

heartbeat

Humanitarian Aid Response Teams (HART)

Second Quarter 2011



changing the world...one heart at a time

YOU are His hands from heaven



Dear Friends, the following two stories are examples of life-change in children/families directly related to being in HART's Child Sponsor Project.

Nastya's story is particularly poignant and sad for me personally. Partly because I met her last year prior to this tragedy, but also because we know this was not just an isolated case of abuse, but a story that is

repeated daily for thousands of children in Eastern Europe.

That being said, these stories are a great encouragement to us as we see daily how our Child Sponsor program (through sponsors from the WEST like YOU) is impacting children and their families for time and eternity.

This world CAN be a better place. Amazingly, God can use ordinary people like you and me

to change this world. WE can be HIS hands from heaven. We can be the means by which His love can be demonstrated all over the world.

You can begin by changing the world for one innocent child...consider becoming a Child Sponsor today!

Lloyd Cenaiko
President - HART
lloyd@hart.ca

Child Sponsor Program

NASTYA'S STORY

[This story was written by a CSP case-worker in Lviv. Her church uses HART's Child Sponsor program to reach out to the poorest families in their community. The church family was looking after Nasyta and her family throughout this ordeal]

Our story is about a little girl named Nastya. She was 8 years old, a grade 3 student.

She was very friendly and sociable. Nastya had many girlfriends and she liked to play dolls and to jump on a skipping rope with them. She liked to paint...often painting the sea, the sun and her happy family, dad, mom and two younger brothers.

She dreamt that her family was a truly happy one; where her father loved her mother and that someday they'd go to the sea together on a vacation.

Unfortunately, those were only dreams. In reality her father was usually drunk. He'd come home angry and beat up his wife. Nastya would protect her younger brothers and herself by hiding under a bed, waiting until

the danger had passed.

Why does father beat us?

Her family was happy only in the pictures she painted. In real life, she was often overwhelmed with fear; she would ask her mom, "Why does father drink and beat us? Why doesn't he love us?" Her child's mind could not comprehend why this was occurring in their family.

To add to her confusion, she would see fathers of her girlfriends meet them after school, buy them sweets and play together with them. Her father never did this. She had many questions...but seldom any answers.

Nastya began to think it was her fault. Every time her parents argued and fought they talked about the children. Her mother shouted that money was needed for school, for clothes but her father was spending all of it on alcohol.

Nastya began to think that if she wasn't around, maybe her parents wouldn't have a reason to fight.

Then one day she and her mom were invited to a Church which had a special program for children (Child Sponsor Project).



Nastya

She found it very interesting and cheerful. She was given a doll as a present, and one kind man (Pastor Sasha) prayed for all children and their parents.

He prayed for peace in their families and that fathers would love their wives. She liked it very much so she started going to this Church with her mother and brothers.

It was always interesting there. They were told about Jesus Christ, about His love and miracles.

Their family was given food packages which they needed because many times they would go to bed hungry.

Nastya was so surprised when unknown people from far away Canada remembered

her birthday, and sent her a present.

And Pastor Sasha who initially invited her and her mother to this church, congratulated her on her birthday and prayed for her specifically. Afterwards she was excited when everyone sang her "Happy birthday to you!"

Canadian people came to visit

She also remembered that some Canadian people came to visit them and one man, whose name was Lloyd asked the children how they were doing. The children rejoiced and told that all was well, and for some reason he had tears in his eyes. Why? She couldn't understand.

She yet didn't understand

← Cover picture

Many seniors in Ukraine and other Eastern European countries are forced to beg to supplement their meager pensions. HART has partner ministries focused on assisting the elderly with food, clothing and medical care. We also provide support for Christian Senior homes. Please keep ministries like these in your prayers.

Nastya's story (cont'd)

many things, for example... why would strangers care about her family? Why would people from Canada, whom she has never seen, give her presents, when her own father had never done that, nor even remembered her birthday.

