Poverty and unemployment remain high in Iasi and Ploesti in Romania. Through the setting up of The Salvation Army Community Centres, teams of social workers, teachers, health professionals and volunteers provide social and health services to marginalised families.

Children are supported in their education and learning, while adults have the opportunity to participate in ten months’ paid work training in The Salvation Army’s own social enterprises. The project has proven to be a great success: 200 children have been assisted in school and improved their performance considerably, 30 jobs were created within The Salvation Army's social enterprises, and 48 people were assisted in finding employment elsewhere.

“When I asked why the bigger sister did not come to the interview the younger sister explained with tears in her eyes that her sister will come later, after she has returned the shoes, because they only have one pair of shoes for four people. Both girls were subsequently trained and found employment.”