

# Menedék Newsletter



The paper of Menedék Foundation

*The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. Nahum 1:7*

December 2013

## Real freedom

In the cold times of the Christmas season walking on the streets we tend to recognize more the misery. We stumble across and wonder about the fact that there are people who do not have a home to return to.

Radical „civil rights” movements are defending the right of homeless people to camp in parks, to sleep on benches, to stay in phone booths, to sleep in the metro. And they do this for the good of the homeless, referring to their rights. Important question: is this really their interest to have the chance to freeze outside in the minuses? To live without basic living conditions? Is it enough that we can bring them a cup of warm tea when it is minus twenty out there..?

This is not real freedom. Real freedom is when there is a place to get a good rest: we give them the freedom of having a perspective, the freedom of hope. To calm down after the hounded times, to take a deep breath and look forward. Of course the more time one spends on the streets the harder it gets.

Fortunately to this direction significant progress has been made in the recent years in Budapest: over six-hundred beds were added to the supply system and – with the participation of Menedék Foundation – the Budapest Homeless Consortium was founded. The aim of both of these is to accompany the homeless people and to care for them personally.

In the last years twenty-four young people arrived to the *Men's Shelter* through the Consortium. Many of them now rent apartments or live with relatives after resolved family conflicts.

Those we meet on the streets are the tip of the iceberg. If we would ask the people of Budapest how they see the homeless, they would probably tell us about alcoholics who smell bad, cause

trouble on the bus and yell at the ones who refuse to give them money. Indeed, there are those who deal with complex mental and health issues, alcohol or drug problems, who need to be convinced that they need help and require complex care. For without help comes death. And we do not want to give up on them.

But the majority is unnoticed. We do not recognize them by the mentioned characteristics, or we „do not have the time” to notice them. They have not (yet) took the typical homeless habits, but they do not have a home anymore. Because the bank took it, or they got divorced, came a sudden disease or as a result of a reckless move they are losing ground. There was no support, no helping mechanisms, no strong community. There are many who just need a chance, a moment to take a deep breath: temporary help to get back on their feet and rebuild their lives. Often painfully, but they move forward. People who got shelter at our place come back and tell us how they „found their place at work”, „are sober and pay the rent”, „resolved their conflicts and went home”. Or return because they „slipped again and need help”.

Real freedom is not found on the streets. The streets are trouble. The real freedom is at Home. Home is not defined by the fact that I own it or that I pay the rent. Home is where I am free to be free, where I am in peace and I am surrounded by my mates. In the atmosphere of Home there is always change in people. This is why we feel the best at Home, and those who never had one, feel at Home in our homes or shelters. Can anybody be at Home in Kiskunmajsa at the *Refuge Town*, in Bodrog with foster parents, or in Budapest at the *Men's Shelter* or at the *Mother's Shelter*? Our experience is yes. It might be temporary, but they are at Home. Freely.

Gábor Liptai



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### E-NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive this newsletter in an electronic format then, please drop us an e-mail at: [iroda@menedekalapitvany.hu](mailto:iroda@menedekalapitvany.hu)

### Donations to Esztergom

In November, 2013 some furniture and clothes were provided to people in need in Esztergom. We found there difficult life situations and significant needs, therefore we plan further donations to those people in the future as well but the financial resources are not available yet. The furniture, clothes and food were generous donations.



photo: Orsolya Huszár

### Job opportunity

Menedék Foundation is looking for new part time child care staff members to the Mother's Shelter in Budapest and to the Temporary Home for Homeless Families in Kiskunmajsa. Qualifications laid down by law are required. Benefits are provided according to the wage scale of public employees.

E-mail: [iroda@menedekalapitvany.hu](mailto:iroda@menedekalapitvany.hu)

### Tea club

We invite adults and children from our homes in Budapest on every Thursday for various club activities. The Tea Club is led by Tivadar Molnár, we are looking for volunteer helpers for the children's ministry. You can apply by calling the following number: +36 20-953-4282.



