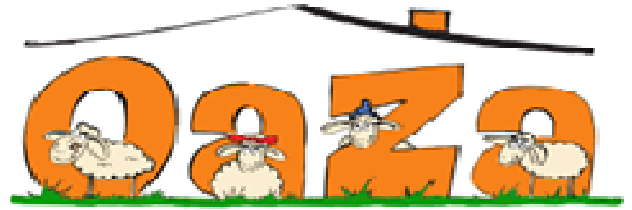


September –
October 2010



We were lost but now we are found!

Important notice



Since 1995, Laura has directed her personal efforts, and thus the efforts of Oaza, towards working with homeless children, young people and adults. Over the years, we have run projects such as a drop in day centre, residential homes, a farm and a mother and baby unit. Some projects have continued and others have run their course.

In order to comply with EU regulations and policies, we as an organisation, have had to redefine our vision and strategy. There is so much need around us - so many people whose future we could impact. We have agreed to focus and direct our work/ ministry in 4 directions:



1. Assistance to the homeless

A few years ago, Laura initiated a meeting between the various organisations working with the homeless in Arad. It was agreed that all the support for the homeless would be centralised at "Vis de Copil" - a Day Centre for poor and disadvantaged people, where the homeless are allowed in a couple of hours a day to eat and wash their clothes. In this way, Oaza and other organisations would not duplicate work, and thereby conserve resources. Oaza gives the centre all of our excess clothing and shoes, and contributes food. The homeless adults have Laura's phone number, and call her when they need something the centre doesn't provide, and Laura helps where possible.

Four fold ministry of Oaza :

- ☺ Assistance to the homeless
- ☺ Residential care
- ☺ "A chance for every child"
- ☺ Community projects.

2. Residential Care

Oaza provides a home and education to children that are in need - due to being homeless or who are in danger of becoming homeless. This project is called Casa Shalom ('House of Peace'). Children are assigned to Oaza's care by the Commission for Child Care or by a Judge, and they remain with Oaza until their natural family or a substitute family is found to care for them. It is no longer possible to 'rescue' children directly from the street nor are children permitted to be cared for by Oaza for an indefinite period of time if he/she has a willing family member to care for them. For the children who have no family, Oaza is their home until they are ready to move out on their own or into sheltered accommodation. There are very few children living on the streets of Arad today. Those that are, live with their parents and they need to receive help as a family unit. The problem is complex, and Oaza cannot accommodate homeless families. However, the local authorities do have several projects to assist homeless families. Laura and Oaza children visiting a reintegrated child.



3. "A chance for every child"

Oaza continues to provide support to children who used to be in Oaza's care, but have now been reintegrated into their natural families or placed with another family. Oaza's support is offered for a year or



Reintegrated child with her family .

more depending on the family's need. Oaza provides food, clothes, school supplies, medicine and counseling to the family as a whole. In some cases, we have been able to assist by renovating homes and even building from scratch. Laura and others visit the families regularly, maintaining contact and legal records.



Oaza children visiting a reintegrated child .

4. Community projects

These projects were born out of the Oaza but they agreed to pray for us that God childrens' desire to help children less would make a way to restart the after-school fortunate than themselves in the local programme in September, and for us to be community. The Oaza children noticed that able to take 24 children. At the same time, they were better off - they had clothes, some of the mums from the 'mums and tots' food, a warm home - than some of the children in their neighbourhood. They wanted to invite the local children to spend time in their home. When Laura looked into it, she realised that there were many children in desperate need locally - living on the edge of poverty, dropping out of school and lacking supervision during the day.



