

A woman and a child are working together at a desk. The woman is on the left, and the child is on the right. They are both looking at a blue object, possibly a book or a folder, which the woman is holding. The background is a warm, orange-toned image of a classroom or library. A large yellow circle is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'LOVE', 'LIGHT ROMANIA', and '20 YEARS'.

LOVE

LIGHT ROMANIA

— 20 —
YEARS

Annual Report
2021

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Thoughts from Directors



Jo Jowett.
Co-Founder
Director

2021 took us two years into a pandemic, which for too many was hard times to endure, at LLR the ethos of making the best of each day, bringing good out of every situation, remained the same. So, with less visitors and activities, that meant more time to reflect on where growth and changes could take place and in both areas of our work there was both expansion and transformation. Our service users, the communities that we support, rely on LLR and this enables them to have aspirations and be ambitious. Therefore, we can look back on 2021 with pride knowing that all the effort and investment continue to be very worthwhile.



Robert Rowe Director

2021 like 2020 was a year of new things and new provocations. Evolving and adapting. But the main thing was that we would still provide services for our beneficiaries.

We have made many new friends, sponsors and long-term partners. From the start of the year we saw that there was a need to change our fundraising plan as funding started to drop. This was a shock to us as 2020 had actually seen an increase in funding. Aiming more at the Romanian market we started to raise the profile of Love Light Romania and through this process we met new partners who helped us to get national media coverage and find new corporate sponsors. These new partnerships, sponsors and fundraising plans will help us to succeed in 2022.

It was great to see volunteers back at the Sanctuary. This was something that we really missed in 2020. Volunteers bring in fresh skills and ideas that an NGO needs. It is also lovely to hear the Sanctuary full of the noise of activities and games with volunteers. We also had a chocolate workshop where the residents of the Sanctuary and Jim's house learnt how to make homemade chocolate. That was a fun and delicious day.

The highlights for me were working with the Medias Red Cross on a project, working with one of our residents to make bins from recycled wood and bike wheels and putting them next to our local lake, starting our Beeswax candle business and also being on TVR 1 as I love to talk about Love Light Romania and I want as many people as possible to hear about our great work.

Mission and Vision

Love Light Romania supports children and adults who have been abandoned by their families and by society.

We want to see a Romania where children in poverty, HIV sufferers and institutionalized adults with disabilities are not forgotten about. We want to see all these people become active citizens and a benefit to the country.

- In Romania 1 in 5 children abandon school.
- 17074 registered people with HIV/Aids in Romania.
- 345 new cases in 2021
- 16768 are over 20 years old
- Research has shown that every three months a child under three spends within an institution delays their physical development by one month.

2021 Accomplishments and Achievements.



20 years celebration

2021 saw Love Light Romania celebrate 20 years of activities. In this time, we have had many different projects, helped people all over Romania and had so many wonderful volunteers. To celebrate this, we had a meeting on Zoom for everybody who has been a part of Love Light Romania over the years and also, we had some new sponsors and volunteers. Because of restrictions we couldn't have a physical meeting but we are hoping to have one in 2022 if everything is safe to do so. Love Light Romania was started in 2001 by founders Ron and Jo Jowett. It was started to support 9 children who were suffering from health problems in the local hospital. Ron and Jo would take them out for activities, camping, bbq's and they would also have some of the children come and spend the weekend at their house. In 2003 the Sanctuary was opened and the children could move in there. After this everything took off. The Sanctuary became a residential home in 2009, The Jacodu project started in 2010. We had summer camps every year, we worked with the Medias Red Cross, The Austrian Red Cross and Romaniahjelpen Vestlandet to provide housing for 7 families in Blajel. We have received beneficiaries from all over Romania. Medias, Sibiu, Tirgu Mures, Miercuri Ciuc, Bucuresti, Sighisoara, Cismadie and we have been contacted by authorities from all over Romania even in 2021. And the Volunteers have come to us from all over the world. We are so grateful for everybody who has been involved.



Candles

At the end of 2021 the residents of the Sanctuary started to produce bees wax candles. They were made with 4 different fragrances. Pine, Cinnamon, Citronella and natural. The beeswax was poured into jars for a better look. The residents of the Sanctuary helped out with the packaging, labeling and preparing of the candles. Over the Christmas period we managed to sell candles 94 candles and the money that we made from this will be invested into some more materials and equipment that will help us to make more models and higher quantities of candles.

The aim of this project is to make enough money to support our projects and also to offer part time employment to some of our beneficiaries. We also see this project as another way of increasing the amount of people that know about Love Light Romania and may become future donors.

