

Hand of **HELP**



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The Consistency of Need



Wood burns. Food gets eaten. Obvious statements, indisputable, and true, but relevant when considering ministry, and the consistency of need when it comes to those we help. Unless it's putting on a roof, buying a cow, purchasing goats, or a refrigerator, most of the work we do is repetitive, and consistently so, because if you feed a family for a day, a week, or a month, then cease doing so before they have a chance to get back on their feet and provide for themselves, all you've done is put off the inevitable.

That is always the goal. That we act as a temporary stopgap until they are able to find a job, bring in their harvest from the field, replace the chickens the foxes ravaged in the coop, and wait until they're big enough to lay eggs, barter whatever they have for whatever they need, and a hundred other ways that people find to survive. Some reach the goal faster than others. For those with absentee fathers, widowed or abandoned, for those with large families and double-digit mouths to feed day in and day out, it's more difficult, if not outright impossible, to get there.

Those who've been in true need understand they are not the only ones, and when they no longer require the foodstuffs we provide for their survival because they've gotten back on their feet, with an odd mixture of accomplishment and gratitude, they'll inform us that we can give it to some other family because theirs is able to scrape together enough to sustain them. It's both heartwarming and rewarding to see families that were once on the brink of starvation able to gain enough footing to consistently provide for themselves.

Yes, there are those whom we know will require our assistance in perpetuity, such as widows, or older couples who are many years past their ability to do manual labor of any sort, the bedridden, those with debilitating illnesses, or the families that live so far out in the rural areas that a job is impossible to find.

Every case is unique and we treat it as such. The need is consistent, with the poor getting poorer and growing more dependent on insufficient pensions or subsidies, as those in power have seen fit to redirect finances to other areas.



Although Jesus said the poor we would always have among us, those in power would prefer it were not so. They think that by ignoring them, they'll simply go away, or if they make it cumbersome for them to draw on the paltry pension they paid into for the better part of forty years, they'll just give up.

God has placed us here for such a time as this that we might be the means by which He answers prayer, the means by which the hurting are comforted, the means by which the hungry are fed, and we give thanks, glory, and honor to Him for using this ministry to do the work of His Kingdom.

For someone with a burgeoning pantry and a full larder, a bag of food might not seem like much. For someone who just used the last of their flour to bake a bun, which they will have to surgically slice into six pieces, it's everything. This is the sort of work you make possible. Thank you, as always, for your prayers and support.

Hand of Help Staff



The Consistency of Need (cont.)



Afloarei Home Project

Thank you to all those who made the completion of this project possible! The before and after photos speak for themselves. To God be the glory!



Canalos Family



Pasare Family



Klepp Family



Voloshyn Family



Dumitru Family



Gavriliuc Family



Prodan Family



Serban Family



Vacariu Family



Herds of Blessings

Madarjac

The Madarjac area is in the rural part of Iasi County, located approximately 30 miles from the city of Iasi. It consists of three villages: Madarjac, Frumusica, and Bojila, set in a hilly area, with lots of agricultural land and forests. Due to the lack of infrastructure and public transport, access to these isolated communities is difficult.

The roads are mostly unpaved and deteriorated, and during rainy periods or in winter, travel becomes extremely difficult. Mud, potholes, and a lack of lighting and sidewalks impact people's daily lives. These conditions make it difficult to access schools, medical services, jobs, and any form of external support.

From an economic perspective, the area offers no stable jobs. Most of the inhabitants live from agriculture and occasional work.

Due to the lack of public transportation, many men have been forced to leave for work in other areas, or even abroad, and the community is left with mostly children, single mothers, and the elderly.

A serious concern is children's access to education. Many of them walk several miles to school every day, in difficult conditions, regardless of the weather. The lack of constant school transport and the state of the roads contribute to fatigue, absenteeism, and, over time, an increased risk of dropping out of school. For these children, education is not an easy or natural thing, but a daily arduous effort.

As some Christians sincerely prayed that God would show them a place where they could get involved in the salvation of others, He answered their prayers. To be exact, He sent them to Madarjac. That is how the work in Madarjac began. In 2016, Daniel Iacob, together with other brothers, arrived in this area for the first time. The visit then brought a clear, calm answer: God was calling them to stay and get involved here.

