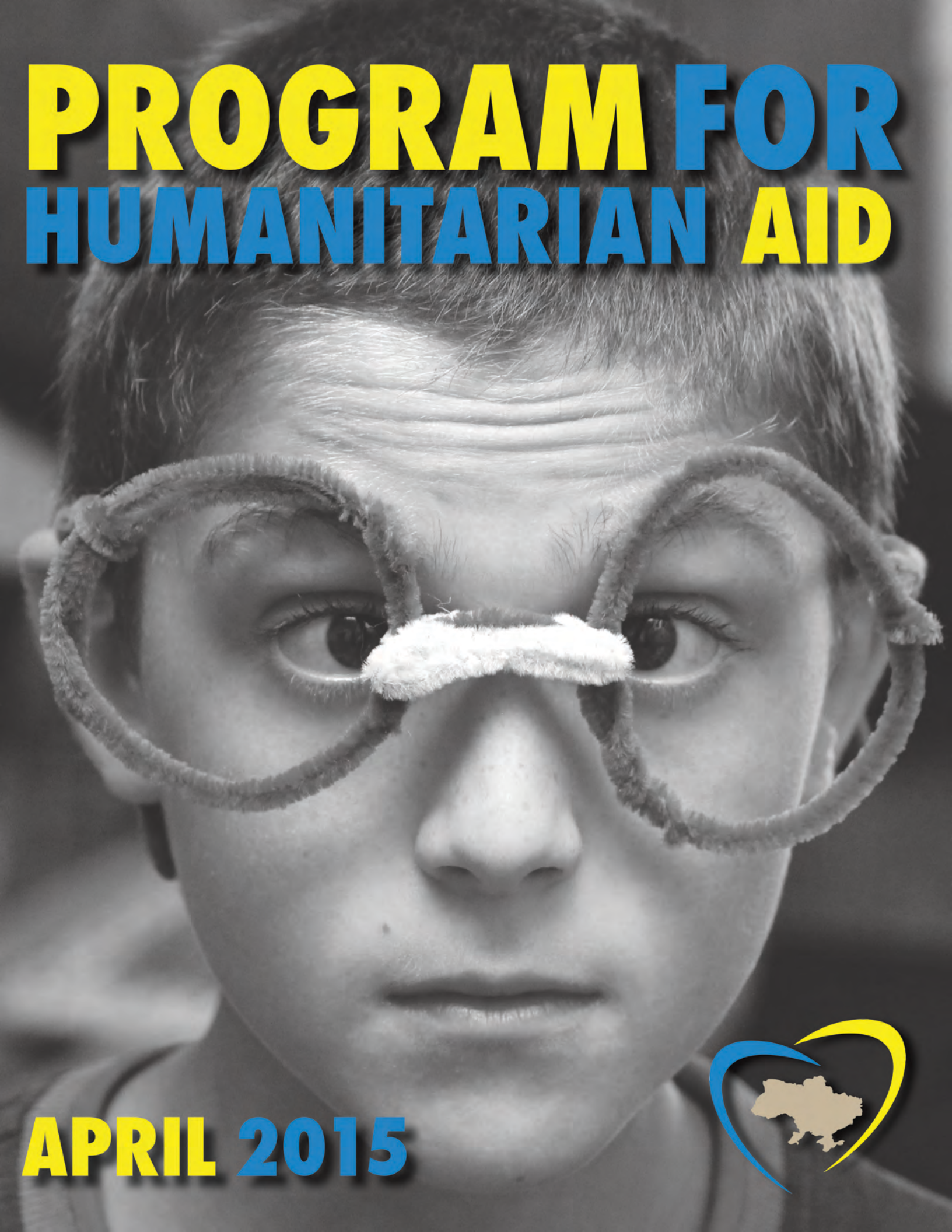
PROGRAM FOR HUMANITARIAN AID



APRIL 2015

DOLPHINS AND BANANAS

On a visit to one orphanage, in Zaporizhia Andrey takes bananas as a treat for the children there. As he visits with the kids and helps them with the crafts, Tanya is leading he gets to know them better. Visits like this are a part of normal life and work for Andrey and his family.

