



**Christian Emergency Relief Teams**  
*Saving Lives & Healing Hearts since 1974*

## **LOVE IN ACTION!**

April 25, 2008

Dear Friends of CERT,

Love in ACTION! It is a beautiful thing to behold. It's a mother holding and comforting a sick child late in the night. It's a woman preparing a meal for a friend who just lost a spouse. It is a church youth group making repairs to the run-down house of an elderly couple in the neighborhood.

John, the Beloved, wrote about it in I John 3:18: *"Let us not love with words or tongue but with ACTIONS and in truth."* To express it another way, John is simply saying, "Let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love." (The Message)

The poet, Robert Burns, captured the essence of it when he wrote: *"The heart that is benevolent and kind most resembles God."*

Some time ago a touching example of LOVE IN ACTION was brought to my attention by one of the Romanian pastors we work with in Transylvania. He wrote:

*"I am writing to you with an urgent prayer request for a family in need. This family lives near our church in Laslea. There are nine children with their father. Their mother died two years ago with cancer.*

*They came to us last week to tell us that they were starving. They did not have anything to eat. I went to visit them. Their house was very cold and they live in a difficult situation. Two months ago the father lost his job and is having a lot of difficulty finding another job. The village is very small and it is winter. You could see in his eyes his sorrow for not being able to provide food for his children.*

*The nine children come to church every Sunday. I ask you to pray for this family. I know that God will provide for them. They desperately need food, clothing, shoes, firewood, and some repairs to their house. God bless you for praying." Your friend, Pastor Florin*

I should tell you that before Pastor Florin sent his letter to us, the people of the church had already rallied around that family and gave what they could from their own meager possessions. Then through CERT many American Christians got involved as well to help this poor family survive a very cold and difficult Romanian winter.

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**This is a great example of American and Romanian Christians partnering together to be the hands and feet of Jesus to help desperate and hurting people. That is LOVE IN ACTION**

**As I write these words, the Lord brings to my mind other CERT partners in other places around the world who do the same on a daily basis.**

- ❖ In the Amazon Jungle, Pastor Octavio Taracaya has for years been faithfully serving the Machiguenga Indians and other tribal groups...some of the most impoverished and isolated people in the world. That is LOVE IN ACTION!**
- ❖ In the Andes Mountains of Peru, American missionaries Bud and Laura Lenz, run an orphanage for 40 orphaned, abandoned, and abused children while raising 9 children of their own. That's LOVE IN ACTION!**
- ❖ In Baja California, Mexican pastor Odilon Cruz, has spent the last 27 years planting mission churches in poor farming villages south of Mexicali. That's LOVE IN ACTION!**

**Every time you open your check book or go to the donation page on our website and make a sacrificial gift to the ministry of CERT...that is LOVE IN ACTION.**

**Dear friends, please don't under-estimate the importance of your gifts. Without your faithful giving none of these ministry activities would be possible. It is only because you have a great LOVE and are willing to back it up with ACTION that CERT is able to reach out and:**

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| <b>&gt; Fed hungry people</b>                   | <b>&gt; Provide shoes for children</b>      |
| <b>&gt; Give a safe home to orphans</b>         | <b>&gt; Purchase medicines for the sick</b> |
| <b>&gt; Pull decayed teeth</b>                  | <b>&gt; Share Christ around the world</b>   |
| <b>&gt; Provide critically needed surgeries</b> | <b>&gt; Plant churches</b>                  |

***AND TO GOD BE THE GLORY!***

**Thank you for your LOVE and ACTION in the past, but there is still much more to do. Together we can reach even more people with the LOVE of JESUS. Will you ACT out of LOVE today? The GREATER your GIFT today, the MORE we can DO together TOMORROW.**

**May God richly bless you for your continued faithfulness. GOD is FAITHFUL and His CHALLENGE to each of us is that WE BE FAITHFUL.**

**Partnering with you in His service,**

**Dr. Ken Daugherty  
President**



**Pastor Florin showing Love in Action in Romania.**

**P.S. Please demonstrate your love for lost and hurting people with the ACTION of a generous gift today.**