Helping the Redcross

In May and June of 2021 Director of Love Light Romania and 2 of the Sanctuary residents Moti and Ciprian went and helped the Medias Red Cross. The Red Cross had a project to finish and we went to help. Love Light Romania and Medias Red Cross have worked on other projects together and we have received many donations form them. The project was to make a sensory walkway for children with autism. We helped them dig the walkway and then fill it up with different materials. This took about 4 days of work. We then helped them to erect a climbing frame and slide for the children.

This project was really import form Cirpian and Moti's social inclusion skills. They made new friends and they also learned some new skills. It was also good to show them why it is important to be a good citizen and help out other people and NGOs as a volunteer.



wooden bins and cleaning local lake

One of our projects on our social inclusion program is respecting nature and being a good citizen. We have installed bins next to our local lake and our beneficiaries have been cleaning up. They get a lot of satisfaction from seeing that people use their bin and also through the difference they make to the countryside. In 2021 we managed to collect 28 sacks of rubbish through our bins and also what we picked up.

Volunteers back at the Sanctuary

In 2021 we started to have volunteers back on our projects. Volunteers are a very important part of an NGO's strategy; they bring in skills and work force that we wouldn't usually have. They are also wonderful at spreading the word of our projects.

This year we had Adela Joerges and Silvana Dan come to the Sanctuary and they done workshops with the residents about healthy eating and another one was making ginger bread. Adela also came and helped out when another volunteer came and done a chocolate making workshop with the residents. Oana Cringas who owns a business called Sura Culinara came and showed the residents of the Sanctuary how to make homemade chocolate. Everybody enjoyed themselves so much and they were so proud of what they produced.

During this workshop we were also joined by Senator Claudiu Muresan.

Our beneficiaries really enjoy when volunteers come to do activities with them and they often mention that it is nice that people are taking time out to come and help them. We are hoping in 2022 to have a full calendar of volunteers and hopefully we will start our summer camps again.



Jacodu Children's Project

At Jacodu Children's Project over 2021 there was expansion and growth, both for individuals and for the project in general, a big achievement considering the pandemic continued. A re-shuffle of the groups at the learning center gave more intensive education programs with a focus on preparing young people who in 2022 will be moving on to secondary school. Also providing individual support, a one-to-one program attending to specific education needs, this in particular has seen several children inspired to overcome obstacles and learn to read and write. The agriculture program received a larger new poly tunnel and a donation of 200 fruit trees, providing more work opportunities at Jacodu as well as food for the Sanctuary. Throughout the year the project has continued to give daily educational support and all the equipment, clothes and footwear needed for school, the project continues to be a reliable service supporting the Roma community.





Blood Transportation

An important part of our HIV support program is providing people with free transport to hospitals for blood test and medical checkups. In 2021 we helped 24 adults and children to get blood test. These blood tests we both for HIV tests and for health checkups. It is very import for a person has HIV to receive the correct treatment as then they get to a health level where they can not transmit HIV to ithers via sexual contact.



Treatment Collection

Another important part of the HIV support program is providing transport for people with HIV to collect their HIV treatment. Some of our service users live in remote villages and don't have regular public transport to collect their treatment. We help people collect treatment form Tirgu Mures and also from Medias hospital. Again, it is a vital program as it helps them to achieve a medical status of undetectable which means that HIV cannot be detected in their blood and therefore, they can not pass it on via sex to others. So, it means this project helps to stop the spread of HIV in our area.

Fruit Tree Planting

This year we planted 200 fruit trees at our project in Jacodu. 50 Apples, 50 Pears, 50 Cherries and 50 Plums.

We had beneficiaries from the Sanctuary and from Jacodu helping to plant them.

Once the trees start to produce fruit they will provide us with produce to make jams, juice, cakes etc... These products will be made by our beneficiaries and some will be taken home by them and others will be sold to raise funds for Love Light Romania. We want them to learn preserving, cooking and fruit growing skills. This activity will also help them to grow their self confidence and also help their parents see what their children are capable of doing.

We also had to install an electric fence around them to keep out the bears and other animals.



Media Coverage

In 2021 we set ourselves the goal of increasing the amount of people who know about Love Light Romania and our projects. We done this through our social media and also through the media, local and national.

Our director Robert Rowe gave a 40-minute interview on our local news TV station called Nova TV. During the interview Robert Spoke about the history of Love Light Romania, the past and current project and also what the future holds for us.

We also had the opportunity to be featured on the Cu Cap-n Zori show on TVR1. During the interview we spoke about a new fundraising campaign that we had started, our origami competition. Again, it was Robert who was present for the interview and he was accompanied by Alexandra Baranyi who is an origami artist. On their Facebook page our video was one of the highest viewed videos for that month.