The number of lives they touch through ministry is constantly growing. He visits with a young girl named Marina. Marina is very small and has a hard time completing the craft on her own, so he helps. Bananas. Such a simple thing that most would take for granted or at least would never view as a treat. But bananas from Andrey are special. Not only are they something that the children rarely get, but Andrey adds his own special touch. As he gives each child their banana, he transforms it by adding eyes and a "mouth". Andrey makes "Dolphin Bananas" for the children. For the child, the banana tastes good and provides a little nutrition, but more importantly, it creates a memory of a man and a family who cared enough to visit the orphanage, play with the kids, hug them, show them that there is good in the world, and let them know that they are cared for.

As we return to the city center, Andrey wipes tears from his eyes. He knows the futures children like Marina face, and he works tirelessly to change as many as he can through Christ and PHA's Transition Program.

MARCH TRIP REPORT

THE HILL'S MARCH 2015 TRIP REPORT

During this trip, we were able to see and accomplish many things. Below is the "schedule" that we were a part of during this trip. Along with this, we also spent time locating a facility for summer camp, helping with daily operations, and finding out general information related to PHA operations and ministry.

DOMIK

Domik is a place full of children, food, laughter, life lessons, and Kingdom business.
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday around 10-15 children from Orphanage #3 (also known as Svitanok, which translates to Sunshine) arrive in the evenings at Domik. Tuesday children from the 6th form come, followed by the 7th on Wednesday and the 8th on Thursday. Then on Saturday children come from Valnyansk. While they are at Domik, they play a few games and relax, do crafts, eat a good meal, and have life skills and character lessons from the Bible. Wonderful relationships are being built and the bonds of love, trust, and mentorship are growing.

Sunday, a group comes to church, then back to Domik for a typical Sunday: a meal, fellowship, fun, and rest.
In all, 40-50 different children are visiting and being served at Domik weekly.

Teachers or tutors accompany the children to Domik. They are a part of the happenings there. They also hear God's word. Can you imagine how the lives of the children they work with daily will change as they come to know the Savior?

ORPHANAGE WORK

Friday night, Andrey and Marina go to Orphanage #3 (Svitanok) to spend time with the kids there and then take 2 of the boys, Losha and Yegor, to their home for the weekend. Losha and Yegor are truly a part of the Belokonnaya family. On Saturday morning, Andrey joins a preacher named Sergi and his wife to visit Orphanage #2.

REFUGEE WORK

What was 2 refugee centers has grown to 3. Andrey visits each of these at least once a week delivering milk to all the children, medicine, diapers, food, clothing, and other needed items. The people there are thankful and show their appreciation for Andrey and his family as well as the Americans who provide the funding for this relief.
All of the refugee centers house between 40-50 people, and it is safe to say that half of that population is children.

SUMMARY

It is amazing to see all God has put into motion here and the overwhelming amount of people served and shown Christ's love.
Andrey, Marina and Tanya serve selflessly and constantly. The family motto is "we are never tired".
PHA is blessed to have them.
The Hill's are ready to return this summer. We felt safe and at home during our time in Ukraine. We enjoyed being a part of life and ministry in Zap and at Domik.
Wonderful trip!

Home is Life
ДомиК

SUMMER CAMP

In June, we plan take older orphans and social orphans to a 5 day summer camp we will host on the banks of the Dniper River.

It will be a time where the children can relax, play games, make crafts, eat, and learn the love of Christ through Bible lessons and the activities at the camp. It will be a time where they not only hear of Christ, but are shown Christ.

PHA is excited to have Youth Reach International partnering with us to provide this camp. They provide a wonderful mix of American Christians who bring excitement and love and Ukrainian Christians who can offer so much more in the way of continuing mentorship and daily support.

Along with Youth Reach, we will have PHA staff and volunteers from Zaporizhia who have already done so much to establish trust with these orphans. We know that this time will be a blessing for children who are already actively involved in the ongoing ministry of PHA. These are children who are regularly visiting Domik, and we will have an opportunity to deepen relationships and we pray that Christ will deepen their faith.

