



Program for Humanitarian Aid is "Being Family"

Summer Mission Trip:



We had a great summer trip that was made even better by the nine Americans who sacrificed their vacations to go with PHA to help with our two summer camps. We had teachers, a police officer, a fish farmer, a therapist, a Ph.D. student, a software developer, and two clowns. After the usual travel ordeals, we hit the ground running in full camp mode.

The first week we held our overnight camp that consisted of 86 kids at an awesome facility on the Dniper river. We had campers from three different orphanages as well as staff and local mentors. The children were loved on, relationships were deepened, and best of all the gospel was shared. It was a fun time with all of the traditional church camp/vbs hits. We spent time enjoying crafts, swimming, singing, skits, candy, tie-dye shirts, and games. Before we knew it was Saturday and we were saying our goodbyes with tear-filled eyes.

The second week was our day camp held at one of the orphanages PHA serves on the outskirts of Zaporizhia. This was a much smaller group so we got some great one on one time with each child. The highlight was definitely the clowns! What's better than a clown who loves God and orphans? We even took the show on the road and visited a refugee center a couple times during the week.

All in all, it was a great experience for the Americans and Ukrainians on the team and we can't wait for next summer. If it sounds like fun, you should make plans to join us next summer!

"This trip reminded me of how amazing it is to connect with another person and share each other's joy. This was the first mission trip I went on where I didn't know the language. I was really nervous about how I was going to interact with the children I would be working with, but fortunately laughter, dancing, and soccer are universal! It's encouraging to know that where words may be lacking, or just difficult to translate, we have God's spirit to intercede for us. I truly enjoyed this trip and hope that I brought the kids just as much joy, love, and encouragement as they brought to me."

-Kathy Tomkins, Team Member

Story of a Child: by Tanya Ilmeyer

This year at camp there was a group of kids from whom I've heard "thank you" about thousand times. Our Poltava kids, though, there were not many of them (just 6) they have stolen my heart, as usual. And not only mine, I'm sure.

One of them caught a cold and I asked my mom to buy him medicine when she went to town. That's quite a normal reaction to the situation when your camper is sick, don't you agree? He started to feel better and came to me one day, saying: "Thank you for treating me, nobody had taken care of me for such a long time". It explains lots of behavioral problems to me when kids say things like this. There was nobody in the room, just two of us, and of course, we've spent a bunch of time talking. Daniel shared with me that his mother died of cancer when he was small and even before that his stepfather beat him almost every day, that he was



not able to recall his normal look in the mirror. He was running away from home and was walking in the streets till mornings. After this, of course, he was sent to the orphanage.

Can you imagine, a year ago at “Mayak” camp in Poltava, this kid wouldn’t even come to say hello for the two weeks we stayed there? Now he moved to live with Fedor’s (PHA’s Ukrainian partner in Poltava) family and is getting ready to start trade school this September.

Thanks to God for creating new bonds and thank you PHA Family for taking part in this.

-Tatiana Ilmeyerova

Family Time: by Andrey Belokonniy

“So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.” -Romans 12:5

Many times during and after the camp our brothers and sisters from the USA asked me why would grown-up orphanage graduates (some are studying in the trade school for two years already) agree to spend this time with the kids? These are 18 to 20 year-old men. Most likely gentlemen of this age in the US will be ashamed to go to the camp with the 5th graders and be a part of the children collective. I guess I know the answer. At the moment when they are born, their problems start. Problems that didn’t depend on their decisions and wishes, these were the events, so to say, turning off the light in the end of the childhood tunnel that leads to the adult life.

Somebody was left by their mother right after being born. Somebody, at the age when mother is your whole life and world, lost her because of death. Somebody was taken away from the family by unfamiliar people, explaining that the family is too bad and kids can’t live there, though for them it was the best family in the world. Somebody decided to leave home and live in the streets, to the other city, to the other world, because they were not able to live in fear and had no clue why the closest people hate them. I read the papers that were written by the kids, in their own handwriting, where they say they reject their mother and ask to deprive her of parental rights, believe me, this is a very hard text to read.