She began reading children's books, Bible stories and prayed that Jesus would change her father, so that everything would be well in their family, and that her father would start going to Church with them, and that he'd love her mother. She prayed that her mother would never have to cry again.

She prayed that her mother would never have to cry again

But in real life there is not always a happy ending.

Late one night, Nastya's father once again came home drunk and started to beat her mother. Although terrified, Nastya ran out of her room, crying and pleading for him to stop. But he turned his anger on her, pulled her by her hair and threw her against the wall.

Nastya screamed and cried from the pain. The neighbors heard it and came running to the help Nastya & her mom.

In the morning she was unable to go to school, she was in pain and was exhausted from crying all night.

From that day on, Nastya lost her appetite, and began to suffer from headaches and general poor health.

A doctor was called, but wasn't told the truth, because her mother didn't want anyone to know that Nastya was hurt by her father.

The doctor decided that it was simple virus infection, prescribed some medicine and left. But her condition became worse. Eventually she fainted.

Her mother became frightened and called an ambulance. The doctors at the hospital couldn't diagnose her correctly, and kept prescribing different medicines, but nothing seemed to help.

Every day she became weaker and weaker; she lost all feeling in her legs and soon could not walk anymore.

Over the next six months, the paralysis began spreading upwards until it reached her

neck. She became completely paralyzed, and almost could not breathe. She was connected to respirator and was fed through a tube. Throughout this time the doctors admitted they had no idea what to do.

Pastor Sasha regularly visited Nastya in the hospital. Once she told him she had seen angels and described to him how beautiful they were!

Nastya would comfort her mother

There was no fear on her face. She would comfort her mother.. "Mom do not cry, Jesus loves me, I don't feel any pain, I will be fine, I am not scared..."

In a few days, at 4:37 in the morning, the Divine Angel came to take her little soul. She was taken to the place where there were neither tears, nor pain, nor sufferings, to the place where Lord Jesus Himself wipes away every tear. There, where truth and love rule. To the place Nastya could only dream about or paint in her pictures.

Her heart couldn't survive all those tortures she had to go through. She died one week before her 9th birthday.

Her funeral was sad, and many people wondered out loud why God would take away the life of a child?

Not many knew the family situation; about the abuse and violence she had to live with. Few understood that her life was a torture, and now the end has come to these tortures.

Her father was very drunk at the funeral and kept shouting.. "Forgive me, Nastya!" Her



Nastya's grave

"Mom do not cry, Jesus loves me, I don't feel any pain, I will be fine, I am not scared..."



mother, stood at a coffin and quietly cried, and her brothers not understanding what was going on, asked: "why is Nastya lying down and doesn't get up to play with us?"

Pastor Sasha told those gathered at the funeral the best thing a father can do for the children is to love their mother! He said that strong hands are given to men to bless children, not to physically abuse them.

For now Nastya's mother and her brothers continue going to Church, and their father is gone...for a while.

It is said that time heals, but how much time would be necessary to cure all the pain children in Ukraine suffered in their families, where there is violence?

Nastya's soul has been rested. It is now with the Lord, with those angels she saw. And what will happen with her brothers, and the millions of children who experience the same kind of life Nastya did? May God keep them and save them.

Overview:

HART is an international relief aid and missions organization that partners with and supports national churches, ministries and leaders involved in Relief Aid and Missions projects in their own countries. Our targeted region is Eastern Europe, including countries such as Ukraine, Moldova, Romania, Belarus and Russia.

hart projects in eastern europe...

