

EVERY CHILD NEEDS LOVE,
SECURITY AND ACCEPTANCE



SUMMER 2019

11 For when the ear heard me, then it blessed me; And when the eye saw me, it gave witness unto me:
12 Because I delivered to poor that cried, The fatherless also, that had none to help him. Job 29:11-12 ASV.



Every child deserves their parents' love, protection and care. Family is the most favorable form for children's physical, intellectual, and emotional development. About 2000 children in Transnistria are devoid of the most indispensable thing - a family.

The program has several focus areas:

SEARCHING FOR POTENTIAL FOSTER FAMILIES

We search for potential families as we visit churches belonging to different denominations. We do presentations telling people about children and their desire to be in a family.

TRAINING FAMILIES

The Foster Family School trains potential families, which involves teaching about various aspects of children's makeup and offering psychological, legal, and medical assistance.

GUIDING FAMILIES

The Foster Family Club. The fund personnel offer psychological and legal advice, financial and material assistance. They arrange training sessions and have friendly talks with parents and children. They meet regularly for mutual support and exchange of experience.

We search, find, and motivate married couples to be a foster family for orphans who need custody and care. We look for couples who could help orphans with their physical, social, and emotional upbringing. In other words we look for moms and dads.

THE FOSTER FAMILY PROGRAM

SUMMER CAMP FOR FOSTER FAMILIES

In August there was a 7-day summer camp "7 Steps along the Path of Love". The project involved 15 families with foster children. All in all there were 95 adults and children.

That event was unique not only to Transnistria but also to many ex-Soviet countries. Such camps are arranged very seldom, though it is hard to overestimate their importance. Their time together makes foster parents and children grow closer, and allows of an exchange of experience in child-rearing among families. Adults are able to get away from their routine and daily problems, and spend more happy

moments with their children. It prevents emotional burnout which results in children's return to their orphanage, and that is a tremendous tragedy to a child. Camp is a special and beautiful time for families. During the week both parents and children listened to helpful seminars about relationships in the family. They spent time together, participated in exciting activities and master classes, and played sports.

The social teachers from the fund and the visiting psychologists from Ukraine spent a week enhancing the family's role in child-rearing. They looked for solutions to improve relationships



between parents and teenagers. A series of training sessions was also held for teenagers from foster families. "A True Love Can Wait" was the subject that unpacked the relationship between the sexes. The training sessions covered building an agreeable relationship, developing a healthy personality, distinguishing between men's thinking

and women's thinking, and other just as important questions. During their time in the camp the families showed their talents in skits, singing and drawing. There was a drawing contest where children were nominated. Sports instructors held activities to encourage a healthy lifestyle.

URGENT HELP NEEDED!

THE KUSCHEVS' FAMILY

Oleg and Helen have been married for 18 years. They have three children of their own. The oldest son Daniel is 17, Anna is 13, and Catherine is 8. Helen is a teacher. She worked in a school for children with impaired hearing when she met Igor and Ghena. Nobody took them home on weekends. Their mother had abandoned them when Ghena was a year and a half old and Igor was 8 months old. Officially they have no father. At first these boys grew in an orphanage. When Ghena turned four and Igor three, they were placed in an orphanage for children with impaired hearing. They had speech impediments and they could not pronounce their sounds well. The boys are very sociable but sickly. Igor went to the hospital with bronchitis twice during the winter. Helen visited him. Then the children were transferred to

another orphanage and they could no longer see their would-be foster parents. Helen and Oleg decided to file for child custody and only then they were allowed to visit the children on the orphanage premises. On seeing them the children would rush to hug and kiss them. On October 28th 2015 they became legal custodians for the boys. A medical examination revealed that Igor has a poor eyesight. He is wearing glasses now, and his parents believe that he can get better. The doctors say it is possible. The children are less sickly and more composed now. Ghena is in the first grade and he likes school. He is good at reading and writing. Igor is preparing for the first grade in school. The house where the family lives is 50 years old. The roof over the children's room is leaking and there is no money to fix it. The cost of the repair work is \$ 3700.



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INDEPENDENT LIFE PROGRAM

Teenagers leave the orphanage at the age of 16 to 18. Soon they realize what independent and adult life is. On leaving the institution they have no job or a place to live, and that is how their new life begins.

Forced labor, sexual slavery, and a life in the street lead to crime, prostitution, and addictions. Sadly, that is the fate of many of these youngsters.

WE HAVE A CHANCE TO HELP THEM change their future and channel their energy to positive things. We can give them a home and help them make their own sound decisions.

Our program is geared to help teenagers and young people to acquire basic life skills, that are necessary for a successful transition from the orphanage to an independent and productive life.

The program covers 25 young people.



LENA TO BE A MOTHER SOON

This fall Lena aged 18 is going to be a mother. At the moment she is all by herself. Her father disowned her and her mother died when she was a very little girl. Her boyfriend does not acknowledge their baby and is not on speaking terms with Lena. Her pregnancy caused her to leave school and she lost her room in the dormitory. Lena is expecting a baby girl, and she has thought up a name for her - Nicole.