The regular services of the team of the *Way Of Hope Foundation* in Tea Clubs in Budapest and in the Temporary Home are a really great gift for us. We are thankful for their commitment and work!

### Our needs

We are looking for volunteers to join Menedék Foundation in service according to their talents, skills or education in the following areas:

- website edition, IT support
- creating photos and videos
- translation to/from English
- storing, physical work.

We are planning on building a new playground for the Temporary Home in Kiskunmajsa for the children who live there, but we are still looking for resources. The children are already excited about this project, a video about it is available on our website.



The outdated heating system in the Man's Shelter needs to be reconstructed, and also a new boiler needs to be implemented which costs HUF 450.000.

We are going to build a club room in the basement of the Mother's Shelter for the daily children's bible education. Estimated cost is 2.300.000 HUF.



## *One more year for Menedék! - Supporting Program*

Dear Supporters!

27 years ago when we started the service of Menedék Foundation out of offerings of voluntary commitment, faith, time, money and energies. In the last decades our service areas have been established in three geographic parts of the country: in Budapest, Kiskunmajsza and Bodrog. Every day we provide shelter in our homes for 165 people and more than 160 children receive education in our schools and kindergartens.

Over the past decades we dealt with a wide range of people from the margins of society; many of them went through lifechanging experiences and put their trust in God. We are grateful to the Lord for renewed lives, restored relationships, healing from addictions, and for opportunities for indigent people to build a new life. Through the service of Menedék new churches were established where the staff and clients can practice community.

Since the end of the communist era and the change of regime we work in accordance with the social and child protection laws, largely with the help of normative state support, which, however, has not increased (in fact, decreased and not only in real terms), and this led the operation of our service into a critical situation.

We are at a turning point. 15% of our basic operating expenditure is missing, approximately 14 million HUF a year. This missing amount could be obtained by the collaboration of our community members, individuals, businesses and churches if with their support they help us take care of homeless people.

Our experience is that our work is very much needed. There is constant overapplication to our homes, we are unable to help everyone. Massive amount of families and individuals lost and loose their homes due to bank loans. Thus, the work of Menedék should be expending and not restricted. But so far our goal is the survival.

We thank all our former, and future supporters for joining the service of Menedék! The help coming from you is necessary and essential. Please keep praying for us and for the people that stay in our homes.

Zoltán Kovács  
president

### *Ways to Support*

In the frameworks of the „One more year for Menedék” support program we are looking for supporters who commit to pay a chosen amount on a monthly basis for a year (eg. 2.000, 6.000, 15.000 HUF or other amount). There is also opportunity to support the Menedék Foundation yearly in one amount.

Account number:

(transfer / standing order)

**IBAN: HU72 1172 2003 2002 2222 0000 0000**

Name and address for the account:

Menedék Alapítvány,  
H-1221 Bp., Leányka u. 34.

At transfer, please indicate your home and e-mail addresses.

Menedék Foundation provides regular updates to each donor on the progress of our services, and an annual report on the specific use of the received aid.

### *Further information*

More information on our needs, on support opportunities and on the "One more year for Menedék" program is available on our website:  
[www.menedekalapitvany.hu](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu)

E-mail: [iroda@menedekalapitvany.hu](mailto:iroda@menedekalapitvany.hu)

Contact: +36-1-789-00-48

(Central office, office manager: Tünde Rácz)



**EGY ÉVET A MENEDÉKNEK!**  
[www.menedekalapitvany.hu/tamogatás](http://www.menedekalapitvany.hu/tamogatás)



### MOTHER'S SHELTER

E-mail: [mamasotthon@gmail.com](mailto:mamasotthon@gmail.com)

Head of Institution: Zsuzsanna Szilágyi



#### Brief News

Áron Fülöp and his wife, Mogi from the Kőszikla (Solid Rock) Baptist Church of Budaörs joined our staff as janitors in August, and started to work in September. We are grateful to God for their presence, especially because this way or struggle to provide constant staff presence at night is over.

