

- 3.1.4 Opening a social consultations bureau
- 3.1.5 Supporting public life in the neighborhood
- 3.1.6 Encouraging school attendance
- 3.1.7 Improving the hygiene, the habits and the sexual behavior within the Roma community

Activities related to healthcare reform

- 3.1.8 Organizing a practical training program for all general practitioners in the region of Turgovishte
- 3.1.9 Donating medicines to the specialized hospital for active treatment in Turgovishte
- 3.2.3 Establishing a primary healthcare unit in the town of Popovo
- 3.2.4 Renovating the primary healthcare units in three villages in the Turgovishte region inhabited mainly by minority groups – Turks and Roma

4. Results: Activities in the Roma neighborhood

Distributing food donations throughout the winter

Approximately 1,500 people benefited from the 6 food donation campaigns throughout the winter. Food was distributed based on the criteria listed in Art. 9 or the Regulations to the Social Assistance Law with two additional requirements: people were eligible provided that they have moved to the neighborhood not later than November 1999 (in order to prevent “migration”), and their children in school age do attend school.

The MSF team distributed a total of 6,131 food packages consisting of:

<i>Product</i>	<i>Quantity per person per month</i>	<i>Average ration per day</i>	<i>Ccal per day</i>	<i>Proteins per day</i>	<i>Fats per day</i>
Flour	4 kg	133.33 g	466.67	15.33 g	2 g
Rice	0.5 kg	16.67 g	60	1.17 g	0.08 g
White beans ..	0.5 kg	16.67 g	55.83	3.67 g	0.25 g
Cooking oil ...	2 l	66.67 ml	590	0 g	66.67 g
Sugar	1.5 kg	50 g	200	0 g	0 g
Pasta	0.8 kg	26.67 g	93.33	3.07 g	0.40 g
Lentil	0.5 kg	16.67 g	55.83	3.67 g	0.25 g
		Total	1,522	27 g	70 g
Recommended minimal quantity:			1,400	71.20 g	47.90 g

The success of the program would have been impossible without the good relationship, the active involvement and the cooperation of our partners – social services and Roma NGOs.

Establishing a primary healthcare unit consistent with the reform in the Bulgarian healthcare system

Since the very beginning of the project (November 1999) the MSF team tried to involve local public and healthcare institutions (the municipal authority, the hospital, the polyclinic), as well as representative of the Roma community (mainly Roma NGOs) in all project activities. There is no doubt that the success of the first stage of the program has been achieved with the efforts of all stakeholders involved.

Upon a proposal by the MSF team supported by the local authorities a primary healthcare unit was established in part of the building housing the public school in the Roma neighborhood. The general concept consistent with the medical requirements and the needs of the pop-