



2022 Review and plan for 2023

Dear friends

The main activities of CAR, i.e., providing relief to people in extreme difficulties, and the extension of the Christian message in Romania, have continued through 2022. These activities were effected through CAR's counterpart, Pro Community Romania (PCR), which is a Romanian charity led by Pastor Daniel and Danny and Sarah Ispas, managing the aid in Romania and this year for the first time aid into the Ukraine

Several visits were made to Romania by trustees (at their own expense), and regular communication was maintained via WhatsApp to encourage, support, and observe our counterparts (PCR). The Romanian team also attended the three trustee meetings in 2022 via Zoom, to formally report on progress. In addition, Danny and Sarah visited the UK and gave first hand reports of their work to a number of groups and churches.

Every year presents its own challenges and 2022 has been no different with inflation running around 15% and extension of our work to support medical needs and refugees in Romania (from the Ukraine). Having said that the charity has been blessed by amazing supporters and with an additional £32,838 raised following an appeal for Ukraine aid. This more than doubled our annual income.

All things considered it is remarkable what was achieved given the circumstances:

The church in Carand has continued meeting and more people are attending with the fear of the pandemic receding. Services also continue to be streamed and can be seen [biserica betania carand - search results | Facebook](#) where they have regular remote followers
Danny and Sarah are doing well and still leading the church in Carand.



With the war in Ukraine starting in February, the team were keen to provide aid to support the refugees.

Following appeals in the UK we have been able to provide;

- Food aid
- Medicines including insulin, saline solution, and Ventolin.
- Clothing, toys for children
- Three generators for medical centres suffering from power outages.
- Mattresses for orphanage and also refugee centres
- Transportation of food and other aid into Ukraine.
- Funding of transport for relief supplies.





2022 Review and plan for 2023

Youth work has evolved with many of the older youth now spending more time away at university/college although contact is maintained where possible. A younger group are moving in to replace those that have moved on. A Cycle safety demonstration followed by a 40km bike ride with police escort attracted around 50 youth from up to 30km away. This was a good opportunity not only for training but also in building relationships. Many are now asking when the next one will be.



Shopping for Adopt-a-Friend has become more challenging.

Over 30 individuals and families included in the 'Adopt a Friend' scheme (financially supported from UK donors) were provided with food aid each month. Regrettably in the 3rd quarter of 2022, with inflation running at 15% the amount we were able to provide had to be reduced. With only a fixed amount to spend, Pastor Daniel has to calculate what we can afford literally as we go round the shop



We are thankful for several extra donations in October and November that enabled extra provisions. Finally at Christmas the families and individuals in the scheme were invited to a Christmas social and meal with over 85 adults and children attending.





2022 Review and plan for 2023

A Christmas social for the children of the village, with carol singing and presents was held in the church and hand made Christmas cards were delivered to everyone in the village



This year the schools were in desperate need of plain A4 paper and we were able to provide 4 large cases of paper to each school in the village



With the political situation making it harder to acquire and transport wood for needy families, the charity funded an attachment for the tractor that would take forest waste branches and chop/bag them. This is still very much in the trial stages but the waste branches are free.

The 4X4 Jimny continues to be an asset, frequently having to assist people stuck in the forest or where there has been an accident in recovering cars from ditches. The fire engine originally purchased by the charity was in use a number of times coping with multiple field fires, house fires and also one landslide after flooding. The benevolent fund for use of the team in Romania in emergency situations has been helpful to provide essential short term aid, mostly used for helping local people get to urgent medical appointments.

Looking to the plan for 2023

Given inflation the charity decided to make a small increase in the grant for Danny's salary in Jan 2023. Regrettably there is a shortfall of more than £200 a month in Danny's personal support from donors but the trustees have agreed to make up the difference from general funds in the hope we can develop more support over the next year.

We are delighted to say the response to our appeal for Adopt a friend scheme finance has resulted in our being able to return to a full supply of food bags.

With the continued development of the church in Carand broadcasting online we are investing in a new professional camera. This will improve the quality of the broadcast and it is hoped to install sometime before April.

We need to decide on our future involvement with regard to supporting Ukraine as donations have declined significantly in the latter part of 2022. Please pray for a clear way forward.



2022 Review and plan for 2023

There is a major change to the administration of Pro Community Romania in that they need to remove one of the founding members (Doru Gurban who is now in the US) and the inclusion of Danny and Sarah. This is purely an administration change but Romanian bureaucracy is difficult to sometimes navigate.

We hope by September to have completed our house in Romania and will be able to host visitors.

With regard to Community Action Romania we are delighted to welcome Terry Golding and Tim Perks (from Willesborough Baptist Church) to the charity committee. We are also grateful for Tim for accepting the role of Treasurer from January 2023. Evan Gough will continue as Assistant Treasurer and will help Tim take up his new responsibilities.

We are always thankful for our sponsors and donors, many of whom have supported the charity over many years. While it is not easy for us to raise funds, our small charity continues to be blessed. We continue to maintain four to six months' working reserve as advised by the Charity Commission; and with thanks to the treasurer and charity members we were able to keep administration costs low, this year at a level less than 2% of total expenditure and is more than covered by gift aid. This means that every penny we receive goes directly to the good causes.

Items for Prayer

- Danny and Sarah and their leadership of the church in Carand and strength particularly as we enter one of the busiest times of the church
- Strength and good weather for Danny and Sarah to complete the work and renovation of their house.
- Finances for funding both Danny and Sarah
- Wisdom for the charity regarding the support for Ukraine

May I wish you every blessing

Roger Edwards

Chairman Community Action Romania

Email: comactrom@gmail.com

Website: www.comactrom.com

Note: if you are interested in making a donation you can do so by clicking here on [Just Giving](#) or contacting us via email for bank account details.

For your information

Trustees

Roger Edwards (Chairman)
Andrew Golba

Rob Foot
Evan Gough

Committee members

Lynn Edwards
Tim Perks (treasurer)
Terry Golding

Katy Foot
Kieran and Amy Taylor
David Scott