

# Bethany Christian Services Romania Vision Trip

**Sep 26 & 27** Depart the United States and Arrive in Bucharest / Rest / Dinner

**Sep 28** Presentation of Bethany Romania / Tour of Bucharest

Bethany Romania is one of the largest nongovernmental organizations in Romania. Founded in 1991 and officially incorporated in 1994, Bethany Romania is a well known and reputable child welfare organization. It offers services like prevention of abandonment, family reunification, foster care, adoption and post adoption, life skills training, and volunteer services. With offices in Bucharest, Timisoara, and Iasi, and a staff of over 33 people, Bethany serves hundreds of children and families every year.

Known for its wide, tree-lined boulevards, glorious Belle Époque buildings and a reputation for the high life (which in the 1900s earned its nickname of "Little Paris"), Bucharest, Romania's largest city and capital, is a bustling metropolis. Our tour will include a visit to the *Palace of the Parliament*, the world's second largest administrative building after the Pentagon, and *The Village Museum*, which is one of the biggest and oldest outdoor museums in Europe.

**Sep 29** Visit the Peasant Museum in Bucharest / Travel to Timisoara

The Romanian Peasant Museum in Bucharest is one of the most diversified museums in European family of art and folklore. This beautiful museum is well known for its over 100,000 traditional items collection. Since its foundation back in February 5th 1990, the museum has been declared a historical monument.

We will fly to Timisoara this evening. The flight takes about 1 hour. Once we arrive in Timisoara, we will meet up with Bethany staff and spend a relaxing evening together.

**Sep 30** Bega Maternity Hospital or Nutritional Recovery Section - Children's Hospital

The staff in Timisoara has over 16 years of experience providing quality social services to children and families. Bethany has been very successful in partnering with local governmental and nongovernmental organizations to increase the effectiveness of their services and to broaden the services that are being provided. Bethany Romania has developed many innovative programs and trained others so more clients could receive the professional services needed.

Bethany has been working in Bega Maternity Hospital since 1991. Bethany's work reduces the number of children abandoned and support at risk families that are considering the possibility of placing their children in institutions. Bethany's dream is to prevent children from ever having to experience the pain of institutional life.

Bethany has been working with the Nutritional Recovery Section of the Louis Turcanu Children's Hospital since 1994, moving children back to their biological family, a foster family, or with a local adoptive family. Bethany also recruits, trains, and uses volunteers to work with the abandoned children, providing them with the one-on-one attention, care, and love that they need.

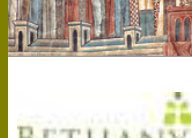
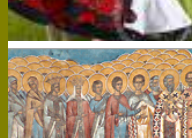
The charm of Timisoara, settled on the northern bank of the Bega River, lies in its distinct architectural character and vibrant cultural life. Frequently referred to as "Little Vienna," Timisoara is home to year-round musical and theatrical performances, art galleries, museums and a buzzing nightlife. Timisoara abounds with churches of several denominations, a Jewish quarter, an elegant baroque square and a pedestrian-only downtown area. Some of the monuments in the heart of the city afford panoramic views, while the many parks in this "city of flowers" provide an idyllic spot to take a break from sightseeing.

**Oct 1** Meet Bethany's clients / Shopping / Opera House

We will visit families participating in Bethany's prevention of abandonment or foster care programs. Our team will divide into smaller groups, each visiting a family. The time spent with these wonderful families will be something we will never forget.

We will spend the evening at the Timisoara Opera House, the Philharmonic House, or the Iecza House. The Iecza house is an art/sculpture building owned and operated by the artist himself. The tour is very personal and allows guests the chance to talk directly with the artist as he displays and shares about his creations.

**Oct 2** Depart for home



Sept/Oct  
2009