

Wasps Legends
Charitable Foundation

1 year report

January 2019



Hope and Homes for Children

Orphanages do not protect children. They harm them. Every child wants a safe, loving family to grow up in. Hope and Homes for Children has been operating in Romania since 1998, successfully closing orphanages, supporting children into loving families and preventing family breakdown.

Recap of the project

This project will support vulnerable children from three orphanages in Iași County in Romania, into safe, loving and nurturing families.

Tg Frumos, Ion Holban and Veniamin Costache Institutions are located in the largest and poorest county of Romania where extreme poverty, poor employment and educational opportunities, regular flooding and lack of government services mean that families are at a high risk of separation; with children placed into orphanages as a default response to family crisis.

The work made possible by the Wasps Legends Charitable Foundation will ensure children are supported back into families from these three orphanages, and will help prevent future separation.

Updates from Iași County

- ✓ In September we celebrated 6 children leaving the Tg Frumos and Ion Holban orphanages. Out of the 6, 5 were reunited with their biological families. These families are now getting the support they need to care for their children the way they have always wanted to. The 6th child is now living independently, building a new life with our support.
- ✓ In October we organised an ongoing session with the children from Ion Holban Institution to provide them with the skills they need to express their thoughts and feelings. The children debated whether families are better than orphanages and were open about their feelings, using words like 'sad', 'worried' and 'confused' when talking about orphanages and then 'happy', 'excited' and 'glad' when talking about families. Part of this session was to also give these children the emotional tools they need if or when they ever don't feel safe.

Our 2019 plans for Iași County

- ✓ To reduce the number of children living in orphanages by driving forward the work in Tg Frumos and Ion Holban in 2019.
- ✓ Complete the building of a small group home for children leaving Tg Frumos so they can begin building new and independent lives, and we can close the orphanage for good.

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To continue to build the capacity locally to support the authorities with closing orphanages and placing children back into families

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- ✓ To continue to deliver high quality training for social work professionals to ensure we can work with more families who need support, thereby stopping children from entering orphanages.

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With the support from the Wasps Legends Charitable Foundation, we have rescued over 60 children from these 3 orphanages in 2018.

These 60 children are now happy, safe and loved in families

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Bogdan



Bogdan is working hard to renovate the small flat that will become his first adult home. Now in his early 20s, he spent his earliest years struggling to survive in an orphanage with no one to love or protect him, no privacy and nothing and no one to call his own.

When Bogdan was 9, he moved to a Small Family Home, developed by Hope and Homes for Children in Romania, where he was able to grow up with a small group of other children, loved and cared for as an individual. The staff in the Small Family Home encouraged Bogdan to learn the skills he needs to live an independent life when he was older.

Once he'd finished school, they helped him to find work, save for a deposit and arrange a loan to buy his first home.

Bogdan can't wait to move in to his new flat and has already decided how he will decorate and arrange the furniture. His dream is to build a secure life for himself and his fiancé so that one day they'll be able to start a family of their own.

Thank you

Thank you Wasps Legends Charitable Foundation for the support last year.

There are children growing up in loving families where they are safe and can thrive because of this support. Their lives have been transformed forever, and for generations to come.

We would be thrilled to apply for another grant in the future and work with you to ensure more children get the chance to grow up in families, not orphanages. Please do get in touch should an opportunity arise.

For further information and an insight into our work in Uganda please click [here](#) to listen to a recent BBC Radio 4 documentary 'The Orphanage Business' featuring an interview with our CEO Mark Waddington CBE.

Thank you.

Contact

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