



Joy in a Box

organised by

The Romanian Aid Foundation

UK Registered Charity No. 1060828

Christmas gift boxes for needy people in Romania

For many families in the Dorohoi area of north-eastern Romania, unemployment and poverty are their daily experience all year round. This sense of deprivation is made worse at Christmas time by the extreme winter temperatures and the widespread pessimism about any improvement. In the autumn of each year, we run our **Joy in a Box Appeal**, with the aim of bringing to these people some measure of hope and the encouragement of knowing that they have not been forgotten. For many people these gifts might be the only ones that they receive at Christmas. *Each box means so much to those who have so little.*

Many of the gift boxes that we distribute have been prepared by supporters in the UK whilst others are made up in Dorohoi using funds that supporters designate for that purpose. For example, bulk donations of chocolates or sweets have allowed us to distribute those more widely, whilst specified donations enabled us to give sacks of groceries to several dozen families in particular need. By making up these sacks in Dorohoi we were also able to support the local economy.

In previous years, many schools chose to use this appeal as the basis of pupils' projects during the autumn term. Preparing the boxes includes elements of geography and history, and raises curiosity about other peoples and the way they live. It also encourages generosity towards those who are worse off than we are. This year we will close the appeal at the end of October, to allow schools time to collect and dispatch the gift boxes after the Autumn half-term break.

Of course, '**Joy in a Box**' is not limited to schools - many other groups and individuals prepare gift boxes each year. Churches, work colleagues, social clubs, youth clubs and pensioners can all join in. Boxes can be prepared for any age group, male or female, and will be distributed accordingly. Boxes are distributed in Romania by **Asociatia Neemia**, a registered charity that distributes aid on a year-round basis and is fully acquainted with local needs.

If you would like to register your interest in the '**Joy in a Box**' Appeal, please email us or complete the tear-off slip at the bottom of this letter and return it to us at the address below. There are more details in our information pack and also on the Gift Box website at www.roaf.org/JBox/indexJB.htm. Pictures from previous years' appeals are available online, at <http://roaf.org/gallery/index.php?cat=5>.

Thank you for your interest.



Please register my interest in the **Joy in a Box Appeal**.

Name:	
Organisation:	
Address:	
Email:	Telephone:

Please complete and return to RoAF at the address below, or email us at sbox@roaf.org

The Romanian Aid Foundation, 289 Court Lodge Road, Horley, Surrey RH6 8RG
Email: sbox@roaf.org