

# The Parachute

"God sets the lonely in families"  
Psalm 68:6

Heart  for Orphans  
— Refuge for teens through God's love —

Heart for Orphans (H4O) ministers to the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of teen orphans in Ukraine by providing a refuge and permanent hope in small, Christ-centered, family-style homes.

Fall 2013 • Issue 10



## OUR NEWEST HOME – GRACE HOUSE! At Long Last, Prayers Are Answered!

After years of prayer, Grace House in Makeevka, Ukraine, is open! Through the partnership of Christian Missionary Society and Heart for Orphans, and the sponsorship of Grace Bible Church (GBC) in Virginia Beach, VA, a dream is now a reality. Grace House, a newly renovated apartment is home to five girls and their housemother Oksana. The apartment has been lovingly decorated and even includes a hand-painted 3-D mural.



For years, members of GBC prayed for a family-style home for orphan teens from the Ugliogorsk orphanage in Makeevka. They knew the hearts of these kids were broken and something had to be done. Through the years, almost 10, the church sent mission teams to work in the Ugliogorsk orphanage. The GBC teams got to know and love these kids. When the orphans from the Ugliogorsk orphanage had the opportunity to travel to the U.S., many of the GBC families hosted them in their own homes. Some of the kids were even adopted by these families. These teams knew that many of these sweet innocent faces, faces

they had come to know and love, would soon age-out of the orphanage and end up hardened, angry and bitter... and often a statistic, and they had to help.

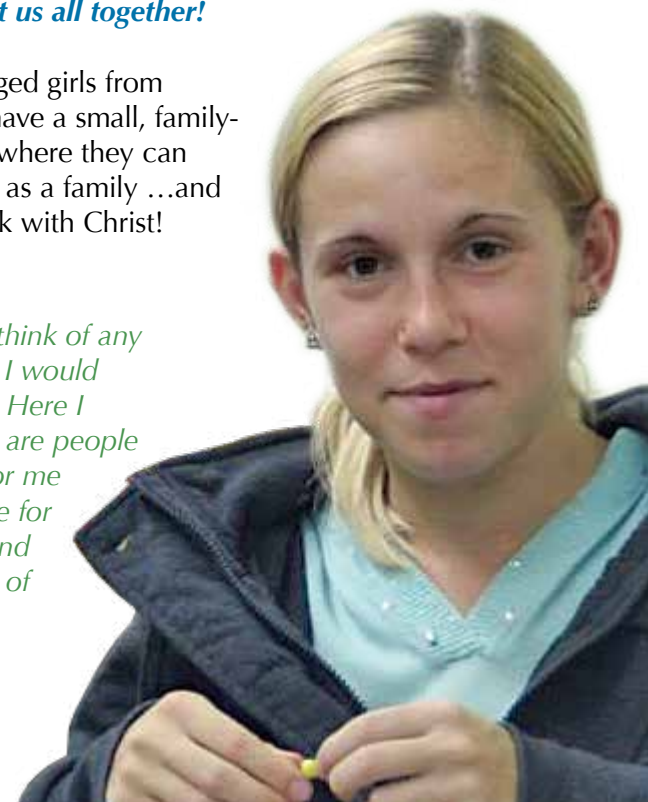
Eventually, GBC contacted Heart for Orphans. Could we work together to open a home for "their kids"? Over the next few years we prayed, planned, and scouted. God closed doors and opened others. And eventually He made a way....

We met Max and Ben, our new partners, who were working with kids in several orphanages and trade schools in the Makeevka region, including Ugliogorsk! What's more... they had close relationships with the very kids that the folks from GBC loved! ***It was clear... God had brought us all together!***

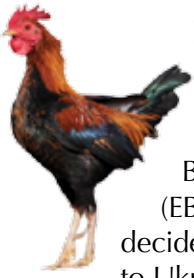
Now, teenaged girls from Makeevka have a small, family-style home where they can learn to live as a family ...and learn to walk with Christ!

*"I couldn't think of any other place I would want to be. Here I know there are people who care for me and love me for who I am and I feel a part of family."*

~ Nastya K



## The Eastern Baptist Association Shares Skills With Orphans



When the Eastern Baptist Association (EBA) of North Carolina decided to send a team to Ukraine with Heart for Orphans, they didn't realize they were an answer to a prayer. For many years' house parents Vova and Tonia, together with the teens from Mel and Ruth's Houses, prayed that God would grow their pig and chicken business so they could eventually be self-supporting. But, as hard as they worked, they barely broke even.

Meanwhile in North Carolina, Paula Matthis prayed her husband Steve would have the desire to go on the EBA mission trip. Steve was interested if he could somehow use his skills to help our orphans.



Nancy Hathaway (H4O) and House Parents Vova and Tonia



(Steve is a livestock expert. He has a PhD and teaches swine production at the community college.) God heard Vova's prayer and provided the answer – from the other side of the world! So the idea came to host a seminar in Ukraine on swine and chicken production!

In July, the EBA team arrived in Ukraine. As the ladies led a camp at an orphanage for disabled kids in Kherson, the men taught the seminar in Berdyansk. They taught Vova and the boys, as well as the men from church and local community. They not only learned theory, but everyone worked together to build a couple of structures for raising pigs and chickens (affectionately known as the PIG PALACE and

the CHICKEN PALACE). The EBA team continues to provide prayers, donations and advice to Vova.

