

EVERY CHILD NEEDS LOVE,
SECURITY AND ACCEPTANCE



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.

NEEDS OF THE FUND

This spring, the **HEART4ORPHANS** celebrated its 17th anniversary. Over the years, thanks to our partners, we have been able to help thousands of adults and children. Many orphans have found families, many residential school leavers have received social, legal, and psychological support. Many children from at risk families did not end up in orphanages.

All this cannot be measured in concrete numbers. Warmth, love, care, joy, hope, kindness, happy children's smiles are the very thing we all need. That's what our fund exists for.

5 years ago, an important event happened. We moved into our own building. Before that, we huddled in small rented premises. We purchased a complex of buildings, one of which was designated as an office and a temporary residence center for girls and women at risk, one as a training facility to hold events for our participants, several buildings as a garage, a warehouse, and a boiler room.

We intended the rest of the premises to be used as social housing: two flats for families with foster children, and two flats for boys at risk.



SUMMER CAMP FOR FOSTER FAMILIES

The Heart4orphans requests you provide financial assistance to organize the annual summer camp for twenty Transnistrian foster families who have taken children from residential institutions into their homes. This involves 30 parents, 60 children, as well as a team of volunteers and ten specialists – 100 people in total.

This event is unique not only for our republic, but also for many ex-Soviet countries. Such camps are extremely rare, although their importance cannot be overstated.



During their recreational time parents get closer and exchange their family experience. Adults can get away from their routine and household problems and spend more happy moments with their children. This prevents burn-out and as a result a return of children to their residential institutions which is a huge tragedy for the child.



We organize summer camp for foster families for the seventh year running and see great results. This is a special and wonderful time for families because during the week both parents and children listen to useful seminars about relationships in the family, spend time together, participate in exciting activities, master classes, sports, and games.

The social teachers of the Fund and invited psychologists work during the week to strengthen the family, find solutions for better relationships between parents and adolescents, raise parents' psychological



competence in developing emotional intelligence, and prevent emotional burn-out in families.

During their time at camp families can also show their talents through theatrical staging, singing, and drawings. Teenagers attend art-therapeutic classes with a psychologist, where they engage in finger-drawing, clay-fashioning, work with metaphorical cards so they may understand their own inner world and learn to control their emotions.

Sports instructors do various activities to propagate a healthy lifestyle. Teenagers and their parents particularly like the quest in the wood and the career guidance game, when they can go through simulated life trials.

Summer camp for foster families is a meeting place for people with big hearts. Parents and children see each other from new perspectives, and social workers and psychologists collect material for further work. A week is a short time for large-scale changes, but we are sure that it is this camp that helps families to open up, and gives impetus to their further development.

We very much hope to have your support in organizing such a truly important event. The cost per person is \$70. The cost of entire camp for 100 people is \$7,000. We Thanks to the assistance of Allyson Keenan and her team, we have already found \$5,000. It remains to find \$2000.

YOU CAN MAKE YOUR DESIRED CONTRIBUTION TO THIS UNIQUE CAMP!

heart4orphans.org/donate/

Marked "camp"

SOLAR PANELS

Because of the war in Ukraine – in November'22 we faced a big problem – the power supply was cut off in our republic. The heating system in our Center for mothers with children is powered by electricity, and the cooking equipment is also powered by electricity. It was a disaster for us. We realized that we urgently need alternative energy sources. We are looking for funds to purchase solar panels.

LANDSCAPING

We have a lot of children living in our complex. They are children from foster families and children of women who find themselves in a predicament. During construction, the previous owners cut down all the trees. We would like to green up our premises in order to have some shade and more oxygen for children in the yard. Since all of our sidewalks are tiled, we came up with the idea of planting ivy on one side of the complex, and potted plants on the other.



GATES

If theater begins with a hanger, then a residential complex begins with a gate. The gate, that protects the resident young mothers and their children as well as vulnerable resident youth from unwanted passers-by, already needs a replacement. It is rusty and does not open or close well, and it does not look good.

WE THANK ALL OUR PARTNERS AND FRIENDS WHO HELP US IN OUR ACTIVITIES!