It all started out of love for a poor community, lacking basic goods, with great educational deficiencies, and, above all, lacking the knowledge of our Lord Jesus. One of the first observations concerned the conditions in which many families live: very small, dilapidated

homes unsuitable for the upbringing and care of children. This reality, by grace, became one of the main channels through which the message of Christ reached people's hearts.

From 2016 to the present, approximately 20 houses have been built. Thus, at least 20 families and all their children have been constantly in the attention and support of the brothers involved. Over time, these families have also been helped with various goods, but the main goal has remained the same: for people to come to know the Lord Jesus. For this reason, outdoor evangelisms are organized, and many hear the gospel continually.

A special joy came with the successful purchase of a piece of land and a small building that had previously been the village tavern. This is how God works: He restores what for many seemed impossible to restore. Today, this building is used for church meetings on Sunday mornings and especially for children's activities.



Since the second part of the summer of 2025, there has been constant activity dedicated to the children of Madarjac. Every other Saturday, the young Tofei family, Ruben and Diana, come and organize meetings for the children. The number of participants varies: sometimes there are 30 children, sometimes 50, and sometimes, together with their parents, they even reach 100 people in attendance.

The children are warmly welcomed, hugged, and loved. The activities include educational games related to the Bible lesson they will listen to. After the games, the children learn to pray, many of them for the first time, then they listen to a Bible story presented in a simple, accessible language, adapted to their needs and reality. The lessons are designed so that the children enjoy their time and receive useful insight for daily living. Everything converges, in the end, towards Jesus.



There are songs, verses, and an activity that the children really appreciate: coloring pictures inspired by the day's lesson. After all this, the children are given a meal. The food is brought from Iasi and provided by a retired sister in the Lord, a professional cook who volunteers to prepare it with much love. The meal is not just about food, but about sitting together, learning how to eat properly, to be attentive, polite, and grateful.



Attention is paid to every detail: cleanliness, hand washing, prayer of thanksgiving, and table manners. All of this is part of an education designed to produce something good, both for the present and for the future. Recently, Christian books for children have also begun to be brought, in an attempt to instill the habit of reading

and healthy values, in a context of life often marked by poverty, deprivation, and abuse.

We pray the Lord would work through simple, colorful pages that speak to the children about Him.

From time to time, people are invited to talk to the children about their professions – doctors, cooks, tradesmen- to inspire and motivate them to learn and work for a better future. The project with these children is a soulful one. You can see how God opens doors where it seemed like there were only impassable walls.

The children are a true blessing: they are intelligent, gentle, learn quickly, and retain a lot. They make great sacrifices to get to the Saturday programs. Some come on foot from several miles away, while others are brought by horse-drawn cart. The weather conditions are often difficult, and the streets are often covered in mud, snow, or ice. Their sacrifice is recognized and appreciated, and we make every effort to alleviate their burden by coordinating transportation whenever possible.

In the future, the desire is to expand the work: to hold more frequent meetings, provide support for homework, and offer more consistent help with the children's education. Over time, it was noticed that in the community, there are also abandoned mothers who need moral support and better conditions to raise their children.

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What is happening in Madarjac is a true miracle. With the help of an older brother from a neighboring village, brother Costica, who uses his car for transportation, we can sometimes bring more children to the service. From the beginning, the goal was clearly established: not to offer goods as an end in themselves, but to labor so that many would come to know the Lord Jesus. This remains the ministry's main objective.

The work in Madarjac is not without struggles. There were attempts to intimidate and stop the activities, especially from the Greek Orthodox priest in the area. However, there was also an opportunity for a sincere discussion about the importance of knowing Christ, the One who can change lives and lift up a community caught in vices, immorality, laziness, and blasphemy. From a tense state, things have reached an open dialogue phase, and the fact that the situation has calmed down is seen as a sign that God is at work.

The fact that children come even in temperatures of 3°F is a great encouragement for us. The many open doors prove that the Lord wants to work among the people of Madarjac. Not simply through material help, but by building a living community, transformed by the Word of God.

We are just mere people, but the Lord is great; this we see and feel daily.

We thank you for all the support, for the prayers, and for your open hearts. We believe that, one day, the hearts of everyone – of those involved, of those who support this work, and of the people of Madarjac – will together joyfully serve our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Lord.

Ruben Tofei
Daniel Iacob



The greatest pressing need for the Madarjac community is for a used vehicle that can be utilized for transporting the children to the services made available to them. We have identified that vehicles that would best serve the needs of this growing body of believers are around \$12,000-14,000. If you would like to support the work in Madarjac monthly, please reach out to our office for more information.