We were also featured in online publications OZB and Medias Live. They helped us to promote our Origami competition and also to highlight the work and needs of Love Light Romania.





Origami Competition

One of our new and biggest fundraising campaigns that we started in 2021 was an origami competition. Participants make a 2-3 minute video of them making an origami and then choose 1 of the 6 categories to enter. To finish it off they pay a €5 euro fee and send us the video. At the end of the competition the videos will be judged and the top 3 from each category will receive prize money ranging from €250 for 1st, €125 for second and €75 for 3rd place.

We have partnered with local businesses for the prize money and special prizes. These companies are at the moment KUKA, AltExpress, Colt Technology Services adLemonade Swiss Webacademy Origami friends, Ambrosi Transylvania and Somartin Chocolate.

The competition runs from 1/11/2021 to 30/04/2022. We are hoping to raise funds and also to raise awareness of Love Light Romania and our projects.



2022 Goals



Sanctuary

The Sanctuary will continue to be a home and family environment, where institutionalized adults with disabilities. The residents of the Sanctuary will be taught the necessary life and social skills that will help them to either move on and live independently or to live a happy and prosperous life at the Sanctuary. It can be their forever home.

The lessons and skills that the beneficiaries will learn are taught through a family environment. Everybody who lives at the Sanctuary grew up in institutions so they missed out on important lessons that we learn from our parents and also the rules of society that are taught to us. We have programs that teach them personal hygiene, cooking, money management, social inclusion, team work, growing your own vegetables, confidence and emotional control. All the people living at the Sanctuary have their own jobs such as gardening, cleaning the yard, cleaning their rooms and the bathrooms, shopping and washing clothes. All these activities help them to become more independent, to be a positive part of society and to achieve their goals.



Jacodu Childrens Project

This is now our 12th year of working with the Roma community at Jacodu village, one of our families now lives in the hills as dad is a shepherd, the children from that family are a shining and productive example of the aims of project when it was first launched. This year the children from that particular family will be 11/10 & 8 years old, support with transport sees them have excellent attendance both at school and our center, they will be self-sufficient in the future. Our aim for the project for 2022 will also to become more self-sustainable an example we pass on to our young people which they in return can pass onto future generations.

Employment and Candles

In 2021 we started to produce and sell candles made from beeswax. The residents at the Sanctuary helped out with the making process and also the packaging. In 2022 we want to upscale the candle making business and make enough income that we could employ 2 more of the beneficiaries from the Sanctuary. This would give them more independence and hope in life. Our main aim will be bulk sales, aiming at weddings, christenings and other events. Beeswax candles are in line with Love Light Romania's core values as they are healthy and kind to the environment.



Light Bee's natural
beeswax candles that bring
you Love and Light. These
candles are made from
natural beeswax and are
100% natural.

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Hiv Support Projects

As we are part of the U=U movement we want to increase our educational/informational campaigns about the importance of taking the correct treatment for HIV.

The U=U movement stats correctly **“A person living with HIV who is on treatment and has an undetectable viral load cannot sexually transmit HIV.”**

This statement is endorsed by the world's leading medical, scientific, and public health institutions including the World Health Organization (WHO), President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), National Institutes of Health (NIH) and many more.

We have the following programs that help children and adults who are living with HIV/Aids:

- Free transport to and from hospitals for blood tests.
- Free transport to and from hospital for hospital stays.
- Free transport to receive treatment
- Material and emotional support.

All these programs are aimed at helping those living with HIV can achieve an undetectable viral load.

Fundraising

2021 has taught us that the world of fundraising has changed and it that we have to change with it. Last year we had a big drop in our funding. In 2022 we have a plan to raise more awareness of Love Light Romania and all of our projects and to fundraise more in Romania. For the past 20 years we have relied heavy on funding form the UK and other EU countries. From the start of 2022 we will be more active in obtaining more people to fill in and redirect 3.5% of their taxes from their wages to us and also, we want to find more companies to donate 20% of their taxes from their profit to us. These are 2 wonder opportunities that the Romanian government offers NGO's.

We have also seen a huge turn to online giving and that social media is an essential part of any NGO's activities. Social media is becoming the new world for people and it is an easy way for current and potential supporters to keep up to date with your activities. It is also a great way to promote sponsors and provide them with more publicity. Paid ads and campaigns are more important then ever on social media.

There are many online ways for people to donate in the UK they could give via EveryClick and in Romania they could donate via Galantom.ro. We will move more of our fundraising online and one example of this is an origami competition that we are currently running. www.lovelightromania.com/origami. People will pay €5 to enter and then submit a video of the making an origami. We have 6 different categories and they can win up to €250. The prize money has been donated by corporate sponsors. This competition will help us raise awareness of Love Light Romania and also raise funds.



