



Saint Paraskeva Orthodox Charity

2013 Annual Report



“Feeding the hungry is a greater work than raising the dead” St. John Chrysostom

© Photo 2013 Marcus Monastery, Romania

Saint Paraskeva Orthodox Charity 2013 Annual Report

Table of Contents

Table of contents

A Year in Review 2013

Section I. Fundraising activities and grant donations

Section II. Contributions to programs and individual cases

1. The Children of Glodeanu, Buzau
2. The Children with Developmental disabilities, Giurgiu
3. The Marcus Orphanage, Covasna
4. The Children of Valea Plopului
5. The Abandoned Children of Iasi Pediatric Hospital
6. Funding report on 5 individual cases

Section III. Partnerships and Collaborations

Section IV: Future Plans and looking forward at 2014

Disclaimer: The 2013 Annual Report has been prepared by the Saint Paraskeva Orthodox Charity Executive Committee of Board of Directors. For additional information on our program activities and financial reports please refer to our website www.spcharity.org.

A Year in Review 2013

The Year in Review is a summary of the activities and achievements of the Saint Paraskeva Orthodox Charity in Romania for the calendar year 2013 and also a summary of prospective projects in progress.

2013 was a very rewarding year for our charity, despite the fact that in the 21st century, Romania is facing still a slow recovery from the recent economic crisis, while still healing from the wounds caused by the communist regime over 20 years ago. Established in 2010, Saint Paraskeva Charity strives to improve the lives of our beneficiaries, the orphaned children by supporting locally based organizations that have a proven track record of success in serving this marginalized group.

At St. Paraskeva Orthodox Charity (also referred to as SPOC, in this document) we started the year with a thorough analysis of our past activities over the first three years in order to streamline and improve future operations and the effectiveness of our activities. As a result, we are proud to state that our representatives of Board of Directors have visited every single working site during this year in order to assess the local progress made, to analyze developing needs and monitor the implementation of our grants.

Along the way, as we efficiently collaborated with established organizations, we made sure to take the time to identify families with children in critical need of support that have remained unreached by other charities or local authorities. Our dedicated volunteers conducted thorough assessments and designed unique interventions to provide immediate attention and support in such emergency-based situations.

Over the past 3 years our financial support has translated into offering funds used for vital medical procedures, ongoing medication treatments, nutritious meals, rehabilitation equipment, wheel chairs, and other medical supplies to hundreds of children in need.

We would like to sincerely thank our admirable and dedicated volunteer staff in Chicago and Romania who have volunteered thousands of hours to ensure that funds were collected and donated to over ten projects supported this year's charitable work in Romania. We are happy to share with you these images of our grateful beneficiaries from our funded programs in Romania during 2013.



Section I. Fundraising Activities and Grant Donations

During the financial year of 2013, we are happy to report that, with God's Almighty guidance and help, we were able to fundraise a total amount of **\$31,147** which represents a **119.37%** increase over the previous year.

Our expenses for the year totaled **\$31,587** of which **\$26,240 (83%)** were grants distributed to our active programs and individual cases in Romania. The grants covered various needs that aided a total of 152 children and 4 adults with serious emergent health or social conditions throughout Romania.

We are proud to highlight that we remained true to our commitment of conducting our activities through 100% volunteer work, and therefore were able to maintain our administrative costs at **14.2%** of the total amount raised this year.

SPOC fundraising activities for 2013 are listed below:

Source of Funding	Funds raised in USD \$
Members and donors cash contribution	\$15,267
Fundraising Revenues	\$14,171
Product donations and other revenues	\$ 1,709
Total funds raised	\$31,147

Section II. Contributions to programs and individual cases

Our grants have been carefully directed to support several "hand-picked programs" with a successful track record. These programs are usually run and led by local Romanian monastic or priests as well organizations or individuals with a strong reputation and dedication to help the most vulnerable and needy children of Romania.

