



Remember-The-Children

Bringing faith, hope and love to Romania's forgotten ones . . .

TRIP GUIDE

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Remember the Children Trip Guide

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Welcome and Greeting from Remember the Children/People to People,	

We are so glad you are interested in Remember the Children (RtC) and our work with the people of Romania. In the United States, our ministry is recognized as RtC. In Romania, our ministry is recognized as People to People (P2P). It is our prayer that as you investigate this work, you are inspired, challenged, and as motivated as we are to reaching the people of Romania with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

However, a word of warning must be issued. This information could possibly change your life forever. For what you have is a guide prepared for those willing or at the very least, interested in journeying with RtC to provide faith, hope and love to the abandoned children of the world.

More than likely, you are reading this because you have already been introduced to RtC and the work we do. Whether you know a lot or very little about RtC, whether you have already decided to journey with us or are just contemplating it, this information is for you. It is designed with you in mind.

RtC desires that this information serves as your guide to understanding what is expected for, and from, those journeying with us. It should serve to be very informative and maybe even spark some inquisitive thoughts from each reader. We hope it meets your needs and we look forward to journeying with you.

Please know that RtC/P2P can only exist because of people like you who take the time to learn about what we do, and then participate in it somehow. This information should provide you with a great deal of information concerning RtC. However, its main focus is on the trips that RtC makes to Romania each year. Therefore, if you want to learn more about RtC/P2P, please contact our office for additional information.

As you begin your exploration, may you be challenged, inspired and motivated as you read of many answers to this question: Why Come to Romania?

I thank you for your interest and I hope to work with you soon!

Andy Baker
Executive Director
Remember the Children.

Why Come to Romania?

The following are quotes from recent trip takers and a couple of our many friends at Caminul Felix as to why you should come to Romania.

Why Come to Romania?

“To bring more people to God, showing people that we care and there is always somebody there for them.” Michaela – age 13 USA

“Because God called me to see what they do and how they live. I like to think of me helping every need of a little one in need to share hope and encouragement and to show them that they have another chance.” Katie – age 10 1/2 USA (When Katie said God called her, I asked her how did know God called her, and she said “through prayer.”)

“To see love and experience God like you have never before. As you look into the eyes of the children, you are able to see Jesus.” Julie – age 21 USA

You think you are going to Romania to bless the children and families there, but they bless you more than you can imagine. When we take food to families in need, or go to orphanages to love the children, it is our prayer that they have to look up and wonder who sent these people, and believe that there is a God who loves them no matter what.”

Lois – age 41 USA

“I had seen the pictures, heard the stories and saw the video footage, but that didn’t compare to what I experienced once I actually witnessed their way of life for myself.”

Mike – age 44 USA

“I wanted to go because I wanted to see first hand what God was doing in other parts of the world, and I SAW!” Andy – age 55 USA

“If the person or the group is a Christian one, they would come to Romania to show their love, and then to see the way other lives are going in another part of the world.”

Zoltan Deak – age 16 Romania

“Because life in Romania is very much different and very much like your American life. You would feel very welcomed and you can make a difference in someone's life, as well as making new friends!” Veronica – house parent at CF Romania

An Introduction to Romania

- Romania is a small country in Eastern Europe. Its geographic size can be compared to the state of Oregon, and has approximately 22 million people.
- Romania is a former Communist country. It became free from Communism in 1989, as Nicolae Ceausescu was driven from power. It now has a Republic form of government with two legislative bodies. However, corruption is still a major issue in Romanian politics.
- Romania was once a very rich country, but is now considered one of Europe's poorest. With its declining economy and overabundance of children, child abandonment continues to be one of Romania's biggest problems.
- Romania is currently working to gain entrance to the European Union which they hope to achieve by 2007. This application process is causing many changes in the law and especially in the appearance of Romania.
- The main religion in Romania is Greek Orthodox.
- The most common language is Romanian; however, German, Hungarian and English are spoken by some in Romania, as English is now taught in the public school.
- Romania's currency is the lei, and money must be exchanged in order to be spent in Romania, especially on the street and in local villages.
- The most common modes of transportation are automobiles and the public electric train car system.
- Romania, like most of Europe, uses 220 volt electricity.
- Bucharest is the Capital of Romania and is on the far Eastern side of the country; however, Remember the Children will spend the majority of its time in Oradea, a city of approximately 250,000 people on the Western side of the country.

For much more information on Romania, RtC suggests the following web site:
www.romaniatourism.com.

Planning a Trip: Prayer

Prayer is the key to any endeavor. It is highly recommended that from the moment you decide to go to Romania to begin to pray everyday for the trip.

Suggested topics to include in your prayers are as follows:

Pray for:

- Open doors for evangelism
- Safety of all team members
- Continuity of the team
- Success of the journey
- Good health
- Good weather
- Ease and “endurance” in traveling
- Growth of individuals
- Furtherance of RtC’s Mission.

These are just a few suggestions with which to begin praying. Make your prayer personal, but remember that others will be traveling with you.

Your team leader will prepare a prayer itinerary for your supporters and loved ones left at home while you are journeying. We ask that you copy and distribute it accordingly. It is recommended that you enlist as much prayer support as possible.