“Out of this circle everything is foreign for them, the whole world doesn’t want to accept him.”

Generally speaking, these young people’s childhood was spent in the detention centers, hospitals and orphanages. After graduation from the orphanages, getting to the full legal age, wearing adult-sized clothes they started to realize that their family is the kids from the smaller grades in the orphanages where they used to study, teachers and tutors. The society of the kids, teachers and tutors from the orphanages, people from the church, Domik and PHA, is the only society where these young men

feel themselves as true members. Out of this circle everything is foreign for them, the whole world doesn’t want to accept him. Unfortunately, they were not ready for this reality.

The time in the camp for this young people is not just a happy time with the good food, it is a feeling of home and family, when you feel that you’re being loved and accepted the way you are. Our all year-long meetings, communication, friendship, summer camps, are made to tell the kids about God and His family, about the Church. We’re showing the loving Father, the One, who will never leave. We’re trying to bring them to the Christian family, where everybody is a real member, no matter who you are, you are the one for whom Christ died. We want the kids, teenagers and adults to understand that there is no full life out of the Church, as the real life is in the family of the Alive God.

-Andrey Belokonniy

PHA Hearing Program Update:

The April 2016 Hearing Program trip to the Central Ukraine brought 50 more hearing instruments to children in two more schools for the deaf. This raises the number of aids to children to a total of 700+ since year 2002.

We plan to return again in October 2016 with 35 more hearing aids for children and help train the staff of four schools with technology for the new digital hearing instruments. This ongoing training will keep the schools up to date with new technology and how to better care for their students.

Ukrainian children suffer a large percent of hearing loss due to lack of antibiotics for bacterial infections of the middle ear. For many years, antibiotics were very hard to find and if found, the parents could not afford the extremely high price. So, over the course of time, these many ear infections just continued to degrade the ability to hear from Normal to Severe to Profound Loss.

That is why we started caring for these children all over Ukraine in 2002. This labor of love for these deaf children could never have succeeded without the many people that donate \$250 for each hearing instrument. Not only does that pay for a hearing instrument and a year's supply of batteries, it covers the cost of testing, fitting and adjusting it to the individual child as well as a yearly follow up. All this without cost to the child, their parents or the deaf school they attend.

To those who have helped these children, we are so grateful.
God bless you all,
John J. Sims, Founder of PHA

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2nd Annual DFW Benefit Dinner: Featuring Gene Stallings



Tuesday, October 11th, 2016
7:00 PM
Grapevine Concourse Event Center
3800 Fairway Drive, Grapevine, TX

PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7th
email: pha@programforhumanitarianaid.org
call: (979) 220-5691
web: CURRENT EVENTS TAB AT PROGRAMFORHUMANITARIANAID.ORG

From the Domik Kitchen: by Marina Belokonnaya

Vareniki (dumplings) with cherries:

Dough:
milk - 1 cup
egg - 1
salt - 1/4 teaspoon
sugar - 1 teaspoon
butter - 2 tablespoons (softened)
flour - as much as needed for the dough (about 3 1/4 cups)

Make tight dough leave it for 30 mins under a dish towel.

Filling:
Cherry - 500 gr fresh or frozen
sugar

Roll out the dough (about 1/8 inch thick). Cut out the circles with the bakery mold or a plain cup. Put 3-4 cherries in the middle, 1/2 teaspoon of sugar. Then you have to connect the sides of circle. Be sure the sides became one piece of the dough. Put vareniki in the boiling salty water. After vareniki start to float on surface cook them for 3-5 mins more. Serve hot with sour cream. Enjoy your meal!



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Program for Humanitarian Aid is
"Being Family"



PROGRAM FOR HUMANITARIAN AID (PHA)

Name: _____

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I WANT TO JOIN THE PHA FAMILY:

_____ Prayerfully

_____ Financially through a one-time donation

\$50 \$100 \$500 Other: _____

_____ I would like to be contacted with more information about PHA

_____ Financially through monthly recurring donations

\$50 \$100 \$500 Other: _____

_____ I know someone who would like to hear about this ministry

Donations can also be made through the PHA website: www.programforhumanitarianaid.org