

Newsletter Febr 2024

ROMANIA - Voivodeni Gloves and new needs

Dear Friends and Supporters,



Through our collaboration with the organization Hand to Hand, SB Foundation received a large number of gloves (one size - stretchable, so children as well as adults can wear them). We were able to send many of them to all three of the sites we support in Romania. The photos show a couple of the groups of children happily waiving wearing their new gloves.



Right after the turn of the new year is always a time of major expenses for SB Foundation – school lunches for the next six months, monthly tuition payments for the School for the Blind, help for Ukrainian refugees, etc., so when all these expenses were paid the coffers were almost empty. A new distress call came on January 31st: Help us with SEK 20 000 to buy food and fuel for 40 people, most of them children. Even that need, the Foundation was able to meet. But now we have new challenges. Here we name a few:

- Three families in Voivodeni have joined forces to invest in a year-round flower-growing business on a 60 000 sq ft (6 000 m²) stretch of land. The project needs SEK 170 000. Through the Romanian government and the EU among others, they can cover 2/3 of the projects. They have turned to SB Foundation to ask if we can contribute the remaining SEK 57 000. If they can launch their project, it will employ ten people, which would be very valuable.
- A grist mill to grind grain for the village's pigs, cattle, and poultry at a cost of SEK 42 000 is needed. As things stand now, all villagers must go to the neighboring village to grind their grain.
- One woman, whose husband is incarcerated, has two children. The family has social contribution and government child support for a total of SEK 940 (!) per month. One of the children, who is 3 years old, can neither walk nor talk. Medical exams and one month of rehab at the hospital costs SEK 7 000. The mother cries for help with tears.

Do you want to help with any of the above? Using Swish works well.

Warm greetings from SB Foundation via us on the Board, *Arne, Elisabeth, Gloria, Lena, Roger*

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