



WINGS OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL

TRANSFORMING **the lives of people in MOLDOVA**

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Message from the President

What a year 2020 has been for all of us! COVID19 has changed many aspects of our personal and professional lives. As I reflect on the events from 2020, I can confidently state that the mission of Wings of Hope International (WHI) became even more important during these times when the most vulnerable of us have been impacted in various ways by the COVID19 pandemic.

With the help of our partner, NGO Neemia, we were able to continue to serve the most needy during this pandemic in Moldova. As the pandemic started, we responded by purchasing various types of resources for the health center in Cobani in order for the center to continue to safely provide medical care during the pandemic, we purchased laptops for the teachers at Cobani schools to be able to deliver classes online, purchased new desks for elementary school students to be able to maintain social distancing when in the classroom. We also continued to support the elderly with hot meals every week and school children with afterschool programs at the community center in Cobani.

I would like to thank all of you for your financial support that made it possible for us to impact these lives. We would like to ask you to continue supporting Wings of Hope International to continue impacting the lives of children, elderly, poor and sick in this Moldovan village in the coming year. Please consider sending a donation to the address indicated on this newsletter or you donate online at www.whintl.org.

With Hope for the Moldovan People,

Alec Zama, President, WHI

Victor Zama Reflects on Serving Others during Pandemic

We have encountered many challenges since beginning our work in Cobani, but probably the biggest challenges occurred over these past several months while implementing most of our activities during the COVID19 pandemic. It has been necessary to take many protective measures, especially since we serve many individuals in high risk groups. We had to close the community center on a few occasions, for short periods of time, because some of us had close contact with individuals who were diagnosed with COVID19. For example, we had a very stressful situation in August because Mariana, our social worker, was diagnosed with the virus and was hospitalized for four weeks. In addition, we had to stop offering children's programs in person from March through August, and we were not able to organize our very popular summer camps for the first time since we started our work.

Although we couldn't meet in person, we provided some virtual activities for children and engaged some of our teenage volunteers in providing assistance to the elderly in the village. In September, we restarted the afterschool program for children. In October, we recruited a new group of volunteers and started a new club for girls, "Skilled Hands," where they learn new skills.

We continued to serve the elderly and other needy, such as the poor, ill, and those with physical limitations, by delivering hot lunches to the homes of 30 families five days per week. This has meant so much for the recipients, especially during these times when movement has been restricted for the recipients and their relatives and few elderly and needy have resources to connect virtually. In addition, we provided donations of canes and diapers to people with medical conditions. With colder weather arriving, we started offering donations of coal and other heating sources for the needy in the village. We are currently donating food packages to needy families in the village, other than those to whom we deliver hot meals.



I was recently encouraged by a discussion I had with Ion, a 20-year old and former Neemia volunteer, who is now a student in Chisinau. After two months in Chisinau, he stopped by the Community Center to meet the new group of Neemia volunteers. He thanked us for the many opportunities we provided to him as a volunteer for three years and told the new volunteers to be thankful for the opportunity that Neemia provides them to learn new things, meet new people, and do noble things for their community. During this discussion we concluded that Neemia's presence and work in Cobani makes our village very unique in Moldova. For me personally, Ion's words have been an encouragement and a confirmation that the work we are doing here in the village is not in vain, and a very important part in this work is our partnership with Wings of Hope International. The financial support from WHI has helped us to continue our work even during this challenging time for our community.

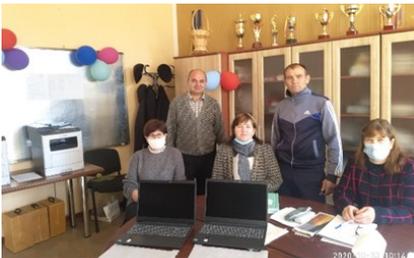


Thank You!



Cobani Schools and Health Center Express Gratitude

Teachers with new computers



Health care supplies



PPE supplies



The administration of Cobani Schools would like to send best wishes and sincere thanks to Wings of Hope International (WHI). We would like to express our appreciation for the financial support offered to the students at Cobani schools in recent years.

This year, the financial assistance received from WHI was used to purchase 15 desks and chairs for elementary school students. This has helped us to improve the study conditions for children in elementary school. In addition, two laptops were purchased that will be used by teachers and students during lessons. Should the authorities enforce a lockdown, the laptops will be a great help and support for the teachers for online lessons.

Please stay safe and take care of loved ones during this difficult time for everyone. God bless you for the noble work you have been doing for so many years!

On behalf of students, teachers, and parents from Cobani schools,

Nicolae Albu, School Principal

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During the pandemic period of COVID19, the Health Center in Cobani functions in a state of emergency to deal with the crisis created by this virus. Your organization again stepped up and provided the necessary protective equipment in order for us to fight the virus safely and effectively.

- Mercury-free Medical Thermometers – 24 units*
- Infrared Thermometers – 2 units*
- Pulse Oximeters – 2 units*
- Face Shields – 20 units*
- Medical Protective Suits (Coveralls) – 100 units*
- Medical Face Masks, NI – 500 units*

We would like to express our gratitude for your continuous support and wish you hope and health. Thank you for this donation at this critical time for all of us.

With Much Respect,

Livia Melnic, Health Center Administrator

WHI Goals for 2021

In 2021 we will continue to support the operations of the community center in Cobani, will continue to focus on improving educational opportunities for children, improving access to quality healthcare, and assisting the elderly. Here are the fundraising needs for the upcoming year:

- Community Center - \$41,800**
- Educational projects - \$2,000**
- Healthcare projects - \$2,500**
- Elderly projects - \$2,000**

Please join us in achieving these goals and remember, your WHI contribution is tax-deductible!

WHI Board of Directors

- Alec Zama, President**
- Andre Drost, Vice-President**
- Dennis Dixon, Treasurer**
- Becky Zama, Secretary**

