



A Part of Something Much Larger...

By Adina Tranca, ministry worker

Recently I heard a preacher saying that every time God wants to make a major change in history, Satan begins to destroy newborns. For example, when God was preparing to set the Israelites free from Egypt, Pharaoh issued a law that all newborn babies were to be killed. In the same way, when Jesus was born, Herod made a law that all newborn babies were to be killed.

At Touched Romania we work to prevent children from being abandoned. In doing so, we give children that Satan is desperately trying to destroy a chance. When you think about, we are a part of the lives that God might be preparing to use for great things!

This was an encouragement to me because I could see our ministry at Touched Romania from a new perspective. I felt a part of something much, much larger — the plans and purposes of God in Romania! My hope is that one day our children will also bring freedom to those of their own generation.

Do You Want To Be My Mommy?

by Alina Filote, Foster Care Network Coordinator & Social Worker



This is a true story of a 5-year-old girl named Ana who has been a part of our foster care program since 2002. Ana's heart longed for the love of parents, the need to belong, and to have a permanent "mommy."

One day when Ana was playing, she saw two people entering her home and she was curious to find out who they were. Her foster care mother invited them in. From the beginning, Ana thought that the woman who came to visit was really beautiful.

Ana was introduced to the people who were visiting and was told that they were there to see her. When Ana heard this she was so excited! These two people came to visit Ana again in the days that followed.

Ana's foster care mother was trying to explain to Ana that the couple who came to visit her were not her parents. Meanwhile, Ana insisted that she needed to make a phone call "to the beautiful lady". Her foster care mother finally gave in and let her call her. When Ana picked up the phone she said, "Hello! How are you? Do you want to be my mommy?" Everybody was shocked including the woman on the other end of the phone.

You guessed it. Ana now has two wonderful parents who want to adopt her and have started all the needed legal formalities! Don't you love happy endings?

A Place Blessed By God...

By Nadia, mother at Hagar Home Maternal Center

I'll never forget the first time I came to Hagar Home Maternal Center for my interview with the staff. I was impressed that they gave me the answer right away that I was accepted in their program. The next day, when I came back with my daughter, I felt the God was giving me a second chance in life. As the days went by and I met more of the staff, I felt that they all knew God in a special way.

Here at Hagar Home we have rules and a schedule to follow each day in order to prepare us for independent life. We learn to cook, receive advice and guidance on how to raise our child, learn how to organize and clean, as well as how talk nicely and behave in society.

After being here for a month, I can say that my impression of Hagar Home has remained the same. It is "a place that is blessed by God."



Jacob's Smile

By Raegan Glugosh, AGWM missionary



In a past newsletter, I mentioned Jacob, one of our babies at Hagar Home Maternal Center was born with a cleft lip and palate. Recently, he underwent his first surgery to cosmetically repair his upper lip. The surgery went exceptionally well! Thank you for your prayers. It is such a joy to see Jacob's new smile and sparkle in his eyes when he laughs. Here is a note from Judy, his mother:

"I was a little bit nervous before the surgery but I had a peace knowing that people were praying for me. Jacob was smiling at

the doctor and nurses before the surgery. But after the surgery, he cried a lot and I didn't know what to do. But after a few days, he was back to the happy and smiley boy that he used to be. Thank you for your prayers!"



Judy, Jacob and Raegan. Christmas 2007

The pediatric plastic surgeon that operated on Jacob was Dr. Enescu, the same doctor that I worked with when I first came to Romania, almost 10 years ago. Little did I know back then that our paths would cross again in this way! It's so amazing how our steps are ordained by the Lord.

Jacob's next surgery is this coming spring. Please pray for Judy for strength, as she cares for Jacob, continues with her high school education, and works at her part time job.