



A pathway to restoration... *Newsletter*

Christmas 2010 N. 12402 Division #248 Spokane, WA 99218 www.transitionsgate.org



An American Team Visits Ploiesti *For many years, our supporters have asked how the work of Transition's Gate might potentially impact the culture of alcoholism which is so prevalent in Eastern Europe. Finally, in early October, an American team from Spokane visited the Women's Center in Ploiesti, Romania, with the purpose of initiating a family alcohol recovery program. Tracy McCluskey, an alcohol recovery champion, shared with groups of women of all ages the value of intervention and support groups for both alcoholics and family members of alcoholics. Three independent groups of interested participants met together to share their heartache and the impact alcohol has had on their*

families, relationships and community. It was obvious to the rest of us who attended the meetings that this is a severe need and that perhaps these newly established groups will open the door to recovery for thousands of people in Ploiesti and neighboring communities. Alcohol recovery, rehabilitation and the restoration of healthy families are the goals and the heart of the new services provided at the Women's Center. Already, though only one month has transpired since the initial meeting, Romanian leadership is emerging to manage and direct this new program. Through Tracy's intentional efforts and donations from the Americans in the recovery community in Spokane, intervention for better family life and restoration for brokenness, due to alcoholism in Romania, has real promise.
Nancy Mortlock, President



A Living Testimony of Faith and Service / Finishing Well

One of the most disheartening mentalities in the Balkan countries is the belief that life is over, has little value, and becomes meaningless after age 50. While this is not the belief in North America, in Eastern Europe productivity and worth seem to rapidly diminish as children leave for college, signs of age begin to appear, and the home becomes quiet and empty. This obvious difference in cultures is precisely the reason that Josephine Knox was asked to travel to Romania with the October Team and speak to a large gathering of women at the Center. With nearly nine decades of

life, Josephine quietly and courageously shared her personal story. As the oldest of 9 children on a wheat ranch in central Montana in the 1930's, her family struggled to have provisions during the great depression, the era of WWII



and through other tragedies which followed. The testimony of this American senior was compelling and an inspiration to all who attended this event. As she described her years as a single mother raising four children and committed to making their house into a home where security and love where the goals, Josephine told the

Romanian attendees how relevant her faith became in the midst of struggles and how God blessed her life and the lives of her four children. Jo's life-long volunteer efforts and her commitment to serving others without tangible reward was the theme of her sharing time. Women of all ages appreciated the encouragement and expressed it verbally at the end of the evening.

Visit Our Website www.transitionsgate.org Be sure to visit our website with updates on the news and events of the organization. You can find previous newsletters, photos and details of upcoming events.

The Women's Center Hires Staff With federal accreditation application submitted, it became necessary to hire a staff for the Women's Center. Interviewing began in the summer months and finally a well educated, mature, staff was hired to begin the work and provide counseling and intervention for safety and restoration in the lives of many homes in Ploiesti. The October Team met with the entire staff and a dual cultural exchange ensued. This small staff has now received the mandatory training, has the experience necessary and procedures in place to begin their work.



How You Can Help Transition's Gate

Your tax deductible gift will be used in entirety to help the women and children whom we serve. Transition's Gate operates with a volunteer staff and 100% of every gift is used to accomplish our mission and vision.

_____ Please accept my enclosed donation to help women and families suffering from domestic violence and abuse

_____ Please charge my credit card \$ _____ to help women and families

_____ I would like to make an automatic donation in the amount of \$ _____ to Transition's Gate using my credit card.

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