May you spend much time in prayer for your journey!!!

Planning a Trip: Trip Profile

Remember the Children is currently scheduling the following trips. Highlights are listed with each one.

Spring: The Spring trip is very flexible. It is planned around projects that address the pressing needs of the Romanian people, taking into account the talents of those journeying with us. Time will be spent on a personal level with many individuals, as RtC works to build relationships and introduce people to Jesus Christ. There will also be adequate time to spend at Caminul Felix with the children and their house parents. A third portion of this trip will be devoted to experiencing Romanian culture by interacting with people in the city of Oradea. Medical Trips, Construction Trips, and Evangelism-focused trips may be taken in the spring, but take more advanced preparation. If you are interested in participating in a specialized trip, contact RtC for more information.

Summer: One trip of the summer is the Vacation Bible School Trip. This trip's main focus is to provide a VBS experience in several locales throughout Romania. Approximately 60 % of this time is spent at Caminul Felix with the children and their house parents. Other locations include a Children's hospital, Gypsy villages, a government orphanage, and a home for handicapped children. The schedule is grueling at times, but definitely worth the effort, as the message of Jesus Christ is presented to the Children and adults in fresh and exciting ways. Other highlights of this trip include experiencing Romanian culture, delivering food to hungry families and children, and quality time with our friends at Caminul Felix.

Other summer trips can be scheduled to include infant care, teen evangelism, construction, dental work, or medical opportunities. These must be scheduled with RtC early in the year, as the summer schedule is very busy in Romania and for RtC in the USA.

Fall/Winter: The Christmas trip usually takes place in November just before Thanksgiving. This has quickly become the most popular trip. The main focus of this trip is to take Christmas and its meaning (the birth of Jesus) to the children of Romania. It is quick-paced with many visits made to several locales as gifts are presented to as many children as possible. This trip touches every aspect of the current relationships in Romania for RtC. It also includes the opportunity to experience Romanian Culture. Beginning in 2006, RtC/P2P will host the first two mission teams focusing on delivering Samaritan's Purse Christmas shoeboxes to needy children in various parts of Romania.

Please Note: Remember the Children is willing to schedule and plan trips to meet your group's needs. However, these must be scheduled months in advance and a strong commitment must be made in order to be scheduled. Much work goes into planning for a trip. We would love to have you go, so please contact Don Watts, our Associate Director and Trip Coordinator, anytime. 317-774-3222 or 812-569-8406.

Planning a Trip: Dates

Most trip dates are known at least 6 months in advance. All payment must be made 30 days in advance of your departing on a trip. Travel insurance is available through the travel agent, but it has specific guidelines and should be looked at carefully to confirm that it meets your needs. RtC cannot make refunds on last minute cancellations, as payment in Romania and Hungary is expected once reservations have been made. Airline tickets can sometimes be rearranged for future use. If you are booking a special trip for a group, it is suggested to at least begin a dialogue with RtC one year in advance concerning that trip.

Planning a Trip: Funding

Funding for the trip is often an issue. Even though Romania is a poor country with a struggling economy and a hurting people, it lies in Europe, which means that travel to the area is expensive. RtC does everything possible to keep costs at a minimum. However, the average cost for a one-week trip is approximately \$ 1,750, and \$2,100 for a two-week trip. Immediately one can see that expenses in the country are not that much. It is the cost of transportation to Romania that consumes much of the trip budget.

These estimations are for your trip itself and includes everything that you will need while traveling, including food, transportation, housing and necessities. You need not have a lot of spending money. This will depend on “souvenirs” and items that you expect to purchase. It is **not** recommended that you personally carry large amounts of cash. However, if you do, don't ever show it in public, and carry it in a money belt underneath your clothes. Your trip leader will assist you in money exchanges as needed. Your spending money is left to your discretion, as is “project money.” Project money is extra currency that you might want to raise above and beyond your initial trip expense in order to do more while in the country. Ways to use your project money can be discussed before leaving or used as needs arise while on the trip. This is not an expected or required expense, but something that is always a plus if you can raise additional funds for your trip.

How to “fundraise” will be discussed in the section entitled: Preparing for a Trip.

Preparing for a Trip: Obtaining a Passport

One of the first items you should take care of when preparing for your trip is your passport. This will cost you approximately \$100.

The first step in obtaining a passport is locating the acceptance agent in your area for passports. Those who live in larger cities may find the acceptance agent at your local Post Office. For those living in rural areas, your first stop or check should be with your county clerk's office. The acceptance agent will provide you with all of the forms you

need and instructions to follow to obtain your passport. For the most efficient ways to complete this process, make sure to carefully read the forms before proceeding with compiling the necessary information and documents. For minimal fees, make sure you allow yourself at least two months to obtain your passport. Passports can be acquired in an expedited manner, but will cost you more money.

Preparing for a Trip: Medical Requirements

Romania is a poor country with less than US standard medical facilities. Therefore, informed preparation is vital. The most common illness RtC team members have faced previously is that of diarrhea. Please pack medicines that work for you in dealing with this problem. Beyond that; please make sure to pack an ample supply of your daily medications. Make sure to pack them in your carry-on luggage in their original bottles..

