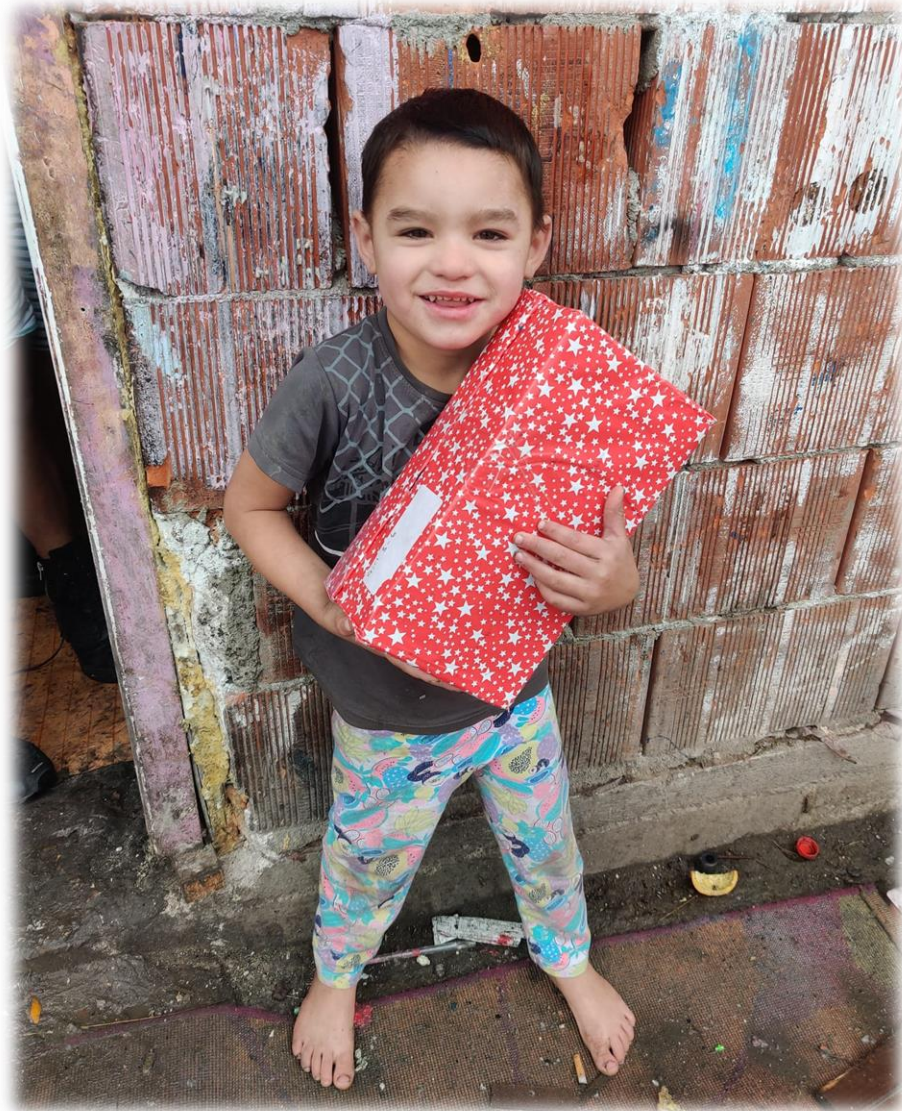


Mustard Seed [Jersey]

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Mustard Seed Jersey Newsletter ~ January 2023



“It is a privilege every year to distribute the Christmas shoeboxes from Jersey. This year we gave to Ukrainians who are refugees in Romania, we gave to poor families in Romania, and we sent some over the border to Ukraine. THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE” *so said one of the Romanian social workers.*

Pictures from the shoebox distributions in Romania – some to the poorest of the Romanians



Inside the home there was a major problem with damp and leaks. The social worker described being in their home as like being “in the rain”.



In Mustard Seed we give shoeboxes to needy adults as well as children.



A desperately poor community



Distribution in one of the schools.

In 2022 we sent 3046 Christmas shoeboxes to Romania; approx. half were given to Ukrainians.
THANK YOU TO ALL WHO GAVE



A number of Ukrainian refugees now live at Casa Rabi (Mustard Seed Romania's property) Ukrainian family groups living there include children with special needs and challenges. They all received Christmas shoeboxes.



Over the border in Ukraine, money from Jersey was used to buy treats for the children in an orphanage.



Distribution to family living in the community in Romania.

Ukraine follows the Orthodox Church calendar, so Christmas is traditionally celebrated at Epiphany (Jan 6th) Consequently at time of printing we have very few pictures of shoebox distribution in Ukraine – watch our Facebook page www.facebook.com/mustardseedj sy



A mattress from Jersey for his child in time for Christmas.

