

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A Tax-Exempt Nonprofit Corporation

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FROM MICHAEL WURMBRAND TO ALL SUPPORTERS

You have been in the past few years, one of about 20 supporters of this non-profit organization. Without sending you out monthly solicitations, I have tried over the years, to help out both from funds you have sent and on my own, two-three charitable works started in Romania by my parents, after the fall of communism, like:

- The Agape Orphanage in Pascani, Romania;
- The Richard Wurmbrand College in Iasi, Romania;
- A foundation that could publish, not yet published sermons of my father, late Rev. Richard Wurmbrand;
- Some families of Christians who passed through prison.

This is no more possible for me, since I was immediately terminated from my employment with Voice of the Martyrs (VOM) the organization our family started in 1967, after I asked for an independent investigation re. the suicide last year, by the Chairman of VOM, Tom White, within hours of a police-filed complaint of pedophilia about him. The letter enclosed, tells it all.

In years past, Help For Refugees has been sending to this and other orphanages like in India, Peru for instance , \$2,000 to \$15,000/ year. A \$7,000 help wire was sent out this month to the Agape orphanage. Because of my own life story, when it comes to helping orphans, I have been myself at both ends of this real-life drama. When both my father and mother passed through communist prisons, I was practically an orphan depending on the charity of less than 5 good souls. A Christian lady who dared bring me a sack of potatoes, was beaten, with fists and police-batons at the communist secret police headquarters, a whole night. A Christian lady, only 28 years old, who took me and one more child, in her home, was later sentenced to 6 years of communist prisons, when it was found out she helped children of political prisoners, like my parents. She came out of prison with teeth smashed out in beatings and three broken ribs. When arriving here in the Free World, I was in a position and able, by the grace of God, to help many orphans.

Unlike in the past, I am also no more able to help families of Christians, now in their eighties and nineties, who passed through communist prisons, some of them described in my father's book Tortured For Christ or the Richard Wurmbrand College in Iasi. I guess to spite me, while spending \$28 million dollars in giving construction work in Bartlesville, OK., VOM did not send to them through me this year even one US\$. The same with the Richard Wurmbrand College.

When communism fell, Romania with a population of only 20 million, had over 200,000 orphans. Compare this with the United States of about 150,000 orphans to a population of about 314 million. In the case of the Agape orphanage, it was started in 1993 when \$1,500 was sufficient for a one month support and nowadays they need over \$15,000/month to have a proper support. After Romania joined the European Union, new onerous legal requirements were imposed on having a proper medical cabinet, a nurse and a psychologist available and other similar standards. Expenses have increased considerably. Since they are constantly under funded, these children are used in unpaid farm work, construction work, the food is supplemented with local canning factories give-aways, etc.

The staff though, has been able to maintain this Evangelical orphanage and continue to bring these children up in a Christian teaching with personal great sacrifices. The director of the orphanage, Dorin Gavrilă, is also the

general secretary of the Plymouth Brethren, locally in Romania, named the Gospel-Following-Christians denomination. Of course the secular Romanian government is of little help. I was not there when this orphanage was started and I am ever sorry when my parents, on their last trip to Romania, before their death, allowed this work to be launched, they did not oblige VOM, which, a few years after my parents death, pretty much abandoned helping them, to endow this orphanage properly for many years to come.

A unique opportunity to help some Fukushima, earthquake, tsunami and radiation, victims occurred in 2011. A dear Japanese family friend, went to Japan and visited in the very area of the disaster, a Japanese resident dentist and Christian missionary. She also visited for about two weeks and helped directly at least 30 victims living in make-shift shelters. Unfortunately the government still keeps these people with not much outlook for any relocation and stable future income. All supplies bought were received with thankfulness.

The rich young man in the Gospel, was asked by Lord Jesus to give his riches to the poor (in the Greek original, to beggars) not so that beggars should be socially redeemed out of their poverty. The young rich man was seeking eternal life. Through this sacrificial giving and following the Lord, he could get what he was seeking, eternal life. This is the answer also when we might get disappointed in our giving. We should give as unto God. Thanks for your generous giving in past years. Work with orphans has nothing glamorous and much to report in a monthly newsletter. Orphans are kids and the work consists in daily caring for them. The less exciting, in this world of trouble, the better. Please do not take this as a solicitation. You deserve for your past giving to be told the facts and below some contrasting pictures about these orphans, before and after their lives were touched by these dedicated Romanian Christians you supported. You may find information also on the web at: <http://helpforrefugees.com>. Thanks again.

Michael