Recommended Immunizations are as follows:

- Tetanus-Diphtheria (protects against contaminated soil and air)
- Hepatitis A (protects against contaminated food)
- Hepatitis B (protects against contaminated blood)
- Typhoid (protects against contaminated food and water)

For more information regarding medical concerns, check out the CDC's website and look under the section: Traveler's Health/ Eastern Europe.

Remember the Children does everything possible to keep all team members away from hazardous areas, and works to maintain a very healthy environment in all lodging, working, and eating areas. We look forward to a safe and healthy trip with you.

Preparing for a Trip: Fundraising

Some people are great fundraisers as they find that it just comes natural. Others struggle with the concept of asking others for money. Remember the Children's policy on fundraising is this: "We could not do what we do, if others did not do what they do in order to provide us with much needed funding." We are not ashamed and do not apologize for asking others to support our ministry. Make no mistake about it. Your trip with Remember the Children will be ministry.

It is a fact of life, that one must have money to function in today's society. Such is the case with traveling and working with others. The more money you raise, the more work that could possibly be done.

We wish you the best in fundraising.

Suggested people to ask are as follows:

- Family
- Friends
- Co-Workers
- Local businesses
- Local churches, including but not limited to your own.

It is normally suggested that it takes approximately 50 letters to raise the proper amount of funds for one trip. Fundraising experts suggest that 80% of your raised support will come from 25% of the people you ask. To completely pay for your trip, ask a lot of people.

When writing fundraising letters make sure to include the following information:

- Where you are going and with whom.
- Why you are going.
- What you hope to accomplish while there.
- How much the trip costs
- What you are doing to cover the cost
- When the money is due
- What the money covers in regards to your trip.
- Who the money should be sent to. Make sure to include the correct address for RtC.

The following page contains a sample letter. Please feel free to personalize it to address your own needs.

Dear Friends and Family,

Good News! God has relieved me of an uncomfortable and sometimes difficult task... asking for money. Yet, God has challenged me with a vital ministry opportunity in Oradea, Romania.

I guess you could call me a “missionary”, though not in the traditional sense of giving up the comfortable life here to disappear in a remote jungle for 10 to 20 years. Mine will be a short-term journey with a team from Remember the Children on (dates).

Our journey will focus on serving the hurting in the former communist country of Romania. Child abandonment and extreme poverty are two areas that plague this country on a daily basis. The purpose of our trip is fourfold:

- A. First, we will be allowing God to work in our lives through the exposure and changed perspective that comes from this type of a mission’s trip.
- B. Second, this is a “prayer journey” which will help us focus our individual prayers by traveling to foreign lands to pray on-sight with insight. We will pray for the people that God may open their eyes and hearts to the message of Jesus.
- C. Third, we will be visiting many children who have no idea what it means to be a Christian, or feel the love of Christ or Christians. Remember the Children continues to assist local villages, orphanages and hospitals as a means in bringing the Gospel to them.
- D. Fourth, we will encourage local workers, especially those who have given their lives to care for the children. Our presence will bolster their spirits and support their work to spread God’s Word. We will visit with children and adults alike while in Romania and we will work to develop meaningful relationships with them as we minister in ways that will meet needs and spread the Gospel.

We are excited about the opportunity and experiences that lie ahead, and hope you see the value in the work we hope to accomplish. As you can imagine, funding for a trip like this requires financial support from a number of people. I need to raise _____.

Now why did I say that God has relieved me of this fundraising effort? Simply because I know I can leave this task in His hands. It’s my job to go, and to let you know I’m going, so that if you would like to support this mission financially, you have the opportunity to do so.

When it comes to missions, people can be active in three categories:

Mobilizers – These are the people who build the fire in their local church, keeping others informed of the needs and opportunities, and helping them get involved.

Goers – These are the ones who feel called to spend time in another culture, live a different kind of life, and minister face to face with the unsaved.

Senders – It is hard to say that one of these groups is more important than the others, but without “senders” not much will happen. They provide the funds — and more importantly – the prayer support. Prayer is the fuel that will allow us to be successful as we follow God’s leading in ministry in these foreign countries. Without prayer, nothing will happen.

As I said up front, God has relieved me of the fundraising responsibility. My job is just to let you know about this opportunity. Maybe you haven’t thought of yourself as part of a missions team, but if you want to become one of the all important senders, you can mail a check to Remember the Children at the following address:

Remember the Children
17039 Mercantile Blvd.
Noblesville IN 46060

An envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Make your check payable to Remember the Children and all gifts are tax deductible. Please write Romania Trip and my name on the memo line.

If you cannot be a sender financially, that is ok. Either way, please consider being a sender in prayer. In fact, the prayer support is so important to the success of this mission; I would like to know if I can count on you in that area. Enclosed is a bookmark that you can put in your Bible, on your bathroom mirror, on the fridge or anywhere else you will see it at least once a day. Please pray for the areas listed.