We are organizing activities to the children living in this home on a weekly basis. We started as one big group, but then we felt the need to study the Bible separately with the older kids. Another split of groups would be necessary due to the age differences, since we want to provide an opportunity to the little ones to play, but at the same time to the older ones to pay attention to the stories. At this point this is impossible because the lack of space.



In the beginning of this year we received a bigger donation through the Johannita Segítő Szolgálat (Johannita Support Service) to expand the dining section of our kitchen. This gift was special to us, because so far our families only had places to eat on the corridor, and we did not have the resources to cover this alteration. We are thankful for being able to say that now all the families have a place to sit down for a meal together, or even a place to celebrate special days, birthdays, holidays.

In addition to the expansion we could buy new furniture for the kitchen and modern facilities. We would like to express our gratitude again to the Johannita Support Service.

During the summer we were pleased to discover that one of our family-care staff members, Gulyás-Kis Andrea is expecting a baby. We are still looking for an equally committed and faithful staff member with the right qualifications to replace her. For more information, please visit our website.

In July 2013 we received foreign volunteers from the Bethánia CE Szövetség (Bethany CE Union) to organize colorful and fun events to the children. We sang and played a lot, saw a theatre performance, painted etc. Thank you for your visit and for serving!

Last summer our children had the opportunity to go to Biatorbágy or to Tóalmás to various kid's camps. A smaller group could join the Erzsébet camp in Doboz.



As of September 2013, our child-care staff member Ágnes Mischingerné Bóka is organizing a Kid's Day on a monthly basis. They have various games and activities to bring some fun into our children's lives.

Zsuzsanna Szilágyi





## *I found Jesus*

My name is Klaudia Berki, I arrived to the Mother's Shelter with my mother and with my two brothers. I was seeking God since my early childhood, but I never really understood the essence.

I am 16 now and I have seen a lot of happy believers in the Shelter, and after a while I started to feel like something or Someone is missing from my life too. I started to wonder if I should talk about it to someone... I was loitering around the office for days and I was thinking. One day I got into a fight with my mother because I could not go to the Lake Velence with my girlfriends. I was down a little bit when the leader of the shelter came and asked me what I was sad about. I answered: *"You should be sad sometimes."* She turned to me smiling and said: *"Sorrow is better than laughter, for by sadness of face the heart is made glad."* (Eccl 7:3)

I was standing there for a little bit more when another staff member, Ági came and asked what I was sad about. I only answered: *"Nothing"*.

Later Ági came again with an envelope in her hands and asked if I know the address. The following was written on the envelope: *"From: the loving staff members of the Mother's Shelter; To: A nice and sad little girl whose smile we love so much; P.S: Pack your swimsuit!"*.

There was something in these lines that got to me. First I did not know what, but now I know.

That purity, selflessness and exemplary love towards others that were within these lines. I prayed to the Lord Jesus to give me strength and honest words, and went down to the office. I thanked Ági for the envelope and sat down in front of her. We talked a lot, openly and frankly. She told me God is the answer for all of my problems if I fully receive Him into my heart. She told me not to be discouraged about bad things in the past, because God accepts and loves me with all my mistakes. But I need to believe that God sacrificed this son for everyone, but he would have done the same if I would have been the only one on earth. She asked me if I was ready to take this step.

I was ready. I opened my heart to the Lord and let him in. I converted! *"This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: 'In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.'*" (Isaiah 30:15)

Klaudia Berki

## *How did I become a child of God?*

I live in the Mother's Shelter in Budafok and I have heard from the leader of the shelter about a Christian camp in Biatorbágy that I had the opportunity to attend. I arrived to the camp on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July, 2 days after my 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. They took me around the camp, introduced me to others, than came dinner and the evening quiet time. I was not really interested in any of this.

