

Mustard Seed [Jersey]

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Changed Lives Project ~ update June 2016



This photo (received from Romania in June 2016) shows the progress with our Changed Lives building project.

A huge THANK YOU to all who have contributed to make this vision start to happen.

It all began in October 2013, when Mustard Seed Jersey donated their elderly trailer to the Romanian charity FI to be converted into housing for the homeless. It was divided into 2 halves and filled by Dec 13.



In December 2014 Mustard Seed Jersey representatives met the Benedek family who lived in a freezing leaking shed, as their house had been demolished by a lorry.



As always the Jersey public responded magnificently and money was raised to buy them a portercabin.



In February 15, when the Benedeks moved into the portercabin positioned at Cihei, they said it was “Incredible” and “A gift from God”.....

All had serious health issues so they had had no chance of raising the money themselves.

Sadly since then Mr Benedek’s brother has passed away.



By June 2015, a second portercabin was purchased and placed at Cihei, again thanks to funds from Jersey. It has now become the home of two homeless pensioners.

Every Romanian needs an ID card to obtain his or her pension, child benefit, medical care and legal employment.

Early in 2015 we discovered that this address in Cihei could not be used for ID cards as there was no registered permanent building on the site, only portercabins and converted trailer.

So we decided to raise money (estimated £40,000) to obtain the necessary permissions and build a multi purpose building (2 units of accommodation, communal washing facilities and relief aid storage). After that all the residents will be able use the address to obtain full ID cards.

The site is owned by the newly set up Romanian charitable association Asociata Vieti Schimbate (name means “Changed Lives”).



Picture of the foundations which were completed in May. In the background is Mustard Seed Jersey's 2nd trailer, which has also been donated (after carrying the May 2016 aid consignment) and it will be converted into accommodation as soon as funds allow.

We hope and expect that by the winter the 2nd trailer will be providing 2 more units of basic accommodation for those who would otherwise be living on the streets.

From now on Mustard Seed Jersey plans to use containers for shipping the humanitarian aid from Jersey to St Malo then on to Romania.

We still have a way to go with the fund raising for this whole project, but have raised sufficient so far to pay for the permissions, foundations and main structure including the roof of the building.

This has been made possible by very generous donors in the west and a very generous discount from the Romanian builder.

The people living on the site in the portercabins and trailer are all working as volunteer labourers if they are physically able to help.

Nelu the social worker hopes the walls and roof will be completed before the winter weather comes.

As always we would be delighted for further donations to this project to enable us to complete it:

*Mustard Seed Jersey Appeal Account
Sort code: 40-25-41 Account No: 71135333*

Please keep up to date with news on this project
through our website www.mustardseedjersey.co.uk
through Facebook www.facebook.com/mustardseedjsy

THANK YOU SO MUCH to all who support Mustard Seed Jersey in any & every way: practically, prayerfully, financially

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