"Heart4orphans" helps the girl to prepare for delivery. She learns to use diapers and receives financial support. The welfare paid by the government is very low, and you cannot live on it. Lena is currently in the "Key to Life" temporary residence center and participate in the "Maternity School" program, which is funded by «Orphans promise» charity organization. She and her girl will live there under the supervision of consultants and social educators.

SUMMER is TIME OF CHANGE



This year girls from the "Key to Life" center went to the summer camp. The center is part of the charity fund "Heart4orphans". It offers social rehabilitation services designed to enhance social interaction, and create an environment where young people can adjust to an independent life in society. The main objectives of the program are developing social skills, raising financial stability, improving health, and organizing an independent life. At first some of them flatly refused to go. It even came to tears because that kind of trip was something new to them.

During their time in the camp the girls acted in skits, spent time with children, and played all-camp games. As they sang Christian songs their faces changed and the look in their eyes was warmer. On the last day the girls said they were infinitely grateful to the organizers for an opportunity to make that trip and enjoy their time in the summer camp.

Klimenko Luba says, "I really enjoyed playing team games, and singing Christian songs, and swimming in the pool. The kitchen staff made excellent food and on the last day they made a special dinner. During that dinner many families sang songs and did skits. The girls from our cabin prepared a song and we sang it heartily. Sergei Grigorievich, our counselor, told us some heartwarming stories that moved me to tears. I have recently started going to the church where he is a minister".

Tania spent most of her time drawing. She dreams of becoming a cartoonist. That is why she put her time to good use and practiced her skills.

Stacy really liked swimming in the pool. Most of all she was impressed the night a big fire was made and boys sang to the guitar.



FIRST EMPLOYMENT

Luba participate in the Independent Life program that is associated with the fund. She got a part-time job as seamstresses for the summer. At first she said it was very difficult to get up early in the morning, but then they quickly got used to it. She made friends with their coworkers and even began to excel in their work. A few times Luba went over her daily quota.



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The program assists families in a predicament who face the threat of having their children taken away and placed in the orphanage. The objective of the program is to **get the family out of its material, moral, and psychological crisis, and keep the children in the family.**

At the time being efforts are made in **11 areas of Transnistria** to get out of a crisis **25 families**, which is **110 people** and **78 of them are minor children.**

Three families joined the program just in the summer 2019. The greatest assistance was given to the Kostuchenko family (a new refrigerator, an electric stove, 3 children placed in the kindergarten), the Yermolin family (repairing the children's room and the plumbing), and the Papushoi family (running water and a washing machine).

This program is funded by a charity foundation ChildAid (England).

A LARGE FAMILY NEEDS A HOUSE

A PROGRAM FOR ASSISTING RISK A GREAT JOY FOR SMALL KIDS

A small celebration was held for children from the risk group families in Transnistria on June 1st, the Child Protection day. The children enjoyed the rides in the theme park. About 50 children jumped on trampolines, sailed in boats, and drove bumper cars.

The Kostuchenko family live in the village of Tashlik which is about 25 miles away from the capital of Transnistria Tiraspol. They do not often go up to town. Svetlana, a mother of

four children, is exceedingly grateful to the fund for an opportunity to get away from her routine and take her children to a new place where are they could experience something new.

After the theme park everybody walked to the Tree Nursery to see some nice nature, and listen to birds singing, and take some pictures.



Tamara Fedorenko is raising five of her own children (a 4-year-old, a 6-year-old, a 16-year-old, and an 18-year-old, and a 20-year old) and a 1-year-old granddaughter from her oldest daughter. All the children are from different husbands, and she could not get along with any one of them. Tamara is a milkmaid at the farm and has a meager pay. There are no other jobs in the village. Her middle sons make some extra money doing jobs for the neighbors. The family live in a house that is in an emergency condition. When it rains the roof leaks and the water runs down the walls. None of the

rooms is fit for living, so the family is running the risk of getting booked with the Child Protection Service and having their children taken away. In spite of her difficult situation Tamara leads a healthy lifestyle and does her best to care for her children. She also keeps a cow a goat and some chicken. The fund workers are looking for a more fitting accommodation for this large family. Buying a house in the village costs \$2,500. The charity fund "Heart4orphans" is providing aid to the family donating them groceries, medicine, detergents, stationeries, clothes, and others.

NEEDS OF THE CHARITY FUND "HEART4ORPHANS"

At present the charity fund "Heart4orphans" runs a program to socialize the risk group youth. There is the center for temporary residence "A Step to Life" intended for girls who leave the orphanage and face all kinds of problems. The fund has social teachers, a psychologist, and a lawyer to help girls get out of a crisis. At the time being the center is housing eight girls. Two of them have children and one is pregnant. The charity fund "Heart4orphans" is looking for means to extend and repair the residential areas for girls from the risk group. Also, the fund is in constant need of support to pay the bills, buy stationeries and detergents, and so forth.