By the third day during breakfast I was wondering whether there could be some changes in my life through the Lord Jesus. I took the morning quiet time more seriously and I was thinking about its story. Then came a lecture on how God renews the lives of people. How he heals the soul of people. After lunch there was a group discussion about the Samaritan woman by the well, the story of that day. During this discussion I decided to give my life to Jesus. After the discussion I talked to one of the leaders, and he told me to consider once again my decision because it is for a lifetime.

I spent the rest of the day thinking about it and I could hardly sleep at night. The next morning I was not sure, but I was after the morning quiet time and I was firm in my decision. I talked to my leader again. We found a quiet place and we talked for hours, finally I repented my sins and prayed: I gave my life to Jesus.

After all this the rest of the camp was calmer and more joyful for me. I am a lot calmer at home too, also happier and more free, and my family can count on me. I suggest to everyone to be brave enough to stand in front of God and to walk with Him. I feel good and I learned to accept my circumstances. Lord, I am really grateful for this!

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."* (John 3:16)

Zoltán Süli Zakar

## **Thank you!**

**The weeks spent in summer camp meant a lot to our children. We are thankful for the support and for the free camping opportunities to *WOL Élet Szava* and to the *Magyar Belmisszió Biatorbágy!***

## *My service*

Enikő Sipos is a volunteer since July 2013 in the Mother's shelter. The following are her thoughts on her service.

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." (2Cor 5:17)*

Being a new creation in Christ means that your life has a new meaning. A meaning that sees through work, hardships, and is filled with other things. For me the fact that God gave me this service is a proof of God knowing me fully. He knows who I am and what my desire was. I believe that God assigns certain tasks to people, and believers have a vision on what God has planned for them.

God's way of thinking is far above ours. We do not understand, or we need time to figure it out, and only when we already see with the eyes of a believer is that when we see what God has planned for us. We tend to fall a lot before we clearly see his will. Of course, only when in times of trial we are being faithful to Him. It is not easy to bear a series of trials, but our Lord tries us indeed, and often does it through rough paths. If we think about it, I feel like it was not easy for Jesus either. Although he was the son of God.

So for us mortals it is even harder to walk on this road. But it has a purpose. A meaningful purpose in this meaningless world.

How much better it is to give than to take away, to touch than to hit, and to smile than to cry. Jesus set an example for those who follow him. Unfortunately our age is full of examples that should not be followed. We need a new approach to get to know God. More thoughts and deeds are needed for a materialistic person to see all this.

The miracle is when we find within ourselves our gifts that were given to us by God to invest. We do it out of gratitude. We do not figure anything out alone, especially not noble things of mercy. We need a lot of learning and experience to be the way God want to see us.

But GOD despite all of this turned to us and always gives us an opportunity to think about who we are. This becomes obvious through practice. God gives a sign, tells us when to go, when to stay (because the Spirit tells us), and everyone feels this who follows Jesus.

Enikő Sipos



We wish you  
a Merry Christmas  
and a blessed  
New Year!

Menedék Foundation

## MEN'S SHELTER

Address: H-1221 Budapest, Péter Pál u. 21.

E-mail: [fiuotthon@gmail.com](mailto:fiuotthon@gmail.com)

Leader of the Shelter: Gábor Liptai



### Headlines...

In July we said goodbye to our colleague Attila Gulyás who left us to work elsewhere. He was replaced by Pál Bartolák as a full-time social worker.

At the end of summer we carried out minor repairs around the house: stairs-, pavement- and ramp-constructions. We were happy for the opportunity to change the kitchen pavement as well.

In September we cooked by the campfire again: chatted about the summer by a bowl of Goulash soup. It was good to be together again!



Every day we have quiet times, group discussions before dinner, where, in addition to the power of community, we get a chance to grow by the Word of God. On Sundays many attend church services.

At the end of October some of our habitants visited the youth weekend of the József street Baptist Church, and there is a man who since then regularly attends church programs.

