



What **YOUR** faithful giving is accomplishing!

Dear Friends....

The old Carpathian Mountain Range meanders majestically through Poland, Ukraine and Romania... providing stunning vistas of lush green meadows, rivers and forests.

But, despite its scenic landscapes this region is also home to some of the worst poverty in Eastern Europe. Fuelled by unemployment and alcoholism the attitude of hopelessness is everywhere.

However, with **YOUR** support, HART has been changing the lives of hundreds of children and their families in this part of Ukraine for the past ten years.

Through our Child Sponsor Project we've been providing food, clothing, school supplies, medical and dental aid for hundreds of children and families.

We've given the kids great summer camp experiences, but most importantly, we've been sharing God's love with them.

Because of **YOUR** support we've also been able to do something unheard of in this region... planting Evangelical churches, who become God's hands and feet in these remote mountain communities. (see Kostya's story on page 3)

The following letter of thanks is from a little Baptist Church in the village of Borynia.

Our partnership with them began last summer and with

YOUR financial assistance they've almost completed renovations on what will be the only Baptist church in this region.

"Dear Brothers and Sisters, Christians from Carpathian region Borynia Baptist church members want to thank you for support.

We are so grateful to the Lord, we see His mighty Hand that blesses us through your ministry.

Now we are totally sure that Borynia village will have an Evangelical Church.

If not for you and your ministry, the 8 members of Borynia Church wouldn't be able to do much.

Your sincere and abundant support allows us to start intensive work in reconstructing the building.

We would need some more resources in the future, but we are sure that God will take care of that.

We thank YOU and God for everything. From Believers of Borynia with Love."



FALL 2011



SPRING 2012

ABSOLUTELY NOT!

This wasn't exactly the answer we were hoping for. We'd just asked one of our partner Ministries for help. Our request was for them to set up their mobile Medical-Dental clinics in a poverty-stricken gypsy village on the Western side of Ukraine, near the border with Hungary.

This Medical ministry is supported by Lutherans in the USA, while the doctors and dentists providing the care are National Ukrainians. Their major concern about the Gypsy village? Lice.

Gypsies are the poorest social group in Ukrainian society. Their poverty is caused by almost total unemployment and illiteracy.

They receive almost negligible welfare and medical/dental support from the state, therefore malnutrition, intestinal worms and bacterial infections, parasitic skin diseases, tuberculosis and pneumonia are all common.

At this particular Gypsy village, over 2,000 people live in mud-clay brick huts, with poor hygienic conditions.

Water is carried by hand from a nearby stream.



Learning Bible stories before/after medical-dental appointments

THANKS TO YOU...HART has begun the process of transforming lives through our partnership with a little Baptist Church in this village.

- For starters, we provided funds for them to build the only **toilets** for their village.

- We're also providing regular **free medical clinics** for children, young mothers and the elderly.

- Since the children here don't get adequate schooling, 95% will remain illiterate all their lives. Our response was to **start a school for these kids** that runs twice per week at the church. Depending upon future support we'd like to expand this to 4-5 days per week.

- We've given the Baptist Church a **micro-loan** for its members to plant several hectares of potatoes for re-sale, so they can support their own families.

- We also gave them funds to complete the construction of their new church, [which they built themselves.](#)

So...back to the lice. Since this was the major concern for the Doctors and dentists, **we promised them each child would be showered and de-liced prior to stepping into the medical-dental buses.** They readily agreed to this!

The result was an incredibly memorable time for all involved. When their allocated two weeks was up, the team of doctors and dentists confessed to us this had been one of their very best experiences in



Very first trip to the dentist for this young Gypsy girl

the past ten years.

They also assured us, in the future they'd be willing to go wherever HART needed them.

Without hesitation we invited them to a maximum security boys prison colony, to which they had also said 'ABSOLUTELY NOT!' one year ago.

This time they agreed and are scheduled to be at the prison in July. The boys are 14-18 years old and the majority have never received proper medical or dental care in their lives.

The dental office at the prison currently has one drill, powered by a foot pump (technology dating back to the Stalin era).

Please keep this Medical-Dental partnership in your prayers. Working collaboratively with other ministries is always a more efficient and cost-effective strategy.



Teenage boys prison colony

HART's ministry in Ukraine is amazing!

Its impact on people in my country is widespread and practical. For example, this year we in Ukraine had one of our worst winters imaginable. Ukraine's usually mild winters (-5 to +5 C) turned to weather like Siberia (-25 to -30 C) for weeks at a time.

However, thanks to wonderful generous people in Canada who support HART, we were able to buy winter boots for poor families.

I travelled with the Borniya Baptist Church pastor (see pg 1) to many poor families in the Carpathian mountains to deliver new boots. I was shocked by one of the homes we visited.

A poor grandmother was raising three children whose parents had deserted them. **In -30 C the kids were going to the barn several times per day in 'flip-flops' to feed the animals.** No one, including the grandma had winter boots.