Our contributions range from financial support targeted to impactful projects, to operations scale up efforts, to in-kind donations that included shipments of goods, and individual case by case support to cover medical costs or medical treatments as needed.

Our dedicated volunteers conduct thorough assessments and design unique interventions to improve these crisis situations. Over the past 3 years we have been providing ongoing financial support for medical procedures, medication, dietary supplements, rehabilitation equipment, wheel chairs, and other medical supplies to numerous children with complex medical conditions.

Over the course of the year 2013, we successfully and effectively supported a number of 6 programs and 5 individual cases. Short summary descriptions of each of these activities and our contributions are listed below.

1. The Children of Glodeanu

In 2013, SPOC contributed with the amount of **\$4,328** for food and clothes offered to **74 children** in the day care center.

SPOC has been collaborating with Father Marian Tudor, the local priest and mission leader for the past three years, in ensuring that the children who have suffered from starvation, illness, and extreme poverty are taken care of. Basic nutritional needs have been provided in the form of food at 2 to 3 months intervals throughout the year.

2. The Children with Developmental Disabilities – Giurgiu

In 2013, SPOC, made the following financial contributions allocated for six children suffering from major health conditions.

- **\$3,054** has been allocated for the purchase of medical expenses for 3 children throughout the year.
- **\$1,602** has been spent on nutritional supplements, vitamins and medication for three additional children suffering from various health conditions.
- ***\$8,647 has been planned to be raised for 2014***, for the acquisition of a complex physical therapy equipment which will aid in treating an estimated 10 patients on a daily basis with the help of a physical therapist.

In Giurgiu, over 55 children who suffer from severe physical and cognitive disabilities are being treated at this center. Physical therapy is a major treatment component for the 55 disabled children offered by this center as the only means of rehabilitation in the area of Giurgiu.

3. The Marcus Orphanage

In 2013, SPOC has contributed with a total **\$5,355**, of which **\$4000** helped to purchase wood to cover for the needs of firewood, their only source of heat over the winter and **\$1,355** towards organizing a summer camp for 17 children.

To cope with the increasing demands, "Saint Justina Charity" was founded. Our organization has been dedicated to partnering with Abbess Serafima in continued support of this orphanage, and the 11 orphaned children raised there by helping them with covering the operating expenses, such as utilities, and daily needs.

4. The Children of Valea Plopului, a Father Tanase Project

The Valea Plopului orphanage established by Father Tanase more than a decade ago, serves as home to more than 400 abandoned and orphaned children.

In 2013 SPOC engaged in a first time partnership with Father Tanase having committed to provide financial assistance in the amount of **\$4,370** that helped provide food, clothes, and school supplies to 57 orphaned children.

5. The Abandoned Children of the Iasi Pediatric Hospital

For the second consecutive year, an estimated **\$1,600** has been donated in the form of 50 kilograms of infant formula purchased and donated to the hospital in feeding 3 children. Two infants benefited for a period of six months while another infant benefited for a period of four months from the nutritional infant formula donated.

6. Funding report on 5 individual cases

In addition to the five long term programs running, as mentioned above that address various groups of children, during the year of 2013 we have promptly responded to multiple individual requests, helping families in crisis, and children in desperate situations. The table report lists the individuals supported on a case by case basis.

Name of Project	Type of Request	Amount in USD (\$)
Georgiana Haineala	Chronic Medical Condition Medication	\$3,000
Andra Vasile	Medical supplies	\$1,200
Braga Irina	Hospital expenses	\$500
Maria Chivu	Medical expenses	\$193
Alina Vasile	School Fees	\$177
Total amount funded:		\$5,070

Please see Annex 1 for additional financial information.

Section III. Partnerships and collaborations

Our operating model to help the needy children of Romania is based on partnership with proven ethical and moral local organizations either by monasteries or by the church or that have implemented successful programs aligned with our mission and help them improve or scale up their operations.

