

women's ministries

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
INTER-EUROPEAN DIVISION

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News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

New Women's Ministries Director in Bulgaria



Gabriela Kudinova appointed to lead women's Ministries

When Yana Bumbalova resigned from her position as Women's Ministries Director for private reasons, the Bulgarian Union appointed Gabriela Kudinova to head the department at the beginning of June 2018. We want to thank Yana for her good work during the last several years. We are also pleased that Gabriela Kudinova was chosen, who has worked in Yana's team for three years, thus guaranteeing continuity.

Gabriela is married and has three sons. She is a trained teacher but now works in the family business as a bathroom designer. She is also a part of the Centre of Influence called "Trapezata" of her local church, started by her and her husband, some friends as well as the local pastor, where a group of people are studying the Bible. Gabriela has been an active Women's Ministries leader on the local level for a long time and has a lot of experience she will be able to incorporate into her new ministry.

The Women's Ministries Department in Bulgaria is active in many different ways, organizing forums, educational seminars and trips. The whole Women's Ministries team in Bulgaria is in transition as Gabriela is looking for new members to join the team. Thus a meeting of the team is planned for the beginning of September so that the new team will be able to get to know each other as they make plans for the future. The emphasis is not only to work for the women in the church but also to reach out to other women. One way is to encourage the local Women's Ministries leaders by sharing what others are doing in outreach like reading clubs, gym clubs and internet groups sharing the gospel. Gabriela says, "For the work in church I think we need to make a better and stronger women's community that wants to serve others, because this is our huge need as a church. We want to have woman leaders in a non-formal capacity in local churches and encourage them to join the WM work." Gabriela is also asking for your prayers for her and her team because they need the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We welcome Gabriela Kudinova to the Women's Ministries Department leaders' community and wish her and her team God's blessings as she takes up the leadership of this ministry in Bulgaria.

Activities of the women of the South Transsylvania Conference in Romania



Prayer Chain

When Ana Nadasan was called to lead the Women's Ministries Department in her Conference, she felt the urge to organize a regular prayer group. Getting women from 5 districts to come together for prayer was not an option due to the distances involved. So Ana started sending text messages with her mobile phone to women who wanted to participate in praying each Wednesday evening at 9 PM.

She chooses a Bible text, a Psalm or a prayer, and writes encouraging words, sharing prayer requests. Thus the women pray together for the sick, care-givers, family problems, evangelistic outreach efforts, and for people who need spiritual support. The group has grown to about 150 to 200 women, maybe even more, as the messages are shared with others as well. The prayer group rejoices over many answers to prayer.

On March 8, 2018 Ana was invited to the studio of Speranta TV (Hope Channel Romania) where she spoke about the experiences of the women in the prayer group. Soon after that a young woman, her hairdresser, asked her, "What is a prayer chain?" She wanted to be involved in praying with her mother and sister. By now there are more than 20 young women participating in the prayer group who are not members of the SDA church. One of them told me she was so excited to be able to be a member of the prayer chain and praised God for the privilege! According to a report by Ana Nadasan, WM director, South Transsylvania Conference
Photo: WM Romania

Love in Action



Help to the Needy in Romania

In Romania women are active in many practical ways helping the poor. In Brasov Dr. Cristina Anca Descalescu gives health lectures and cooking classes as well as health screening. In Sfantu Gheroghe Michaela Balogh leads a team giving warm meals to homeless people. In Sarmas there is a group of women who prepare meals for 40 to 50 people each week and

bring the food to the people at their homes. They also help with whatever else is needed: lighting a fire, dressing the children so that they can go to school and also with paperwork. In Targu Mures women have visited hospitals, giving away books, leaflets and CDs to patients and staff.

Also in Targu Mores Judit Bende leads a group called "Home Help for People in Need" which brings warm meals to 20 to 25 persons in their homes three times a week. This work is based on donations and volunteer work. They have even repaired and renovated apartments.

The women in Romania are creative in serving where help is needed. At the end of each year they distribute parcels to the needy. They make big efforts and volunteer to help people because the love of Christ constrains them. Praise God for women who are willing to help others in need!

According to a report by Ana Nadasan, WM director, South Transsylvania Conference
Photo: WM Romania

Five Years Desert Flower Center in Waldfriede Hospital



Treatment for victims of FGM

During the last five years more than 350 women have received comprehensive treatment for genitally mutilated women in the Desert Flower Center initiated by Waris Dirie in 2013 in the Adventist hospital "Waldfriede" in Berlin. On June 21 Waris Dirie spoke at the sixth congress for coloproctologists organized by the hospital to 300 doctors. She called for more Desert Flower Centers to be established around the world. According to UN statistics more than 250 million women have been subjected to this gruesome procedure.

The name Desert Flower Center was inspired by the autobiography of Waris Dirie (53), a former top model from Somalia who became a victim of FGM at the age of five years. The DFC in Berlin is the first of its kind in the world where victims of genital mutilation find comprehensive treatment.

According to a report by © Nachrichtenagentur APD Ostfildern (Deutschland) and Basel (Schweiz) Dr. Cornelia Strunz, Waris Dirie, Dr. Roland Scherer, Dr. Uwe von Fritschen (v.l.) © Foto: Dr. C. Strunz/Krankenhaus Waldfriede

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