After school kids at lunch time

At first, some weekly clubs were started. As we got to know the children and their families, we were able to identify their needs and problems. In response to these, last year we opened an afterschool programme for 12 children. They came to us to do their homework and other educational activities. From May we were also able to provide a hot meal every day. This was very well received by the parents who would often come in to thank us and kiss Laura's hand. The after-school programme went so well that every volunteer and staff member wanted to play a part in it. By the end of June, at the end of the after-school programme, more parents came to ask if they could register their children for the coming academic year. We couldn't promise them anything definite,



Most desired reward of the day :jumping on the trampoline

group that we used to run kept asking Laura to start a Day Nursery. They told Laura of the difficulties they face - of providing care for their young children when they have to return to work with no day time care provision for children aged 2 to 3 yrs old. As a team, we have prayed continuously about these issues.

In early summer, the Oaza team agreed to do a very courageous thing: increase the after-school programme to 24 children and to start a Day Nursery for 10 children. This is only possible if we move the residential home 'Casa Shalom', to a smaller house that Oaza owns, and use the larger house for the community projects.

Currently, we are still working towards finishing the renovations so that the children in residential care can move.

What happened in the last couple of months?

Flying Seagull Foundation entertained the children and adults of our community for an afternoon. There was a lot of laughter and enjoyment as all the children know Ash and the team by now.



Ash and team entertained lots of children and adults

Renewal Christian Centre Visit

Pastor Peter Jenkins, David Latham, and a team from Renewal visited us on a very special day : the day when as a team we agreed to accept the Will of God in regards to the renovations at Petru Maior property. Our plans to finish them by September 15th failed, no money on the horizon . After the time of sharing and fellowship, pastor Jenkins brought us the news that his church had agreed to donate us the necessary money for the interior renovations. The money arrived as promised and renovations are well on the way.

Noel Reader has returned to Oaza in order to help out with the renovations. He gave us 5 weeks of very hard work for which we are grateful.



Very unexpectedly we received the work offer of a **World race team**. They were FANTASTIC and worked very well and hard, sanding down walls, painting, decorating, cleaning the yard and garden.

Laura's trip to Scoland

Early September a team from North East Scotland Support For Romania came out to visit Oaza . They helped moving furniture, painting and fixing doors and most important they spent time with the children.

In October Laura was invited to speak at the **Females in Fuchsia Lunch**. 190 women were present at this amazing fundraising event. Money raised will enable North East Scotland Support For Romania to continue their support for projects in Timisoara and Arad .

Laura was able to take Claudia with her to Scotland. The Scottish team took very good care of Claudia whilst Laura was invited to speak at different churches, ladies groups , schools and day care nurseries.



Females in Fuchsia Lunch



Write to us at :
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Romania

Contact us at:
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Below is the information necessary for standing orders, direct debit or "one off" gifts.

Oaza UK is a Registered Charity No.1106233

Account Name: Oaza UK

Account Number: 02293529

Sort Code: 30.90.43

Bank Name and Address: Lloyds/TSB Bank, 268 High Street,
BANGOR, Gwynedd, North Wales LL57 1RT

Please make UK cheques out to "Oaza UK" and send to:
Joy James, Ty Mawr, Clwt y Bont, Caernarfon Gwynedd, N.
Wales LL55 3DH

*Many thanks to All our readers and supporters.
Your prayers and generosity are a great blessing
to us as we are heading in the right direction!
Laura and the Oaza team*

We are grateful for :

- A good start of the academic year for all the children
- Provision for our daily needs
- Every individual who makes a contribution to Oaza project
- God's AMAZING provision for renovation money
- The hard work of Noel Reader who generously gave 5 weeks to the renovations
- A FANTASTIC World Race Team who helped us with the renovations
- All of our staff and volunteers
- Safe arrival of babies Analissa Miriam in the family of Marci (an Oaza carer) and Rafi Andres, and Fineas in the family of Laura (our social worker) and Gabi Gruie
- Laura's time in Scotland.

We are praying for :

- Laura to have a successful trip in UK
 - Sufficient funding for everyday running costs of all Oaza projects
 - Future plans for the ministry as related in this newsletter
 - 2 more volunteers to join the team as soon as possible
 - All the children to recover soon from flu and seasonal colds
 - All the children and adults who will receive help from Oaza in the near future
 - God's will to be done in our lives.
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