

2006 Annual Report



Romanian Foundation for
Children, Community and Family





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FOREWORD

2006 was a year of significant changes for FRCCF. New working tools, seemingly more bureaucratic approaches and reporting to a greater number of authorities have been embedded in accreditation and licensing procedures of all NGO's that provide social services, and mostly of those that work to protect the rights of the child.

The official message has become much friendlier, inviting NGO's to contribute with expertise and experience for regional development funds to be better absorbed. In a context of significant legislation and approach changes, FRCCF has reviewed its strategy for the future and has chosen to continue with urban and rural community development programmes and to close down, with the consent of financiers and sometimes at their request, the projects implemented in placement centres and helping schools as well as all projects that failed or have little chance to reach their goals.

This project cutback also aims at reducing administrative costs for FRCCF without damaging the interdisciplinary team composition and thus increasing our chances to fund ongoing projects from alternative sources to the traditional financing granted by our British partner EveryChild UK.

In 2006, FRCCF managed to raise more funds than expected from individuals through 2% income tax donations, from the Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family based on Law 34/1998, from the business environment and from a partnership signed with Cluj-Napoca Town Hall for PHARE 2004 – Social Services. EveryChild continued to be our main financial supporter, but it also provided technical assistance and informed FRCCF professionals about the latest child protection trends, methodology and approaches.

In 2007, we want Romania to succeed in absorbing the available regional development funds establishing new community social services, even in rural areas to guarantee full access to all Romanian children.

I want to thank FRCCF staff, volunteers, trustees and supporters for our success and high service quality standards.

Mission

The mission of the Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family (FRCCF) is to support vulnerable and marginalised children so that they can grow in a safe family environment and benefit from the education and health care they need.

In the last 10 years, the Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family has become one of the biggest established Romanian NGO's that works in child protection. The work of FRCCF has focused on children, families and communities from Transylvania. Over this period of time, the Foundation has helped children who live in poverty and has supported their families and communities. FRCCF makes sure children stay in their family and strives to prevent child abandonment.

The Foundation also works for children to have equal life opportunities and focuses on child education and health as well on the environment in which they grow up. In 2006, the work of the Foundation targeted the counties of Cluj, Bihor and Satu Mare.

We help children living in houses without water, gas or electricity, who sometimes go hungry and have no one at home to understand them or give them proper advice. The Foundation stands by them and makes sure their rights are respected.

History

Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family was legally incorporated in 1997. Its sole founder was the British charity The Christian Children's Funds of Great Britain which merged in 2002 with The European Children's Trust to become EveryChild. The latter is the current partner and main financier of FRCCF.

EveryChild's vision, adopted by the Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family as well, is a world where every child has the right to grow up in a safe and secure family, free from poverty and exploitation. EveryChild works to help families, communities and governments build up and develop capacities to provide the best environment for children to grow harmoniously. In all its projects, the British foundation tries to target the most vulnerable and marginalised children and to implement long-lasting changes for their benefit but also for the benefit of their families and communities.

In 2004, FRCCF was granted public utility status by Government Decision 1479/2004. FRCCF is a member of the Federation of Child Care NGO's (FONPC) since 1999, it is a member of the national network RuralNet and of European Network for Street Children Worldwide and of the Bihor County social coalition - Strong. Moreover, in 2006, the Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family became a member of FOND, the platform of Romanian NGO's involved in the European programme of Cooperation for Development, and a founding member of RePeRe – a network of organisations and practitioners working to attract community resources.

FRCCF Programmes in 2006

In 2006, Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family was there for more than 14,000 people, children and their families. They benefited from four main programmes.

In the *community centres* from Cluj-Napoca, Cîmpia Turzii, Oradea, Satu Mare, Popești, children from low income families were helped cope with school and everyday problems. They benefited from homework help, psychological counselling and medical counselling whenever they needed it as well as from a daily snack.

Moreover, they took part in various leisure and socialisation activities.

The children see community centres as their second home and school. Here they get love, protection and proper guidance for life, while their families are supported to overcome their numerous crisis situations.

The rural community development programme focused on three locations from Cluj, Bihor and Satu Mare. FRCCF strengthened these communities, identified community-specific problems and looked for solutions together with local people. Thus, the foundation wanted to make sure children's rights were respected and that the children were living in a proper environment, in communities ready to reach as many goals *together* as possible.

The child care institution-based programme aims at guaranteeing that abandoned or disabled children grow in a proper environment and that they get ready to face life after leaving child care. In 2006, FRCCF was present in 4 placement centres from Cluj, Bihor and Satu Mare. In addition, children from several institutions where FRCCF closed down its projects received presents or check books that they will get when they turn 18.

The child migration and trafficking prevention programme from Oaş targets a number of communities from this region of the country, where a great number of minors, and not only, go abroad. The programme comprises information campaigns on the dangers to which children migrating alone to Western Europe are exposed, but it also tries to come up with alternatives for those who decide to leave the country. In 2006, FRCCF opened a community centre at Gherța Mică, one of the communities dealing with this phenomenon. This way, FRCCF wants to help children stay home, where they are safe, and stay in school.

The Foundation plans to carry on these programmes next year as well, with increased emphasis on urban and rural community projects. FRCCF will continue to work towards its mission and it will try to team up with organisations, institutions and donors from project- targeted communities.



Community Centres from Cluj-Napoca

In 2006, Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family assisted almost 700 families living in poverty in Cluj-Napoca. The parents got help to overcome crisis situations and tackle housing or employment problems, they received professional psychological counselling and they always had a general practitioner and a legal adviser to consult. Their children were guided and prepared for school and supported to better integrate into their community. Most of the services were delivered to beneficiaries at the two community centres set up in this town. Over 300 children came to the centres in 2006.

Many of the children who come to EveryChild Community Centre and to the Community Centre from the Iris neighbourhood don't have their own place to study at home or someone to help them. In 2006, the FRCCF practitioners and volunteers provided homework support to an average of 40 children every day of the school year. Moreover, 80 teenagers – secondary school and high school seniors – were tutored in Romanian, Mathematics, Geography, History, English, French and even German. Social workers permanently kept in touch with the children's teachers to screen their school results and progress.

Children with special learning difficulties or insufficient read and write knowledge were helped cope with school by catching up with knowledge and addressing emotional issues. Thus, the educational psychologist worked with over 70 children. Other 80 children benefited from the psychologist's attention during individual or group counselling sessions. The main goal was to identify what triggered poor school grades and to improve children's learning potential. The children were taught how to learn and they are now more motivated to go to school. They also communicate better with their family, friends, colleagues and teachers. Thanks to psychological counselling, many of them managed to address behavioural issues and became less aggressive and impulsive. Moreover, they are more self-confident now.

Between November 2005 – November 2006, the European Union financed FRCCF via the programme Phare 2003, Strengthening Romanian Civil Society, ACCESS Social Component. The EU funds went to the project *Prevention of School Abandonment through Community Centres* that benefited 160 children with big school problems from Cluj, Câmpia Turzii, Oradea and Satu Mare. At Cluj-Napoca, the FRCCF professionals worked with 46

children. All of them had examination resits and some of them had grade retentions. At the end of the project, 41 school children passed the grade. One of the main outcomes was that most children got more motivated for school and more self-confident. The project beneficiaries enhanced their school attendance and results. 11 of 12 secondary school

graduates continue their studies and learn the trade that suits them best as they found it out during vocational guidance meetings. FRCCF also worked with their parents and thus some of them became more interested in their child's education and they now pay more attention to him/her.

Another FRCCF project aiming at school abandonment prevention was *We Can Make It at School with FORNETTI*. This particular project targeted only children with special learning difficulties. At Cluj, 10 children were helped improve their read-write-count skills. They have improved their grades, they feel better at school and miss fewer classes because they caught up with their colleagues.

During 2006, almost thirty 7th – 8th graders received school and vocational guidance. They discovered their skills and were helped choose the right school or trade for them. They were also informed about the current labour market demand in order to be able to make realistic decisions for their future.

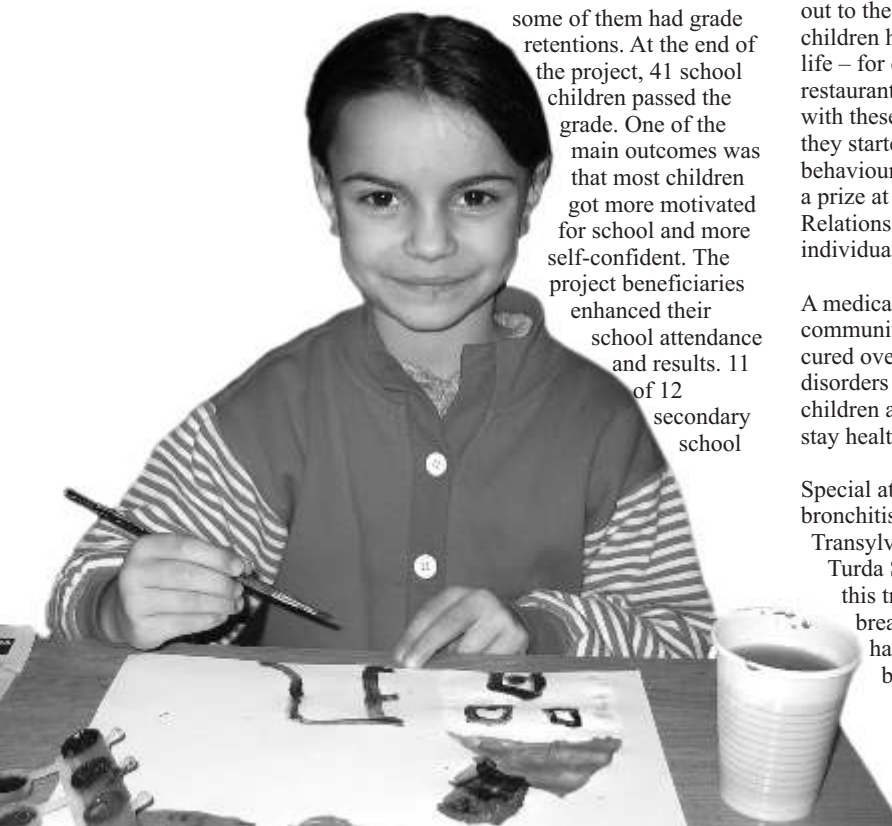
Personal development groups paid special attention to teenagers who had the chance to talk about age-specific issues and learn to behave and react properly in the society. Teenage girls took part in sex education classes held in partnership with the Society for Contraceptive and Sex Education and Population Services International.

There was also a support group for child victims of verbal and physical domestic violence. Twelve children, aged between 9 and 12, were helped get over difficult times and bad language they hear in their family, they were taught to communicate with their parents and manage their anger. 22 other children benefited from individual psychological therapy addressing their physical and emotional abuse. All this was possible thanks to subsidies granted by the Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family, through Law 34/1998 allocating subsidies to Romanian associations and foundations holding legal personality that set up and run social care units.

As the majority of children attending our community centres don't have anyone at home to help them or give them proper advice about life, FRCCF and iQuest Technologies thought of a mentoring project. For over half a year, 20 children from one-parent families or who don't get enough attention at home spent time with 20 volunteers who became their behaviour role models. Each adult was responsible for one child that he/she would take out to the movies, to the restaurant or to theatre once a week. The children had the chance to do things they had never done in their life – for example, they went places by car, they had dinner at a restaurant, they went to the movies – and they had a great time with these young people who became their friends. Step by step, they started to take these adults as role models and copied proper behaviour. The involvement of iQuest in this project brought them a prize at the *People for People* Gala that the Community Relations Association holds each year to thank companies and individuals for their social participation.

A medical counsellor made sure that the children who came to the community centres would develop harmoniously. Each month, she cured over 50 children for regular colds, but also for anaemia or disorders related to their living conditions or nutrition. Moreover, children also took part in health education groups teaching them to stay healthy and clean.

Special attention was paid to children suffering from asthmatic bronchitis or other serious breathing disorders. FRCCF and Transylvania Bank helped 40 of them to receive 9-day care at Turda Saltmine. In the last seven years, the Foundation planned this treatment for children each year. As a result, the children breathe easier, they depend less on medication and they don't have to stay out of school that often as it would happen before because of their health condition.



Two of the reasons why children keep on coming to the community centres are that here they have made friends with whom they play and that here they can spend their time in a fun and useful way. Each week, they enjoyed creative art workshops where they painted, drew and made various craftsmanship items as well as greeting cards for the ones they love. The most talented children from the two community centres got together and made a flag for the expedition of the Romanian mountaineers who reached the highest North American top, the McKinley, in the spring of 2006. Thus, the FRCCF mission aimed high as its message inserted in the children's drawing got to one of the most remote places in the world. This way, the mountaineers encouraged children to never stop believing in themselves and in their dreams.

The children enjoyed fun and educational games, trivia contests, good manners groups; they watched movies and cartoons, they went to the movies and to theatre. On holidays, they went to the park, they visited the Botanical Gardens and they went on day trips and picnics in Făget, where they cleaned the area and learnt the importance of living in a clean environment. In the summer, FRCCF and generous sponsors planned trips for 100 children. They had the chance to get out of the town that they would barely ever leave, they saw new places and made new friends. Some of the children got to Transfăgărășan, others to the Bears' Cave, while some went on a mountain trip at Măguri-Răcățau or had a great time spending a day at the Saint John Horse Stables.