They were overjoyed to receive the warm, quality boots we presented them, and were also amazed they were free. Gramma's parting words to us was a promise to start attending the new Baptist Church.

As we walked into another home, we noticed a little girl sitting on a warm section of a clay oven, used to heat Carpathian mountain homes. She was happy to show us she was reading her

'favourite book'... a Bible she received at one of HART's camps last summer. She told us she's already read it four times! We asked her many questions on different Bible stories and sure enough, she knew all the answers!

Thanks for your generous spirits, all of you who support HART. I can assure you, your generosity is fruitful! **KV**



Angelina's gift

In Eastern Europe, most children with disabilities are sent away to special 'schools.'

These government-run boarding schools are terrible environments for kids to grow up, however parents have no choice due to the economic hardship associated with raising handicapped children.

Pictured here is 8 year old Angelina with her new braille typewriter, **provided by a family in Calgary, Alberta. The cost was \$700, but the blessing for this little blind**

girl is inestimable.

This machine allowed her parents the option of home-schooling so Angelina wouldn't have to be sent away to a boarding school.

However, her father recently informed us that because of this machine she has become the **first blind child in Ukraine** to be integrated into a regular classroom.

She and her family are truly grateful to people like you who want to make a difference in the world, by helping a family such as theirs.

Speechless gratitude

Pastor Constantine is from Balti, Moldova. Our staff was so impressed with him, at their very first meeting they gave an unplanned gift to his Church of \$2,000 dollars for their summer camp programs.

Two months later I had the privilege of meeting him as well. With tears in his eyes, he told me "the rest of the story."

All spring his church had been fervently praying about funds for their summer camp programs. They had absolutely no budget for this...until HART came alongside and blessed them with this gift.

Later that evening at the weekly church

council meeting, Constantine excitedly shared with the Elders the good news about the funds they'd received.

The men were so overjoyed and grateful, they couldn't speak...**all they could do was weep and offer prayers of thanksgiving... then adjourned the meeting.**

There was no need for words. God's faithfulness had been dramatically demonstrated to them once again.

THANK YOU for allowing us to be a conduit of your giving and for the privilege of being God's answer to the prayers of a little church in Moldova. **LC**



OVERVIEW of OUR PROJECTS

Medical-Dental Projects:

- Medical clinics for the poor
- Mobile medical - dental clinics
- Medical supplies for hospitals, prisons
- Aid for young mothers and their newborns
- Medical supplies for National missionaries
- Dental care for orphans, boys prisons, street kids, children from impoverished families

Relief Aid Projects:

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

Missions Projects:

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

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

How can YOU get involved?

Our strategy in Eastern Europe is to empower and equip the local church... allowing THEM to change their own communities...by being God's hands and feet to the lost and suffering where they live.

You can assist HART in the most practical & effective way imaginable, to facilitate this process, through our CHILD SPONSOR PROJECT.

Here's how....

HART works through local churches to find desperately poor families and children for our Child Sponsor Project.

Typical of most churches though, they will have limited or no resources to look after these poor families.

However, through the Child Sponsor Project, YOU...THE SPONSOR, will be providing the local church with the resources (\$35/mo) necessary to purchase regular food, clothing, medical help, birthday and Christmas presents, not to mention summer camp experiences.

The only cost to the church is the time, talent and energy of its members who are happy to serve.

Depending upon a variety of factors, we allow churches to bring 30-80 children into the program.

RESULTS?

- Usually what occurs is a mini explosion in the children's ministry of the church

- Attendance at the church always goes up because not only do the kids start attending, but also their siblings, friends and parents

- Parents of these kids are becoming Christians and are being baptized

- Church members are given an opportunity to serve in fruitful ministry

This Child Sponsor Project is an effective way to help a church impact its community for Christ...and grow their church!

BUT...the key to the success of this program...is YOU, the sponsor. Without YOU... none of this can happen.

Please review the following bio of a little girl who needs a sponsor...

Sofia Lutsyk needs a sponsor UKRRL01110

Case-worker's comments:

Sofia's family conditions are terrible. Her father is an alcoholic and her mother has been earning money through prostitution.

Her parents quarrel all the time. The financial situation is difficult too. Their house is in very poor shape: the floor is rotten, the walls are covered with black mould.

Sofia is a nice-looking girl but lacks parental care. She

doesn't know how to play with her peers, how to draw or even colour books.

She speaks with phrases of adults and uses bad words. Sofia loves animals and has a cat.

The Child Sponsor Project will help this child so much with better nutrition, medical care, visits from the caseworker, and opportunities to be involved in Christian activities with other kids.



Humanitarian Aid Response Teams International Relief

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HART's mandate is to come alongside the Indigenous church in Eastern Europe, empower and equip their ministries as they fulfill the Great Commandment and Commission in their own countries.

Through our 200+ partnerships with National ministries we're involved in Medical-dental, Micro-finance, Relief and Development and Missions projects in Ukraine, Moldova, Romania and Belarus.

Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.