FOSTER CARE SOCIAL SERVICE

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
- TRAINING FAMILIES
- GUIDING FAMILIES

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.

Bon Voyage!

On May 25th the long-awaited "last bell" came for all schoolchildren, which is the official last day of the school year. In 2023, seven foster children received their lower secondary education certificates. Six of them were girls and one was a boy. Each has his own goals and plans for their adult life.

Kristina Tomova Kristina completed 9 grades as well as art school. She decided to complete 11 grade to get a complete secondary education, and then she plans to study to be an interior decorator.

Yulia Filippenko loves small children. She decided to pick a profession related to that. Therefore, she is going to study to be a primary school teacher.

Diana Nitsa completed the 9th grade with only two B's. She participated many times in various academic competitions: in Biology, in Physics and she had the first prize. Diana decided to go on to high school, and after that she dreams of going to the university and study medicine.

Christina Dzingan was a poor student until the 7th grade. But over the past two years, she has done better. She completed the 9th grade with one B. "I realized that I was the one who needed knowledge and good grades," says Christina. The girl loves animals very much and would like to go university to be a veterinarian. To that end she first needs to complete grades 10 and 11.

Christina Motinga, after completing the 9th grade, is going to study to be a chef. Thanks to her foster mother, Christina has already learned to cook deliciously, but she wants to cement her skills with some professional training.

Vera Kondratuk is a very lively and courageous girl. She plans to go to the police academy. She believes that in this profession she can fulfill herself.

We would like to single out **Andrey Verner**. To date, Andrey has completed the 9th grade with two B's, and A's in other subjects. He plans to go to college to become a programmer. All 9 years at school he has been an A and B student. Andrey remembers his first day at school. In a short time, he met all of his classmates. The boy was always friendly, and over time he made some good friends. But he admits that in the first grade, he could read and write very badly. He read 30 words while the norm was up to 50.





He understood that this was not right, but it all came to me with great difficulty. Only on holidays, when he had a lot of free time, his mother sat him down and taught him to read and write. Over time, Andrey outdid many of his classmates and read 100 words per minute with a norm of 70, and he could correctly express his thoughts. He had no difficulty solving complex problems in Algebra and Physics. And now he is already learning programming languages on his own, so that it will be easier for him in college.

We express our gratitude to the foster mothers who invested so much care, love and care in their children every day. They hoped and believed that their work was not futile, and now they can rejoice in their children's success with satisfaction and pride.



This spring,

TWO FOSTER FAMILIES HAVE TAKEN IN MORE CHILDREN.

The **Zinchenko family** adopted an 8-year-old boy and a 6-year-old girl.

The **Zagriadsky family** adopted two girls aged 10 and 7, and two boys aged 9 and 4.

We wish all the best to these families, may God bless their lives.



Youth Social Adaptation Service

Heart4orphans has launched the project Wings for Youth of Transnistria.

The goal is social and economic integration, maintaining peace and security for vulnerable youth on both sides of the Dniester River". This project was approved and registered by the Coordination Council for technical and humanitarian assistance in Transnistria.

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 25-30 young people in year.



AN IMPORTANT MEETING OF GENERATIONS

In May, the guys and girls who had already taken the course, and those who were being trained as a hairdresser or barber, visited an elderly people's home. They gave nice haircuts to 18 old ladies and girls as well as gave them some nice gifts to take care of their hair.

Let us remind you that these young people are taking vocational training as part of the Wings for the Youth of Pridnestrovie project. In two years, thanks to our assistance, 57 young people have received a profession. 17 of them have started their own business. The boys and girls chose the following professions: a hairdresser, a barber and other masters of the beauty industry, a seamstress, a masseur, a welder, a driver, a sports instructor, a marshal of events, a designer, a baker.



"It was super, I really liked it! It was a good practice for me. The people are wonderful, and it is nice to take care of them," said a future hairdresser Irina.

"The beneficiaries of our Service for the Social and Professional Integration of Youth expressed their desire to help and offered free haircuts to needy elderly people.

During the event, the atmosphere was very cordial and warm. The elderly people were very friendly and invited the young ones to visit them more often. The young people were very impressed that a simple little good deed could bring so much joy and benefit to someone.