Also in October in the frameworks of a new agreement with the Hungarian Maltese Charity Service we signed a grant contract with a subsidy of 1.8 million HUF on accommodating ten more homeless people, which significantly reduces our operating loss (3,000,000 HUF per year).

Gábor Liptai

### *How did I get to the Men's Shelter?*

I am Ferenc Sárközi (38). I have never thought I would live in a homeless shelter. My story began on the day of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, 2013, when - totally incomprehensibly to me - I got kicked out of the dorm where I lived. I was studying sociology at the University of ELTE. Since I had no money to rent an apartment, I tried to ask for help from multiple places but I was rejected constantly.

It seemed like I was going to live on the streets when I was advised to ask for help from an institution in the 21<sup>th</sup> district. We called the head of this institution to see if there was room for me. I got an appointment, told him my story, he told me I could move in the next day. I was on the streets hesitating for two days; I did not know what to expect from a homeless shelter. My fear turned out to be right, there were a lot of conflicts, thefts, I was falsely accused of stealing money and got arrested. One day two people got into a fight over two slices of bread with butter. I was not sure if it was my place. We had to leave the house during the day, from 7am to 4pm. There were days when I did nothing but sitting on a bench reading (when I had something to read). "This is not life" - I thought. I said I would never go to a homeless shelter again, enough is enough. One has to become an animal to live in a place like those. I decided to move out.

In those times I had someone who helped me and let me stay at his place for two weeks. Meanwhile I was thinking: "What now...?", when an old shop assistant lady suggested that, if I had no other option, I could go to the Men's Shelter of Menedék, she knew them personally. I visited the Men's Shelter.

My interview was on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August, 2013 with two of the staff members. In the conversation they were interested in where I came from. I told them that I was raised by the state and I am not keeping in touch with my family. I started in a special school and made it to the university. Now with the support of the Labour Centre I am attending a retraining course to become an IT system administrator. I am hoping to get a job more easily with this qualification. It is no secret that I want to reapply to go to the Eötvös Loránd University to study sociology.



After the interview, on 9th of September I moved into the Man's Shelter. Here I received a lot of help, both in the spiritual and in the material sense. It was very important for me to find a part-time job because of school. Social workers are investing a lot of energy into making the residents re-enter the normal social life. I mean to help people find a job and to be able to rent an apartment.

The institution has Christian roots, therefore they encourage you to seek God, but it is "not required to believe." A resident staff member, Pál Bartolák found Christ in this institution years ago, I quote one of his writings:

*„My life finally became complete, had a meaning, a content; I experienced this transformation, and I believe, I know, that you out on the streets, you out in the dirt, in the grime, who have to endure people's contemptuous gaze, you also need the salvation of Jesus Christ. I am asking you, whatever you do, wherever you are, in any state, find the first Christian community where you can get more information on how your life can be settled by the one true and living God. "*

I hope I will manage to put my life back together, I will do everything in my power to do so, any I ask for God's help as well, because I think that many things depend on it as well.

Ferenc Sárközi

*„Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper, and instead of briars the myrtle will grow. This will be for the LORD's renown, for an everlasting sign, that will endure forever." Isaiah 55:13*

## The Refuge Town renewing and growing

After the 1997 purchase and the 1999 acquisition of the new business license we arrived to a new milestone in the history of the Refuge Town in Kiskunmajsa. The buildings accommodating two institutions are being rebuilt from 2013.

The building originally built in the mid-70s deteriorated not only aesthetically over the past few years, but its operation and maintenance also became a significant burden on the Menedék Foundation. Conditions cause problems to the residents and gives a lot of additional work for the Foundation's staff, which is beyond their job description and personal capacity.

In 2011 from spring to fall we worked to be able to submit an appropriate proposal to the tender No. TIOP-3.4.2-11/1 of the New Széchenyi Plan, called "Creation of modern structure for the Refuge Town in Kiskunmajsa."