Children lived great moments and they felt loved and important during birthday parties thrown each month. Thanks to the generosity of the Lions Genesis Club ladies, around 200 of them had birthday cakes with candle and presents, *Happy Birthday* songs and they danced and played with their friends from the community centres. Around Christmas, other generous people gave presents, winter footwear and useful books to the children.

Saint Nicholas' Day was a special day at the EveryChild Community Centre. The most talented children who took part in the *I Want Peace in My Family* drawing contest were awarded but all the participants received gifts from Cluj Prefect's Office. The event was part of a local campaign against domestic violence run by the Cluj Department of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family. FRCCF wants every child to grow in a safe family environment and consequently its professionals supported parents as well in 2006. Social workers counselled and helped almost 700 families for many types of problems – conflicts, financial shortage, lack of house or job, etc.

Almost 350 families received financial support from the Foundation when they lacked money to pay water, electricity or heating bills or when they needed money to buy food and clothes to their children. Moreover, 20 people approximately needed the legal adviser's help each month for divorce, conflicts at work, to get documents issued or allowances. The general practitioner examined and referred to specialists almost 50 adults each month. Throughout the year, the social workers helped 14 beneficiaries find a job and bring regular income at home and provide a decent living for their children. FRCCF teamed up with Habitat for Humanity Cluj-Napoca to enrol 5 families in a house renovation programme which turned their bad shape homes into healthier and refurbished facilities.

Social workers counselled almost 400 parents to solve their child-parents issues. They were helped understand better their children's needs, they were advised to pay more attention to them and care about their education. 24 parents also benefited from psychological counselling to settle family conflicts and acquire positive child raising methods.

The Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family does not only support low income families and children from Cluj, but also the whole community. Every year, FRCCF plans a few special events in order to get

closer to all the people from Cluj and to make them more responsible for the issues of their town.

Joonior Park is an event that the Foundation organises to celebrate all children from Cluj. In 2006, the forth edition of *Joonior Park - Play Therapy* was held in Central Park. More than 2,000 children joined our event. All day long, they had games and competitions, music, drama plays, dancing, fashion shows, karaoke, raffle and hundreds of prizes to choose from.

In 2006, FRCCF and the TV station Antena 1 Cluj organised the first *Joonior Ball – Children Close to Children* at the Museum of Art to celebrate the same Children's Day. Children from wealthy Cluj families attended the event for a special afternoon of music, dance and clowns. The children and their parents were given the chance to make donations meant to support the tutoring programme addressing community centre children.

For the Children's Rights Day, FRCCF planned a drawing contest called *Your Family*. About 380 children from 15 Cluj schools took part in the competition, and 23 of them were awarded for their talent and ideas. In addition, children from several schools from Cluj found out their rights from FRCCF-distributed leaflets.

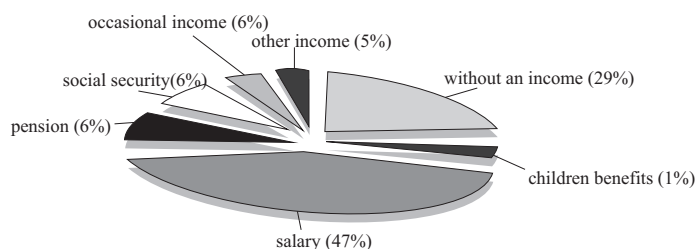
The charity show *Dream*, performed by the artist Dan Puric and organised by FRCCF, was an evening well spent for over 1,000 Cluj inhabitants present at the Opera House. Moreover, their participation in this show supported the mission of the foundation. The spectators' donations were used to cover daily food costs for the children who come to the community centres.

The Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family, the Town Hall of Cluj-Napoca, Merlin Consulting and Logo Design brought the Christmas spirit to the centre of the town. Between 8th – 22nd of December 2006, the *Children's Christmas Fair* was held at the Unirii Square replicating the fairs from big European cities. Christmas decorated wooden houses, a Christmas tree, a stage for carol singers and an artificial skating ring were installed in the square. Each day, close to the statue of Matei Corvin, the people from Cluj could sing and listen to carols as well as buy Christmas presents (craftsmanship items, some made by FRCCF-assisted children), while the children took full advantage of the Coca-Cola skating ring.

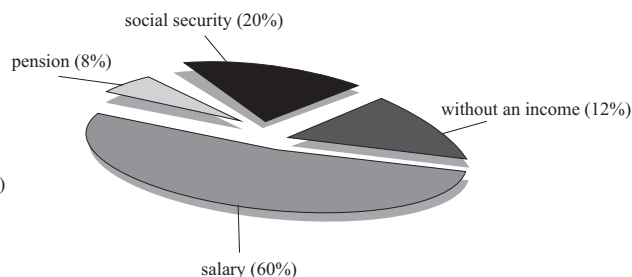
Adrian is 14 years old, and he is now a teenager full of life and doing great at school. He lives only with his mother, a woman who asked for our help two years ago.



Income sources for mothers



Income sources for fathers



Adi had big school problems and was at risk of grade retention. He wouldn't study at all because of home problems: he didn't have a place to study and every day he would have to listen to his parents arguing. They were out of money and they were about to get evicted from the house due to an ownership retrocession trial. The father would often come back home drunk and he would get violent. The mother was unemployed, and the child's state benefit and the father's wages were the only family incomes.

The social worker drew up a care plan for this family, and the child started to come to the community centre. Here, he could do his homework in peace and benefit from tutoring for any subject that he found difficult. The psychologist of the centre ran some tests on Adi which showed that he was intelligent, and that his poor grades were a result of problems at home.

His mother also benefited from psychological counselling as she wanted to learn to relate to her son and raise him best. She was abandoned as a child and was raised in a placement centre so she couldn't have learnt all these things from her mother. Moreover, Adrian's mother turned to the FRCCF legal adviser because she wanted to break up with her husband who was getting increasingly violent.

She got help and she managed to divorce him. The social worker then helped her find a job and a house where she moved with Adi. More calm and closely monitored at the community centre, the boy started to do better in school and passed the grade without any problem.

During the last two months of the year 2006, FRCCF conducted a sociological study, collecting information about its beneficiaries and about the foundation's impact on them. In Cluj, 574 families were included in the study (which means 2,866 individuals), and in the community centres 134 children answered to our questions.

The family profile

The families assisted by FRCCF have an average of 5 members, a third of them have 3 or more children, and each room from the house is inhabited by 3.4 member. Related to the environment in the family, 43% of the children stated that their parents use physical punishment on them, and 16% stated that there are also physical abuses between the other members of the family. 55.5% of the families are Romanian, 22.3% are Roma, 14.1% are Hungarian and 8.2% are of mixed ethnicity.

The educational level of the families that were helped by the foundation is low. The mothers have an average of 9 school years, while the fathers have 10 school years. Approximately a third (24%) of the children did not pass all the subjects or did not promote a school year prior to the 2005-2006 school year. This thing can be explained by the fact that 38% of the interviewed children said that they do not have their own place to study at home.

The income of the families assisted by FRCCF is poor. The mothers earn an average of 346 RON, while the fathers earn monthly an average of 434 RON. More than a third of the female population has no income and only 60% of the male population have a monthly salary. For some of the families, the children benefit is their only income.

The health status of the families is pretty poor. 375 of the interviewed individuals said that they had health problems: 50% of the mothers, 41% of the fathers, and 29% of the children. Also, 12% of the male population and 16% of the female population was hospitalized because of these problems, during the year 2006.

The utilities and the goods owned by the families are usually used as indicators to estimate their living standard. The people helped by FRCCF lack the basic utilities and goods. For instance, almost a third of the assisted families in Cluj do not have a bathroom, 21% of them do not have gas, and 16% do not have water supply. Then 69% of the families do not have a laundry machine in the house, and 58% do not even have a refrigerator.

Goods The percentage of the families who do NOT have

TV	11.7
Radio	61.4
Laundry machine	32.8
Refrigerator	15.9
Telephone	17.3
Computer	71.7
Car	94.4
Heat	87.1

Utilities The percentage of the families who do NOT have

Bathroom	29.7
Kitchen	16
Electricity	4
Gas	21
Water supply	15.8

FRCCF's impact on the families and their children

In 2006, the interviewed families declared that they requested more often the social assistance service, and 98% of them benefited from it. Also, 58% received financial help for their delays in paying their household bills, and 31% asked for the services of one of the community centres in Cluj.

The services offered by FRCCF and considered by the families the most important ones are: the social assistance service offered through the emergency help and the help received by the children at the community centres. The parents are pleased that their children have a place to go to after school, and they are doing their homework and they are supervised and they are pleased with their achievements.

The most frequent answers given to the question: "Which is the most important thing received from FRCCF in 2006?"

Number of families which gave this answer :

Emergency help	148
Community centre services	117
School supplies	112
Financial support	82
Advice, discussions with the social worker	48
The treatment at Turda Salt Mine	37
Utilities payment	33
Hospitalisation and medicine mediation	22

Related to the impact of FRCCF's services on the family, 67% consider that the biggest change was and is the fact that they can ask for help if they need it, and almost half of them appreciated the useful information received. Others considered the most important change the one related to their children which learn better and behave better.

More than a third of 134 children interviewed during the sociological study consider that the most important thing learnt since they attend the community centres is that they know how to interact with the people they are in touch with, how to be on time, how to avoid inappropriate language, how to avoid fights.

Then, they said that they learnt to behave better, to be more generous, to appreciate their education; they also said that they were happy because they became more communicative and they know now how to do their homework alone.

The most frequent answers given by the children at the question : "Which is the most important thing learnt at the community centre?"

Number of children:

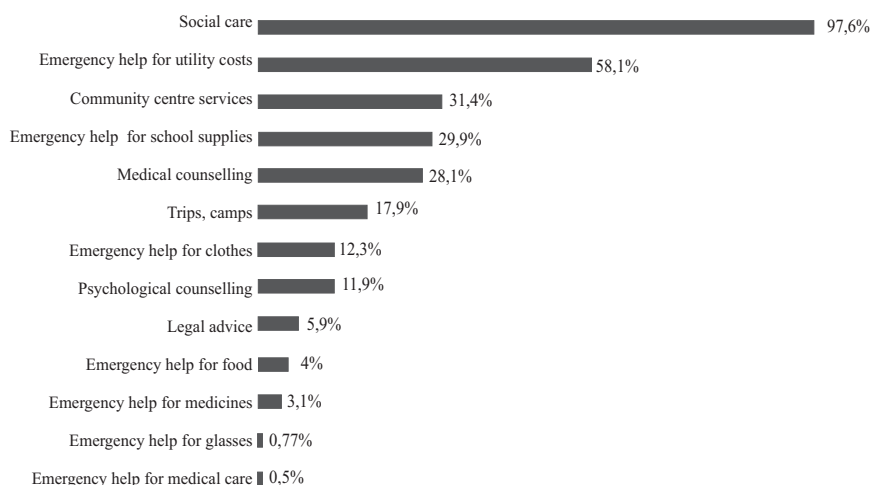
To behave better	48
To do better, to be more generous	18
The importance of school	16
To do my homework alone, to learn by myself	12
I enriched my knowledge (writing, reading, math, Romanian)	12

At the question "What has changed in your life since you started to attend the community centre?" almost a third of them said that they had better school results.

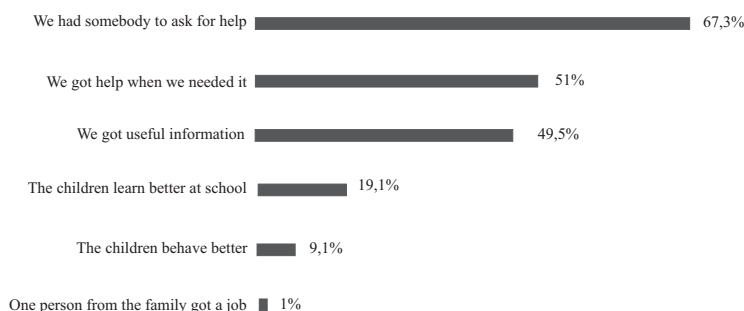
Then, a considerable number of children appreciated the fact that here they could make new friends and that they received help with their homework.

They also said that since they came to the centre they play more, they behave better and that they have more confidence in themselves.

Services provided to the families



What has changed in your life since you are assisted by FRCCF?



The most frequent answers to the question: "What has changed in your life since you started to attend the community centre?"

Number of children:

I have better school results, more knowledge	31
I made new friends	24
Now I receive help with my homework and my learning problems	10

From the social workers' point of view (the ones that were asked to identify the progress of the interviewed individuals), 34% of the children have better school results, 30% are more sociable, 31% have more confidence in themselves.

The most frequent progress identified by the social workers at the interviewed children

Number of children:

They have more knowledge/better school results	46
They have more confidence in themselves	42
They are more sociable	41
They interact better with the people around them/they have new friends	36
They are more respectable/pleasant/they respect the centre's rules	28



Cîmpia Turzii Community Centre

The community from Cîmpia Turzii is multi-ethnic. Romanians, Hungarians, Roma live together and face the same problems: unemployment and poverty. This is mainly due to the closure of the plant where most people used to work. Children who live in poverty, who don't have a place to study at home and who need someone to understand and be there for them come to the FRCCF community centre from this town. FRCCF treats them all the same, regardless their ethnicity. The Centre is a place where Romanian, Roma and Hungarian children meet, study and play together.

