

Candra Barnett

Romania

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Where She Serves

Candra Barnett serves in the village of Șantandrei, located near the city of Oradea in western Romania. Her current focus is on a nearby village called Țărian, where she and her team are working to plant a new church. This effort is part of a broader ministry to reach both Romanian and Roma communities with the gospel.

Ministry Focus

Candra's ministry is centered on children and teenagers. In every church plant she's involved in, she shares the gospel with children through Bible stories, games, and crafts. Her heart is to make the Bible accessible and engaging for young minds, helping them understand the story of Scripture from beginning to end.



In addition to children's ministry, Candra disciples teenage girls, helping them grow in their faith and equipping them to be future disciple-makers. She also takes on a variety of other roles depending on the need, including teaching an English Club in the village of Țărian. This club is designed to build trust and relationships in the community, with the ultimate goal of forming a Bible study that could grow into a local church plant.

Goals and Vision

Candra's main goals are clear and rooted in discipleship:

1. Teach children the Bible thoroughly, from Genesis to Revelation.
2. Raise up disciples among the youth who can carry on the work of gospel ministry.
3. Build strong relationships with the mothers of the children she teaches, in hopes of sharing the gospel with them as well.

Through these relationships, she seeks to open spiritual doors not just for individuals, but for entire families and communities.

The People She Serves

Candra ministers to both ethnic Romanians and the Roma (often referred to as gypsies). In Țărian, the current focus is on reaching Romanian families through the English Club and other relational ministries. There are also plans for future outreach to the Roma population in the area.

Challenges in Ministry

One of the most significant cultural challenges in Romania is the difficulty of forming relationships with strangers. Romanians often tend to be guarded, especially with those they do not know well. As a result, the initial stages of ministry—breaking the ice and earning trust—can be slow and require patience and persistence.

Spiritual Landscape

Evangelical Christians make up just 2.6% of Romania's population. The vast majority (81%) identify as Eastern Orthodox, and around 5% are Catholic. However, many of those who identify as Orthodox do not attend church or have a clear understanding of the faith they claim. This nominal affiliation presents another layer of challenge, as many people see themselves as already "Christian" while lacking a personal relationship with Christ.