The application was supported by the National Development Agency, so soon we could start the reconstruction. The European Regional Development Fund and the budget of the Republic of Hungary co-financed the project that resulted in a better use of the interior of this the massive building. Different operational areas are being separated, along with the creation of new features.

The building got new doors, insulation, the entire mechanical (heating and domestic hot water) system was replaced, and new, economical boilers were installed. The successful tender allows the improvement of accessibility and institutional communication.

Of course, as any renovation, this also causes some discomfort, but after a few months a renovated and sustainably warm building will be waiting for the residents.

We regularly provide information on the actualities of the renovation in our newsletter and on the website of the foundation (<http://menedekalapitvany.hu>).

Menedék Press Service

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A projekt az Európai Unió támogatásával, az Európai Regionális Fejlesztési Alap társfinanszírozásával valósul meg.





### REFUGE TOWN

TEMPORARY HOME FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES

H-6120 Kiskunmajsa, Marispuszta 253/A

E-mail: [menedekvaros@gmail.com](mailto:menedekvaros@gmail.com)

Head of the Institution: György Antal



#### News

In September it was a shocking and deeply moving moment for all of us when Erzsike passed away to be with Our Heavenly Father. In the hardest months of her disease the local residential community united with committed hearts to try to make the last part of her life easier. Her four children were taken to foster parents to Kiskunmajsa. We give thanks to God that these four kids could stay together.



October was an extremely blessed month for us. The Christian School of Budapest – school of Diósd came with their 8<sup>th</sup> grade class to spend two days in the Temporary Home for The Homeless, where they gathered leaves with the local kids and they cut branches. This way at the end of the day they could make a campfire. On the second day the guest kids organized an arts and crafts class and competitive team games for their companions. At the end of the day, the kids who live here gave their own handmade gifts for their guests.

We are also grateful to the Lord for the chance of two of our colleagues who could be learning at the annual professional workshop. Margó is

part of our family care staff, Brigi is a child care specialist, and they attended a conference of temporary homes for families at Révfülöp.

Another blessing of October was when our staff saw a comedy at the Theatre of Kecskemét, followed by a tasty dinner. This joyful evening was a great community building event for us. Thank you for the opportunity!

During the autumn a governmental -control occurred in our institution. We are thankful to God for taking good care of our Home’s maintenance and of its lawful operation, so no major objections needed to be made by the determining authority.

In November there were two weddings in our community. We were rejoicing with mothers

who lived here and whose destinies were on our hearts for long.. The new husbands are not only partners for Gyöngyike and Anna, but will also fill the role of the father in their families. We would like to wish you again a lot of happiness and joy in your marriages!

December seems to be a busy and exciting month. With the kids we are preparing for the visit of Santa Claus. We wish to celebrate the holidays in

a worthy way, setting aside the everyday hardships and focusing on celebrating the birthday of our Savior.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported our ministry for the past year. We would like to wish all our readers on behalf of myself and my colleagues a blessed and peaceful holiday season!

György Antal



Híreink elérhetők folyamatosan frissülő Facebook oldalunkon:  
[facebook.com/menedekalapitvany](https://facebook.com/menedekalapitvany)



### REFUGE TOWN

#### TEMPORARY HOME FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES

6120 Kiskunmajsa, Marispuszta 253/A

E-mail: [menedekhao@gmail.com](mailto:menedekhao@gmail.com)

Head of the Institution: Anikó Tóthné Frank



#### „Whoever serves...

*...as one who serves by the strength that God supplies..." (1Peter 4:11)*

We had the opportunity to do a very special service from April this year.