The Foundation provides social services to this community and aims at improving children's life. In 2006, FRCCF assisted 270 families from Cîmpia Turzii, while the community centre brought together almost 240 children.

Every month, around 50 children were tutored in Romanian and Mathematics, and approximately 40 other children received homework support. Those who had special learning problems required more attention, and the psychologist and the educational psychologist tried to make them enhance their learning skills. In addition, 40 children improved their English language knowledge and learnt to use the computer.

Thanks to the EU-funded project *Prevention of School Abandonment through Community Centres*, FRCCF succeeded to help 40 school children at risk of grade retention or examination resit to pass the grade. 28 of them significantly improved their grades and most of the beneficiaries increased their school attendance. More than half of the students are now more motivated to go to school, and their parents are more concerned about their child's education.

Ten children with special learning problems were enrolled in the project *We Make It at School with FORNETTI* to help them stay in school. The project beneficiaries became more self-confident, they have better grades, they enjoy more being with their school mates and they hardly ever miss classes.

60 children with artistic skills had the chance to develop their imagination and talent during plastic arts workshops, contemporary and folk dance and drama clubs. Eighteen children attended housekeeping classes, and another 40 signed up for football and handball.

The children were encouraged to take part in different competitions held at the centre or

outside, bringing together FRCCF-assisted children and school children from the town. Some of the competitions held were: football and handball cups for under 14-year-olds, first aid competitions for children and trivia contest. Moreover, the children and the House of Culture organised a show for The Mother's Day. For the Children's Day, FRCCF held a concrete drawing contest downtown, whereas at the community centre the drama club children performed a play for their friends and colleagues. The rights of the child were highly promoted in schools on Children's Rights Day (20 November) through an information campaign as well as drawing and essay competitions. For Christmas, the children planned a show at the centre to promote all the good work they had done at the artistic workshops; they received presents from Cîmpia Turzii Army Unit. They also went carol singing to several institutions from their town.

During summer holiday, 75 children went on a camp to Vidolm. For many of them, this was the first outgoing, away from poverty and family problems. There, they undertook day trips, they played, and right before going back home they had a camp fire and performed a short show.

FRCCF wanted to stand by beneficiary families when they were facing big problems: conflicts, violence, health conditions or desperate situations when they risked having electricity, water, heat cut off or even get short of food.

The children and some parents benefited from psychological help. The little ones were counselled for addressing family and peer conflicts, they were motivated to go to school and be self-confident. 15 child victims of domestic violence received emotional support and professional advice; this was possible thanks to financing from the Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family, in line with Law 34/1998 allocating subsidies to Romanian associations and foundations with legal personality that set up and run social care units. Ten children participated in a personal development group. Parents were counselled mostly as to reduce family conflicts and to relate and communicate better with their children. A total of 100 children and adults were assisted in 2006.

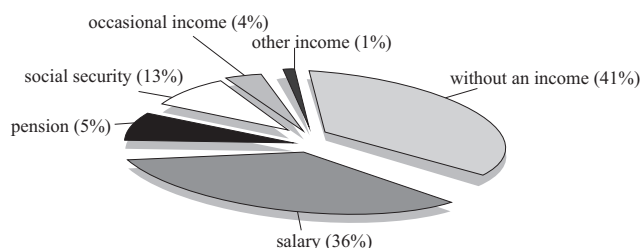
The beneficiaries could also use the expertise of the FRCCF general practitioner to get free medication, to be referred to specialists who could cure them, to get first aid for anaemia, angina or asthmatic bronchitis. The general practitioner helped a total of 160 people. Twenty children acquired knowledge about human body, their health and personal hygiene during health education groups. 40 children with serious breathing disorders received care at the Turda salt mine thanks to the support of Vereignite Aktion fur Rumanien, the organisation that has been working with FRCCF for a long time to support the most vulnerable children from Cîmpia Turzii.

The legal adviser was also there for families whenever they needed her help. 30 beneficiaries were counselled for divorce, child support, or birth certificates. 230 families also received financial emergency aid for crisis situations so that they could pay their water, heating, electricity bills or buy food, clothes and school supplies for children.

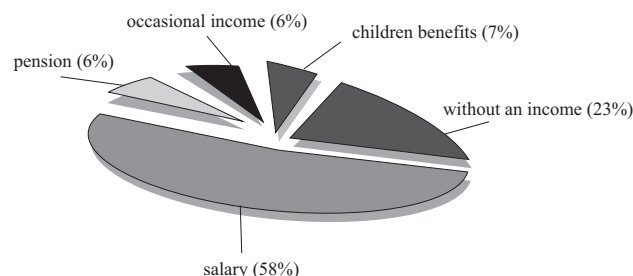
In December 2005, FRCCF organised a trivia contest for children from the town schools and from the community centre. A school mediator for Roma was contacted to invite Roma children at the contest, who were organized in two teams. We were happy to see them there with us and see their interest in the competition. That year, they didn't have a good score and they came in last. We could see they really wanted to get to know the same things as the other children so we told them to come to the FRCCF community centre. There, during the school year, they practised and studied Geography, History and Romanian hard with the help of FRCCF practitioners. In December 2006, they were ready to take part in the second edition of the trivia contest. This time, the Roma children were some of the best participants.



Income sources for mothers



Income sources for fathers



They came in third, but they don't want to stop here. They will continue to come to the community centre where they will learn with the other children, who are already their friends and colleagues.

In the sociological study conducted at the end of the year 2006, in Cîmpia Turzii, 150 families were interviewed, which means 674 individuals, and 70 children from the community centre answered to our questions.

The family profile

The families assisted by FRCCF in Cîmpia Turzii have an average of 4.5 members, more than a third (28%) from these families have 3 or more children; and an average of 3.4 individuals live in a room. 34.2 % from the families are Romanian, 62.3% are Roma, 2.1% are Hungarian and 1.4 are of mixed ethnicity.

The educational level of the individuals helped by the foundation is low. The mothers finished an average of 6 school years, while the fathers finished 7.5 school years. The percentage of children who did not promote a school year or did not pass at least one subject is 4%, 7% respectively. Their school problems can be explained by the fact that they do not have a place at home where they could write their homework or where they could study; 27% of them mentioned this matter.

The families assisted by FRCCF have a low **income**. The mothers earn an average of 283 RON, while the fathers earn monthly an average of 424 RON. More than a third of women have no income and only 58% of the male population have a constant salary.

The health status of the families is not a good one. 19.4% of the interviewed families admitted that they had health problems: 25% of the mothers, 20% of the fathers and 14% of the children. Also 11.5% of the male population and 10% of the female population were hospitalised because of these problems during the year 2006.

In the families helped by FRCCF, the **basic utilities and goods** are lacking. More than half of the interviewed individuals do not have a bathroom, and 41% do not have water supply. Than, 69% of the families do not have a laundry machine at home, and 58% do not have a refrigerator.

Goods The percentage of the families who do NOT have

TV	25.5
Radio	79.9
Laundry machine	68.5
Refrigerator	57.7
Telephone	66.4
Computer	94.6
Car	99.3
Heat	93.3

Utilities The percentage of the families who do NOT have

Bathroom	55.4
Kitchen	36.5
Electricity	16.9
Gas	36.5
Water supply	41.2

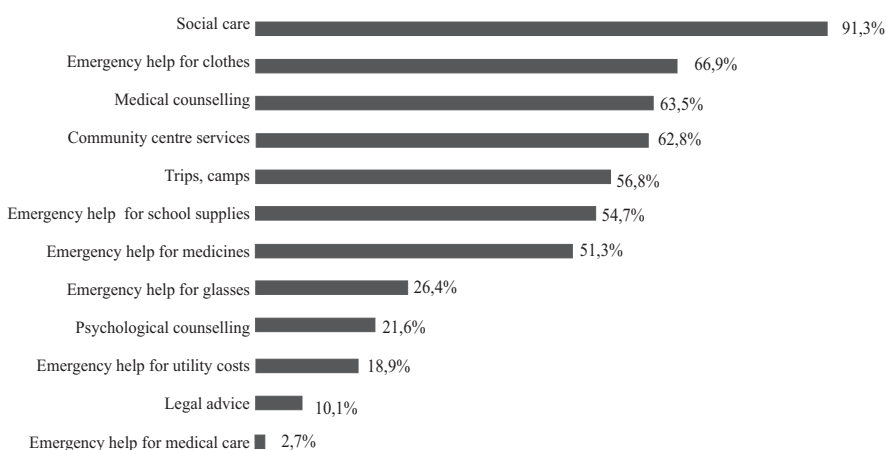
FRCCF's impact on the families and their children

In 2006, 91% of the interviewed families requested the social assistance services. The majority of them received financial help when needed and many of them requested the services offered through community centres.

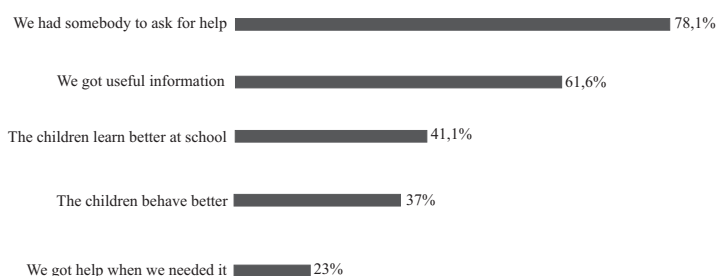
The FRCCF service considered by families as being the most important is social care, providing a financial support for buying food and facilitating access to medical services and free medicine.

Also, the help given for school supplies and the work done with the children at the community centre were appreciated.

Services provided to the families



What has changed in your life since you are assisted by FRCCF?



The most frequent answers given to the question: "Which was the most important thing received from FRCCF in 2006?"

Number of families answering to the question:

Food	38
Hospitalization and medicine mediation	30
School supplies	25
Community centre services	20
Clothes, shoes	17

Regarding the impact of the FRCCF services on the families, 78% consider that the biggest change was and is the fact that they can ask somebody for help if needed, and 62% appreciated the useful information received. Other individuals (41%) considered that the most important change happened to their children who learn better. More than a third of the 70 children being interviewed in this sociological study consider that the most important thing learnt since they attend the community centre services is that they behave better and they are more generous. They said that they learnt how to interact with the individuals around them, and they appreciated the free time activities and the new knowledge achieved.

The most frequent answers given by the children to the question : "Which is the most important thing that you learnt at the community centre?"

Number of children:

To be good, to be generous	20
To behave better	18
The knowledge received during free time activities (dance, arts etc.)	10
I improved my skills (writing, reading, math, Romanian)	9

At the question "What has changed in your life since you started to attend the community centre?", most of the children said that they had new friends, they appreciated the homework help and they were happy with their school results.

The most frequent answers to the question "What has changed in your life since you started to attend the community centre?"

Number of children

I made new friends	12
I receive help for homework and for learning	10
I have better school results and more knowledge	9

The "Family and Child" Day-Care Centre from Dej

Another project was successfully brought to an end. In March 2006, the "Family and Child" Day-Care Centre from Dej, opened on the initiative and with the support of the Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family, was taken over by the project partners of FRCCF: the Town Hall of Dej and the Cluj County General Department for Social Care and Child Protection.

From October 2004, when the project started, to the moment it handed it over to its partners, FRCCF provided help to 66 children at risk of abandonment or with important social integration issues, mostly entailed by poverty. FRCCF refurbished the centre facilities to give to project-enrolled children a place to study and play that they didn't have at home.

Moreover, the centre was designed to deliver counselling both to children and parents. The Foundation trained the day-care centre staff so that they could professionally and efficiently address the needs of the beneficiaries.

The smallest children got ready for kindergarten to be able to integrate faster and better in a new environment; school children got help to keep up with school work and continue their studies. They received homework support, psychological counselling, whenever necessary, and took part in various socialisation and leisure activities.

Moreover, every day, children received a hot meal covering their basic nutritional needs as the home meals were extremely poor.

The "Family and Child" Day-Care Centre from Dej was opened and it worked until March 2006 thanks to a USAID financing through World Learning within the ChildNet programme.

After FRCCF finished its work in this project, the Town Hall of Dej took on all the financial and operating responsibilities of the Centre.



Măguri-Răcățau Rural Community Development Project

Măguri-Răcățau, the biggest mountain commune from the county of Cluj and from the whole country, was included in the FRCCF community development programme in 2004. FRCCF started to work here by renovating the boarding school for children living far away from school and spending long hours to go and to come from school. The Foundation wanted to help the community by giving increased opportunities to its youngest members to study and continue school. This was necessary because the number of high school or vocational school graduates was extremely low in this area. FRCCF is there for today's generations and tries to stand by them every day and give them the best learning conditions.

In 2006, almost 40 children from the community lived in the boarding school, in other words they didn't have to waste all those hours on the way to and from school. They were well-rested and could actively take part in classes. Moreover, the children received homework support every day. The Foundation covered all food expenses to make sure they had everything they needed and that their parents would let them go there every week. The results were soon noticeable: the children were more eager to study, they accepted the sacrifice of living away from family just to do better in school and they acquired better knowledge.