BELOKONNAYA FAMILY
THE JOURNEY TO ZAPORIZHIA

The Belokonnaya Family was recently featured in a Ukrainian Christian Magazine for their past and present ministry in Zaporizhia, Ukraine. Tanya Belokonnaya translated this article into English so that we could share the story of this amazing family. This is an expert from this article.

"From one man he made all the nations that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands…' (Acts 17:26)

Appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands…

More than 12 years passed since my family's first visit to Zaporizhia. During that time I haven't thought that my God puts a foundation for our today's ministry. We got acquainted with people, city and, of course, were dreaming about the spreading of Gospel through our ministry.

I won't be hiding anything: lots of things we were doing seemed not as fruitful as we were willing them to be.
During those years our main ministry was visiting the orphanage and after-classes activities with the orphans. Children are children – what results you may wait from them? With all our life we were trying to show them who is Jesus Christ and how Christian families live.

After three years our family came back from Zaporizhia to native Donetsk. And after 9 years more I had to make a hard decision. I don't want to talk right now about the reasons that lead to the decision of leaving Donetsk. As lots of people who were leaving the city those days I hoped that everything happening is just a bad dream and we will wake up soon. I and my family went to the side of the Azov Sea and was thinking that the time of our escape might have been used as recreation for the kids and after that we'll come back home. Days and weeks were passing… A bad dream was not ending. The next decision we had to make was to answer the question: 'What shall we do?' We decided to visit our old friends in Zaporizhia, and then – Jehovah-jireh (God provides).
Things that are hard to explain started on our way to Zaporizhia. My acquaintance, Elene Amatolyevna, called me and said that she and her younger daughter go abroad. 'My elder daughter has the key from our apartment, - she said. – You and your family may stay there as long as you need'.

I always thought that neither I nor my family did any good for Elena Anatolyevna. And this kind step from her side was an evidence of God's grace. Time was passing and I understood more that God is not limited by time and space. I understood that God foresees our life from the beginning and till the eternity.

People that haven't seen us for 9 years were really happy to meet us. This was surprising but consoling. Children that became parents themselves were recalling different stories from the past that we have already forgotten.

Here are some moments of meetings with the graduates of the orphanage.
Anya (whose daughter Angelina is 4 y.o. now) was excited to say: 'You are my parents, I have nobody except you!'
Sveta (her daughter is 18 months) confessed: 'I cried when I've heard that you came. I could not wait until we met!'
Olya (her son is in the 1st grade) told': 'I still have the Bible you've presented to me. And also thank you for the jeans and toothbrush you bought!
John (now lives and studies in the US and whose name was Sasha while he was an orphan) called me and said: 'Accept some money from me and my family. Believe me, it's nothing if comparing it to what you've given me 12 years ago. And I want you to know: I wait for the time when we'll be living together in the eternity!'

And there were many more touching and interesting episodes that gave my family the confidence that any time and place in our life may bring good fruits – for us and people surrounding us.

We rented an apartment in Zaporizhia and decided to pray about our ministry for Lord in this city. Like 12 years ago I went to the orphanage to see if it's still possible to communicate with the orphans.

I was amazed with what the director of the orphanage said: 'I've heard so many good things about your family and what you're doing. And finally we met!'

We never got acquainted with this lady and we haven't even seen each other. That's how we realized that God was preparing the ministry with the kids for our family, the kids with challenging fortune - pupils of the orphanages.

Now in Zaporizhia we try to get maximum benefit from our time. We rent the facility where we organize after-class lessons with the kids. The 6th, 7th and 8th formers come to our facility on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Friday evening we go to the orphanage. On Saturday morning we visit orphanage #2 and the same evening children from Volniansk orphanage come to our facility. On Sunday morning all the kids that stay in the orphanage #3 for the weekends come to Church. After the meeting we go to the facility we rent and communicate, play different games, cook, have some classes till the evening. And all this is not just our ministry – it's our life, filled with the glory and mercy of Jesus Christ.

Now I can say being totally sure: time and place where my family is staying is foreseen by God, for us, who already found Him, help those who are searching for Him.

He's close. Now is the time when we, knowing about our future life in the eternity of the Heavenly Kingdom, can seed God's love and gather the children of the Kingdom into His house."

