

What our volunteers say about their experiences with TEECH

*"**TEECH**, the little charity with the biggest heart. Thank you once again for leaving me tired, exhausted and endlessly happy"*

Lee from South Shields

"I volunteered to make a difference, to be there, get stuck in and do something worthwhile. To make a difference for one persons health, sanity or just way of life would have been great but to have the opportunity to help hundreds was AMAZING! I also wanted to see and learn about a new culture"

Dave from Lincoln

*"Volunteering for **TEECH** is one of the most meaningful and enriching experiences of my life"*

Jonathan, previously in Warrington, now living back in Sweden and has set up **TEECH** Sweden.

Get involved with us!!

- Visit our website www.tech.org to find out about projects and appeals and to read accounts from volunteers.
- Join us on one of our projects - these are normally the last two weeks of August.
- Contribute to our Christmas Shoebox appeal - every year **TEECH** takes several hundred shoeboxes filled with food, toys and personal hygiene items to locations in Romania and Moldova.
- Raise some money - host a family fun day or fancy dress disco, run a marathon in aid of **TEECH** or organise an event of your own choosing.
- Give some money - donate on-line at <https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/teech>
- Follow us on Facebook or Twitter.
- Become a volunteer - give a bit of your time and energy to make a difference. Help is always needed at our monthly pack up days and collecting aid.

For more information and photos from previous projects visit www.tech.org or contact us at admin@teech.org



TEECH

About Telecommunications Eastern European Challenge (TEECH)

The **TEECH** motto is 'to help those less fortunate create a better future for themselves' and we do this by providing aid and improving basic living conditions for the lives of the young and the elderly. Over the years we have worked with many schools, orphanages and hospitals and a home for the aged in the poorest parts of Eastern Europe. By sparking enthusiasm with the local people we hope to enable and encourage self-help and enterprise to continue after we have left.

Every year the **TEECH** trustees visit possible projects and decide which would best benefit from help and the creation of indoor bathrooms for the first time in their building. A team of approximately 20-40 volunteers armed with tools travel overland by coach to endeavour to complete the project. We also deliver aid to various contacts in the local area (e.g beds and medical supplies to hospitals, clothes and shoes)

TEECH trustees and volunteers are 100% unpaid and so all donations go towards our projects.



Projects completed by TEECH

Once a year **TEECH** travel to a village or town to carry out a project, usually at a school. In villages schools require indoor flushing toilets, along with plumbing, wiring, hot and cold running water and improvements to their kitchen and dining areas. **TEECH** create indoor washrooms for the boys and girls in a suitable room within the school, installing toilets, sinks and urinals along with water heaters, hand driers and new flooring. The charity also provides kitchen supplies, for example, a fridge, freezer, cooker and catering items. Each project is carried out in just eight days on site as part of the two week annual trip. At the same time **TEECH** take aid in the form of clothing, medical supplies and disability aids to the locals and surrounding towns and villages.

Where we've been

- 2017 *Sturzeni, Moldova*
- 2016 *Ivancea, Moldova*
- 2015 *Bolduresti, Moldova*
- 2014 *Balanesti, Moldova*
- 2013 *Zberoaia, Moldova*
- 2012 *Valcinet, Moldova*
- 2011 *Trebujeni, Moldova*
- 2010 *Falesti and Balti, Moldova*
- 2009 *Comanesti, Romania*
- 2008 *Ialoveni, Moldova*
- 2007 *Targu Frumos, Romania*
- 2006 *Targu Mures, Romania*
- 2005 *Husi, Romania*
- 2004 *Husi (aid drop) Romania*
- 2003 *Chisinau capital of Moldova*
- 2001/2 *Podul Iloaiei, Romania*
- 2000 *Lungesti, Romania*
- 1999 *Craiova, Romania*
- 1998 *Bucharest capital of Romania*



UKRAINE

MOLDOVA

ROMANIA

BULGARIA



The History of TEECH

TEECH was established in 1998 when a group of people who worked together at BT took up the challenge from a colleague to help repair two hospitals in Bucharest. About fifty volunteers travelled to Bucharest under the banner of 'BTL Aid to Romania' in August that year and set about painting, plastering, providing lighting and generally making the hospitals cleaner, safer and brighter places. After the success of this trip,

and seeing the need to be more structured the volunteers organised themselves into a Registered Charity and hence **TEECH** was born. The Charity retains the "telecom" name connection and BT continue to provide assistance with transport but **TEECH** is an independent organisation, which welcomes volunteers from all walks of life who are not afraid of hard work.

Shoebox Appeal

Each year **TEECH** travel out to Eastern Europe with shoebox gifts for communities in Romania and Moldova. Over the years, this annual trip has developed and now the team hand deliver over 1,700 boxes. Shoebox gifts are provided to children of all ages, with food parcels delivered to the elderly, along with winter clothing to help with the harsh winters when temperatures can drop to -25°C.

