

### *A First Step with Electricity*

Electricity was only provided last April when the city put up poles. The hot summer, with a long period of days over 40° C, made it impossible for the family to keep food even until just the next day. It was rotten overnight since it could not be kept cool. With the help of donations it was possible to provide electricity for the family by September – it took 3 months to get connected.

It was a joyous day for the family when they had a light bulb burning in their living room for the first time instead of candles. For the mother it was the first time she had electricity in her home in all her life – 36 years.

A refrigerator was donated as well; now food can be stored for longer periods of time.

### *The Dream of a Well*

Yet, the water supply remains a problem. In November 2015 the horse got sick and a new one had to be found. The new horse is a young two-year old, which means the family must wait until it is strong enough to pull the cart. (It must be at least three.) This means that the father can only provide the water from the distant well with the help of neighbors.

Although a more mature horse has been found, the scarcity of nearby water remains a problem, especially during the winter. The family has a dream of having a well in their own garden. But reality puts that dream at an unreachable distance.

A well, even a small one, costs at least 1,500 €...too much for the family to even think about.

Only with your help can that dream become reality. It's not about having running water as we have, just a well where water can be drawn without having to bring it by horse cart. Please help to raise the living standard of this family on the outskirts of Huși.

Reference for donations:

**Romanian Mission – Well Lila**

Please send your donation to

**St. Augustine's Church**

**BIC: DEUTDEDB510**

**IBAN: DE48 5107 0024 0033 8020 00**

**Reference: Romanian Mission – Well Lila**

*Address:* Frankfurter Str. 3  
65189 Wiesbaden, Germany

*Please make sure to indicate your reference.  
Donations without a clear reference will be  
distributed at the discretion of Rev. Dorothee.*

*If you would like a tax receipt for your donation  
please write to [pledge@staugustine.de](mailto:pledge@staugustine.de) or the above  
address. Please indicate if you want an immediate  
receipt or accumulated after the end of the year.*

**Jesus said:**

**‘Truly I tell you,  
just as you did it to  
one of the least of  
these who are  
members of my  
family, you did  
it to me.’**

**Matthew 25:40**

If you have questions or would like more information on these or other projects please contact Rev. Dorothee directly.

**MISSIONARY IN ROMANIA**

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## **IN THE SHADOW OF THE CATHEDRAL**



### **EPISCOPAL MISSION WORK IN ROMANIA**



### **PROJECT 2016 HELP FOR THE LILA FAMILY**

*This is what poverty looks like – Sleeping under open sky* was the title of the almost one page article in a local newspaper. It described the life of the Lila family: on the outskirts of Huși on a piece of land the family built some walls - from clay and straw following a local building tradition of those who can't afford bricks. Yet, they had no money for the roof, slept on blankets on the ground and covered themselves with plastic when it was raining.



*Article in the newspaper Vremea Noua in 2010*

Since then the situation has changed a little, at least regarding the house. Donations made it possible to cover the room with a roof and even to build a second room. And people also gave them old beds to sleep in. But only one room was ever finished to live in – until today.

#### *The All-In-One Room*

The room is about 10 m<sup>2</sup> in which the five members of the family sleep, cook, eat, the children play and do their homework. The two beds take a good part of the room as do the chairs for family and guests.

The wood stove in the corner provides heat and is used for cooking. The wood must be purchased. Wood is expensive here as most people here have wood stoves. A horse cart full of wood costs about 150 € - almost a month's salary and lasts during the winter for about 1-2 months.

When Rev. Dorothee met the Lila family first in 2014, they were four with the mother expecting her third child. Cristian was born December 25, 2014 – two months premature, an additional strain on the family as special treatment was necessary.

#### *No Infrastructure in the Outskirts*

The family has lived here since 2010 but the city has still not yet provided the proper infrastructure for the area. There are no paved streets for several hundred meters, no water supply, and until September 2015 not even electricity.

When it is raining it is hard to get to the house on the muddy streets (even Rev. Dorothee's four wheel drive has problems to get through them.) In winter, wind blows and creates high snowdrifts - making it difficult or impossible to get through. Snow ploughs do not operate in that area.



*The Lila Family in their Home*

The next well is about one kilometer away. Every few days the father takes the horse cart and some plastic barrels to get water for the family and their animals – a difficult undertaking when there is snow.

A well in the garden would help as especially the animals need a lot of water.

#### *Animals to provide for Food*

The father has a job as a guard at the city dumping ground which pays about 200 €/month, the mother is

taking care of the animals they raise for some extra income and food. They raise chickens so they can sell eggs, a cow with a calf for milk, pigs for occasional meat, and of course a horse to draw the cart and – new – two goats for milk for little Cristian.



*The chicken are placed over the pig*

#### *The Livestock in the House*

The family takes good care of their animals. Since the second room in the house is not finished anyway and they don't have another shelter the room is used as stable. About 10 m<sup>2</sup>, the room is quite crowded with pigs, goats, horses, cow and calf and about 40 chickens.

The room, though, is really needed for the family. The children – soon entering their teenage years – are yearning for their own room, though they are used to the limited space. When Rev. Dorothee mentioned the possibility to help here the girl left in joyous expectation.

Materials for the stable will cost about 500 €, and it is the first thing the family wants to accomplish as animals mean food for them.



*The place for the stable*