



a pathway to restoration **Newsletter**

Christmas 2008 N. 12402 Division, Spokane, WA 99218 www.transitionsgate.org

Greetings from the president of Transition's Gate Looking to the New Year, 2009



Consider helping Transition's Gate with End-of-Year Charitable Donations.

As the New Year approaches, many are contemplating their end-of-year charitable donations. The recent economic woes of Wall Street may be discouraging non-the-less most Americans have experienced substantial earnings in 2008 causing them to look for charitable avenues for tax shelter. Transition's Gate has experienced a tremendous outpouring of generosity from many who understand our vision and mission statement, still we find our needs approximately \$12,000 short of the goal to purchase the building in Romania for the women's counseling center. If you have intended to send a donation, please consider doing so during the Christmas season and receive the added benefit of tax deduction. We have recently received notice from the IRS authorizing "matching contributions" from corporations. This allows donors employed by businesses which honor and match charitable donations, to **double** the donation. This is an extra blessing of funding for our organization. You may want to inquire at your place of business about this "match" plan for charitable donations. We stand amazed at the compassion and generosity of our partners in this project. Thank you for your generosity and faithful giving throughout 2007. *Nancy Mortlock*

One Young Woman Chooses to Make a Difference

It was her intentional effort to assist with the furnishing of the Children's Room at the counseling center in Romania that drove Madison Wells, a 6th grade home schooled student, to challenge her AWANA Club peers to save their pennies and make this generous donation to Transition's Gate. Madison was excited to hand deliver a check, which accounted for the donations given by her AWANA Club peers. Not because this young woman has ever met one of the children who will benefit from her energetic fund raiser, but because Madison learned of the need, she felt compelled to do something about it, and chose to make a difference in a very tangible way. The donations from this AWANA group will be sufficient to purchase most of the necessary books, toys and furniture for the Children's Room.



Transition's Gate Collaborates with FEMINA 2000



2009 will bring additional opportunity for Transition's Gate as we begin a formal collaborative educational project with FEMINA 2000, a women's shelter and community outreach program in Roman, Romania. Twelve community based, educational conferences will be arranged for women in Neamt County of northern Romania. This effort is a three pronged cooperative effort between Transition's Gate, who will provide the speakers and the educational content, Compassion & Care providing translation from English to Romanian and FEMINA 2000 providing space, advertising and media outreach. For more information, visit www.stopvaw.org.

“Compassion & Care” Moves to Ploiesti

Following much contemplation and prayer, C&C has decided to begin their outreach to women and children in a larger city blessed with many more community resources and a larger need. Consequently, their office and the women’s counseling center will move to Ploiesti, a nearby mid-sized city, one hour’s drive from Bucharest, and establish their roots and foundation in this city of approximately 250,000 people. They are currently raising the funds to purchase a house (perhaps the one pictured to the right) for the counseling center which is large enough for a facility for children and their mothers to receive the help and direction that they need. Transition’s Gate is working closely with Compassion & Care to identify a solid facility for this work in Ploiesti where currently there is NO outreach for women.



Anonymous ... One Woman’s Cry for Help.

As the fall trees of Spokane showed off their brilliant autumn colors, life in the Inland Northwest seemed so full of peaceful beauty. The warm afternoon sun provided warmth and happiness. Then the phone rang. It was an anonymous caller. “Please help me” she said in a teary voice. A young woman who preferred not to share a name, was calling Transition’s Gate for assistance with an abusive relationship in her family. It was urgent. As the story unfolded and the reality of a family torn by violence was told, suddenly our community didn’t seem as restful as it had a few minutes before. With just one phone call, Transition’s Gate could provide assurance and real-time help for the young woman on the phone. Community resources for women are abundant in Spokane. Help was that close to a woman asking for help. While we understand that some American women live with the threat and reality of violence every day, it’s a fact that most communities provide, counselors, advocacy groups, laws which protect our citizens from harm, and shelter for emergencies. In sharp contrast, women in some parts of Eastern Europe live in violence and destruction daily. No advocate, no shelter, no advisor, no friend, no authority or social institution to help them. Transition’s Gate is moving ahead to assist communities where intervention for women and children is lacking.

Reaching Our Goal

It is our short term goal to be able to complete our fund raising efforts and distribute the necessary funds for the women’s center in Romania by year’s end. Currently, we are 90% to goal. We thank you for ALL of your tax deductible donations, particularly between now and the end of the year. As always, each donor will receive an accurate accounting of individual tax deductible giving at year’s end.

View and keep updated on our website, www.transitionsgate.org. Here you will find new postings, news of upcoming events, contact information and regular updates on our project with Compassion & Care.



How you can support the work of Transition’s Gate

- ___ Use my enclosed monthly tax-deductible gift in the amount of ___ to help with the construction of the women’s counseling center in Romania.
- ___ I would like to make a one-time tax deductible gift of _____ to Transition’s Gate

Send your gift to:

**Transition’s Gate
N. 12402 Division #248
Spokane, WA 99218**

Your gift of \$100, \$250, \$500 or more will allow us to respond to the immediate needs of the women and children subjected to domestic violence, abuse, poverty and other misfortune in southeastern Romania. Thank you for your continued, generous support.

Board of Directors: Nancy Mortlock, President; Lin Wigren, V-Pres; Cathy Hutchins, Sec-Treas