Sincerely,

Preparing for a Trip: Emergency Plans

It is very important that you have a plan already in place, should an emergency at home arise while you are traveling. Flexibility in flight plans in and out of Romania is almost non-existent; therefore, it is necessary to make sure your family at home knows your wishes concerning your return in case of an emergency or tragedy at home. Having these conversations before you leave may save you and your loved ones a great deal of unnecessary anxiety if tough decisions have to be made. This is rarely an issue, but if for some reason it is, you will be glad you have prearranged plans considering your return.

If there is an emergency on your end in Romania, RtC and the leaders there will help you with whatever is necessary to deal with any problems. RtC takes every precaution when traveling and is registered with the US Embassy in Romania. Therefore, if an international crisis occurs, RtC will work with the US Embassy concerning any and all international situations. However, it should be understood, that none of these emergencies are expected. RtC expects a smooth and trouble-free journey. This information is just for you in making preparations. We try to cover all of the bases, but do not intend to cause any undue anxiety. Romania is very American friendly and we expect a great trip with no problems. Please note that you will receive emergency contact information and a step by step plan for your family in case they need to reach you while you are with RtC. This information will be given to you and discussed during your pre-trip team meeting.

Preparing for a Trip: Supplies

Each trip is unique in the supplies needed and delivered. You will be given the appropriate information by your team leader as plans are made. RtC does ask that you reserve one of your two checked luggage bags for RtC's use in transporting supplies to Romania. As a general rule, balloons, candy and small toys are always great ways to make friends with the children, and should be considered essentials for any trip. Much more will be discussed in regards to packing in a moment.

Preparing for a Trip: Personal Needs/Health Concerns

General medical issues have already been discussed. As for your specific needs, this is your responsibility. It is vital that you pack all medicine that you could possibly need for your personal care. For instance, if you know you are highly allergic to certain things, please have the appropriate medicine. If you may have problems with motion sickness and such while traveling, pack the appropriate medicine. We cannot stress enough the importance of having your medicine on hand in case it is needed.

This is also the case in regard to other personal needs. Please make sure you pack to take care of yourself, be it medicines, light snacks, and any other issue you can think of.

Obviously, you cannot plan for everything, but do your best to be as prepared as possible and RtC will deal with any surprises as they occur. Of course, we do not expect any to occur, but it is better to be prepared just in case.

Preparing for a Trip: Packing

Packing for an overseas trip is an art form, one which is not easy to master. Especially since you have been told to take anything you think you might need. STOP: This only applies to medication. Everything else must be considered carefully. One of the major regrets of many short-term missions' travelers is: "I wish I would have packed lighter." Do not worry if you forget minor things, as most common, everyday items can be purchased in Romania.

You will be responsible to carry what you pack.

The following Packing list is recommended:

General:

- Passport
- Bible, notebook/journal and pens
- Spending money
- Toothbrush/paste/floss
- Razor/shaving cream
- Deodorant
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Comb/brush
- Feminine hygiene items
- Vitamins
- Prescriptions
- Insect repellent/lotion (seasonal)
- Suntan lotion/sunscreen (seasonal)
- Sunglasses
- Camera/film or storage cards/extra batteries
- Alarm clock
- Small flashlight/extra batteries
- Sweater or Jacket (seasonal)
- Anti-bacterial hand cleaner

Clothing and Misc. Items

- * Undergarments
- * Comfy shoes/socks
- * Sleepwear
- * Outerwear
- * Contact lens care items
- * Photos of family & friends
- * Reading material
- * Earplugs
- * Current Adapter: RO is 220
- * Flip flops/ sandals

Only one casual dress outfit is needed. For the men, khaki pants and a golf shirt or sweater is great. For the ladies, a skirt and blouse or a dress is recommended as you will blend into the culture this way at some of the churches we may attend on Sunday. This is for our hosts benefit and comfort, not RtC's expectation as we do everything possible to blend into society in Romania.

As for other packing suggestions, work with your teammates. You will not need five hair dryers in Romania, or ten bottles of laundry detergent. You get the picture. Work together to make your packing easier.

Other suggestions:

1) Consider very carefully what you will pack into your carry-on bag. Note that airport security is much stricter than it used to be in all aspects, especially carry-on luggage. It is also important to understand that this may be the only bag that makes it to your destination. So pack all necessities in your carry-on. It is recommended to pack at least one change of clothing and all medications in this bag. Your carry on must fit in either the overhead compartment, or under your seat. It can be no larger than 45 linear inches. Please check NWA.com for specific luggage requirements.

2) Limit the amount of valuables. Jewelry and items with emotional value are not suggested. Leave them at home. It is better to be safe than sorry.

3) Laundry can be done in Romania. It is suggested that you pack with the plan to do some laundry. You may want to pack enough undergarments, but plan on washing shirts and shorts/pants. This will help you in determining how much to pack.

4) Checked or stowed luggage can be up to, but not over 50 pounds per bag. One bag cannot be over 62 linear inches. Even though two bags may be checked per passenger, RtC may need one the bags to transport ministry project materials.

You will be charged for excess baggage.

What to Expect: Traveling:

Approximate time in the air is as follows: 2 hours in the air, then a layover, then 8 - 9 hours in the air, then a layover, then 2 hours in the air. The actual time it takes from leaving your first airport to the time you arrive in Romania is approximately 24 hours of travel time. Your trip may break this up with an overnight stay in Budapest. Either way, you should be well-rested before leaving on this trip.

