

# NOROC News

(New Opportunities for Romanian Orphaned Children)

NOROC, Inc.

Abilene, Texas



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## NOROC "Elves" Prepare for Christmas

It all begins with sorting, packing and stuffing and it ends with making deliveries to hundreds of children. The NOROC staff in Tulcea works feverishly each year to bring love and Christmas cheer to the abandoned and orphaned children of Tulcea County. They literally travel "over the river and through the woods" to reach the children in the outlying villages and towns as well as those in the city of Tulcea. Join us as we highlight their travels for Christmas 2010!



### Special points of interest:

- Advance preparations for the Christmas deliveries
- Traveling to the centers to deliver the gifts
- Children show their appreciation by sharing Christmas traditions in song and dance
- "Giving back" by serving those both younger and older



The travels began as the NOROC staff delivered Christmas shoe boxes to children from Trestenic and Hamcearca. The children were completely delighted, especially the ones from Hamcearca who had never received such Christmas gifts!



Photos contributed by Petru Solca.



Isaacea and Somova were also on the list of places to go. As is the usual custom the staff is treated to a "spectacol", or performance, by the children who live at the centers. Traditional costumes are often worn by the children during these holiday performances, which consist of songs, poetry, and dance.



"Steaua", the star, is an important part of the Christmas tradition.



Learning to give back is an important part of NOROC's program, so the group of older kids visited the youngest ones at Cocorii 1 & 2. Three of our grannies are pictured (center). Costel Tomache, one of our college students, was Santa Claus.

"Learning to give back is an important part of NOROC's program."



Marilena gets an impromptu check-up from a friend!





At Speranta, the largest center in Tulcea, Marilena & Petru Solca and Mary Ferris were greeted with traditional songs and dancing. A special part of this performance was the goat dance (center top), which sends good wishes for the upcoming New Year.



At Simbata Noua the children once again share the joy of the season through song and dance.



On the road again, this time to visit Gradinari Center for the handicapped in Tulcea. It is hard to tell who is having the most fun...Petru or the children!







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**New Opportunities for Romanian  
Orphaned Children**

**NOROC** is a Christ-based, non-profit organization. "Noroc" is a Romanian word which means "God Bless." We've adopted it as our name because it also reflects our mission: **To share God's blessings by providing New Opportunities for Romanian Orphaned Children spiritually, developmentally, socially and medically.**

**NOROC** was founded to find ways to nurture these abandoned children. Currently, NOROC's programs are focused in the orphanages of Tulcea County, Romania. There we try to provide for children in material ways such as supplying diapers, school supplies, or adequate shoes. At an even more basic level of need our organization provides the loving relationships these children so desperately crave, thanks to the day to day devotion of our **Big Hearted Grannies, Big Hearted Teachers, and Big Hearted Friends.** Churches and individual friendships currently support this mission. Please join us in our work.

While the children are the main focus of NOROC at Christmas time, the "seniors" are not forgotten. The older youth and young adults of NOROC, who were at the time of NOROC's inception themselves children, deliver Christmas greetings, songs, and gifts to the residents of Tulcea's Home for the Elderly. This home was once St. Andrew's Boys Home, where many of the young men grew up. These young people have a strong sense of service, which has been nurtured by Mary Ferris and the NOROC staff.

