

Roma (gypsy) Ministry Newsletter

CBF Global Field Personnel, the McNarys, in Slovakia & Czech Republic

Prayer Points

- Praise for safety in travels during December to the US
- Pray for the believers in Cinobana who face many challenges and setbacks but who also show a resilient faith in the power of God
- Praise for completion of Ruth video
- Pray for Slovak Bible Society as they have a transition in leadership
- Pray for final plans for summer teams coming to CZ and SK
- Praise for impact of Hunger Ministry in five communities in SK and CZ
- Pray for the CBF Global Missions Design Teams who are working on strategic plans – Dianne is serving on the Holistic Ministries Design team and Shane is serving on the Local Workers Design Team

The impact of your gifts

We include in these newsletters a word of thanks and reminder of the importance of your financial support for The Offering for Global Missions and for our various projects. In this newsletter, we want to sketch for you the impact your financial support is having in the lives of Roma. Though there is not enough space in a one-page newsletter to cover everything, hopefully the two projects highlighted in this newsletter will give you a better understanding.

Roma Health & Hunger

This project began as a pilot project at the all-Roma school in Kosice. The first year of the project provided a warm meal to every student in the school for just one week per month – the week before welfare checks arrived when the dire poverty of most of the students and their families was most felt.

The second year of the project began with a change in focus. Instead of providing meals just one week per month, your gifts now provide a warm bowl of soup, fresh juice or milk, and/or a fresh piece of fruit for every student during their ten-o'clock break. I pass along to you “Thank you for the daily soup,”

from Laco. Laco is one of the students at the school.

The Health component of the ministry has been slower to develop, but is having an impact. Just this week we met a Roma teacher at a school near Kosice who wants Dianne to come and share the basic health information with her students.

Because of your generous support of this project, we have also been able to expand the impact with five different partners throughout Slovakia and into the Czech Republic. In Lucenec/Cinobana, SK the funds will be used to meet the hunger needs of the Roma there; in the Kosice area, your gifts sponsor the food for a training meeting for Roma church workers; in Decin, CZ your gifts assist a local church’s ministry with Roma living in poverty in Decin and near-by Usti nad Labem; in Jasov, Slovakia our partner Oto is able to assist the poorest in his community by providing flour, potatoes, and/or oil so that families can survive without turning to loan-sharks who are all too common in Roma communities. Your gifts provide a life-line for real people. This is especially important during the extreme cold of winter.

SK/CZ Roma Mission Support

This project includes a variety of partnerships throughout both countries. To share just two items with you: the Ruth DVD and providing Scripture resources.

Thanks to our colleague Keith Holmes and a partnership with the Slovak Bible Society, we were able to begin delivery of the three-language Ruth DVD. The story of Ruth is one of a series of animated Bible Stories available to be dubbed. Not only did your funds provide a way that we could travel and meet with the 36 volunteers necessary (12 roles times 3 languages) for the project, it also provided for financial support for the Bible Society and Slovak Baptist Union.

The assistance to the Bible Society helped produce a soft-cover version of the new Ecumenical Translation. The portion of your gifts sent to the Slovak Baptist Union were to sponsor a bus which is taken into various

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communities to share the Gospel and provide a place to purchase Christian literature – including Scriptures.

Oops! It looks like this newsletter has gone on a little long! Sorry for the length, but it is important to help you understand the impact your gifts are having on the lives of people in Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

Since I've already gone into the second page, here are a few photos of the faces and places where you are having an impact:



[How to Give](#)

McNary Ministry – provides for only our CBF-approved budget needs and not for projects
SK/CZ Roma Mission Support (Project #89751)
House of Christian Help–Bethel (Project #89752)
Roma Health & Hunger (Project #89754)
The Offering for Global Missions – allows CBF Global Field Personnel to minister where God called and you sent.

If giving to a project, please write project number on your contribution; if to McNary Ministry, write that on your gift. Mail all gifts to:
CBF, PO Box 101699, Atlanta GA 30392

[Shane](#) & [Dianne](#) McNary

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