

HAND OF HELP FIRST RESPONDERS PROJECT

Motto: Being the first hand to help...

Justification:

Hand of Help is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization, recently declared the largest independent orphanage in Romania, providing continuous help to orphans, widows and the impoverished since 1986. Along with all the continual support that it provides to the local communities, Hand of Help has always been a channel that has provided relief to the impoverished and those acutely suffering from natural calamity.

The region of Romania that Hand of Help regularly assists is prone to various natural disasters. Many of the homes built in the villages of Romania are constructed with mud-straw bricks and as a result, are easily destroyed by flooding. Along with losing their home, families often lose their only means of survival, their livestock and harvest.

Due to political bureaucracy and lengthy protocol, help is tardy and is often just a media spectacle. Politicians also have affinity towards regions where their voters abide. Emergency relief from the Government is always scarce and many hurting people are left without any support.

For over more than 25 years Hand of Help has provided relief in areas affected by flooding, however, with the orphanage being our main priority, we have always had to get by with the few resources available.

Our vision is to establish an emergency relief fund that would allow us to prepare for and act immediately upon a natural catastrophe. Our ample storage facility would permit us to store bottled water, dry foods, sleeping bags, blankets, tents, clothing without a monthly fee, allowing us to be on site immediately if a situation would arise.

In addition to the items we have on hand, the additional money that would be raised will be placed in an interest bearing account that would constantly increase the amount available in response to natural disasters.

The staff that we have on hand has the experience needed to properly administrate a disaster situation and would be available on call keeping overhead inexpensive.

General objective:

The project is aimed to provide emergency assistance to the desolate, poverty stricken, desperate families in need as a result of a natural calamity. Emergency assistance not only provides vital help to the affected, but also encourages them, bringing them hope and allowing them the strength to get past the psychological distress and start rebuilding their lives.

Target group:

The victims of natural disasters in the northeastern part of Romania that are in need of immediate relief, a first response until other organizations or government can get organized and provide assistance.

Resources:

Human resources:

1. Project manager: Dr. Daniel Boldea (already on staff)
2. Counselors (trained for post-traumatic stress as well as spiritual guidance)
3. Drivers and delivery personnel
4. Medical staff

All human resources are already on staff with Hand of Help and shall serve on a volunteer basis in response to a natural calamity.

Material resources:

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| 1. bottled water: 3000 - 2 liter bottles..... | \$3,000 |
| 2. dried foods: | \$2,250 |
| 3. canned food:..... | \$2,250 |
| 4. blankets: 100 | \$4,000 |
| 5. sleeping bags: 100..... | \$4,000 |
| 6. tents: 25..... | \$2,500 |
| 7. clothing and footwear..... | donated |
| 8. fuel for vehicles: | \$500 |
| 9. vehicle rental:..... | \$1,500 |

Cost of material resources to have on hand: **\$20,000**

Emergency relief fund - in an interest barring account, available upon request: **\$30,000**

Total cost of project: \$50,000