Children have even more access to information now that the school has a new library, which was finished in the summer of 2006. Nine British sponsors, extremely generous people, chose to help this community through the Foundation and EveryChild – FRCCF's main partner. They came to Romania and worked together to make this library. The British financed room refurbishment (from painting to wooden floor and fitted carpet) and even helped out with the works. Then, they donated money for the library books – a total value of around 1,100 EUR. The library furniture was bought with the funds of Măguri School.

Călin is in the 7th grade and has been at the school from Măguri-Răcățau only for a year. However, ever since he came here he started to enjoy learning, he is more obedient and he is determined to continue school in Cluj when he graduates the 8th grade. Although he was transferred to Măguri-Răcățau because of some problems he had with a teacher at the old school and at the beginning it was quite hard for him to get used to living in a boarding school, away from his family, Călin is now happy with what he has found here. The FRCCF employee who helps children with their homework and his roommates helped him adapt, start loving school and forget about dropping out. He is no longer afraid of Mathematics and he even likes living with his friends. His parents know he is in good hands and that he was given another chance to continue school and have a brighter future.

Institution-Based Project The High School for Visually Impaired Children from Cluj

Over 200 children and teenagers, from pre-school children to 12th graders, attend the High School for Visually Impaired Children. Sight impaired children always need someone close to them even more than others. The Foundation decided to be there for them in their spare time when they can't play regular children's games and to help them make new peer friends.

In 2006, FRCCF continued to organise and finance educational and socialisation activities carried out in the high school. Thus, around 140 children took part in various workshops focusing on music, chess, drama, glass painting, computing, book recordings and torball (a ball game developed for visually impaired people). The children acquired new knowledge and spent their spare time in a nice way with their friends and colleagues. Moreover, the torball

team had the chance to practice constantly and last year they won two international torball competitions.

As part of socialisation activities, FRCCF also planned meetings of the visually impaired children with peer students from other Cluj high schools. They made new friends, and all the participants discovered they had the same problems and joys, even if they were learning in different schools. In order to strengthen these new friendships and to start new ones, FRCCF took the children to theatre and symphonic concerts with other school children from the town.

Also in 2006, the Foundation awarded six of the best school students, encouraging them to keep up the good work. They were the ones who had participated in school Olympiads, and although they didn't manage to come home with the highest prizes, their efforts and results were highly appreciated.

For the Children's Rights Day, FRCCF organised for them a contest on the topic of the day: the youngest children chose one of their rights and drew it, whereas the older children talked about it in an essay.

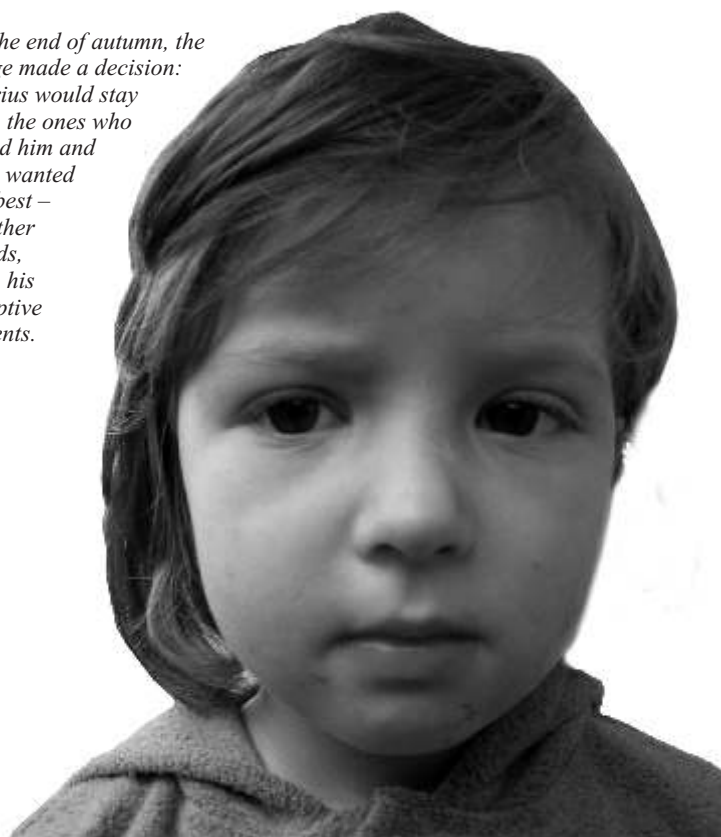
Interested in the students' health, FRCCF provided last year a part of the medication they badly needed. Extremely necessary eye drops and cold medicines were bought.

Saved once more! Marius is legally blind and suffers from autism; he is in the forth grade now. He was abandoned at birth, and three years later he came to the High School for Visually Impaired Children from Cluj. A few years ago, with the help of the FRCCF social worker, Marius found a family, all his.

The adoptive parents took good care of him and got really close to the boy. In 2006, Marius' biological family sued his adoptive family because they wanted the boy back. However, they lacked resources to take care of him and wanted to get him out of school because they didn't see it as necessary and didn't believe in Marius' future.

The social worker got involved in this case again to make sure that the boy didn't drop out of school and that he would stay with his loving adoptive parents who wanted a normal life for him. The social worker counselled the family and turned to the Cluj County General Department for Social Care and Child Protection.

By the end of autumn, the judge made a decision: Marius would stay with the ones who loved him and who wanted his best – in other words, with his adoptive parents.



Oradea Community Centre

Last year, dozens of children came to Oradea community centre, while the social workers from Oradea office supported almost 400 low income families with children enrolled in FRCCF programmes. Now, the children have better school grades, they have gained self-confidence, they know their rights and they are more communicative and creative. Their parents successfully overcame many crisis situations as they always had someone there to turn to for advice and help.

Oradea Community Centre opened in 2002. Since then, approximately 50 children have been coming here every day to study, to get professional help from a psychologist or an educational psychologist, to play or just to be in a place where they feel safe, happy and loved.

In 2006, each month, over 40 primary school children got regular homework or holiday assignment support and about the same number of secondary school children benefited from Mathematics and Romanian tutoring. Moreover, whenever necessary, they received help from the educational psychologist who taught them how to learn and motivated them for school. On the other hand, the educational psychologist also helped those with major speech problems and those who couldn't keep up with the other children as far as homework was concerned. The results were soon noticeable. The children started to get better school grades and go to school more self-assured.

The greatest outcomes were achieved within the project *Prevention of School Abandonment through Community Centres*, financed by the European Union as part of the 2003 Phare programme – Strengthening Romanian Civil Society, Social ACCESS Component, which set off at the end of 2005 and ended in the autumn of 2006. 34 of 40 children, enrolled in the programme because they had examination resits or they were at risk of grade retention, passed the grade. In addition, all the 8th form graduates managed to continue their studies and over half of the children were more motivated for school. The teachers said that the children started to participate more in class, they

were more interested in what they were taught and they were skipping school less. A great part of the students' parents became more interested in their child's education: they helped them with their homework or supervised them and went to parent-teacher meetings.

The project *We Make It at School with FORNETTI* (October 2005 – March 2006) made sure that ten children with special learning difficulties became more self-assured and got

better grades. Moreover, these children missed school less and acquired proper learning methods.

Also in 2006, around 50 fifth-eighth graders were counselled at the community centre for selecting in advance their high school, according to their wish and skills, or the trade suiting them best. The children had the chance to get a closer look at some professions. They visited a publishing house, a newspaper office, a court of justice, a library and lots of plants. In addition, during the whole summer, 25 preschool children who had never been at kindergarten worked closely with FRCCF professionals so that they should be as prepared for school as their future mates.

The children continue to come to Oradea community centre also because here they can play freely. To channel their energy in a useful manner, they were involved in different spare time activities developing their imagination, giving them new information and allowing them to have fun. Sport games and activities were the greatest joy of children who participated in great numbers, mostly during summer holiday, when only few of them had the chance to leave town. Then, every month, around 50 children took part in creative workshops where they drew and painted, including glass and rock painting, they learnt to make small craftsmanship items and made thank you cards for the beloved ones. Others wanted to spend their spare time learning English, how to use a computer, listening closely to their rights or to what they needed to do to stay healthy. An average of 55 children took part in these activities each month.

To get children interested in art, some of them were enrolled in the project *Together for Community through Art*, financed by a "People for Community" Foundation programme supported by payroll giving of Coca Cola Romania employees from the region of North-West. The 7-month project started in the autumn of 2006. In the first stage, 20 children learnt different painting and craftsmanship techniques, and right before Christmas they had their first exhibition, at the community centre. During the first months, the children took part in several architecture lessons: they visited important buildings from Oradea and learnt basic characteristics of architectural styles from the town.

During summer holiday, FRCCF planned for children trips outside their town or in places where they have few chances of going with their families. So, over 100 children went on trips to the Bears' Cave and pretty much the same number of children went to Rieni to visit a soft drink plant. Then, around 70 other children went on a picnic and visited the Zoo.

Because most children come from families with huge problems (lack of money, frequent quarrels, and alcoholism) and because they hardly ever get attention and proper advice at home, the children often need to talk to someone who can understand and help them. FRCCF wants to give them the best of aid and has the centre psychologist always at the children's disposal.

In 2006, a group was set up for emotionally and sometimes physically abused children which had 10 participants. For six months, they were helped to pass over difficult times that they often had to live and they were taught how to emotionally defend themselves from the bad words addressed to them. This group was organised in partnership with Artemis. Twelve other children were counselled within a group targeting children with alcoholic parents. Here, they found out everything they had to know about alcohol and its bad consequences and they were advised as to the kind of behaviour and relationship to be adopted with alcoholic parents. Psychological interventions were carried out in the case of 15 child victims of domestic violence thanks to the subsidies granted by the Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family based on Law 34/1998 allocating subsidies to Romanian associations and foundations with legal personality which set up and run social care units.



Special attention was paid to teenagers, who developed their own club where they talked about age specific issues and joys. 60 children benefited from individual psychological counselling for anxiety, living environment-related behaviour disorders, conflicts with parents, serious abuse effects; they received all the emotional support and professional aid they needed.

FRCCF does never forget about the families of the FRCCF-assisted children that we all want happier. Almost 400 families from the Oradea project got financial support in crisis situations as almost 650 emergency aids were granted. Thus, the families could pay their utility bills, buy food and clothes for children. To cut down family expenses, FRCCF gave school supplies to over 40 children at the beginning of the school year. 21 people were assisted in finding a job and bring a regular income to their family, and 4 families were included in the Habitat for Humanity renovation programme which improved their living conditions. The legal adviser counselled and helped almost 50 people in cases of divorce, child custody, social housing, conflicts at work and others. Ten parents participated in child abuse prevention classes. They learnt how to raise their children without using violence or bad language and to efficiently settle parent-child conflicts. Moreover, the FRCCF psychologist held individual sessions for 40 adults in matters concerning mainly child education, family quarrels and depression.

The Foundation organised a couple of special events for children throughout the year to make them feel more loved and important to their community.

For June 1st – The International Children's Day – FRCCF and local partners, like the Town Hall of Oradea, organised a series of games, contests, a raffle and concerts in the "Nicolae Bălcescu" Park, all under the name of *Children's Day*. This was the third edition of the event. All day long, over 1,000 children came to the park and they received toys and sweets.

At the community centre, birthday parties were thrown for children, while for Christmas they had a special show and they got gifts from Santa Claus. For the Children's Rights Day (20th of November), the children could participate in an essay writing contest on that topic, and the most creative of them got toys for prizes.

Florin is now in the first grade and lives with his mother, in a house provided by an extremely generous family. The two of them have something to live on now and they are happy together.

At the beginning of the summer of 2006, Florin's father passed away, leaving the family without an income. At that moment, they were living in a rented place without water or electricity. The mother was left alone with her 7-year-old son. Moreover, the husband's relatives didn't want to hear about them and even tried to stop them from getting the widows' and orphans' pension and the one-parent family benefit they were entitled to. The mother and child didn't have money, the landlord of the rented house asked them to move out, and Florin had to be enrolled in school.

The FRCCF social worker and legal adviser got involved in this case. Together, they managed to get the one-parent family benefit and a job for the mother at a shoe manufacturer. They also found a decent house for them: a family from the area where they used to live heard they were having troubles and invited them to live for free in their yard house which they were barely ever using. As autumn was getting close and Florin already was of school age, the social worker signed him up for the first grade.

Now, the two of them are doing very well. Florin loves school, mainly to write and draw. His mother works at the same shoe manufacturer and every now and then she gets help from her neighbours.

To write the sociological study regarding the beneficiaries' profile and the foundation's impact on them, at the end of 2006, 314 families were interviewed in Oradea, which means 1,640 individuals, and 102 children from the community centre answered to our questions.

The family profile

The families assisted by FRCCF have around 5 members, and half of them (44.6%) have 3 or more children and in each room of the house there are around 3.4 people. 50.8% are Romanian, 26.7% are Hungarian, 10% are Roma and 11.5% are of mixed ethnicity.

The educational level of the people that were helped by the foundation is low. The mothers have an average of 9.5 school years, while the fathers have 10 school years. The children have pretty low grades at school, approximately 6% of them did not pass at least a subject or did not promote a school year.

