



MAJESTY IS HIS NAME

JULIA BANGE, SERVING IN ROMANIA

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MINISTRY UPDATE

I am serving with two partner organizations, DOOR and SIL, and enjoying the opportunities to serve in small ways with the Deaf teams and these organizations as we work together for His Kingdom. I am assisting several sign language Bible translation teams with reports, organizing background art and other things.

There are many sign languages around the world but only one has a complete Bible. No other sign languages have a complete New Testament. **Many Deaf translation teams are working hard to translate the Bible but they need training and funds.** We are so thankful for the individuals and organizations who partner with the Deaf to meet the many needs in the Deaf communities.

"The King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.'" Matthew 25:40

Please pray for the work that I am doing with these organizations as the Gospel moves forward in sign language Bible translation around the world. **Thank you so much for your partnership with me to advance His Kingdom among the Deaf!**

COVID-19 IMPACT

Not only are we assisting the Deaf to have His Word in their sign languages, we are also supporting them with their physical and emotional needs - caring for the body of Christ among the Deaf communities worldwide. **COVID-19 has made its impact on them leaving many without the means to feed their families or the communication needed to understand the pandemic.** DOOR International and SIL, along with other organizations, are working to see that these needs are being met.



Think about the COVID-19 pandemic. How much information did you learn from listening? How much information did you learn from reading a spoken language?

Deaf people need access to medical information in a language that they can understand well. Many Deaf communities realized they weren't getting information about COVID-19, so they started working for better access. We helped five African countries produce videos about COVID-19. Deaf groups in three Latin America countries have also been making videos about COVID-19.

In most countries, Deaf are among the poorest people. **COVID has been very hard on them. People who lived day by day lost their income, with no savings or ability to find food.** In Tanzania, a Deaf nonprofit organized Deaf volunteers to make masks. Then they distributed the masks to poor Deaf, along with food, cleaning supplies and information.

INDIGENOUS DEAF LEADERSHIP

In life, many people find it difficult to communicate with us Deaf people. They don't know sign language. There are no interpreters available. **It is much easier for hearing people to make decisions for Deaf people.**

We Deaf people are tired of not knowing and not making our own decisions. That is why we have formed our own organizations of Deaf people with Deaf leaders. We are seeing indigenous Deaf leaders starting to rise up in one of the earliest phases of life: in Deaf schools.



The World Federation of the Deaf says it this way, "Nothing about us without us."

Many Deaf children often begin school with no language. The younger children learn sign language from the older Deaf students. For most of these young children, it is the first language that they learn at school. **But sign language is often not used in the classroom or used by teachers who didn't have time to learn how to sign well.** The textbooks are usually in a written language that the children have never heard and never learned. In Tanzania, Deaf leaders have

started a program to translate the Swahili textbook used by schools into Tanzanian Sign Language.

A new program was also started last year to train Deaf adult volunteers who would work with Deaf school children. These volunteers use portions of the Bible translated into Tanzanian Sign Language to teach the children about morals and values. **They answer the questions that their parents couldn't answer.** They use drama, songs in sign language and storytelling to teach these values. Children learn and sign the songs, practice telling the stories and take turns acting out the parts in the dramas.

An essential part of this program is bringing Deaf adults into the lives of these Deaf children to act as role models and mentors. Most Deaf children have little interaction with Deaf adults.



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ABOUT DOOR

DOOR International's mission is to bring God's Word and reproducing Christian fellowships to the Deaf of the world. DOOR is a non-denominational, non-profit 501(c)(3) Christian mission organization.

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