Marina, Tanya, Andrey, and Polina Belokonnaya

REFUGEE UPDATE

The refugee need continues to be never ending and, in fact, always increasing. PHA is currently serving in 3 of the dormitory type refugee centers.

We continue to focus first on the children who make up the majority of people at the centers and who often attend the orphanages as boarding school during the week. We work to provide milk, food, medicine, and clothing for them, all the while stating that these blessings come from God and the love He has for them.

As these refugees see the necessities of life God's people are providing, they seek ways to grow closer to Him, and many have started attending church.

These weekly visits have led to relationships that have given us insight to many needs such as eyeglasses, refrigerators, and even baby clothes that are now being sewn by the children who are coming to Doimk.

Thanks to Marina for her devotion to teaching these young adults the valuable skills of sewing and service! Thank you to our supporters who continue to meet the needs of the refugees we serve.

AGGIE SHIRTS

We want to thank Aggieland Outfitters for their donation of Aggie t-shirts. Thanks to their donation, the Aggie Spirit is making its way to over 3000 orphans, refugees and others in Ukraine!

50 for 50

50 PEOPLE, $50 A MONTH FOR ORPHANS IN UKRAINE

When you join 50 for 50 kids like Natasha, Lera, Yegor, Maxim, Losah, Dasha, and Eugene get to keep coming to Domik. They get to keep being provided with meals, a wholesome place to hang out with friends, shower and laundry facilities, hands-on daily life skills, legal help, other needed resources. They get to continue to benefit from spiritual guidance and fellowship, a learning center with tutoring, and a place of safety and refuge.

We are looking for 50 individuals to donate $50 a month to keep Domik, our day center for older orphans in Zaporizhia, Ukraine, open and serving.

Program for Humanitarian Aid (PHA) is a ministry focused on building God's Kingdom in Ukraine through serving older orphans as well as those in need of humanitarian aid.
PHA's Transition Program for older orphans helps children transition from orphanage life into successful adulthood.

Through time spent at Domik, older orphans learn life skills such as how to cook, how to clean, how maintain a home, and how to make and use a budget. They also receive tutoring and legal help. Through a network of local Christians, they receive mentorship, learn about healthy relationships and, most importantly, are shown Christ's Love.

Ongoing costs associated with Domik that need your help:

Item:	Monthly Cost:	Number of $50 per month donors needed:
Food	$1,000	20
Rent	$500	10
Orphanage Work Supplies	$500	10
Supplies for Domik	$350	7
Utilities at Domik	$150	3
Totals:	**$2,500**	**50**

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!
TO DATE, 14 PEOPLE HAVE JOINED 50 FOR 50. WILL YOU JOIN TOO?

TO JOIN THE 50 FOR 50 CAMPAIGN

1. Go to the PHA website:
http://www.programforhumanitarianaid.org
2. Go to the "donate screen"
3. Click the yellow Donate button

4. Complete your donation information.

Be sure to check the **"Make This Recurring"** box so your donation will occur monthly.

Monthly donations can also be made by check.
Please email **pha@programforhumanitarianaid.org** to join 50 for 50 by check.
After you complete your donation information please email to let us know you have joined 50 for 50 so we can update our goal chart!

THANK YOU FOR JOINING 50 FOR 50!

AMAZON SMILE

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make a donation to:
Program for Humanitarian Aid
Get started
amazonsmile

Do you shop on Amazon?

If you do, you can use your same Amazon account to

support PHA with the purchases you already make at no cost to you!

Simply go to **smile.amazon.com** and select "Program For Humanitarian Aid" as your charitable organization. Amazon Smile will donate .5% of all your purchases to PHA!

#BEINGFAMILY

Included with your newsletter there is a picture of one of "our" kids. Please save this picture and pray for this child on a regular basis.

Pray for their wellbeing. Pray for their safety and happiness. Pray that as they continue to hear the word of God that they will come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Pray for them as you would pray for one of your own children or relatives.

This child's picture and story is one of 40 that we have mailed as a part of PHA's April Newsletter. We want to encourage you to share your "prayer selfie". Take a picture of you or you and your family and the picture of the child you are praying for in a place you regularly pray. Share the picture on Facebook with the hashtag: #beingfamily

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