. Please do not post any videos on social/public media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google, Pinterest, Vine, etc.

Donation Items

If your team would like to collect and or donate any items for use with the babies at the hospital or with the children at Casa Juliana we are in need of:

- 'Huggies' brand baby wipes
- 'Gerber Graduates' Puffs Cereal Snacks: Vanilla or Banana Flavored
- Eczema Cream
- Neosporin
- Dr. Smith's Diaper Cream (can be found at Target pharmacy or online)
- Baby Oragel
- 'Johnson & Johnson' Baby Wash
- 'Johnson & Johnson' Baby Powder
- 'Kid's Crest' brand toothpaste
- Long sleeved baby sleepers, sizes 12 months to 3T
- Long sleeved onesies, sizes 12 -24 months
- Children's Clothing, sizes 2T to 8 years (new or gently used, clean and free of stains)
- 'Faded Glory' brand cotton tights from Walmart, sizes preemie – 8 years old

Please do not collect or send blankets or knitted hats. The hospital will not use them.

Thank you for coming to share the love of Christ with these babies! We know the Lord has not forgotten them and that He has a purpose and a plan for each of their lives. Many blessings for choosing to serve as His hands and feet! Matthew 10:42

After My Trip...

How Can I Help After My Trip?

1. PRAY. Keep the specific kids and staff in your prayers throughout the year. Everything that you experienced and the positive changes you witnessed are direct results of much prayer.
2. SHARE. There is no substitute for the word of mouth report of what God has done via your ministry trip to Romania. Sharing your testimony with family, friends, co-workers, your home church, supporters, and other groups to which you belong, will foster others to get involved in the ways that God has prepared for them. Livada staff will brief you at the end of your trip on practical ways that you can help and get others involved. Send them to our website, blog, and FB page!
3. GIVE. Sponsoring a Livada kid and/or the ministry is always needed. The livada.org website also offers up-to-date practical ways that individuals and groups can help support the ongoing ministries of Livada to orphans in Romania. You can give directly online at livada.org or contact us via email at info@livada.org or by calling 972.941.4416.
4. COME BACK. We offer year round mission trips and also need summer interns and STINT missionaries. Please see our website: livada.org/serve_with_us for email us at info@livada.org for more information.
5. VOLUNTEER. We need help year round for Livada awareness, recruitment and fund raising event:
 - Run for Orphans
 - TARGET orphan clothes registry
 - One Night One Child
 - Campership Drives
 - Change 4 Change drives
 - Orphan Angel Tree at Christmas
 - School, Church, and Business Events for Livada

Q & A

Now, where in the world am I going? Maybe this was your thought when you considered going to Romania this summer. Below are some basic answers to questions you, a family member or potential supporter may have.

Who will be in charge?

From the time you leave your departure airport to the time you return, you will be under the supervision of the leader from your church/group and then, once in Romania, the leaders of Livada Orphan Care.

Who is Livada?

Livada is the Romanian word for 'orchard' and serves as the symbol of what we want to do: bear fruit that will last. Livada Orphan Care is based in Targu Mures, Romania and seeks to provide Christian, strategic assistance to children and youth that are currently (or have been previously) in institutional care in Mures County or are highly at risk of entering state care. Throughout the year, this Christian ministry is working at orphanages, baby hospitals, Gypsy villages, and at group homes as part of our overall plan to help these vulnerable kids have a hope and a future.

In Romania, our ministry is called Fundatia LOC ("loc" means 'place.'). Hence, The Place Foundation.

Is it safe?

There is always some risk when you choose to travel overseas, but we take many precautions to ensure the safest trip possible. We consult travel advisories, arrange for chaperones, train our staff and the trip participants to be cautious and pray. Targu Mures is a safe town as long as you take normal precautions.

How can I make a valuable contribution?

Your role will be a valuable part of a bigger effort to help the orphans, their leaders and the system of care that they are currently under. You have a great opportunity to care for "the least of these" on a trip that allows long-term ministry to continue year round.

What if I get sick on this trip?

That is a possibility. Upset stomachs are sometimes common for those who eat foreign foods. Most of the minor discomforts that occur can be taken care of with over-the-counter medicines. If there is a serious illness or accident, Livada staff will be available to immediately transport you to a safe hospital for health care. Your family will be immediately contacted in such an emergency. Travel/Health insurance is always purchased for our participants and covers repatriation if needed.

