

## Annual General Meeting

HAO is a registered Irish charity which has run training, therapy and special education programmes overseas since 1991.

Registered charity No. 10503

HAO has now also registered as a company limited by guarantee and we invite you to become a member. Details and some useful information on tax relief is enclosed for your reference.

We cordially invite you to our AGM in April. Please check our website [www.hao.ie](http://www.hao.ie) or contact our office in Dublin for details of date and venue.

Derek O'Reilly



Welcome to Andrea Serea, Physiotherapist, and Elena Mustatea and Elena Topriceanu, Social Workers, all of whom joined the staff of FVB in Romania in 2005.

Thank you!

A big thank you to our regular "Sponsor a Project" donors. Special thanks to all who helped with donations and support throughout the last year. Fundraising events in 2005 included a sponsored hillwalk, a golf classic and the ladies' mini-marathon. If you would like to get involved in any fundraising activities please get in touch with us.

We gratefully acknowledge Irish governmental support through Development Cooperation Ireland and the Embassy of Ireland, Beijing.

Donations and "Sponsor a Project" standing orders can be made through our website or by contacting Siobhán O'Shea, contact details below. HAO is not affiliated to any religious or political organisations.



### HAO Annual Newsletter January 2006

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## HAO Annual Newsletter



### Happy Birthday!

Casa James Dillon (Group Home), is three years old,

June 2005.

#### *Updates from Romania:*

Moving towards independent living in [Constanta](#).

Construction of new Group Home in [Galati](#).

Training programme for new community services centre in [Techirghiol](#).

*Health Action Overseas:  
Working towards  
inclusion, choice and  
dignity for people with  
disabilities.*

This newsletter is available in large print format.

[www.hao.ie](http://www.hao.ie)

### **Group Home,**

#### **Constanta, Romania**

Excellent progress has been made in the Group Home. One of the residents has moved into a self-contained flat at the back of the home in preparation for fully independent living.

Four residents passed primary education exams and two more residents have started working in a local warehouse.

These developments have been publicized in Romania as part of our ongoing efforts to show that people who were once labeled "irrecoverable" can be given opportunities to learn and participate in society.



*Secin goes shopping!*

#### **Macedonia**

The Union of the Blind and School for the Blind in FYR Macedonia have requested assistance from HAO to set up a training partnership. HAO is currently seeking funding for a training programme for delivery in 2006.

### **Training Programme, Romania**

Construction of the new community services centre at Techirghiol will be completed in early 2006. The old centre at Negru Voda is scheduled to close in January. Specialist trainers from the Open Training College in Dublin will visit in April, May and June to conduct courses on the Social Model of Disability, Person-Centred Planning and Management.

#### **Galati Project, Romania**

Construction of our New Group Home in Galati has commenced. We will send over a group of Irish volunteer construction workers to finish the plumbing, plastering and decorating in early Spring 2006.

Selection and preparation of a group of young adults to live in the Group Home is now taking place, with the help of our UK partners Project Mustard Seed, who visited Galati in July.

Out training and therapy programme in two residential centres continues with the appointment of a new physiotherapist in September 2005.



*Anne Collins (Project Mustard Seed), Ion Miclea and Viorica Petre working hard in Galati, Romania.*

Welcome to Siobhán O'Shea, now working fulltime as Administrator in HAO Dublin. If you have any queries re "Sponsor a Project" or donations please contact Siobhán at:

(01) 8733173 or [haoadmin@iol.ie](mailto:haoadmin@iol.ie)

### **Training Programme, China**



*Bob Keating & Mike O'Keeffe present teaching aids to Special Needs Teachers in Anshun, China.*

Bob Keating, Mike O'Keeffe and Lu Jun ran another successful Summer School for Special Needs teachers in 2005. They also provided support to two Special Needs schools with funds raised through the Irish National Teachers Organisation. Many thanks to the Irish Embassy in Beijing for supporting this project.

Bob and Mike are currently raising funds for a Group Home for children with disabilities in Guizhou.

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