We have taken care of a 38-year-old mother, Erzsike, who was diagnosed with lung cancer last October. She and her four children lived in our temporary home. When she learned that her disease is incurable, she put her and her children's lives in God's hands. In a state of painful agony she asked that her children would be taken away from her, because she could not take care of them and more. By the power of God, all authorities were very helpful and understanding, children were placed in a home with foster parents in Kiskunmajsa. Menedék felt the responsibility to help and take care of the mother. Katalin Csöndes as a voluntary helper played a prominent role in caring for Erzsike, being with her all day all night. Erzsike eventually passed away on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September. Her ashes were put to rest in the Menedék Churchyard on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September.

The final months of Erzsike taught us that we must never lose our faith in God, and that the pain can be tolerated with dignity. We are grateful that we could be there for her during her struggle with the illness. The professional collaboration for the children and for Erzsike was exemplary, and the case will be presented within the frameworks of a TÁMOP project on the national level.

#### Fruits

In October, two of our habitants passed the exam after a professional forestry training. There are three working in the public works program, six people have reported permanent jobs, and four of them are involved in ongoing occasional works. Several people are helping on a regular basis in the daily life of the Temporary Home, and also keeping our environment clean and tidy.

We are very proud of our "wanting to move forward" residents. Significant changes are taking place in the life of one of them; I would like to briefly tell her story:

Mária is of Roma origins, she was born in 1964. She started to go to school at the age of 13 because their parents have died early and she had to take care of her younger siblings. In 1993, she got married and then had six children, four boys and two girls. Her husband did not cherish their marriage, he abused her and he was always surrounded with other women. Eight years ago, after an untreated post partem depression and due to her husband's infidelity, she got into a traumatic state and eventually into depression. She had also become unable to take care of her children. She was also treated in a mental institution for 6 months.

Five years ago they got divorced, but the husband got custody of the children. Mária lived in the Temporary Homes for the Homeless multiple times. Her goal has always been to get custody of her three little ones, as the older kids have been already leading independent lives.

Previously she could only solve her income and housing situation to short term periods. She is staying again in our institution since May, 2012.

Today we can say that as a result of the mental health care she is pretty much cured of severe depression and now have to take medication only at night. She has a job for a year now. She transmits a large part of her income each month to her children, and maintains a very good relationship with them, but she is constantly worried about them. Regularly participates in the group discussions and worship services, and has been able to laugh. When she has time, always helps with the daily tasks of the institution.

Jesus Christ says: „Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5)

Anikó Tóthné Frank

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Anikó Tóthné Frank is the head of the Temporary Home for the Homeless since June, 2013. She has been happily married for 20 years. They have three children: Szabolcs, Boglárka and Hajnalka. We are thankful to her predecessor, Ibolya Farkas for her resilient service of leadership, and we wish strength to Anikó to handle the growing responsibilities.



SUSTAINER OF THE MENEDÉK MINISTRIES IN BODROG:

### „THE LORD IS GOOD”

BODROG BAPTIST CHURCH

7439 Bodrog, Kossuth L. u. 157.

Pastor: Paróczi Zsolt

**Opportunity to Support Us:**

13597539-12302010-00040670

(KDB Bank Zrt.)



### Breif News

We are pleased to announce that the castle building owned by the Menedék Foundation and accomodating the Hungarian Pentecostal Church Charity Home, now has a new facade.



By the grace of God in our institutions we closed a successful school year on June 16. In Bodrog and in Nikla 9 and 9 eighth-graders and kindergarteners graduated.

On June 26<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 was born the first child of Attila and Rózsa Farkas, Jázmin Anna Farkas. God bless the family!

From the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of June a group came to visit us from Newtownards, to support us and serve with us. With half of the group we held a club for 5 days for the kids from Nikla, while the others took part in preparing the art camp, in repairing benches and in whitewashing.

From the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of October, 2013 we held a youth conference in Bodrog. The main topic was: “How do I chose?”; approximately 60 young people attended the conference.

### Love in Nikla

God started a very special kind of work in Nikla. This work reached a great peak this summer. Namely, that we held a 5-days Bible club for elementary school students with the help of our brothers from Newtownards, Northern Ireland.