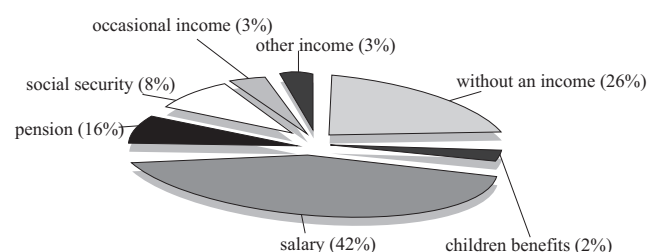
The families' **income** is poor. The mothers earn an average of 320RON, while the fathers earn monthly an average of 389RON. More than a quarter of women has no income and only 49% of the male population has a constant salary. For some families, the only income consists on children benefits.

The families' health is poor. 28% of the interviewed subjects told us that they had health problems: 43% of the mothers, 42% of the fathers and 19% of the children.

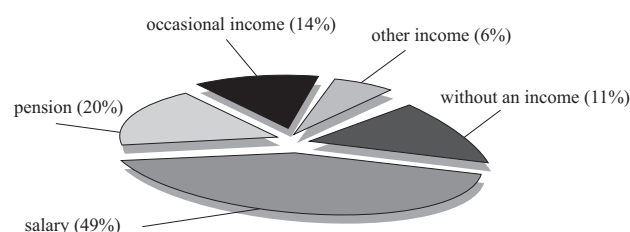
The people assisted by FRCCF usually do not have the **basic utilities and goods**. For example 84% do not have a kitchen, 46% do not have a bathroom, and 21% do not have water supply. Then 41% of the families do not have a laundry machine in the house and 25% do not even have a refrigerator.

Goods	The percentage of the families who do NOT have
TV	21.4
Radio	50.8
Laundry machine	41.2
Refrigerator	25.2
Telephone	24.9
Computer	71.2
Car	93.6
Heat	99.4

Income sources for mothers



Income sources for fathers



Utilities The percentage of the families who do NOT have

Bathroom	46
Kitchen	84
Electricity	2.3
Gas	10
Water supply	20.9

FRCCF's impact on the families and their children

In 2006 the families in the study declared that they got in contact with the social workers, 63% being helped by them. Also, 57% received financial help to buy food, and 31% requested help from the community centre.

The services offered by FRCCF and considered very important by the families were: the social care providing financial help during crisis time and the assistance received by the children at community centres.

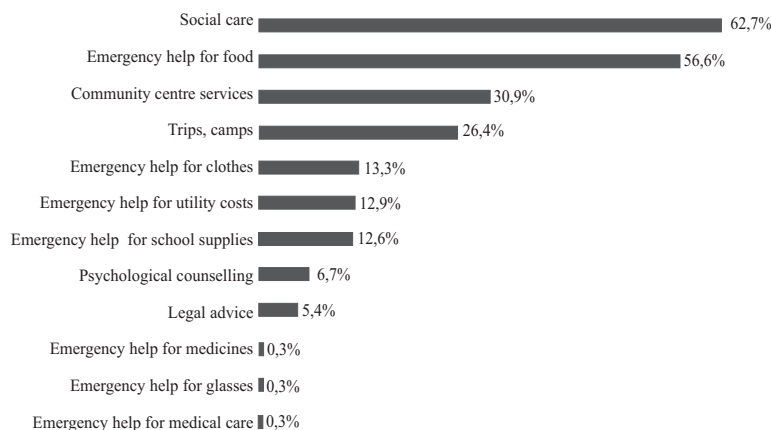
The most frequent answers at the question: "Which is the most important thing received from FRCCF in 2006?"

Number of families answering to the question:

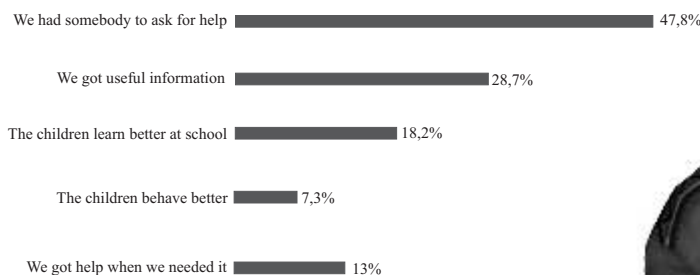
Emergency help	189
Community centre services	46
Food	19

Related to the services' impact on the families, 48% consider that the biggest change was and is the fact that they can ask for help if they need anything, and approximately a third of them appreciated the useful information received. Other interviewed individuals (18%) considered that the biggest change happened to their children, because they learn better.

Services provided to the families



What has changed in your life since you are assisted by FRCCF?



Approximately one third of 102 children, which were interviewed in the sociological study, consider that the most important thing learnt while they were part of the community centre is how they should behave with people around them, to be on time, not to use profanity, how to avoid fights. Then they said that they learnt to behave better and to be good, they were happy with their knowledge achieved during leisure and school activities.

The most frequent answers given by the children at the question : "Which is the most important thing learnt at the centre?"

Number of children:

To behave better	32
To be good, and more generous	12
The knowledge achieved during free time activities (dance, arts etc.)	11
I enriched my knowledge (writing, reading, math, Romanian etc.)	11
The importance of school	10

At the question "What has changed in your life since you started to attend the community centre?", more than a third said that their school results are better and the same number of children is happy because they have more friends.

The most frequent answers to the question: "What has changed in your life since you started to attend the community centre?"

Number of children

I have better grades at school, more knowledge	26
I made new friends	26

From the social workers' point of view (who were asked to identify the improvement of the people included in the study), 43% of the children interact better with people around them and 35% have better school results.

The most frequent achievements identified by the social workers at the interviewed children

Number of children:

They interact better with people/they have new friends	44
They have more knowledge/ better school results	36
They are more sociable	28
They are more interested in their education,	
They are hard workers	27



“Prietenia” Community Centre from Popești

In Popești, the county of Bihor, there is a placement centre for orphans and abandoned children. In 2003, FRCCF opened a community centre there, very close to the institution, meant to help out these children rejected by their family and marginalised by the society. “Prietenia” [Friendship] Centre planned socialisation activities for placement centre children and children from the community likewise in order to rule out all discriminatory labelling of institutionalised children and their isolation from the society. In 2006, almost 240 children, about half of them from the placement centre and the rest from the village, played and discovered lots of new things...together.

Each month, the children took part in numerous workshops where they developed their skills and made new friends. As it often happens, the most successful activity was the game-oriented one, attractive and educational at the same time. An average of 40 children enjoyed this activity. Others preferred to listen to music or to find out more about the environment and how to stay healthy; approximately 60 children attended these programmes. The drama club and the workshop of Bistrita Valley dance and customs brought together over 40 children every time, whereas the creative and handiwork courses had over 30 participants.

The children's contribution to these workshops was highly appreciated and prize rewarded. Fifty of them who planned a show and a poem contest for the birthday of the poet Mihai Eminescu were awarded books. At the end of March, over 50 children went to a contest for youngsters called *Bihor Lands*, and more than half of them came back winners. In June, two very talented children participated in the *Nicolae Tonitza* International Plastic Arts Contest, and the work of one of them was awarded with a diploma. At the end of the year, another group of children signed up for a Christmas drawing and painting contest organized by Arcadia Theatre. The best of them came in second and some others got diplomas. The work of about 70 children from “Prietenia” Centre was awarded at a Bistrita Valley customs and traditions show, organised in December.

To help children make friends and feel valued, FRCCF planned birthday parties for all those who came to the community centre. *Happy birthday!* was sang to the birthday children and, besides all the gifts they got, they felt they were part of a *family* and that they were loved.

FRCCF supported placement centre children, but also those from the community to get better grades and stay in school. Every month, almost 60 children with poor school results got homework help, and tutoring for Romanian, Mathematics, Geography and English. All the 8th graders were counselled as to choosing properly the high school where they wanted to continue their studies and the trade they wanted to practice in the future. To be able to get on in life, especially after they leave child care, the children attended an independent life training group held at the same “Prietenia” community centre. An average of 35 children were counselled in this respect each month.

The Foundation provided school supplies for children and tackled a number of health-related problems – 9 children with sight problems were taken to the ophthalmologist and glasses were made for them. Besides all these, FRCCF organized several special events for them, Children's Day and Christmas being just some of the most important ones. For June 1st, 250 children took part in games and contests designed just for them, which ended up in a real picnic. For Christmas, over 85 children enjoyed the Christmas Tree Day; Santa Claus gave presents to the participants, but also to the other children from the community and from the placement centre. For a few summer days, 30 school children went on a camp to the Black Forest: the Foundation wanted them see new places and make new friends out of their village and the institution that they would seldom leave. Also in June, 11 volunteers from Wales, whom FRCCF directed to Popești, organised for these children open air games, debates on world cultures, and, on the last night of their stay, they staged a show of Romanian and Welsh customs and dances.

Rareș is in the 8th grade and lives in the placement centre from Popești. He is one of the children without a family for whom friends and kind-hearted people are the only hope in life. He has been coming at the FRCCF community centre ever since it opened. Here is where he met most of his friends and he is happy that when he is with them he can always laugh and time simply flies. Rareș says that his most beautiful moments of this year were March 1st and Christmas. At “Prietenia” centre he made mărțișoare [March tokens] with his friends and gave them to their female teachers and to the ladies from the village that were alone in this world. In addition, for Christmas, the children kindly and cheerfully sang carols to these ladies and to other lonely people without a family from Popești. Rareș says that he will never forget the smiles and the look in their eyes and that he will do these little things whenever he has the chance so that they don't feel the loneliness he unfortunately knows so well.



Leş Rural Community Development Project

During its last year in Leş, a village located 15 km away from Oradea, FRCCF tried to support the children from the community to stay in school and find a suitable trade.

Leş project started in 1999 and aimed at helping all children from this community, where most inhabitants were jobless and lived only on child state benefits. 200 children from the villages of Leş, Păușa și Șauaieu were enrolled in the programme and enjoyed educational and socialisation activities carried out by FRCCF professionals.

In addition, the Foundation paid the commuting costs for primary school graduates from Păușa and Șauaieu, as well as for several high school students from the three villages helping them to continue their studies. It is worth mentioning that the only secondary school in the area is in Leş, and the closest high school or vocational school is in the town of Oradea.

In 2006, 40 youngsters from these villages received school and vocational guidance during several counselling sessions. They were helped choose the right high school for them, based on skills and school grades, and the profession to practise in the future, based on their needs and local labour market demand.

Moreover, FRCCF covered all travel costs of 25 young people from the three villages who attended high schools from Oradea and of 20 children from Păușa and Șauaieu so that they could go to the secondary school from Leş.

At the end of the school year, the Foundation handed prizes to the best students of these communities.

In the summer holiday, volunteers from Wales taught a number of teenagers from Leş what volunteer work and work for the community really meant. They painted the school fence and the swings, and they performed two short shows: the children staged a play in English, while the Welsh volunteers performed a traditional dance from their country.

For Christmas, FRCCF gave presents to all 200 children and season's shows were organised in the three schools.



Satu Mare Community Centre

Over 200 Satu Mare children from very low income families finished 2006 better prepared for school, more self-confident and, what is most important of all, in their families. They are the beneficiaries of the FRCCF Satu Mare community centre services. Besides them, over 300 families were helped overcome crisis situations that they were so familiar with, set off mainly by poverty and social exclusion.

As most of the time these children have no one at home to school guide them, they come to the community centre to get homework support and tutoring for the school matters they have problems with. Their parents are too busy to get money for the family's basic needs, they don't have enough knowledge to help them or, even worse, in some cases, they don't think that children's education is important. So, the little ones come to FRCCF to get the much needed help.

In 2006, each month, an average of 25 children received homework support. About the same number benefited from Romanian and Mathematics tutoring, and 8 of them – who had great reading and writing problems – were guided to literacy classes held at the community centre. Special attention was paid to children with speech and articulation disorders. 31 of them were assisted by the educational psychologist, who also worked with other 19 preschool children from partner kindergartens getting them ready for first school grade.

In order to be able to stay in school, to avoid examination resits and pass the grade, 40 pupils attending the community centre were enrolled in the project *Prevention of School Abandonment through Community Centres*, funded by the European Union.

The results of this project and of the overall centre work were noticeable at the end of the 2005-2006 school year. 38 of 40 children at risk of school abandonment passed the grade and managed to avoid examination resits and grade retentions. Moreover, half of the students had better grades, and the secondary school graduates passed the exit exams and are now at high school. In addition, many of the children missed school much less and were even more motivated to go to classes.

For the same purpose – to prevent school abandonment – other 11 children with special learning difficulties were helped improve their grades within the project *We Can Make It at School with FORNETTI*, implemented between October 2005-March 2006. They started to get better marks, to miss fewer classes, and increase their learning capacity.

Some of the children come to the centre because they need someone who can listen to them, to understand them and give them the best advice to get over difficult times, like physical and emotional abuse, family disagreements, quarrels with friends, school problems and others. In 2006, 70 children and teenagers were counselled by the FRCCF psychologist. Almost half of them were counselled for physical and emotional abuse.

We could help 15 abused children thanks to the subsidies granted by the Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family in line with Law 34/1998 allocating subsidies to Romanian associations and foundations with legal personality which set up and run social care units.