Greener and More Energy efficient.

In 2022 we want to have an electricity solar system installed on the Sanctuary. This will help us to save more and also to use electricity from a green source. We are looking at systems that will help us to cut our electricity bills by up to 60%. We are also going to be changing the rest of our lights over to LED and also changing some of our older appliances to more efficient ones.

Being greener and safer for the planet has always been important to Love Light Romania. We recycle our waste and we haven't used plastic bags for the past 5 years. We use rain and well water for watering our agricultural projects. We will also stop using paper towels where possible at the Sanctuary and use cloth napkins instead.

By 2026 we would like to have a solar panel system on all our projects and to be producing 100% of our own electricity.

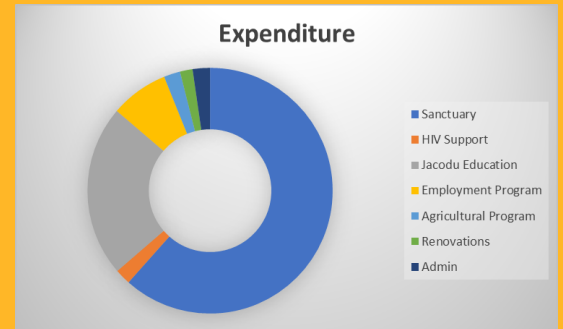


A photograph of a woman and a young child sitting at a wooden table, focused on a task. The woman, on the left, has long brown hair and is wearing a light-colored patterned top. The child, on the right, has dark hair and is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt. They are both looking down at a piece of paper on the table. The woman's hands are visible, holding a blue object, possibly a marker or a small tool. A large, semi-transparent yellow rectangle is overlaid in the center of the image, containing white text. The background is slightly blurred, showing a wooden structure, possibly a bookshelf or a cabinet.

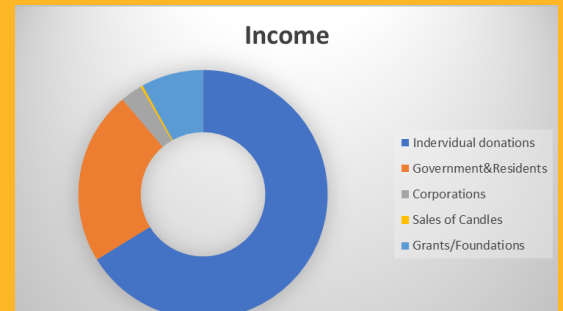
The Jacodu Children's Project was launched in September 2010 and currently supports 52 children from a poor community.

Financial Report

Sanctuary	367182.8
HIV Support	12400
Jacodu Education	134611
Employment Program	45600
Agricultural Program	12893.05
Renovations	9899.15
Admin	13642
Total Expenditure	596228



Individual donations	421635.5
Government & Residents	144000
Corporations	18000
Sales of Candles	1935
Grants/Funds	51211.5
Total Income	636782





Thank you.

We would like to thank all the organizations and businesses that helped us in 2021. Also, all the individual donations that we have received.

The financial and material support that you have all provided has helped us to achieve all these amazing things in 2021.

You have helped us to provided services for 40 children who are at risk of abandoning school, to attend school. You have helped us to provide support for people living with HIV and your support has helped 26 people to get regular check ups and treatment. You have helped us to provide a family and life lesson programs for 9 adults with disabilities. 3 of these have also found jobs and are living a normal life. Something that they wouldn't have ad if they hadn't come to us.



How to Donate

- Direct Bank transfer

UK: LOVE LIGHT ROMANIA AID

BARCLAYS BANK,

SORT CODE 20 44 51

ACCOUNT NUMBER 63731154

Romania:

Asociatia Love Light Romania

IBAN: RO20BTRLRONCRT0P39069802

Swift: BTRLRO22

Fiscal code: 14145834

- With your card on our website: www.lovelightromania.com/donate
- Monthly standing order. Contact us at rob@lovelightromania.com
- In Romania you can redirect 3.5% of your taxes from your wages. Here is the form: <https://lovelightromania.com/LLR-230.pdf> Also you can contact us at rob@lovelightromania.com
- In Romania Businesses can redirect 20% of their income taxes. For this contact rob@lovelightromania.com
- We are on Give as you live in the UK. Raise money for us whilst you shop: <https://www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/lovelightromaniaaid>
- You can donate your birthday online Via Facebook and GalantOm. Contact us at rob@lovelightromania.com for more details.
- You can enter our origami competition: www.lovelightromania.com/origami

If you have any inquiries about fundraising or if you would like some fundraising ideas then please contact us at rob@lovelightromania.com

Thank you