How can I communicate with my family and friends?

The best way to communicate is via email, social media, Facetime, or Skype. You will have numerous opportunities to communicate with your friends and family throughout the week. The best way to communicate internationally by phone is to buy a phone card in Romania. PLEASE NOTE THE TIME DIFFERENCE. (There is an 8-hour time difference between Central Standard Time and the country of Romania.)

Who can my family contact in the case of an emergency?

They can call our office at 972.941.4416 during business hours (8:30-5:30, M-F, CST). Our office will always be able to get in touch with someone on our Romanian staff. In the case of an emergency, and if our US office staff cannot be reached, you can contact the LOC office in Romania at 011-40-265-218978. THIS IS ONLY IN THE CASE OF A TRUE EMERGENCY!

What will I do?

There will be a variety of ministry experiences available depending on the trip you are on. If you are taking part on an In-Town team (VBS in the group homes) or helping lead camp, you will have plenty of opportunities to love on children and show them the love of Jesus. And if you are coming to serve on one of our construction teams, we will make sure you have time to lay down the hammer and be Jesus to the children. Relationship building is THE most important thing we do with these children who, for the most part, are very limited in the number of relationships they have outside the walls of their group homes, village, etc.... There are an endless number of ways that you can have a strategic impact in the short time that you are in Romania.

How will I be prepped for the trip?

During the months preceding the trip, you will participate in training meetings where you will study how to share your faith, will be coached in support raising, will learn about the culture and will be informed of your role in the experience. There will also be a re-orientation once you are in Romania.

Where will I stay?

Once in Romania, you will be in Livada's guesthouse called "Casa Rena." It is like a combination of a hotel and dorm. It has been renovated and is very clean.

Do I need to get shots for this trip?

No shots are required, but some are recommended. We would suggest getting a tetanus shot if you have not had one within the last 10 years. NOTE: We will keep you informed of health concerns if any arise.

What will the weather be like?

The average temperature in Romania in the summer will be between 40 degrees Fahrenheit at camp at night and 90 degrees Fahrenheit during the day. Be prepared for anything!

How will I communicate when I do not speak Romanian?

It is amazing what can be communicated without verbal language. As a rule, Eastern Europeans are gentle and fun-loving people with whom you will quickly identify. There will also be several translators available during the trip. Our goal is to have a one-to-one ratio. Also, a few of the orphans/kids speak limited English.

How can I best prepare for this trip?

1. Get to know your team.
2. As preparatory materials are given to you at meetings, make sure to follow through on assignments given.
3. Study Romanian and explore Romania on the Internet.
4. But the most important way you can prepare is to pray.

Thank you for trusting God and seeking to grow in your relationship with Christ. Thank you for wanting to encourage and train Romanian nationals and for being open to be used by God to introduce Romanian orphans, needy children and youth to a personal relationship with their Heavenly Father through Jesus Christ.

Helpful Learning Resources

Suggested Reading List

We suggest that you read any or all of these books before you leave or bring one or two with you on the plane. They will give you more insight into this ministry and culture.

Castaway Kid by R. B. Mitchell

The Connected Child by Dr. Karyn Purvis

Refiner's Fire by Sylvia Bambola

Out Of The Transylvania Night by Aura Imbarus

The Strength of Mercy by Jan Beazely

Fields of the Fatherless by Tom Davis

Romania In Turmoil by Martyn Rady

Kiss The Hand You Cannot Bite – The Rise and Fall of the Ceausescus by Edward Behr

Tortured For Christ by Richard Wurmbbrand

Let's Go! – Romania and Let's Go! – Eastern Europe published by St. Martin's Press

Romania Under Communist Rule by Dennis Deletant

Operation World – Day by Day Guide to Praying for the World by Patrick Johnstone

Journey of the Heart – A Playscheme with the Orphans of Romania by Linda L. Nepveu

Websites

livada.org

(Livada Orphan Care website)

turism.ro

(Romanian Tourism Promotion)

romanianlessons.com

(Help with the Romanian language)

ipl.org/youth/hello/romanian.html

(Site to learn language – quizzes, vocabulary, etc.)

castingsnet.com/dictionaries

(English-Romanian and Romanian-English dictionary)

travlang.com

(Excellent language site)

Notes