Other children were supported to correct behaviour disorders, learning difficulties, communication and relating to others issues. Most cases were solved, and the children responded well to the psychologist's interventions. For more serious abuse cases, FRCCF worked with ARTEMIS.

The children were also involved in psychological counselling groups to improve the way they engaged with

their families. Actually, these were attended by parents as well, and the work targeted both sides involved in conflicts or abuse. A total of 25 children and teenagers and 16 grown-ups were counselled. At the end of group work, the communication between them was better and the aggression and violence risk dropped significantly.

Besides these groups, we started personal development and support groups, too. Fifteen teenagers took part in a personal development group, which helped them perfect their behaviour at school and at the centre.

They finally started to respect internal rules and get less physically and verbally aggressive. Eleven others attended support groups for children with alcoholic parents. They acquired emotion management skills and learnt to communicate better with their alcoholic parents.

FRCCF informed and counselled children as to health issues. Thus, 31 children and teenagers participated twice a month in this kind of activities focused on the following topics: personal hygiene, sexual hygiene and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Teenagers were helped choose suitable high schools and trades and they were school and vocational guided based on their wish and competence. They had the chance to get a closer look at a series of professions like that of a manicurist and a pilot during *Career Day* in August.

The children who came at the community centre had the chance to spend their spare time doing leisure activities, which were also meant to develop their imagination and skills. A great number of them were interested in the creative workshop where, throughout the year, they drew, painted, made masks, cards, traditional tokens, collages and they had a lot of fun doing all that.

They also took part in sports competitions and fun games, while those who were dying to find out the secrets of gardening signed up for the *Little Gardeners* club which took care of the community centre yard and garden.

The aid granted to low income families from Satu Mare went beyond services addressing their children. FRCCF paid close attention to the parents too. They were advised by social workers and helped to overcome crisis situations thanks to FRCCF financial support.

Thus, 176 emergency aids were granted for gas and electricity bill payment, for buying wood for winter, foods, school supplies and clothes for the little ones. Whenever needed, the parents could turn to a legal adviser who aided them to get and keep a house and to settle a divorce.



The psychologist of the centre worked with the children's parents as well. 21 of them received individual counselling for refining the relationship with their child, for avoiding family conflicts or overcoming difficult times like a divorce. Eight adults took part in parenting class, teaching them negotiation with teenagers techniques and non-aggressive child raising methods. Ten parents showed interest in the information and advice shared during counselling for health sessions, and two others took part in literacy classes to tackle their significant reading and writing problems.

During the entire year, the FRCCF-assisted children participated in several special events, organised to make them feel important for their community and cared for. The Foundation wanted them to feel great on important moments like the Children's Day and Christmas.

For June 1st, the community centre yard was full of children – over 100. They took part in various fun activities, for instance face painting, crazy hairdos, and competitions like drawing on concrete or target throwing. They all received toys and sweets for prizes. For Halloween, the little ones had a carnival with the costumes made by themselves at the creative workshop. On November 20th, for the Children's Rights Day, around 30 children painted their rights on balloons which they later handed out to passers-by in the centre of the town. 60 children got presents from Santa Nicholas, and right before Christmas, they performed poems and Christmas carols during a show of 100 participants. They all received gifts from Santa Claus.

In the summer break, 40 children went on a trip to Valea Măriei, 28 to Băile Acâș, and almost 140 went out on a picnic and visited various tourist attractions from the county of Sălaj and the region of Oaș.

FRCCF wanted the little ones to learn how to help other people in need. Consequently, in the spring of 2006, the children from the centre raised aids for flood victims from the South of the country. They managed to collect 10 boxes of clothes, 4 of footwear and 5 of toys. The donations were sent to the victims through an orthodox parish running regular transports in the area.

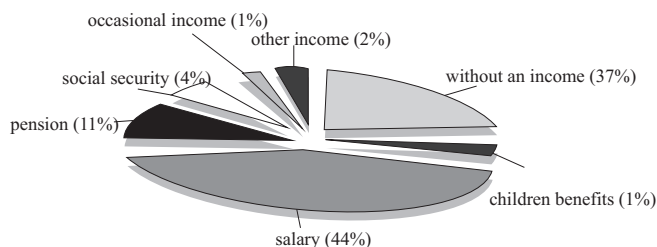
Raluca is now in the first grade. She likes school. She likes to study and play with her new friends during breaks. Just a few months ago, she had no friends and didn't talk to anyone else but her parents and grandparents.

Raluca lives in poverty, in a house with her mother, her father, her older sister and grandparents. The father is missing a lot from home as he works in constructions. The little girl was first brought to the centre by her mother who didn't know whom to turn to anymore: Raluca was not talking to anyone besides her family and she was distant even at home. Moreover, in just a few months she was supposed to start school. She started to attend the activities of the centre and to work with the psychologist and the educational psychologist. The practitioners of FRCCF noticed that the child's communication problems reflected the parents' problems. They would seldom talk or meet.

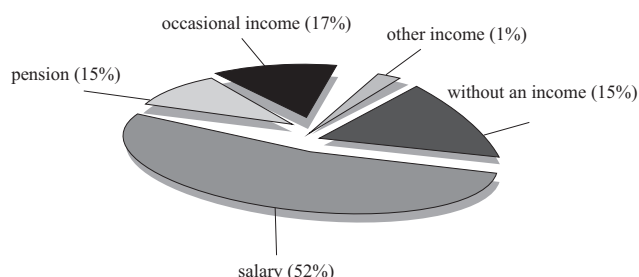
After three months of work, Raluca started to communicate nonverbally with people from the centre. She was using her smile and everything she would do to show that she was enjoying it there. Then, she started to talk with the psychologist and the educational therapist whom she was already trusting. She opened up slowly and started to communicate with the children from the centre too. She made new friends, and she had no problem communicating at school.

At the end of the year 2006 FRCCF gathered information about its beneficiaries' profile and the impact of its work on them. For this sociological study in Satu Mare, 226 families were interviewed, which means approximately 1,000 individuals, and 95 community centre children answered to our questions.

Income sources for mothers



Income sources for fathers



The family profile

At Satu Mare, the assisted families by FRCCF have an average of 4.7 members, a third (33%) of them have 3 or more children and an average of 3 people share a room. 44.4% are Romanian, 45.8% are Hungarian, and 9.8% are Roma.

The educational level of the individuals helped by the foundation is low. The mothers and also the fathers have an average of 9 school years. The children have bad school results, and 4% of them did not pass at least one subject or did not promote a school year. Their school failure can be explained also by the fact that they do not have a space in the house designed for learning; 62% mentioned this matter. Also 28% of the children said that their parents do not take care of them properly, and 19% of them said that they do not feel well at home.

The families assisted by FRCCF have a low **income**. The mothers earn an average of 327 RON, while the fathers earn monthly an average of 330 RON. More than a third of the mothers do not have an income at all and only 52% of the fathers have a constant salary. The children benefits is the only income for some families.

The health status of the beneficiaries is poor in some cases. 14% of the interviewed individuals said that they had health problems: 20% of the mothers, 22% of the fathers and 8% of the children. Also 10% of the female population and 11.5% of the male population was hospitalised during the year 2006.

Most of the time the individuals helped by FRCCF lack the **basic utilities and goods**. For instance, 40% of the families do not have water supply in the house, 33% do not have gas, and 35% do not have a bathroom. Then, 62% of the families do not have a laundry machine at home, and 34% do not have a refrigerator either.

<i>Goods</i>	<i>The percentage of the families who do NOT have</i>
TV	15.1
Radio	92
Laundry machine	62.2
Refrigerator	33.8
Telephone	87.1
Computer	99.6
Car	100
Heat	99.6

<i>Utilities</i>	<i>The percentage of the families who do NOT have</i>
Bathroom	35.1
Kitchen	17.3
Electricity	13.3
Gas	32.6
Water supply	39.6

FRCCF's impact on the families and their children

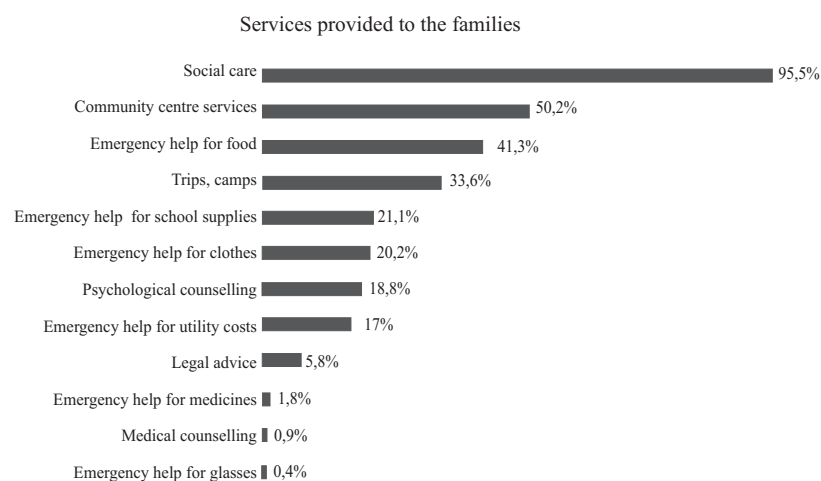
In 2006, 95.5% of the families interviewed declared that they accessed more often the social care service. Half of them asked for help at the community centre, and 41% received financial help to buy food.

The FRCCF services considered by the families as being the most important for them were: the services received at the community centre and social care provided as financial help given during crisis situations.

The most frequent answers given to the question "Which is the most important thing received from FRCCF in 2006?"

Number of families answering to the question:

Emergency help	34
Community centre services	59
Psychological counselling	19
Food	17



Related to the FRCCF's services impact on the family, 88% consider that the biggest change was and is the fact that they can call somebody if they need help, and 60% of them appreciated the useful information received. Other people that answered to the question (30%) considered that the biggest change occurred in their children's life, because they study more. Approximately a third of 95 children who were interviewed in this sociological study believe that the most important thing learnt since they started to attend the community centre is that they now know how to interact with people. Then, they said that they learnt how important their education was, how to do their homework alone, to be good and they were happy that they acquired more knowledge.

The most frequent answers given by children at the question "Which is the most important thing you learnt at the community centre?"

Number of children:

To behave better	23
The importance of school	15
To be good and to do better	8
How to do my homework alone and how to study by myself	8
I improved my knowledge (writing, reading, math, Romanian etc.)	8

At the question "What has changed in your life since you started to attend the community centre?", more than a third said that they had new friends, and others that they had better school results.

The most frequent answers to the question "What has changed in your life since you started to come to the community centre?"

Number of children

I made new friends	37
I have better school results, more knowledge	10

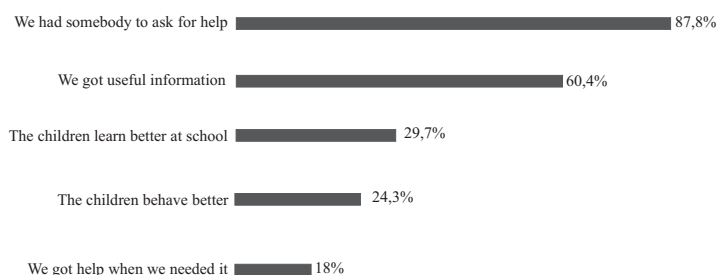
From the social workers' point of view (who were asked to identify the improvement of the individuals included in the study), 43% of the children have better school results and 32% are more communicative.

The most frequent improvement that was identified by the social workers at the interviewed children

Number of children

They improved their knowledge/ school results	41
They are more communicative	30
They are more active and attentive	24
They are more sociable	20

What has changed in your life since you are assisted by FRCCF?



Child Care Institution-Based Programmes

In the autumn of 2006, FRCCF closed down two other institutional projects in line with the child care institution gradual withdrawal strategy concerning institutions like placement centres and schools for children with special needs. Consequently, at the end of September, in the county of Satu Mare, the Foundation ended its partnership with the Halmeu placement centre, and at the end of October it closed down the project addressing children from the Special School and Placement Centre for Children with Special Needs. The FRCCF's work carried out in these institutions focused on coaching children to best integrate into the society when they would leave child care and enforcing their family connections, where possible.

Halmeu Placement Centre

In 2006, FRCCF was there for almost 100 children living in the Halmeu Placement Centre, and assisted them in developing individual skills which could help them gain social and financial independence after they leave child care.

The children took part in several workshops and learned different trades as well as precious information needed to integrate into the society. Thus, 23 youngsters acquired basic knowledge of carpentry, and 18 of pastry making. Moreover, 35 children attended the handiwork club, teaching them how to make different items, like clothes, and other 25 children signed up for the computing class. In addition, 19 of them, with musical talent, were actively involved in music training.

To let them be more independent and to teach them personal money management, all the placement centre children were granted a monthly small sum of money, in other words pocket money that each of them spent as he/she pleased. Moreover, small birthday parties were thrown to make the children feel valued and loved. Surprises went on with an Easter dinner and Christmas presents. To enforce family connections, where possible, FRCCF helped children meet with their closest relatives during holidays or siblings from similar institutions. During holidays, they also got the chance to undertake short outings and trips.

The Special School and Placement Centre for Children with Special Needs

In 2006, the activities that FRCCF organised in the two institutions for over 250 children were mainly centred on socialisation, so that they could make new friends, see new places and learn practical things to help them in the future. We have to mention that 50 children approximately are deaf, while the others have mental deficiencies and they are often marginalised.