We were excited to do this, but at the same time it was a great challenge. I personally just came back from the United States and I was superexcited to serve this week as an interpreter. I did not really know what to expect, but I was looking forward to this week. The topics of the week were the following: Jesus the way, the truth and the life; Jesus the bread of life; Jesus the resurrection and the life; Jesus the light of the world. In addition we studied the mission story of David Livingstone. In the breaks between the stories we were playing, we had competitions every day and also we learned Bible verses by heart. Lot of things amazed me this week. I was working as an interpreter for the first time in my life, and for the first time at this place where there is such a great need of Jesus.

I feel especially honored that God sent me to do this service; it is a great experience to be the “channel” between God, the preacher and the listeners. It was also fascinating how we started with 30 kids and this number was growing every single day and reached 50 by Friday by the kids inviting their friends, siblings and even parents. Another miracle was that we planned to teach the kids 2 Bible verses that week, but we ended up teaching them at least on every day because they were so interested and quick to learn. At the end of the week 18 kids could remember at least four.

What was especially touching for me is how the kids that we had to pick up in the morning in another village were so happy every day. It was a joy to listen to them how they filled the bus with worship songs! It is such a pleasure to see how God takes care of the smallest, poorest, and loves them so much. God has started something in Nikla. And I do not think he is about to stop!

Nimród Selmeczi



### „BEGINNING OF WISDOM”

NURSERY, PRIMARY AND MUSIC SCHOOL

Tel: 06-82-490-148

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7439 Bodrog, Kossuth L. u. 155.

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Leader of the Institution: Paróczy Zsolt



### *Christian Art Camp*

From the 13th to the 21th of July 2013 the 14th Christian Art Camp was organized in Bodrog. We are deeply thankful for this blessed week to God who was working in our heart during the whole week. If I should somehow describe this camp in few words it would be the presence of God. He was there indeed from the first day and He was working in us. There were about 60 children who took part in musical or visual (art) activities from age 5 to 17.



Every morning we started at half past 5 with a quiet time when a teacher told us a message. After having breakfast we had a joint group Bible study. We put more stress on the spiritual part than before, that is why worshipping and the interpretation of the Word were longer – to strengthen our souls. Then we were divided into little groups in which we were talking about what we have heard before. Art programs started after this. The main topic of the week was „spring”, based on the story of Joseph. For instance, at the visual section nearly all creations, such as beautiful drawings, paintings and mock-ups described and presented the water. A professional graphic artist helped the children. In the afternoons we had other opportunities. On Thursday we went to the pools and on Friday we could choose from two opportunities: walking in

the evening and enjoying the creations of God in the nature or staying at the school and praising Him with music.

In my opinion, the peak of this week was Saturday when instead of collecting crumbs we had a great harvest – thanks to God. So many souls were renewed, so many people got a significant message and many gave testimonies about God. We talked to the Lord, sang and set up a cross so that everyone could put on their offerings or messages of repentance to the Father in Heaven. There was a young boy who wanted to be baptized. There were also others whose faith gained strength. What is more, the Holy Spirit reached even a girl who had not been a Christian before. Dear Reader! Please pray to the Lord that He would finish what He started doing in our hearts and that Evil would not to succeed at all!

Eszter Surgenor

### *Needs in Bodrog*

The storage house has been built. We are thankful to God because he ordered the right amount of money and people to this project. The renovation of the playground has also started. We would like to expand it as much as possible. We appreciate every donation. By the next school year we will reach our limited number of students (120).

We are grateful but it also means that we have to form two new big classrooms on the attic and we want to make a sound-proof room for the music school. Building a stair and the other parts of the project will cost about 20 million HUF. Let's pray that the Lord would fill our needs!

### *Community of foster families*

We are waiting for the application of committed parents who would like to be foster parents and take in children-in-trouble to their families.

You can find more information here:

+36-20-469-7644 (Ágnes Madarászné Nagy)