



Wishing Well

Registered charity No: 326529

Newsletter

Spring 2007

Issue 10

Funding Crisis

Recently Wishing Well sent out letters to our friends and supporters stating that we have a funding crisis and asked them to help. Several people have responded with new or increased standing order donations but the funding situation is still not fully resolved. The problem is that we have less money coming in each month than we need to fund our busy resource centre in Slatina. At the moment one of the charity Trustee's is plugging the funding gap but this support cannot be maintained for very much longer. Overall, our fundraising strategy has been successful. We have developed a small group of regular supporters and initiated several one off fundraising events enabling our income to grow from just £150 per year in 2000/2001 to just under £10,000, which we have raised in each of the three previous years. However, our centre in Romania is busier than ever and with a recent rise in costs (partly due to a higher minimum wage in Romania) and a fall in our standing order donations, we are heading for a financial crisis unless we can quickly rectify the problem. Any help with one off fund raising events or in finding new people to sign up for our standing order donation scheme would be gratefully appreciated at this point in time.

Another successful batch of Alava courses.....

We have just completed our second and final batch of adult education courses for the Alava community development programme.

Our community centre in Slatina was a local partner on the Alava programme (an international EU initiative) and we have had to run two cycles of adult education courses aimed at developing and capacity building the local community.

Each short course enabled up to 15 participants from the local area to study IT skills, Personal Development, Community Development and Project Management skills. The courses created a lot of interest with over 100 people participating on the programme. Many of the participants came from other charities working in the area, we were also joined by people working for the local council and Social Services departments. Hopefully, we will be

implementing some of the skills learned from delivering this programme in future projects. One such project that is sure to benefit will be the NGO's Intervention in School's initiative, which we will be writing about in our next newsletter.



Participants on one of the Alava courses

**Our website address has changed. It is now;
www.wishingwellcharity.org.uk**

Sad News

It was with great sadness that in the last week of March we learned of the death of one of the children that attend our centre. The young person (a 16 year old girl) was HIV positive and had been attending our centre since last summer. She joined us as part of a new group, set up specially to support children affected by HIV and attended the centre one day a week to access our activities and resources. Everyone at the centre has been touched by this sudden loss of life and we will miss her cheery presence. We have been asked not to name the young person in our newsletter as she leaves a twin sister who is also HIV positive and the family wish to keep her diagnosis discrete. We will do our best to carry on supporting her family and all of the young people in the HIV group over this difficult period and we will continue with our annual awareness campaign to tackle the discrimination and ignorance about HIV/AIDS.



[Money Meters](#) is our new fundraising appeal aimed at schools and community groups. If you work in a school or with a community group, or if you know anybody that does and may be interested in helping us with our fundraising appeal, [please give us a call on 01253 773546](#).

Just a reminder

Wishing Well is always keen to receive items to sell at car boot fairs, especially as the boot fair season is just upon us. Brick-a-brack, clothing, books & dvd's are all welcome. Children's clothing and woman's (size 12 or smaller) clothing is also wanted, this is normally sorted out with many items being sent directly to our resource centre in Romania. Toys, old mobile phones and many other items can also be used by us to help support our work.

Wishing Well volunteers work with a new charity to alleviate animal suffering.....

For the past few weeks our volunteers in Romania have been giving up their weekends to go down to the local dog pound and help out a small Romanian charity responsible for caring for up to 200 stray dogs. The dog pound is in a terrible condition but the Romanian charity is without funding to make any of the necessary repairs. The pound is also under threat of closure. And, if closed this would result in all of the dogs being killed. Additionally, Slatina Zoo is in a sorry state and has a 1st November deadline to improve or close down. Our volunteers are doing their best to try to help where they can. In the UK we have opened a second bank account to process any donations people may wish to give to this separate area of our work in Romania. For more information contact us at our usual address but please mark your envelope Wishing Well (Animals & Conservation).

"WWW.Everyclick.Com"

Everyclick.com is a new web search engine that can help you raise funds for Wishing Well. Basically, they donate a small percentage of the fee's they receive when you visit a web site by using their porthole. If you are a regular web browser or shop on line please think about nominating Wishing Well as your chosen charity and start your web surf through their site so that we can get the maximum number of hits. Using Everyclick.com does not cost you any money. Only the web advertisers pay and for those of you who log onto Ebay, we can get up to 6p per bid you make. Visit Everyclick.com to find out more.

Volunteer News

We now have 12 active local volunteers working with us in our Resource Centre in Romania and without them we would never be able to carry out the amount of work we do and we are just about to co-ordinate for the second year running Slatina's participation in "National Volunteer Week". Last year our VolExpo attracted over 400 people, with 8 local organisations supporting the event. Our centre has also recently been invited to join Romania's newly emerging network for Volunteer Centres and we are helping them to draw up good practice guidelines for working with and managing volunteer activities.

Earlier in the year we hosted Thomas, a GP from the USA. Thomas was only able to stay with us for a couple of days but during this short time he was able to diagnose and offer guidance for a number of conditions affecting children that attend our centre. Thomas also kindly left us with a small donation to fund some of the on-going medical needs for these children.

Maggie and John joined us from the UK to help with the on-going work in developing a Safe Play area outside our centre. The Horningsea Residents Association has been very helpful in financially supporting this project as have the Greenhills Ladies Club in Ireland. St Elizabeths Church Ladies group in Eastbourne also made a small donation. We are looking forward to John & Maggies return later this year. George from Paris will be with us in the next few weeks (he is going to work with us on our English Language Teaching Project) and we are looking forward to welcoming Wendy in the summer and learn from her more about working with children with Special needs. Finally, we have recently applied for a grant from the EU on their Youth in Action programme to host a group of young people from Stockport as part of the first phase of a youth Exchange. This exciting project should be taking place in August.

If you want to volunteer with us please get in touch!



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www.wishingwellcharity.org.uk

Making Lives Worth Living!



Wishing Well

Registered charity No: 326529

Can you help us?

We desperately need more funding to be able to both continue and develop our work. Regular donations via standing order are the most cost effective way of donating. If you live in the UK and want to help us this way please complete and return this form to the address below.

Standing Order Request

To The Manager _____

Branch Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

Please Credit: **Wishing Well**
National Westminster Bank
Acc: 78024048
Sort Code: 60-60-08

With the sum of _____ (amount in words)

Every month/quarter/year starting on _____ (date of first payment).

Please debit my account number _____ accordingly

Sort code _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

E-Mail _____

Signed _____ Date _____

I am a UK tax payer and would like this and any future donations that I make to Wishing Well to be considered as Gift Aid donations Yes / No

Please return the completed form to:

Wishing Well
4 Laurel Ave, Fleetwood, Lancashire, FY7 7PT. Tel: 01253 773546
E-mail: wishingwellappeal@yahoo.co.uk Web: wishingwellcharity.org.uk