

The Precious Foundation Newsletter December 2016

Dear Supporters,

I hope this mini newsletter finds you well. We are confident that you will be greatly encouraged as you learn more about what The Precious Foundation has been doing since our last mailing.

We have been involved in the following:

Giving and Connecting with Harvest Ministries

The Precious Foundation became interested in the work of Harvest Ministries who help orphans in India. This happened after our chair person, Tope and other members of her church had the privilege of spending time with pastor Moffet and his wife Mini who lead Harvest Ministries, when they recently visited the UK. Those who met with them were blessed and challenged by the testimonies they heard. It is clear that they are a man and a women of God. The Precious Foundation was able to bless their work with a donation of £240.00. This money was used for orphan children who are involved in Harvest Ministries child sponsorship program. We hope this is the start of a long term partnership.



Rose of Sharon Children's Home

Donation of Clothes to St Barnardo's UK

On the 17 January 2016 Tope and Andrew delivered a donation of clothes to the local Barbados charity shop in Edgware as this ties in with our objectives. Barnardo's work with orphaned children and young people in the UK.



Visit to an Orphanage in Krakow Poland

Tope and The Precious Foundation's prayer partner Alice Brew, had the opportunity to visit Poland after accepting an invitation from a friend of Tope's who lives there. While in Poland they were able to visit an orphanage and pray for the orphans. They also spent time praying for Jerusalem orphans cared for by The Joseph Storehouse ministry.



Report on visiting the Home of Family Type for Children and Young Adults/Orphans Centre Parvomai in Bulgaria

One of The Precious Foundation's trustee's Tanya Daskalova, had the opportunity of visiting the Parvomai orphans centre on 07 September 2016 and her report is included below:



The Home

"Petar Dimitrov" is a Family Type Residence Centre for children and young people/orphans with severe special education needs and disabilities located in the small village of Purvomai, Petrich County, municipality of Blagoevgrad.

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In the vicinity of the home there is another building which is the home for children (orphans) taken care by the government due to their poor background or the inability of some children's parents to take care of them. It is more like a boarding school for kids/orphans from very poor background. They live, eat and study full time there.

EU Funding has helped the home to renovate vital facilities at the home however the funding was not enough to build sensory room and a facility to assist with the rehabilitation and the physical movement



The Staff

Mr Usunov - Director. He is passionate about changing the way the system works and is trying his best to improve a lot of the services and facilities of the home and widen the activities that some of the more able service users can take part in. He has arranged for some of the more able users to go to Petrich (the nearest big city) to a day school where there are Teachers and activities designed for children and young adults with severe development needs.

Borisov Ruikov and Boika Taseva are the two full time carers at the home and they are very loving and passionate about helping these vulnerable young people. They rarely have someone to cover them and they work on minimum wage. The training and CPD/Pastoral care is not available to them and they may benefit from team bonding activities and counselling support.

Milena Stoyanova, is a Psychologist who is employed full time by the boarding school and she occasionally visits the home where the young adults with disabilities live. She is currently hoping to be allowed to work split shifts and cover both homes.

Zori is the Social worker. She is young and recent graduate and is one of the very few young people in this region that has dedicated their career to work in this field. She is very happy that things are starting to change in Bulgaria and she is happy to be doing this job. The previous people who started have left very quickly. Zori has built great rapport with all the service users and they thoroughly enjoy her company.

The Service Users (young adults)

Svetla, Georgi, Miroslava, Rosen, Rumen, Lyubo, Rumen, Mikhail, Dobri are some of the young people in this home. They have various conditions. Most of their activities are sitting in the living room all day long, without much mental or physical stimulation. The two carers try their best to make sure the young adults are fed, are safe and clean and dry. They rarely find time to do activities with them and take them out. Most of the users does not speak or have limited vocabulary and some of them are in bed or in a wheel chair and cannot move. They need contact care and personal hygiene as they wear nappies. One of the young adults is 23 years old but his physical and mental age is of 8 years old.

Prior to the visit we checked what needs they have and we were told that nappies, plain biscuits and milk are the main things they need and run out of.

Based on this we bought and donated the following items:

1. Milk – 24 boxes
2. Biscuits – 28 packets
3. Chocolate waffles – 1 box
4. Baby wipes – 10 packets
5. Nappies – 120
6. Laundry powder – 6.3 kg

The total amount came up to 155.45 Bulgarian leva which at the time of the exchange rate was £50.21 (£1= 2.30 leva)

The staff and the young people were very excited to see us and to have visitors.

The main issues that the staff highlighted were that if they ever are able to raise enough funds they would love to build a sensory room and introduce activities to stimulate the service user's development. The Psychologist was interested to find out how UK specialists work here in this field.

They were very happy that we were interested in their homes and services and wanted to build long lasting relationships. They also invited the whole team Tope and Andrew to visit them next time.

They allowed us to take pictures but asked us not to publish pictures with the children's faces on for safeguarding and privacy reasons.

Report by Tanya Daskalova

Newsletter written by Andrew Hoare

Secretary

The Precious Foundation

Newsletter Design: Christian Walker