It is very important that a younger generation and older experienced people could talk and spend time together," said Larisa, the Service Coordinator.



A CLEAN DNIESTER BANK

This spring we went to the banks of the Dniester. It was not just to admire the beauties of the river and nature. Together with the girls, armed with gloves and bags, we cleaned up the garbage left after the May holidays.

"The purpose of the event was not only to clean up the river bank from garbage, but also to cultivate an environmental culture and responsibility in young people, to attract public attention to environmental issues and respect for nature," said Larisa, the coordinator of the Service.

More than 20 people took part in the event. In a few hours of joint work, they gathered about 10 large bags of garbage. "It was a joy that children also want to preserve nature, doing a good deed and having a good time. Such an event for young people also became a team effort, as they all were united by one common goal," said Elena, a psychologist of the Service.



After that we had a quick picnic to rest, when the guys shared their thoughts about the event. They said that by keeping the banks and woods clean, we help nature and keep our favorite spots beautiful! It is a must to keep our planet green and clean! To do this, it is necessary to further develop a culture of respect for environment!

After the picnic, everyone cleaned up after themselves. That is what we recommend to you as well. Let's save our planet together!





Service for families 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. We help to get out of a crisis 35 families from 11 areas of Transnistria, which is about 200 people and more 120 of them are minor children. This program is funded by a charity foundation ChildAid (England).

FAMILIES AT RISK SERVICE

THE MAIN SPRING HOLIDAY



In April, we organized an Easter event for our families who are in a difficult situation. Parents and children had an opportunity to listen to the Easter story. For many, by the way, this was something new.

“Of course, I knew about the resurrection of Christ, but there were some interesting points I didn’t know. Thank you very much,” Anastasia said. The children took part in a master class on making a spring composition, which, as a result, ended up in the middle of the table with a special meal.



“We are so grateful for the opportunity to give children such a small holiday! It was joyful and very interesting not only for our mothers and their children, but also for ourselves!”, said Luiza Startzun, a coordinator of the Service for Assistance to Families at Risk.



PURCHASING SEEDS FOR FAMILIES IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION

At the moment, one of the urgent problems in our region is unemployment and high prices for food and vegetables. Our service is trying to provide a variety of assistance. We encourage our beneficiaries to grow fresh vegetables on their own in their gardens. Thanks to this, they have an opportunity to have a variety in their diet and fill their diet with vitamins from their garden.

Even one bag of seeds for families in need is not a cheap pleasure. In order to purchase them, you have to allocate finances for transportation costs to the city. As a result, the cost of seeds and seedlings turns out to be unaffordable for the meager budget of the families in our care.



In April, the social workers of the Fund purchased some necessary seeds and seedlings for each family that has a land plot. Most families asked for seeds of tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, carrots, zucchini, beets, parsley, dill, and seed of potatoes. "Potatoes are another bread," our chargees often say. Each family prepared their plots for sowing in advance. The seeds were delivered in time.

Natalia Papushoi loves to take care of her plot. The woman's garden is well maintained and prepared for sowing and other things. Natalia has already planted parsley and celery. She was looking forward to the rest of the seeds and potatoes to be brought to her.

Ludmila Goyan is a grandmother, raising four grandchildren alone. The family lives in an apartment in Bendery. The woman has a land plot in the village of Giska that she diligently cultivates.

Ludmila asked us to help her with seedlings of tomatoes and peppers. "My grandchildren are very fond of salads, especially the younger one Andrey. Buying vegetables is an expensive pleasure for us," says Ludmila.

Svetlana and Serghey Kostuchenko are parents to seven children. "The garden has always fed us, even in difficult times. So, this year we have prepared an even larger piece of land for planting," says Serghey Kostuchenko.

The whole family sincerely thanks us for the aid received: seed of potatoes and vegetable.

Anna Zavialova is also very happy with her seeds, because this family has 6 acres of land near the house. Anna takes care of it with great pleasure. When we visit this family, the woman shows us her garden beds with joy and pride. According to Anna, the children regularly help her in this matter. In autumn, we will share with you some photos of the harvest that these families have grown.





Program aims to prevent children from ending up in boarding schools and improve parental and marital skills among girls and women in a situation of risk.