Our current partners include:

1. The Romanian Archdiocese of Americas- His Eminence IPS Nicolae Condrea, Chicago, USA
2. The “Constantin and Elena” Orthodox Church – Chicago, USA
3. All Saints Antiochian Orthodox Church, Chicago
4. Christ The Savior Orthodox Church, Chicago
5. Holy Trinity Cathedral Ladies Auxiliary, Baia Mare, Romania
6. The Association for Support of Children with Physical Disabilities of Romania- the Giurgiu Chapter
7. Abbess Serafima and The Charitable Association “St. Iustina” – Marcus, Covasna, Romania
8. Father Nicolae Tanase and The Association “Pro Vita”- Valea Screzii, Romania
9. Father Tudor Marian and the parish Glodeanu Carlig , Romania
10. Father Andrei Aioanei “The Joy of the Impoverished” Rasca, Suceava
11. Radio Transilvania from Turda (Romania)
12. Romanian Heritage Festival

13. The Mail House, Printing Distributor
14. Speed Romanian Colet, Shipment distributor to Romania
15. A group of Orthodox Faithful from Canada

Section IV. Future plans and looking forward at 2014

While actively working with our partners on the current programs, we continued to explore new opportunities for our organization to expand the reach and impact of our activities. In 2014, in addition to increasing our support to the existing programs, we plan to launch new social programs in Rasca Suceava county and Floresti, Cluj county.

We are grateful to God for the accomplishments achieved this year and we are very grateful to our donors and their generous support through the entire year. We continue to pray to God, to our patron, Saint Paraskeva to strengthen our efforts and to give us wisdom in caring on our future goals.

To learn more about our programs in Romania and make a donation please visit us online at www.spcharity.org or email us at contact@spcharity.org

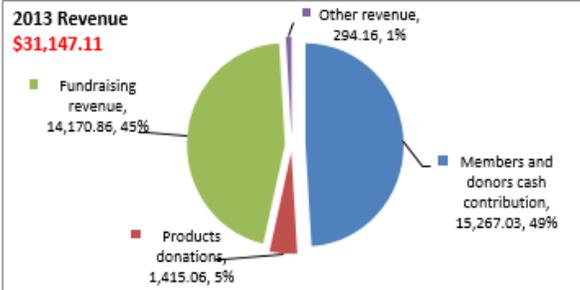
Thank you and may God's grace continue to bless us all in 2014!

Annex 1. SPOC 2013 Financial Statement

**SAINT PARASKEVA ORTHODOX CHARITY
2013 FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

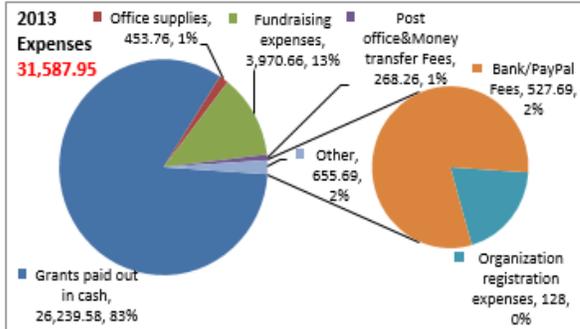
REVENUES

Members and donors cash contribution	15,267.03
Products donations	1,415.06
Fundraising revenue	14,170.86
Other revenue	294.16
TOTAL REVENUES for 2013	31,147.11



EXPENSES

Grants paid out in cash	26,239.58
Office supplies	453.76
Fundraising expenses	3,970.66
Post office&Money transfer Fees	268.26
Organization registration expenses	128
Bank/PayPal Fees	527.69
TOTAL EXPENSES	31,587.95



GRANTS PAID OUT IN CASH

Paralyzed kids	4,657.27
Par Tanase Valea Ploplului	4,369.92
Kids of Glodeanu	4,328.29
Abandoned Kids of Iasi Pediatric Hospita	1,600.00
Marcusi Monastery Orphanage	5,355.00
Georgiana Medical Expenses	3,000.00
Emergency funds	2,071.49
TOTAL GRANTS	26,239.58

