

## FAMILIES VISITED BY STREETSPACE TEAM

**Dumitru** is a very hard working gipsy man with a big family. He's well respected in the village as he's always willing to help anyone with his horse and cart etc.

His eldest son, *Gabi*, is 15 and he helped the boys at the Centre.

Dumitru has built a small one roomed 'house' for *Gabi* in his yard, as the family home of two rooms is crowded. However he needs to insulate the house as in winter the temperature drops to -28. He'd asked Florin if we would be able to help and when we visited him we decided that we could indeed help and with money donated to one of the team were able to promise to buy insulating boards.



**Marcela** is a very poor lady - but very hard working and clean. She has built her 2-roomed house herself - literally brick on brick! However at one point there is a leak and in rainy weather water pours through the roof. She asked if we could help her buy some sort of materials to weather proof her home. Florin said that it was very necessary before winter so, yes.

Marcela has a daughter of 11, *Raluca*, and a smaller child of 4, *Roxana*.

*Raluca* is blind in one eye and had a very bad squint in the other and some years ago we were able to pay for her to have an operation on the bad eye so she can see - and she is so happy because she can go to school and learn.



**Marius Vlad** is an amazing man of 44 now - we have known him for 20 years and helped with a wheel chair in the past. He suffers from Cerebral Palsy and is unable to do anything for himself but he has a very active and normal brain - he understands three languages and in recent years he has learnt to use the computer.

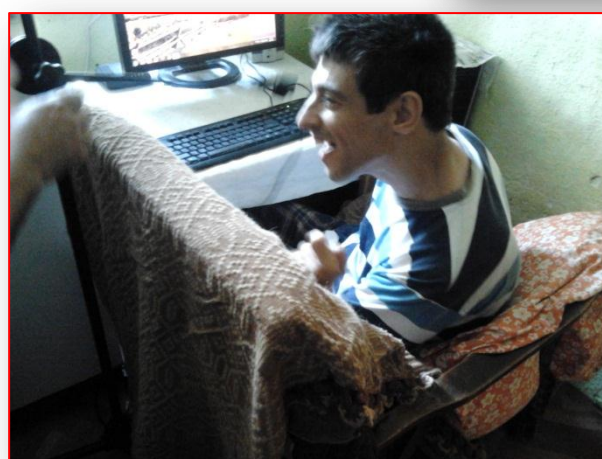
Last autumn Florin told us that he had a lot of difficulty bending over the mouse - in fact, *he had to move the mouse and type with his nose or lip!*

We visited him last year and started to think of ways to help, and received advice by Frenchay Hospital. This led to us buying an Integramouse to use with his chin, which we took out in June. However we discovered that his PC was not 'man enough' for this hardware and so we did some more research.

When we returned this time thinking we would need to buy a new computer, one of the villagers was able to update the PC with more memory and install Windows 7 and now the mouse works! We managed to buy a microphone stand in Sibiu to complete the job and when the team visited they saw Marius using the new mouse with his chin and so happy as he could see where the mouse was going while he 'clicked'. We also installed and paid for software which would help the 'double click' motion.

Marius lives with his elderly mother of 75, *who carries him on her back from one room to the other* (they only use two rooms). He is **ALWAYS** cheerful and happy, a real inspiration.

When the team went Marius had been using the 'mouse' for just 2 days and yet he was playing chess with a guy in Saudi Arabia - on a level pegging basis - no hindrance of handicap - able to interact normally. What a blessing the computer is to him - it gives him a life outside the two rooms.



**ONE VERY HAPPY GUY**

**integramouse**