Please consider praying for this area, that the Holy Spirit would soften the hearts and that many would respond in saving faith.

Hand of Help Staff



Child of the Month

In November of last year, we were blessed to receive four more children into our family.

This month, we are featuring the youngest sibling, Denis, born in 2015.

After many years of living in fear and uncertainty, Denis and his three siblings, David, Cosmin, and Ambra, joined our Hand of Help, House of Joy family.

The four children, together with their other two siblings and parents, lived in the city of Vaslui for a while. Their father's violent behavior, triggered by his alcohol abuse, led the Child Protection Agency to intervene and remove the children from that environment. The six children were sent into foster care.

Their mother soon moved back to Botosani to her parents' home. Although she initially wanted to take the children back, her request was not granted, as she was unable to properly take care of all the children and provide a safe environment for them to grow up in and continue their education.

Because of the limitations of foster care, the remaining four siblings would have been separated from each other, so Hand of Help was asked to welcome them and give them the opportunity to grow up together.

The four siblings were joyfully welcomed by our staff and children. They are already attending classes at a local school and have access to numerous extracurricular activities offered: sports competitions, arts and crafts classes, etc.

Denis is currently in the fourth grade, is doing well with his studies, is passionate about music, and desires to learn to play a musical instrument. He wants to walk in his grandfather's footsteps as an orchestra conductor someday.

The children have adjusted quickly to their new home. Being together is a gift for them, and they are grateful for their new place.

We thank the Lord for the opportunity to raise four more precious children and pray that the Holy Spirit would draw them to salvation. May the words they will hear and the example they will have in the adults around them bring forth much fruit for the glory of our King.

We thank you for your prayers and for being a hand of help for these children. May the Lord amply bless your obedience!



Dear Brethren,

Romans 8:18, “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

As a student of history, one thing has become abundantly clear: although history may not repeat itself, it oftentimes rhymes, not because we are living in some sort of time loop, but because men’s natures have remained stubbornly predictable from generation to generation. We fail to learn from the mistakes of those who came before us, we gravitate toward the same mindset, and then find ourselves wondering where it all went wrong.

If history is not your passion, the Word of God should be, and one need look no further than the nation of Israel to see the pattern throughout their existence, wherein God blessed and prospered them, they turned their back on God, God removed His hedge of protection, their enemies defeated them on the field of battle, they repented, God forgave and restored, only to start the cycle anew once they felt as though they were in a good place and had everything they needed.

Men turn from God when life is easy and run toward Him when it becomes unbearably difficult. When men grow self-reliant, they lessen their reliance on God, not understanding that whether it’s a nation, a city, a church, or a family, without God’s favor and grace, without His protection and provision, ruin is inevitable.

We are living in an age of distraction, not dissimilar to ancient Rome, wherein the powers that be could not resolve the issues of the time and so decided to give the people bread and circuses in order to distract them from what was really going on. The problem is that once they ran out of bread, the circuses weren’t quite as entertaining. When the circuses stopped being entertaining, the people began to notice the discrepancies, the inconsistencies, and the incongruities, but too late, because by this time, there was no more bread, there were no more circuses, and the reality of how far they’d fallen stunned them into paralysis.

We may not be there yet, but it’s where we are headed. For now, the circuses are still en vogue, although not as much as they used to be, and they’re beginning to taste bitter on the tongues of more and more people.



The boasting and flaunting of excess by those who claim to be bondservants of Christ doesn’t seem as entertaining, they are drawing less and less smiles when they go on a rant about their third private jet, and because they either have no situational awareness, can’t read a room, or simply don’t care, they just double down, continuing to beat the same drum and hum the same tune.

In the midst of the tumult, the changes, the distractions, and what will soon be the chaos, it’s more important than ever to have our sights firmly planted on Christ Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. The enemy would like nothing more than to divert our attention, hinder our stride, and shift our focus from the things above to the things of this earth.

Heaven is our home. That is the destination. We press on, not hoping that He has gone to prepare a place for us, but knowing with unequivocal certainty. Let not your heart be troubled, let not your spirit grow dour, let not the noise distract you from the purpose of enduring to the end. He is coming. Jesus promised it, and He keeps His Word.

Hebrews 10:35-38, “Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: ‘For yet a little while, and He who is coming will come and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.’”

With love in Christ,

Michael Boldea, Jr.