The start of the war in Ukraine suddenly changed Mustard Seed's priorities for 2022. Thanks to the generous response from Jersey people we were able to help financially through purchasing food, shelter to refugees, medical help, heating costs as well as sending clothing bedding, shoes, etc as humanitarian aid via Romania.



Romanian volunteers were happy to see the good organization of the storage and distribution of relief aid in Chernivtsi, Ukraine near the Romanian border.



Volunteers from Romania drove the goods across from Romania to Ukraine, meaning our transport costs were reduced as we paid only for fuel and vehicle hire for that last dangerous leg of the journey



Providing funding to pay for an urgently needed medical procedure for a Ukrainian refugee in Romania.

Romania hosts over 86,000 Ukrainian refugees mainly women and children. Many more entered the country then moved on.

CONTINUING OUR OUTREACH TO ROMANIA



Once again it was challenging to see people queuing in the snow for over an hour to receive a loaf of bread.

We have continued to use funds to provide winter fuel for those in the greatest need.



Continuing to assist needy communities throughout the year, then able to bless them with a Christmas shoebox in December.

One of our volunteers spoke of his pride and joy when some of the neediest young people on his education and assistance programme wanted to give from what he had to help the Ukrainians.



Continuing our financial support for homework clubs. We provide funding for nutritional snacks and other expenses. We believe this is an investment in a child's future.

LOOKING BACK OVER 2022



As soon as the Ukraine war began, the Romanian social workers asked for help to reach out to the refugees.



Family groups of Ukrainian refugees moved to Casa Rabi and we were amazed and thrilled at people's generosity so we were able to fund this magnificent playground for the kids.

It has been a prayerful "juggling act" to work out our priorities & the right use of Mustard Seed's resources to continue our work in Romania while also responding to the Ukrainian emergency needs.



We have sent humanitarian aid to Ukraine via Romania.



Throughout the year, some amazing people have knitted countless hats, scarves, blankets, etc – all so very much appreciated and valued in both Romania and Ukraine.

So many people and organisations to thank – our amazing donors and volunteers. When it comes to sending out the aid consignments we are so grateful for Raul Freitas Landscapes, Manche Pest Control, Ferryspeed, Morvan Fils in St Malo, our Romanian haulier who collects the pallets in St Malo. Also for their help with the shoeboxes we thank the Parish Halls & Les Quennevais Sports Centre and everyone who has given or supported in any way – materially, financially, with skills & time, with your prayers

OUR PLANS FOR 2023.



We plan to continue our aid collections inviting people to deliver to our premises and occasional advertised collections.

There are many uncertainties so we ask that you keep yourself informed of any changes we may publicize, especially regarding possible restrictions on relief aid items.

Often giving or raising money is the most helpful.



We hope and plan to send relief aid consignments probably in early summer, autumn and December with the Christmas shoeboxes.



We hope and pray we can continue to support our regular projects like the sponsorship programmes and our education programmes.

As always we would be grateful for your prayers for wisdom for the trustees as they plan the way ahead and make decisions.



WAYS TO HELP MUSTARD SEED JERSEY IN 2023

As there are changes please keep in touch as we anticipate there may be restrictions on the aid we can send.

DONATE your surplus good quality clothing, bedding, footwear.

At the time of printing the only drop off point is the packing loft at Cardiff House, La Ruelle du Coin Varin, St Peter JE3 7EJ.

We plan to accept **general aid from January – August.**

Depending on accumulation of goods, we will stop accepting general aid before or during September and then focus exclusively on Christmas shoeboxes. We will advise on Facebook, the website, the answer-phone & loft door as to the cut-off date for general aid.

SUPPORT our book stalls at Rozel Bay and St John's Village.

SUGGEST that Mustard Seed Jersey benefit from a fundraiser event.

SPONSOR a needy child or family.

SPONSOR a pensioner through our **Adopt a Granny** scheme

KNIT blanket squares or hats, etc for the Christmas shoeboxes.

PLAN to **PACK A CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX** (info available by September)

Remember Mustard Seed Jersey in your **PRAYERS** – to receive an occasional prayer update by email, please contact Rose.

If you shop at the CoOp please use our divvy number **321340**

Put your **LOOSE CHANGE** in a collecting box for Mustard Seed
Save your **USED POSTAGE STAMPS** for us.

Organise a **FUND-RAISING EVENT** (please contact us before).

POTENTIAL VOLUNTEERS – please get in touch

If you need more information please contact Rose either by phone (01534 482637) or by email to mustardseedjersey@yahoo.co.uk

Keep up to date

through Facebook www.facebook.com/mustardseedjsy

through our website www.mustardseed.org.je

MANY MANY THANKS to all who support in any & every way: practically, prayerfully, financially

Special thanks to Paperclix for their help printing this newsletter.

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