Suggestions for air travel:

- Get up and move around every 45 minutes to an hour.
- Drink plenty of water and then drink some more.
- Avoid caffeine, even 48 hours before is a good idea.
- Wear comfortable clothing
- On the international flight: Sleep!
- Upon arrival, you will hit the ground running. This will help fight against jet lag.

- Try to adapt to the current time zone by making yourself stay awake until bedtime, even though you will be tired.

Besides air travel you will have at least a four-hour drive by van or bus from Budapest to Romania. This will be a good time to get to know your teammates. Make the most of every opportunity.

It is important to understand when traveling internationally that you will encounter people with customs and expectations much different than you may be used to. It is very important as we consider our witness, to do our best not to offend or try to help people “see the light” as to how “we” do things. So please, remember your manners. It is especially important when traveling as a group not to be loud, as the number of people will amplify the noise.

Airport security is much tighter than pre-9/11/01. Therefore, it is important to be prepared for extra inspections and precautions. Always be polite and courteous to airport personnel and dress appropriately. Avoid metal belt-buckles and so forth. This will make your airport time much easier and comfortable. Also, do not leave any of your luggage unattended. It may be stolen or quickly end up in the hands of airport personnel, and they will not really care what excuse you have. Please hold all bags tightly, especially in a crowd. When going through customs, your team leader will provide instructions as needed. The key is do not panic, be calm, friendly, and quiet. Only answer questions that are asked and do not volunteer more information than required. Customs is not the place to practice stand-up comedy or to even attempt to entertain or impress teammates or officials.

What to Expect: Weather

Strangely enough, the weather in Oradea, Romania mirrors that of the Mid-Western United States almost year round. Winter trips will be cold, spring trips will be chilly, and summer trips hot. It is very easy to check the 7-day forecast for Oradea prior to leaving by using the Internet.

What to Expect: Housing

Remember the Children will do everything possible to make your trip as comfortable as possible. Your accommodations will be clean and dry. The bedding will most likely be summer camp bunk-bed style, with separate quarters for men and women. The restroom facilities are modern with running water and electricity. Towels and washcloths will be provided. However, your morning and evening prep time will be limited as everyone shares the facilities. Please be considerate of this in your preparation. It will be important for everyone to practice good manners and respect each other’s privacy and belongings as the quarters are close, yet comfortable. Some of your favorite memories may be in bonding with your teammates as you share with one another.

What to Expect: Food

While traveling, available food in the airports and on the planes will be that with which you are accustomed. In Budapest, you will be treated to a meal in a nice Hungarian restaurant. There will possibly be many opportunities for you to try new things.

As for food in Romania, RtC will not let you go hungry. However, there may be days when you do not receive three meals. Please be courteous and eat what you are served. Remember the missionaries' code is: "Lord where you lead me I will follow, what you feed me I will swallow!"

As for snack food, it is ok to bring things such as energy bars, crackers, pop tarts, and such with you for travel needs. PLEASE make sure you notify RtC prior to departure of any dietary needs or concerns, especially food allergies.

It is imperative that you try to remember the following guidelines:

- Only drink bottled water, and make sure that you either open it or witness it being opened. It is recommended that you avoid ice made from tap water.
- Avoid uncooked vegetables, salads, and fruit that cannot be peeled.
- Do not eat raw eggs, uncooked meat, or unprocessed cheese.
- Avoid food handled excessively by a vendor after cooking.
- Avoid juices and other drinks unless they are commercially bottled. Make sure those that "appear" new actually are.
- Eat only food that is served in a clean container.
- Wash the surface of melons with safe water before cutting them.

What to Expect: Schedule

The key word in regard to the daily work schedule in Romania is FLEXIBILITY! RtC will do everything possible to make the most of your time in the country. However, you will be in a different country that moves at a different pace than America.

Please plan on going to bed very late, and usually getting up early. Plan on using every bit of energy you have every day. As the sports cliché goes, "plan on leaving it all on the court," so to speak. You will be there to do a job, and must give it all you've got while there. You can rest at home. Of course, RtC will do everything possible to give you opportunities to rest and have times of refreshment. It is imperative that you make the most of those opportunities. Kid time is not rest time. Give the kids all you have. You will be rewarded by the Father for your efforts!!! New relationships only happen when you are willing to invest the time, and these relationships will quite possibly be the best part of your trip. Relationships are vital to the work and ministry that RtC does and will continue to do in Romania.

What to Expect: Communications with Home

Please, please do not promise loved ones at home that you will call at specific times. It is quite possible that it will be impossible to keep that promise. RtC does not have team Internet access. If at all possible, your team leader will send group emails to update your loved ones in order to keep them informed of your well-being and progress. RtC understands your need to stay in touch with loved ones at home and will help you, but please understand that while on the mission field, as one missionary put it, “When you are there, you need to be all there.” You may use the RtC cell phone for limited time calls, but you will have to pay for the minutes you use. So please limit your phone calls to only necessary contacts and give your mission fieldwork your full attention while in Romania.