Last year, 80 children attended drawing classes and 20 more, glass painting classes. This developed their artistic skills and it was a nice way to spend their spare time. In addition, almost 100 more children learnt to make most useful items and clothes at the handiwork and tailoring courses.

Each month, small birthday parties were thrown for children. They received presents and had a great time with their colleagues and friends who sang *Happy Birthday!* to them. During holidays, whenever possible, the Foundation helped children see their families and siblings from other institutions. FRCCF organised a few trips for children so that they didn't feel lonely and abandoned and could get out of the town they barely ever left. Thus, 43 of them visited the city of Cluj, 85 went to Zalău and Jibou, and other 40 to Baia Mare, Sighetu Marmației and Săpânța.

All children received pocket money to help them gain some independence and give them the chance to manage personal finances. Then, for Easter, the placement centre children had a very special dinner, courtesy of the Foundation.



Domănești Rural Community Development Project

The people from Domănești may be taken as role models anytime and anywhere for how they get together to solve shared problems, for their good management initiatives and efforts they make to become a highly organised and flourishing community. The work of the Foundation here has only enhanced community spirit and helped locals clearly identify their problems, find the best solutions and organise their work the best way possible. FRCCF granted funding for most of the projects they started.

Thanks to their joint efforts made in 2006, the locals can now be proud of how their school looks like, with a new fence and football ground lockers, as well as of the newly renovated cultural house kitchen. In all these projects, FRCCF granted most of the funds needed for the repairs, while the rest was covered by the town hall. But, their initiatives don't stop here: the locals would like to buy an excavator, which, with the help of the Crasna Domănești Community Association, could generate incomes to the community to be invested mainly in child education. The machine will actually be first used to fix the village sewer system. The Foundation supported the initiative and helped the villagers draw up a business plan and get financing so that this idea could become reality in 2007.

FRCCF helped in other ways as well. Also in 2006, the Foundation held computing classes for 40 children. Besides, the children could sign up for folk dance and customs workshops, drama club and handiwork course. Thanks to these, on one hand, the children got in touch with the latest developments of our society, learning to use a computer, and on the other hand, they learnt to preserve the traditions in which they grew up. They were also encouraged to develop their artistic skills and wisely use their spare time. To demonstrate what they had learnt at the arts clubs, the children, supported by the Foundation, performed shows for Easter, Children's Day and Christmas and took part in different competitions, like the Youth Folklore Festival from Beiuș in April.

Throughout the summer, FRCCF arranged trips for some of the Domănești community members, that children considered special holiday moments, whereas the older ones great opportunities to socialise. Thus, 90 children went to Șuncuiuș, and other 40 children and elderly visited Sighetu-Marmăției.

In order to encourage children to study and to help their families, at the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year, the Foundation delivered school supplies to almost 170 children. Moreover, at the end of the school year, over 100 children, the best in their school, received books from the Foundation with a "Keep up the good work!" message. For Christmas, almost all children from the community got presents from FRCCF.

The Foundation jumped to help special cases as well, like serious health problems affecting several children.

Ana is more and more certain that her dream to dance with her friends at the folk dance and customs workshop will soon come true.

The 9-year-old girl, who is now impatiently waiting to get better and get out of bed, was born with a serious left leg malformation which made her move with a lot of difficulty. Last year, physicians from Cluj, after thorough examinations, finally gave the girl the hope that she could walk like a normal person. Ana has undertaken surgery, and she could be on stage at the next show of the folklore group, dancing next to her friends.

The representatives of the Foundation were the ones that contacted the doctors from Cluj and scheduled her for surgery. In addition, FRCCF covered all travel costs for Ana and her mother, and after-surgery care costs. Besides all these, the social worker stood by the family in sorrow and in joy.



Prevention of Child Trafficking and Migration Oaş

Since 2004, FRCCF has been working in the region of Oaş to prevent child trafficking and migration to Western Europe. In the last few years, a great number of Oaş children were found abroad alone, in harsh conditions – homeless, street begging or shoplifting and, even worse, prostituting themselves.

According to the database created by the FRCCF social workers, who collected data from the Oaş communities where FRCCF worked, at the beginning of 2006, 230 underage children were abroad. Moreover, the social workers identified 317 more children at risk of migration due to the influence of close relatives that were already abroad, of home poverty or school problems.

Increased migration or trafficking risks made FRCCF decide to continue its work in the region of Oaş in 2006 and look for funds for the projects implemented there.

The main directions of the FRCCF work were: information and prevention campaign, set up a community centre, grant scholarships and training to youngsters. All these were run in 4 locations from the county of Satu Mare: Călineşti Oaş, Gherţa Mică, Bixad and Târşolţ, identified with the highest risk of child migration.

Throughout the entire year, FRCCF representatives informed and counselled almost 330 children from this region on the dangers they could face if they chose to go abroad alone. The children were secondary school students of schools from the above-mentioned locations. Relevant information was shared with their teachers as well so that they could be aware of migration and trafficking dangers and help prevent them during class meetings and one-to-one talks with the children.

The campaign was part of a project funded by Comité Catholique contre la Faim et pour le Développement aiming at reducing the number of children who migrate abroad alone and of children who drop out of school right after secondary school. Moreover, thanks to this project, 5 high school students from Călineşti Oaş, Bixad and Târşolţ receive scholarships for the 2006-2007 school year to stay in school and not have to work abroad.

This type of scholarships was also allocated through a project funded by the French Fondation d'Auteil benefiting 12 high school students from the four locations during the previous school year. The same foundation supported, through FRCCF, five youngsters from Târşolţ to start bricklaying training. This meant helping them find easier a better paid job in the country so that, unlike their relatives, they wouldn't migrate.



Radu's older brothers are abroad, living from one day to another because they haven't found a job, whereas Radu is now a student at the university from Timişoara. He is one of the high school students who received a scholarship, via FRCCF, to stay in school and not to go to work in the Western Europe. Radu was in the 12th grade when the Foundation decided to grant him financial support. He comes from one of the villages where FRCCF works. His parents were gone, and during school time, Radu was staying at an older sister's in a village very close to the town of Satu Mare, in appalling conditions. He would commute to school daily, but this didn't stop him from being the best in his class and come in third at the National Multidisciplinary Technical Olympiad. Nevertheless, the family pressured him more and more to earn money, especially when his younger brother left school to hold one-day jobs in the village. FRCCF helped Radu out with the financial support he needed to finish 12th grade. He passed the A levels and reached his dream: he became a student at the University of Food Technology from Timişoara, where he holds a social scholarship.

“Licuricii” Community Centre from Gherţa Mică

The official data collected when the community centre was set up here indicated that 220 children from Gherţa Mică had at least one of their parents working abroad, and 61 had both their parents abroad. Moreover, of the approximately 3,000 inhabitants, around 70% of the working population were actually holding jobs abroad. Among them, there were 89 children as well, mostly aged between 15 and 16 years old.

In the spring of 2006, the Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family, in partnership with the Town Hall of Gherţa Mică, started the project *Setting Up a Community Centre*. The purpose of *Licuricii* [Fireflies] Community Centre is to help out families with one or several members working abroad, to improve the school results of children and help them integrate into the society as almost 300 of them are taken care of by one parent, a remote relative or a stranger.

The Centre addresses these children because the adults they are entrusted with cannot provide them the aid and education they need. In addition, help is granted to other children from the same community who are neglected by their parents and don't get homework supervision or don't get encouraged and supported to go to school.

The Centre, inaugurated in mid-November, brings homework support to children, counselling related to child-parent relationship issues, support in reintegrating repatriated youngsters in school and society, artistic work and sports. For starters, 39 children were enrolled in the programme and, by the end of the year, they benefited from all these services.

Moreover, they also took part in and organised special events. They planned a drawing exhibition for the Children's Rights Day and a Christmas show. They released the first issue of the *Big Break* – the magazine of the Centre, too.

The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs allocated 10,000 EUR to the Gherţa Mică Community Centre project. This was supplemented with the FRCCF contribution of 6,500 EUR, that of the Town Hall of Gherţa Mică (5,200 EUR) and of the French organisation *Hors la Rue* (4,700 EUR). The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs financing was granted within the PROCHILD programme – the Departmental Initiative Support Fund Component. The programme is managed for Romania by the Federation of Child Care NGO's (FONPC) and for France by Solidarité Laïque.



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Dana Gânscă, medical doctor
Dan Briciu, manager MISR Romanian Bank



In 2006, the Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family helped more than 14,000 people from Transylvania.

All the support was granted through community centres, rural community development programme, child care institution-based programme and child migration and trafficking prevention project, implemented in:

- Two community centres from Cluj-Napoca;
- The High School for Visually Impaired Children from Cluj-Napoca;
- The community centre from Dej;
- The community centre from Cîmpia Turzii;
- Măguri-Răcătau;
- The community centre from Oradea;
- Leş;
- The community centre from Popeşti;
- The community centre from Satu Mare;
- The Special School and Placement Centre for Children with Special Needs from Satu Mare;
- The Halmeu Placement Centre;
- The community centre from Gherţa Mică;
- Călineşti Oaş, Bixad and Târşolţ.

87 FRCCF employees and 90 volunteers were always there for these people in need.

All the help FRCCF granted to children, families and communities in 2006 was of 2,261,339.56 RON. The funds came mainly from British sponsors via EveryChild, our main partner; from grants; from sponsorship from Romanian individuals and legal entities; subsidies from the Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family and a few town halls; and from VAT reclaim. Individual donors also supported us by directing 1% and 2% of their income tax owed to the State. In 2006, the last amounts of the 1% tax donation campaign carried out in 2005 were transferred to us – 7,453.74 RON.

By the end of the year, the tax administration offices managed to transfer us also a part of the 2% tax donations raised in 2006, more precisely 14,506.90 RON. Thus, last year FRCCF got a total of 17,408.26 RON from tax donations. These funds will be used to cover the costs of daily food, homework support and psychological/medical/legal counselling for the children attending community centres.

See the graphic and table below on project expense distribution and income sources.

2006 Income Distribution on Funding Sources

Income source	RON
Grants	441,889.25 (17.55%)
Sponsorship from legal entities	269,014.45 (10.68%)
Donations from individuals	51,251.10 (2.04%)
1% tax donations (transferred in 2006)	7,453.74 (0.30%)
2% tax donations (transferred in 2006)	14,506.90 (0.58%)
Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family	15,000.00 (0.60%)
Local authorities	7,969.65 (0.32%)
VAT reclaim	115,554.00 (4.59%)
FRCCF incomes	120,294.25 (4.78%)
EveryChild	1,475,196.22 (58.58%)
Total	2,518,129.56 (100%)

*The average exchange rate for 2006:

1 EUR-3.5258 RON

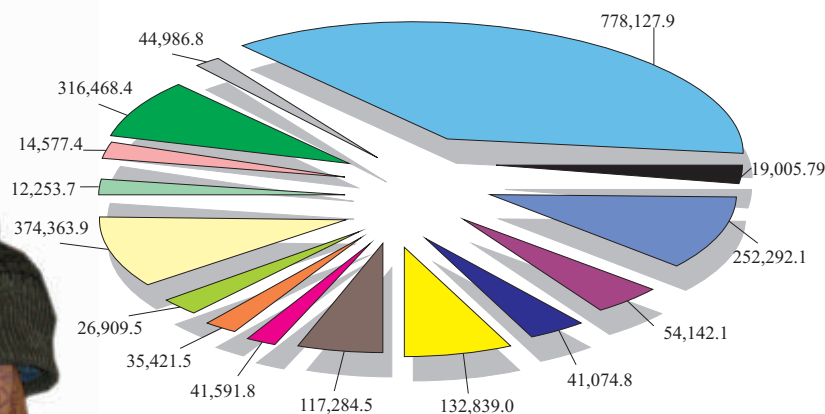
1 GBP-5.1706 RON

1 USD-2.8104 RON

FRCCF was also present in the project communities through special events organised for Children's Day and Christmas. Over 6,000 people took part in the most important FRCCF events.

Moreover, FRCCF got its message through to the communities, thanks to our media partners. In 2006, 173 newspaper articles talked about FRCCF; according to our monitoring, our projects were a topic for at least 53 radio pieces of news, interviews, coverage and shows and 13 TV piece of news, interviews, coverage and shows; the FRCCF special events were media covered by 308 radio and TV spot broadcasts.

- Cluj-Napoca Community Centres
- High School for Visually Impaired Children
- Cîmpia Turzii Community Centre
- Măguri-Răcătau
- Dej Community Centre
- Child Migration and Trafficking Prevention
- Closed Projects
- Other Expenses
- Popeşti Community Centre
- Leş
- Oradea Community Centre
- Halmeu Placement Centre
- Satu-Mare Special School
- Satu-Mare Community Centre
- Domăneşti



Project Funding Distribution in 2006 (RON)



“We have found a centre of civilisation here in Cluj, at FRCCF. I've joined these people out of social responsibility and of the wish to educate public opinion” (Dan Puric, 13th of December 2006, Cluj-Napoca).

