2019

# SAVE THE ORPHANS

Moldova

#### WHO WE ARE

Save the Orphans (STO) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of orphans and displaced families in Moldova, Europe's poorest country.

#### WHAT WE DO

We provide food, winter clothing and school supplies for orphans, and support for orphanages and transitional homes.





## **UPDATES**

This year, we were excited to receive a favorable 501 (c) (3) Tax-exempt determination from the IRS. As a tax-exempt organization, all donations to Save the Orphans are deductible for federal income tax purposes.



# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

In May, STO joined with our Moldovan Director Diana Todica and student volunteers from Davita Gratiae University to deliver our message of the importance of education, empowerment, and antitrafficking awareness to the orphans in orphanages and transitional homes in Chisineau and surrounding villages. We also delivered bags of food staples to impoverished families in the Rezina District.



#### WHAT WE STRIVE FOR

Our support aims to keep families together and to enable orphans to complete their education while fighting to protect them from human trafficking. Orphans must leave the safety of the orphanage at age 15 with little education or training. Without any outside assistance they are vulnerable to trafficking. Our goal is to provide scholarships (vocational training and University level) to break this cycle.





#### **ORPHANAGES**

During our orphanage visits, We spoke to the children about education, self-determination, and self-worth as being key to reaching their life goal. Our student volunteers sang songs and performed dramatizations to reinforce these principals, as well as delivering anti-trafficking messages. Tee shirts and hats printed with inspirational messages were distributed to the children, as well as anti-trafficking pamphlets, gift bags of fruits, muffins, and sweets. Over the course of the week, our team visited these orphanages: Carpineni, Bulboaca - special needs, Straseni, Gymnasium Number 3, Chisineau.

#### **ION GADARENCO**

Ion who was raised at the Straseni
Orphange is a gifted self-taught
engineer who is now attending
University. Save the Orphans has
invested in Ion's future by presenting
him with a new Apple computer for his
studies. In Ion's spare time, he runs
classes to teach children about
computers and robots.













#### THE OAK HOUSE

We visited The Oak House, a transitional home in Chisinau for 22 college-age orphans and young women (ages 16-25). In this large home they can live safely as they complete their studies and begin their careers by joining the growing number of Oak House alumni. Save the Orphans works actively with these college students to accomplish their goals. These impressive young women are pursuing careers in medicine, law, social work, design and engineering. We shared a lively discussion with the group about overcoming obstacles, making good career choices, building confidence and self-esteem, and being aware of the threat of human trafficking.







#### SOLDANESTI

We organized a Saturday social orphan's program at Pastor Vasile Surdu's Church in Soldanesti. After the children completed their lessons, we made a presentation and joined in a discussion on education, self esteem and human trafficking prevention. STO provided pastries, fruit, juices, and ice cream for the children. At the end of our visit, we presented Pastor Vasilie with a substantial donation toward the 2019 Summer Camp programs.



## **FOOD BAG PROGRAM**

STO delivers large bags of food staples to impoverished families twice a year. In May, we visited villages in the Rezina District to deliver food staples to ten families in the villages of Otac, Roshkawa and Cuizauca. In December, STO will deliver food bags to ten families in Cuizauca and Ghiduleni. The homes in this area have no running water and limited electricity. The staples we delivered cost between \$30 and \$50 per family, and will feed these families for several months.