Medical-Dental Projects

- o Medical clinics for the poor
- o Medical supplies for hospitals, prisons
- o Aid for young mothers and their newborns
- o Medical-dental relief teams from US/Canada
- o Medical supplies for National missionaries
- o Dental care for orphans, boys prisons, street kids, children from impoverished families
- o Mobil medical - dental clinics

Relief Aid Projects

- o Child Sponsor Project
- o Orphan Relief Aid projects
- o Human Trafficking prevention projects
- o Relief Aid for seniors
- o Soup Kitchens for children and adults
- o Humanitarian Aid centers
- o Aid for children in prison
- o Drug & alcohol rehabilitation centers
- o Playground apparatus for orphanages, children's hospitals and camps
- o Micro loans for small business initiatives
- o Vocational training for orphans, prisoners, women, at-risk youth

Missions Projects

- o Training and education for National leaders
- o Financial support for Indigenous pastors
- o Financial support for Indigenous ministries
- o Discipleship ministries
- o Translation of Christian material
- o Children, youth, sports ministries
- o Summer Camp ministries
- o Prison ministries for boys/adults
- o Women's ministries
- o Music, drama ministries
- o Church planting support
- o Church construction projects
- o Hearing-impaired ministries
- o Correspondence course ministries

HART is a registered non-profit charity in Canada and the USA

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At HART, we respect your choice regarding how often you would like to receive our updates. If you would like to customize your mailings, please call us at 403.230.8263. HART is audited annually by an independent accounting firm, and our financial statements are available upon request. 100% of all contributions designated for specific projects will be applied to those projects. When we receive more contributions for a given project than can wisely be applied to that project, we use these funds to meet a similar pressing need.

Child Sponsor Project story

You can give hope and love to a poor family

Letter from a grateful mother

Dear sponsors. I am the mother of Andriy Loshatetsky writing to you. He is one of many Ukrainian kids that you support in Ukraine. Let me say huge thanks to those who take care of families like mine. You make our kids better which cause us parents to change too.

Thanks to your support, presents, letters to our kids we can survive. We haven't become homeless people as many people in Ukraine are now. Thanks to you my boys are not thieves, drunks or even worse drug addicted.

Thanks to you I have "risen from dead" and was baptized becoming a member of evangelical church. My kids attend Sunday school. Older son attends youth services. Younger Andriy hasn't decided yet what he wants to do in ministry. He'd like to sing in teen choir but he is ashamed of his stuttering which was caused by not so easy life.

My husband and father of my kids used to drink a lot, beat me and my kids, bad words were heard in our house. He took all the valuable things and sold them to buy alcohol. Electricity was cut off for our debt. Andriy would get sick chronically and his eyesight would get bad. He started getting nervous break downs. However my kids didn't lose hope to see their father one day changed because we loved him and didn't want harm for him.

In his sober times he'd bring money home and along with money I made, we'd buy something and pay for our debts. These times were like holidays for us even though they were quite rare.

One day our neighbor ran into my house with awful news: my husband was found dead in old well. We still don't know if he fell himself or someone threw him. Up to today my heart hurts for him, where is his soul?

After his death our life didn't change for better. We continued living in poverty. **There were days and weeks when we had no bread to eat**, survived on potatoes. I reached out to my brother for help, but he rejected me.

This is why my dear family I want to sincerely thank you for your help from far away Canada. You know, our Lord is alive. Glory to Him. **I believe that in heaven I will be holding the hands of my kids and your hand in front of our Lord. We will witness about your great works on earth!**

May God bless you abundantly. May He give peace to your country, take away all natural disasters and send you enough bread.

From Liuda Loshatetska, mother of Andriy and Volodya, in the city of Rivne, Ukraine.



If you would like to become a Child Sponsor please contact our office for details:

T: 403.230.8263

Toll Free: 888.788.3880

Email: office@hart.ca

Please use my gift to support the following...

1	Senior Care programs	\$	<input type="text"/>
2	Child Sponsor emergency projects	\$	<input type="text"/>
3	Medical-Dental Aid projects	\$	<input type="text"/>
4	Humanitarian Aid projects	\$	<input type="text"/>
5	Missions projects	\$	<input type="text"/>
6	Where it is most needed	\$	<input type="text"/>

TOTAL

\$

Please contact me regarding sponsoring a Child

Please contact me regarding sponsoring a National Pastor

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Prov/State _____ PC _____

Email _____