If you are traveling with a group from your hometown, setting up a phone or email communication chain at home is a good idea. That way, one telephone call takes care of informing a lot of people. Communicating with those at home is not always easy, but RtC will help you do so as needed. You will be given an information sheet with phone numbers for RtC Romania before you leave on your trip.

What to Expect: Ministry

The ministry focus of RtC is to bring faith, hope, and love to the abandoned children of the world. This will be your focus, regardless of which trip you are a participant. In some way, everything RtC does is for the kids. A major part of this ministry is in building relationships. Much time will be devoted to this. Remember, the children, and even the adults, have many horrible backgrounds and hard life experiences. Therefore, you must earn their trust. A careless word or thoughtless deed could do damage to years of work. Remember you are a representative of RtC and more than that, of Jesus Christ. Make them both proud. Carefully think about each word you say and what you do. Be friendly and you will make friends.

Please understand that much ministry can take place by playing basketball, volleyball, soccer (football) or a game of tag in the yard. Ministry can be done sitting on a couch or working in a garden. Make the most of every opportunity to let your light shine.

Beyond this, RtC will give you the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus. For several years now, RtC has loved the unloved, hugged those who have never been hugged, and provided food for the hungry, water for the thirsty, and clothes for the naked. With your help, we will continue to do so. RtC exists to meet needs be they, mental, social, physical, or spiritual. In all that we do, we have an “Eternal Purpose” in mind. We are praying for team members, senders and receivers on the field that God’s Eternal Purpose for their life is impacted by this ministry.

What to Expect: Romanian Ministry

Caminul Felix, the Happy Home is where Remember the Children was introduced to the needs of the Romanian children. Caminul Felix is the current housing provider for our mission teams. Regardless of your trip's mission, you will have an opportunity to meet and learn about this special Romanian ministry. Other Romanian ministries that you may have contact with include Theranova, a prosthetics clinic, Casa Minunata, a special needs school, the Children's Rehabilitation Hospital, and the state Baby Hospital. We are always pleased to introduce these important ministries to our team members. Please be respectful of their ministry methods and customs. When RtC first started bringing teams to Romania, we were a bridge and conduit of people and resources for these ministries.

Over the last several years, our RtC ministry identity has expanded into several ministry projects through our Romanian office, People to People (P2P). These ministry projects of RtC/P2P encompass four major areas of emphasis: 1) rescuing abandoned children through our Casa David ministry; 2) outreach into gypsy villages, such as Tinca, where we sponsor a school; 3) a comprehensive social and medical ministry that benefits the elderly; and 4) a medical initiative that meets the needs of the children in our multifaceted ministries. Each of our ministry teams will participate in one or more of these ministry areas. We pray that you will benefit as much from your service, as our ministry recipients will benefit from your help.

What to Expect: Church

It is quite possible that you will get the opportunity to experience a church service while in Romania. Most churches are very conservative. Women are expected to wear dresses or skirts, and they sit on one side of the church, while the men sit on the other. Other churches are more casual, and will be a lot closer to what you are familiar. Be prepared for either, and remember, we are there to learn, as well as teach. Appreciate their traditions, and be respectful of them. Church in Romania traditionally lasts exactly two hours. Much time will be spent in prayer and worship. Use this time to evaluate and reflect on what you are experiencing and be drawn into a closer relationship with your Lord.

What to Expect: Community

As previously mentioned, relationships are a key part of the strategy of RtC and should be treated with care and respect. There are several relationships to be mindful of as you undertake this journey.

1. Your relationship between you and God. This one will affect the rest.
2. Your relationship with your teammates. You may not always agree, which is ok. Please always treat each other with respect, kindness, and

mutual admiration, with the understanding that everyone brings something different to the ministry and each gift is needed and valuable.

3. Your relationship with your team leader(s). Please know that this person has been chosen by RtC and God for a specific purpose. He or she will not be bossy, but please understand the responsibility on his or her shoulders and respect their leadership and instructions. “The buck stops with the team leader.”
4. Your relationship with your hosts. It is imperative that you are kind and gracious to your hosts.
5. Your relationship with the kids. May you be as open and loving to the kids as Jesus was. You may have to earn their trust.
6. Your relationship with the everyday man and woman you meet as you travel. Remember that you are a guest in their country. Respect them, love them, and see them as Jesus would.

What to Expect: Your Team

Your team may be made up of all people you know and are familiar with, or you may have the opportunity to meet many new people from all over the USA and even the world. Make the most of these opportunities. Please do not be exclusive. Your team leader will set the tone and give you opportunities to build relationships with others. However, RtC strongly discourages pursuing a new relationship of the romantic kind with another team member during the trip. It is also RtC’s policy that no RtC team member should in anyway encourage a romantic relationship of any kind with a Romanian national. Customs are different in Romania. It matters not how you see things, but how they do. Keep this in mind, and do not spend private time with someone of the opposite sex that is not your spouse, regardless of the situation. This protects you and the other person. If you are dating another team member before leaving on the trip, please be mindful of why you are on this journey and act accordingly. You are going on a missions trip, not a vacation.

Remember the Children does not expect any problems along any of these lines, but for your information and clarity, has spelled out clear expectations here in order to provide you with a great trip. We want you to know what you signed up for, from the beginning.