Heart for Orphans vision is that one-day, each of our homes be self-supporting. It is our goal that donor dollars be used to open more homes and bring more orphans to God. Maybe, like Steve Matthis, God can use your skills to minister to orphans?



EBA built a new home for mama and baby pigs

## HEART FOR ORPHANS ACCREDITED BY NATIONAL FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY ORGANIZATION

Heart for Orphans is proud to announce it has been granted accreditation by Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA). ECFA accreditation is based on the Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship, which includes financial accountability, transparency, soundboard governance and ethical fundraising.

ECFA, founded in 1979, provides accreditation to leading Christian nonprofit organizations that faithfully demonstrate compliance to ECFA standards. Heart for Orphans joins a growing number of Christ-centered

churches and ministries across America, supported by 20 million donors, that has earned the right to display the ECFA seal. When an organization is accredited by ECFA, it demonstrates its willingness to follow the model of biblical accountability.

*"We are please to accredit a ministry committed to the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of teen orphans who might be otherwise facing a life of crime, addiction or prostitution."* Said Dan Busby, president of ECFA.



Enhancing Trust

For more information about ECFA, visit [www.ECFA.org](http://www.ECFA.org)



## Meet Ruslan!

Ruslan is a young man with a kind heart and a gentle disposition. Currently, he lives in Elisha's House while he completes trade school. Ruslan knows that God has called him to be an evangelist. But it wasn't always that way...



Ruslan grew up in Zaporizhzhia, the youngest of five children. When his father died, his mother fell apart and began to drink heavily. She neglected her children and they had no food. Soon Ruslan and his siblings were taken away by the state, and each was put into a different orphanage. Ruslan never saw them again. The anger, rejection, and hurt within him began to boil. He went from being obedient,

to being a vicious and cruel boy. He abused the younger children in the orphanage. He lashed out at authority. In his words, "I did evil for evil's sake."

When he entered trade school, he met several boys who lived in Mel's House. They told him how they met God and how He had changed them. They told him about the home that they lived in, and how they live as a big family with love and respect. When he came to visit he was shocked that so many teens lived together and loved each other! Soon he asked God to forgive him, and to change him. Ruslan met Christ and his heart changed. One thing he is happiest about... he has a new family.

Ruslan's advice... *"Dear friend, Don't ever think that no one needs you and you don't matter to God! God needs you! Call on Him! God loves you and accepts you just as you are! I am so happy and God has changed my life, and He has blessed me!"*



## Update! Elisha's House

Thanks to your generous gifts, land has been purchased! Blueprints are being prepared and groundbreaking is expected in spring 2014. Over \$41,000 has been raised for this project, but \$25,000 is still needed! Help us open a new transition home for orphaned boys!! You can change the life of an orphan ... for eternity!

**Want to help?... Contact our office for more information: 757.220.3457**

## 2014 VISION TRIP!

*Join us on a trip that may change your life!*

**Sept. 10 - 20, 2014**

For more information, email [lindsay@heartfororphans.com](mailto:lindsay@heartfororphans.com)

To learn more about who we are and what we do check out our **NEW** website:

[www.heartfororphans.com](http://www.heartfororphans.com)



## project WARMTH

Winter Clothing Drive for Ukraine  
Teens in H4O Group Homes 

Help provide warm coats to orphans in need! For those of you in the Tidewater/Williamsburg area:

*Coats need to be in new or excellent condition (no tears or stains) for 15-21 year olds, sizes small or medium.*

Please bring the clothes to Heart for Orphans office no later than **Friday, Dec. 20, at 4:00 p.m.**

**Questions?** Contact Lindsay by email or phone: [lindsay@heartfororphans.com](mailto:lindsay@heartfororphans.com) or (757) 220-3457.

*Thank you for your generosity!*

# Where are they now?

Orphans who have graduated from the Heart for Orphans Homes...



Natasha K (ESTHER'S HOUSE) and Sergey R gave birth to a daughter, Danela, on 9/4/13



Sasha P (MEL'S HOUSE) and Tanya were married 8/18/13



Vika O (RUTH'S HOUSE) and Volodymyr Y were married on 10/6/13. They are both missionaries in Kenya.



Dina G (ESTHER'S HOUSE) and Pavel M were married on 10/26/13.



Nadia Y will join Ira G (both from ESTHER'S HOUSE) in November in Khyrgyzstan as a missionary.

Volodya (MEL'S HOUSE) and Katya M (RUTH'S HOUSE) are expecting their first child in December 2013



...and our house parents, partners and support staff...



Houseparents Vitali and Tonya P (JOSHUA'S HOUSE) are expecting their third baby in January 2014



Houseparents Vova and Tonia P (MEL & RUTH'S HOUSES) gave birth to their fourth child, Nazar on 6/18/13



Field Director Dima K and Victoria were married on 9/7/13



Partner Alex and Vera Fedorchuk (Agape) gave birth to their fifth child, Alex on 8/28/13

## YOU CAN FULFILL THE GREAT COMMISSION!

By sponsoring a missionary!

Then Jesus came to them and said, *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* ~ Matthew 28:16-20

Heart for Orphans is so blessed to see many of our orphaned teens go on to become missionaries! Young people who once felt abandoned and rejected themselves are now sharing the Gospel with young people all over the world! You can be part of it! Your dollars are matched! By sponsoring Timothy or Iryna or Nadia or Oksana or Lena, you can see your dollars multiplied, and the Word of God going out to the ends of the earth.

