

Dear Friends,

Warm summer greetings from Bacau!

I hope you're well and not suffering from the heat!

It's hot here. Our Curcubeu kids are used to coping with all sorts of weather, though it's not easy. Without insulation or running water in their houses, it's more difficult for them to cool off. And carrying buckets of water from nearby wells in the hot sun is arduous. Thankfully, at the center, the water from our deep bore hole stays cool and is running well. When playing outside, the children come in frequently to get a cool drink and splash water on their heads, faces and arms.

We're very thankful that at Centrul Curcubeu our children enjoy good conditions for their free time, as well as for their studies, mealtimes and a multitude of interesting activities!

The wonderful playground in front of the center is now 10 years old. This year, it was enjoyed by even more children than previously. We've had the most kids ever enrolled at Centrul Curcubeu, and the population of the Marasti school has temporarily doubled! It's such a pleasure to see dozens of children enjoying themselves daily at the playground! As was the case when we built it, there is still no other nice play area anywhere in the vicinity.



Our dear playground is in need of some major repairs! Constant use by a lot of children, combined with the weather, has caused considerable damage. Some of the equipment can be repaired and painted again, while some pieces need to be replaced.

This work needs to be done this summer, before school begins in mid-September. We will do the work ourselves, and some of the older children will help paint. The materials and new equipment will cost around 4,000 euros.



The children at Centrul Curcubeu treasure their playground! Playing on the equipment, relaxing with a book or just enjoying each other's company, it's a very special place for them!

Another summer repair job that needs to be done is rebuilding our two terracotta wood stoves, the only source of heat for the classrooms. Though summers get hot, winter temperatures in Marasti get down to minus 20. Fires are started very early in the morning, so that the children can find warm rooms when they arrive. On cold days, after they've given their welcome hugs, some of the children stand a while with their backs against these nice tile stoves, soaking up the warmth. Then, at lunch and during school activities, the extra-warm spots beside the stoves are always the first to be occupied!

We had the terracotta stoves rebuilt 9 years ago. Since then, they've been inspected and professionally cleaned each year. Sometimes small repairs have been done, replacing bricks and sealing cracks. Now they must be rebuilt to meet safety standards. The craftsmen take the whole oven apart, keeping only the outer tiles. The entire interior will be rebuilt with new heat-resistant bricks. The labor and materials to repair both stoves will cost 1,400 Euros.



Can you help?

If you would like to make a special donation for either of these repair projects, you can do so easily from our website, <https://asociatiafavor.org/en/english/donate/>

Donations from Germany can also be sent to Favor Westhausen e.V. These will be passed on 100% to Centrul Curcubeu.

Please specify that it's for the Summer Repair projects at Centrul Curcubeu.



To all of you who are already partners, donating monthly or helping in other ways, Thank you so much! I can't tell you how much we appreciate your support and care for our children!

The love and goodness that these children experience daily at Centrul Curcubeu fills them with hope and is helping to change their lives for the better!

I'll leave you with a couple of thoughts from Albert Schweitzer.

*Life becomes harder for us when we live for others, but it also becomes richer and happier. The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve.*

Peace and blessings to you, from us! *Paul*