One final word about your team. Team members may have different religious backgrounds and beliefs, but are all there for the same purpose, to provide faith, hope, and love for the kids. Be there for the kids, respect your teammates, and handle each other with care, and you will be rewarded by God the Father.

Re-Entry:

Re-entry is a mission's word for what to expect once you come home. RtC's commitment to helping you grow and make the most of your trip does not end on the field. Whether you have been in Romania for 1 week, 2 weeks, 2 years, or 20 years, coming home can be very exciting, sometimes painful, and will almost always have some shock value. On your trip, you may have witnessed extreme poverty for the first time in your life. You will probably be much more appreciative of the everyday conveniences that we have in the United States. Some of you may experience a surge of patriotism and gratitude of being a US citizen. Be thankful for these emotions. Your family may not appreciate, to the same degree as yourself, all that you have seen and learned. Be patient and understanding of them. Sometimes words are just inadequate to describe the feelings and circumstances experienced on the mission field. But do not forget what you have experienced and learned. It will be tempting to meld back into your old ways of luxury and excess. Pray that God will use your mission experience to open your eyes to new ways to serve Him. We hope that you will give personal consideration to connecting and involving others to what God is doing through RtC/P2P.

RtC is committed to making the most of your trip. Therefore we ask, and actually expect you, to commit before going on the trip, to complete a post-trip evaluation and to attend at least one follow-up/reunion session after returning home.

Contact Information:

Specific trip information for Romania will be issued via email for those traveling as it becomes available. Please ask family and friends to understand the time difference and only try to contact you in an emergency. NOTE: Romania is 8 hours ahead of the US Eastern Standard time zone.

Focus

As you have read, Remember the Children exists to provide faith hope and love to the children of the world. Currently our focus is Romania. As you travel with RtC, may this be your focus as well. May we all work together to accomplish this mission.

When you travel with RtC, the mission may change your life. RtC is convinced that there is nothing more worthwhile that one could do, than share the love of Jesus with those who have never experienced it.

There are many ways to do this. God can and will use many different people with many different talents and methods to be His hands and feet. All it takes is a humble and willing heart on the part of His servants.

Remember the Children is ecstatic that you may be one of those servants. Our commitment to you is to help you be the best that you can be for the Father as He uses you to bless others. If you do this with a humble heart, He will not only use you to bless others, but will bless you as well.

We look forward to traveling with you and experiencing all that the Father has in store as we serve Him together.

May He bless you for your faithfulness and may He receive all the glory for the great things He has done and will do!

Blessings,

Andy Baker
Executive Director

Forms

The following forms must be submitted to Remember the Children before traveling to Romania:

A copy of your passport.

A Release of Liability.

A signed Covenant.

A completed Application.

A permission to conduct a Background Check form.

A medical note from your doctor stating that, to his or her knowledge, you are fit/capable/clear to serve on an international missions trip and work in close proximity to children.

You will find the forms following this page.

Release of Liability

In signing this form, I, _____ agree not to hold Remember the Children, Inc. (henceforth referred to as “corporation”), its officers, employees, or their agents liable for any injury, loss, damage, or accident that I might encounter while on a mission trip to Hungary and Romania.

I realize and acknowledge that my participation on a mission trip includes risks and possible dangers. I am well aware that my participation may expose me to accidents and/or other calamities.

I hereby assume any such risks that might result from my travel to the previously mentioned countries. I unconditionally agree to hold the corporation, its officers, employees, or other agents blameless for any liability concerning my personal health and well being, or any liability for my personal property that might be lost, damaged, or stolen while on this trip.

I have carefully read the foregoing and I understand that my signature herein holds the organization, its officer, employees, or other agents harmless for any liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity in schedule and do hereby assume all responsibility for my own behavior, actions and the consequences thereof.

Signed _____ and dated the ____ day of _____, 200__.

Witnessed by _____

State of _____

County of _____

On this _____ day of _____, _____, before me personally appeared,

_____ to be known to be the person who executed

the above release, and acknowledge that _____ voluntarily executed the same.

NOTARY PUBLIC

Date of expiration of Notary Commission

Notary Seal

Remember the Children Covenant

I realize that the following elements are crucial to the effectiveness, quality, and safety of our trip together. As a member of the Remember the Children team I agree to:

1. Attend the orientation session(s), function within the guidelines of the trip, participate in team debriefing while on the field and upon return home, and then be available to share my experiences with others.
2. Remember that I am a guest working at the invitation of a local missionary, pastor, medical clinic, etc. If my hosts are offended by my bare arms, shirtless back, and exposed legs, I'll cover them. If they offer me goat meat stew, I'll try it. I'll follow the missionaries' creed. "Where You lead me, I will follow, what You feed me, I will swallow!"
3. Remember that we have come to learn, not to teach. I may run across procedures that I feel are inefficient, or attitudes that I find closed-minded. I'll resist the temptation to inform our hosts about "how we do things." I'll be open to learning about other people's methods and ideas.
4. Respect the host's view of Christianity. I recognize that Christianity has many faces throughout the world, and that the purpose of this trip is to witness and experience faith lived out in a new setting.
5. Develop and maintain a servant attitude toward all nationals and my teammates.
6. Respect my team leader(s) and his or her decisions.
7. Refrain from gossip. It is surprising how each person will blossom when freed from the concern that others may be passing judgment.
8. Refrain from complaining. I know that travel can present numerous unexpected and undesired circumstances, but the rewards of conquering such circumstances are innumerable. Instead of whining and complaining, I'll choose to be creative and supportive.
9. Respect the work that is going on in the country with the particular church, agency, or person(s) that we are working with. I realize that our team is here for just a short while, but the missionary and local churches are there for the long term. I will respect their knowledge, insight, and instructions.
10. Fulfill all logistical requirements regarding passports, finances, immunizations, etc.
11. Refrain from negative political comments or hostile discussion concerning our host country's politics.
12. Remember not to be exclusive in my relationships. Even if my sweetheart or spouse is on the team, we will make every effort to interact with all members of the team, not just one another. If I am attracted to a teammate, I will not pursue an exclusive relationship until after we return home.
13. Refrain from any activity that could be construed as romantic interest toward a national. I realize that certain activities that seem harmless in my own culture may be inappropriate in another.
14. Abstain from the use of tobacco and illegal drugs at any time on this trip.

Signed: _____ Dated _____

Remember the Children Application

Date of Application _____

Remember the Children
17039 Mercantile Blvd. Noblesville IN 46060
Phone: 317-774-3222 FAX: 317-774-3293

Please indicate the date of the trip to Romania that you desire: _____

PERSONAL

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Full Name as it does or will appear on your Passport _____

Do you have a Passport? Yes No What is the expiration date? _____

What is the passport number? _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: Home (____) _____ Work (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

E-mail Address _____ Date of Birth _____ Male Female

Single Engaged Married Separated Divorced Widowed

Do you smoke? Yes No Do you consume alcohol? Yes No Do you snore? Yes No

CHURCH

Where is your church membership? _____

When did you start attending? Month/Year _____

Do you participate in a Sunday School Class, Bible study, or small group? _____

MINISTRY

Which church ministries are you presently involved with? _____

Briefly list your previous ministry involvements:

Have you attended the **Contagious Christianity** class, **How to Share Your Faith Without Fear?** or any other evangelism training? Yes No

Please list your spiritual gifts:

Briefly list any previous cross cultural experience in ministry:
(e.g., inner city, international students, refugees, another country, etc.)

SKILLS

What foreign languages do you speak, read or write? (Please indicate your proficiency level)

Please list all specialized skills which you have developed and are able to use: (e.g., medical, music, drama, financial planning, graphics, bricklaying, carpentry, culinary, electrical, electronics, computers, athletics, etc.)

Skill	Fair	Good	Excellent	Professional
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

EMPLOYMENT

Employed Self-Employed Retired Unemployed Student Other

Please complete the following information:

(Your employer is not contacted.)

Name of Employer _____

Employer's Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Position _____

EDUCATION

High School _____
Year Graduated _____

Trade, Business, or Technical School _____
Course of study _____ Year Graduated _____

Junior College _____
Major _____ Degree _____ Year Graduated _____

College/University _____
Major _____ Degree _____ Year Graduated _____

Graduate School _____
Major _____ Degree _____ Year Graduated _____

CHARACTER REFERENCES

1. Church Staff Member:

Length of Time Known:

2. Other Reference:

Length of Time Known:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

3. Other Reference:

Length of Time Known:

Nature of this relationship: _____

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

MEDICAL

Describe your health: (Include a description of all conditions which may limit your normal abilities in stress-related situations)

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Spiritual Journey: Please indicate the nature of your present relationship with God.

I am not a believer, but I am open to learning and understanding more; right now I consider myself to be...

a skeptic (*doubting*)

a spectator (*observing*)

a seeker (*searching*)

unsure (*lacking confidence*)

I am a believer, I have accepted Jesus as Lord & Savior, and right now in my faith development, I am a...

new believer (*recently trusted Christ*)

growing believer (*trusted Christ, developing as a follower*)

mature believer (*experiencing life as a fully devoted follower of Christ*)

How did you come into a relationship with Jesus Christ?

Please describe your present spiritual journey in life, especially regarding these values: “grace” “growth” “involvement” “prayer”

What expectations do you have personally for this team, trip and cross cultural ministry experience?

By submitting this application to go to Romania with RTC, I understand that I am personally responsible to arrange funding for my portion of the team/trip costs. Yes No

RTC photographs/videotapes segments of each trip for ministry promotional purposes. Your image may appear in one of our publications. I do do not give my permission for RTC to use my image.

I understand that in order to process this evaluation, RTC must have a background check conducted on me, and I give my permission for this. _____ (Initial for consent) (We will send you a formal consent document upon receiving this application).

I understand that I must also submit the following documents in addition to this application: Waiver/Release, RtC Covenant, and an official note from your doctor stating that in their professional opinion you are fit/ capable to participate in an international missions trip and to work with children while on that trip. _____ (Initial for consent)

I understand that RTC may reject any application per their judgment. _____(Initial for consent)

Comments:

Signature _____ Date _____