In 2006, we were joined in our work and mission by people and companies from Romania and from abroad. Their generosity and kind gestures were so close to the vulnerable and marginalised children that FRCCF assists. They decided to help out and support the FRCCF mission because they felt they could relate to our principles and values and could trust our daily work with children, families and communities in need. Together we made thousands of people smile and thousands of families believe in a better future.

Each year, based on one-to-one sponsorship, thousands of British citizens take care of Romanian children through FRCCF and EveryChild. Starting last year, kind-hearted Romanians can do the same and look after the children of their community. They donate 60 RON each month to help a child in need. Thanks to them, these children get a daily meal at one of the community centres, they benefit from homework support and professional help from a psychologist, educational psychologist, general practitioner and a legal adviser.

Last year again, people from over 20 Romanian localities chose to direct 2% of the income tax paid to the State to the Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family. Their gesture translated in over 17,000 RON which will be used for covering food costs, bus tickets, homework support, medical and psychological counselling for the children attending our community centres.

Moreover, other people chose to donate directly into the FRCCF account or to one of our offices, while others preferred payroll giving. The Telezimex staff are an example to be taken in this respect. Each month, they donate a small amount of their salary, according to one's possibility, and the company doubles up the amount they raise. These funds are used to cover travel costs for children to come to and go from the centre home so that they can safely take part in the activities run here. Around Christmas, the employees of Orange raised money to buy presents to 50 children from our Dumbrava Roşie street community centre from Cluj. In addition, the Sales Consulting employees donated money for books for the “EveryChild” Community Centre library and for wallpaper to decorate one of the rooms.

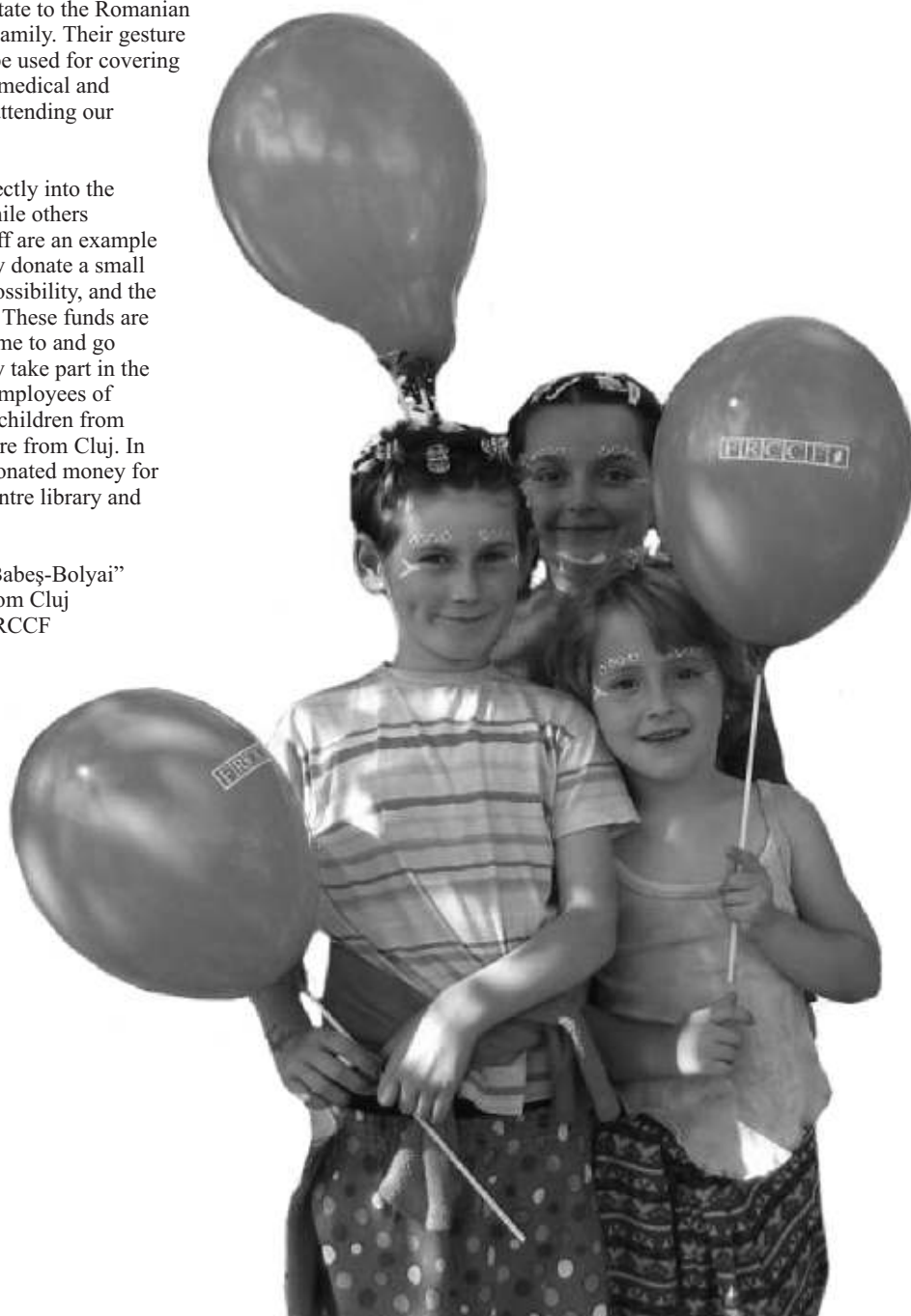
Hundreds of students and teachers of the “Babeş-Bolyai” University as well as other young people from Cluj decided to help needy children during an FRCCF fundraising campaign called *Together for Children*. Each of them bought a light blue wristband bearing the name of the campaign and thus supported the mission of the Foundation. In addition, by wearing these wristbands they sent out a message of social responsibility.

Ninety people decided to carry out volunteer work for the foundation last year. They were there for the children from community centres, helping them out with homework or playing with them. They also participated in FRCCF event organisation. They joined us because they felt like helping children directly and because they wanted to be part of a dynamic, determined and professional team.

Romanian companies also related to our mission and proved once more that they took interest in the communities in which they worked and that they believed in corporate social responsibility. They contributed with money and in-kind.

Play Therapy. Joonior Park, Children's Day, Children's Christmas and Dan Puric's *Dream* show could take place thanks to generous sponsors like Terapia Ranbaxy, Cora Cluj-Napoca, BRD Groupe Soci t  G n rale, Zah rul Diamant Oradea. We received in-kind donations from Ozone Laboratoires, which offered extremely needed medication to children and their families; from Peak Toys, whose toys brought a smile on children's face; Danone, which donated dairy product and thus contributed to children's daily meal; and EBS, which provided computers to several children. When Christmas was getting close, Medsan decided to buy winter footwear for 20 children.

Provident Financial and iQuest Technologies chose to send FRCCF Christmas cards drawn by supported children, while Grup de Lux used 12 drawings made by FRCCF community centre children for their 2007 calendar.



Companies may direct to children from needy families 20% of their tax on profit, up to 3 % of their turnover. Studio Impress Design is one of the companies that chose to support our mission this way. Moreover, companies may also help through community marketing. At the end of the school year, Magnolia flower shop donated 10% of the flower sales made by FRCCF volunteers in several Cluj schools as part of the campaign *Will They Go to School or Not?*.

FRCCF thanks all those that stood by our mission whom we mentioned or we forgot to mention in this brief overview. Your help meant a lot to each child, family or community.

You can also follow the example of these generous people and bring a smile on the face of FRCCF-assisted children.

If you are an individual, this is how you can help:

- direct 2% of the income tax owed to the State, by simply filling in the 230 Statement or section III.2 of 200 Statement, where you just have to write Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family, tax code – 9898291, bank account – RO32BUCU644091102511RO09;
- donate any amount directly into the FRCCF account or to one of our offices from Cluj-Napoca, Oradea and Satu Mare;

- provide constant help to a child from a low income family. A monthly donation of 60 RON will make sure he/she benefits from all our services;
- donate any amount of your salary and encourage your workmates to do the same and the employer to contact us in order to start a payroll giving programme;
- buy and wear a *Together for Children* wristband for only 4 RON and cover a part of the food costs of a child who comes at the community centres;
- become one of our volunteers. Use a bit of your spare time for the children who attend our community centres and help them do their homework, play or participate in annual FRCCF event organisation.

If you are a company decision-maker, you may support the FRCCF mission as follows:

- organize with us events for children and the community where your company works; you can sponsor our June 1st or Christmas events;
- direct 20% of your tax on profit, up to 3% of the company turnover, to FRCCF;
- donate products that you think could benefit children and their parents, like food, medicines, clothes, footwear, school supplies, etc.;
- start a payroll giving programme in your company and make your employees acknowledge the usefulness of such donations;
- send your partners Easter and Christmas cards drawn by FRCCF community centre children. Thus, you can prove once more to your community and your partners that your company is reliable and takes on corporate social responsibility;
- start with us community marketing campaigns that would make consumers more responsible and would build up your image.



Thank you!

01969 Army Unit, Cîmpia Turzii 16 Februarie Co. 24 FUN A. V. Voievod School Cluj-Napoca Acorada Adevărul de Cluj Newspaper Adveritas Agence Nationale de l'Accueil des Etrangers et des Migrations Aisberg Ltd. Albin Foundation Alexandru Roman School, Oradea Alpha Bank Cluj Alpha TV Andreniss Ltd. Anghel Saligny School, Cluj-Napoca Antena 1 Cluj Anzik Ltd. Apollo Club, Cîmpia Turzii ARC – The Association for Community Relations Art High School, Oradea Artemis - Women against Violence Association Augustin Maior School, Cluj-Napoca Avram Iancu School, Cîmpia Turzii Babeş-Bolyai University Banffy Castle – Charity Bazar Media Bechtel International Bihari Naplo Bihor County Employment Agency Bihor County School Department Bihoreanul Newspaper Bihorul Sports High School Brantner-Vereş S.A. BRD Groupe Société Générale Bucuroim, Cîmpia Turzii Café Lux Câmpian Bazar, Cîmpia Turzii Carbochim S.A. Caritas Greek-Catholic Association, Cluj Caritas, Satu Mare Cassa dei Diritti Sociali, Italy Celina Prod Center Medical Centre Centre for Volunteer Work Cluj Centre of Care and Reintegration for Unaccompanied Children or Victims of Trafficking, Satu Mare Centre of Drug Prevention, Evaluation and Counselling, Satu Mare County Children's House, Cluj-Napoca Choreography High School, Cluj-Napoca Cîmpia Turzii Hospital Cluj County Council Cluj County Prefect's Office Cluj County School Department Cluj County Water and Sewerage Department Cluj Maltese Rescue Cluj Radio Clujeanul Newspaper Coca-Cola HBC Romania Comité Catholique contre la Faim et pour le Développement, France Comoara Crediting Association, Popeşti Cora Cluj-Napoca Correct Media County Museum of Satu Mare County Public Health Department, Satu Mare Crasna-Domăneşti Community Association CREST – Resource Centre Crişana Newspaper Crişul Supermarket D'Auteuil Foundation, France Dacor Ltd. 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Ruhama Foundation Sales Consulting Sanpaolo Bank Satu Mare Business Register Office Satu Mare Chamber of Trade Satu Mare County Border Police Department Satu Mare County Council Satu Mare County Employment Agency Satu Mare County Police Department	Satu Mare County School Department Satu Mare County Veterinary and Animal Safety Department Satu Mare County Youth Department School of Călineşti-Oaş School of Gherța Mică School of Târşolț School of Trip SECS – The Society for Contraceptive and Sex Education Selgros Cash&Carry Oradea Service for Social Reintegration and Supervision of Offenders, Satu Mare Court Sigismund Toduță Music High School, Cluj-Napoca Simion Bărnuțiu School, Cluj-Napoca Smile Foundation Social Community Administration, Oradea Special School of Popeşti Sportmaster S.R.L. St. Joseph Social Canteen Stars Club STEA Association, Satu Mare Students' House, Cluj Studio Impress Design Szabadsag Szatmari Magyar Hirlap Telezimex S.A. Terapia Ranbaxy Terapia School Group, Cluj-Napoca Termoplast Terre des Hommes Foundation, Lausanne and Romania branches The Department of Public Property, Cluj-Napoca The Sociology and Social Work School, Cluj The students of Emil Racoviță National College, Cluj-Napoca Tigger Tim Tin Youth Centre Top Design Town Hall and Local Council of Bixad Town Hall and Local Council of Călineşti-Oaş Town Hall and Local Council of Cîmpia Turzii Town Hall and Local Council of Cluj-Napoca Town Hall and Local Council of Dej Town Hall and Local Council of Gherța Mică Town Hall and Local Council of Moftin Town Hall and Local Council of Negrești-Oaş Town Hall and Local Council of Oradea Town Hall and Local Council of Popeşti Town Hall and Local Council of Satu Mare Town Hall and Local Council of Târşolț Transfestilvania Association Transilvania General Import-Export Transilvania TV Transylvania Bank Transylvania Radio, Cluj Transylvania Radio, Oradea Treira Printing House, Oradea TVR Cluj TVS Oradea U-Mobitelco Sports Club, Cluj-Napoca UNICEF University of Oradea Vanimed Medical Centre Vereignite Aktion fur Rumanien Victor Ungureanu Technical College, Cîmpia Turzii Vocea Evangheliei Radio, Oradea Wajda & Wajda Ltd. 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