



Andy and Rianna Stannard



Dear friends,

We thank God for your prayers, support and encouragement since we have moved to Chisinau, Moldova. Thank you for those of you who have been messaging us - we love to hear from you and keep in touch with what you are doing too!

In our last newsletter we shared a prayer request for our need to get the correct documents for our residency permit. We only discovered once we arrived that the documents we had were not adequate BUT thank God that he has answered prayers! We now have the correct police check and are looking into how we can get it posted to Chisinau quickly (since postage takes considerably longer here than in the UK). We are now waiting for one more piece of documentation and with God's help we will be able to apply for a permit just in time!

Together with the other new team members we visited a village called Panașești, this village is about a 40-minute drive from Chisinau by public transport. The church there runs a day centre that is supported by OM Moldova. The Day Centres that OM support are aimed at reaching out to some of the poorest and most vulnerable children in the country, so whenever a Day Centre is opened the local church works together with the local authorities to find out which children in the village are most in need of the service that the Day Centre provides. A warm safe place to go after school, Hot meals, help with homework, crafts, games and Bible stories are some of the things that the children benefit from the Day Centre.

We felt so encouraged to be able to see first-hand the impact that the Day Centres are having on the lives of children in Moldova and we were even able to have a small program for the children there in Panașești.



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<https://www.uk.om.org/index.php/support-individuals>



Another way that OM blesses these children across the country is through the school supplies project which provides them a back-pack with all the required equipment for the new school year. The relief department had a very busy week, sorting through a room full of boxes and packing each bag with notepads, books, sharpeners, rubbers, rulers, colouring pencils, pens, water colours and writing pencils. Children are required to provide these for themselves in Moldova but many of these children would otherwise not be able to without OM's help. God blessed us in a free day to help out with this huge task and it was a joy to see the piles of bags ready for collection!

So, after being in Moldova now for 3 weeks we're both about to dive headfirst into our ministries!

Rianna is currently undergoing training for the STM (Short Term Missions) coordinator role which involves liaising with the different OM offices around the world to organise and facilitate short term visitors who come to Moldova for the different programs that OM MD run throughout the course of the year. There can be approximately around 300 individuals who may join for a couple of days to a couple of months for a vision trip/ the summer outreach programmes/ a training programme or a tailored programme for those who want to serve using their specific gifts and interest at other points in the year. Rianna officially takes over this role on the 2nd October but will have to juggle it with language lessons until the end of October.

Andy is starting to look into his responsibilities for OM Moldova and Romania's joint venture MDTe3 (Missions Discipleship Training eastern europe extreme). MDTe3 is an intensive 5 month training experience aimed to help participants to grow in their knowledge and intimacy with God, to experience transformation and growth in their journey towards fullness in Christ, to be equipped to love, serve and work with all kinds of people and to understand God's heart for the nations, be aware of the needs and be equipped to respond. The program starts at the end of January. Andy's next few weeks will be spent creating good working relationships with the Moldovan and Romanian leadership teams through skype meetings and a possible visit to Romania at the end of October. This will also help to give understanding as to how the Romanian side of the program will work.

Rejoice with us for:

- progress in our residency permit
- great quality time with others in our team, as we get to know them

Pray with us for:

- quick delivery of our documents
- a new team moving to the village of Cobilea, as they adjust to life there together, ministries and build relationships in the community
- OM day centres - the individuals who run them, the children and their families