We serve to prevent early pregnancy and child abandonment as well as teaches parental-marital skills and offers individual counsel by a team of specialists (a psychologist, a social teacher, a lawyer) in a risk situation including temporary accommodation in an emergency. We also want to involve local church members, especially women, as volunteers in serving girls and women at risk.

SCHOOL OF MOTHERHOOD



WELLNESS

Now we have 4 young mothers and two pregnant girls staying at the Center. In the course of our work, we constantly talk to them about health for adults and children. We conduct various classes and trainings. Also, in the course of daily conversations we touch on this important topic. In addition to theoretical knowledge, we try to practice with them various self-help techniques among others. So, we invited a specialist in children's gymnastics and massage to our Center in order to show young girls massage techniques and exercises for children. All the girls were delighted with the knowledge they gained, and we see that they apply it on a daily basis.

And in April, we initiated a 10-day rehabilitation course for children in a salt room. Everyone really liked the atmosphere in the room, the children were mesmerized by the lighting and sounds that were in the room. And the mothers noticed that the children were less and they slept better.

A GASTRONOMIC DELIGHT

In cooking lessons, the girls cooked home-style roast meat and potatoes and mushroom soup in milk. The soup produced a gastronomic delight for everyone. The social worker Nadejda taught them the secrets of delicious homemade cakes.



But the girls got most emotional when they saw some live fish. Some of them had never cooked fish as well as never eaten it.





Since 2018, the charity "Heart4orphans" in Tiraspol has had a social sewing studio. It employs girls and women from the most vulnerable community segments: widows, multiple mothers, leavers of residential schools, and single mothers.

During this time, we have been able to support more than 100 women and girls at risk. We have managed to help many of them get out of very difficult situations related to unemployment.

6 women now have permanent jobs in the sewing studio.

In 2022, we received a certificate of a participant in the grant support of the European Union, co-financed by Sweden as part of the project "Civil Society Promotes Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Development of the Country".

Thanks to this project, we are expanding our social sewing studio, and we will be able to provide work or part-time jobs to 10 more women.

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE "SEWING STUDIO"

WE ARE FOR BEING CONSCIOUS IN CHOICE AND CONSUMPTION



In the spring we participated in various city and republican exhibitions and fairs. We even went to Chisinau for the Summit of Social Entrepreneurs, where they exhibited their products.

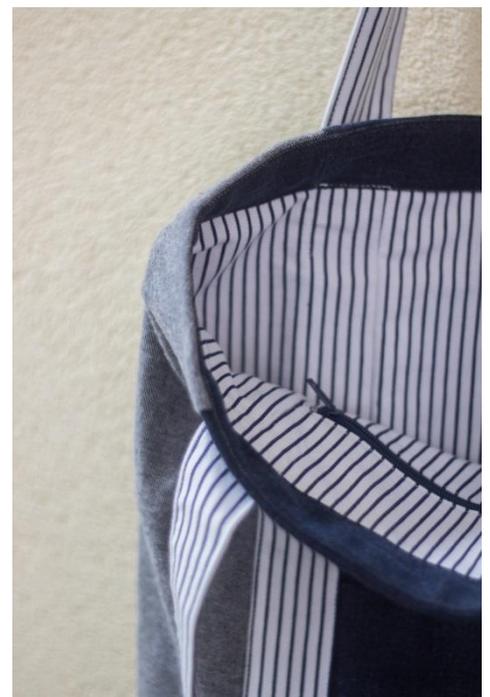
Until now, we have mainly been engaged in clothing repair. Now we are looking for new customers to tailor textiles, medium, small, and wholesale.

For several months we experimented making various products. Those were tablecloths, napkins, shoppers, panama hats, pillows, and blankets.



We also started testing upcycling. It is about new life for old things. We remake clothes that can no longer be repaired or worn, various items and accessories. We made several types of shopper bags and sacks from old shirts, jeans, and jackets. Some hair accessories were made from dress belts. From trousers and skirts we made some cosmetic bags and wallets.

This experience showed us that our seamstresses can cope with tasks of any complexity. They do their work very carefully. It is obvious that they treat their work with great love.



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