

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.

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Anya was abandoned by her mother at the age of 14. Now an orphan and still a child, Anya's heart was broken and feelings of loneliness, neglect, and self-doubt replaced feelings of happiness, love, and family.

With no one to turn to, Anya was uncertain of her future and what lay ahead, but Anya's life would soon turn around. After graduating from the orphanage, Anya was invited by a friend to stay at Ruth's House, a Heart for Orphans Transition Home, for the summer. Since then her life has not been the same.

Anya is just one example of what the Heart for Orphans staff sees in Ukraine on a daily basis. Children's lives turned upside down because their own family cannot take care of them. Yet family is what keeps us all going. Families are the glue to our existence...the support system we all crave and need.

The minute Anya walked into Ruth's House she knew she was home. "I immediately felt welcomed," said Anya, remembering how house parents Tonia and Vova greeted her. "They showed me I was important. They cared for and loved me with patience and the understanding I needed." Anya loves both Tonia and Vova like they were her own parents. She even calls them "mama and papa" and has taken their last name! The love Tonia and Vova share with each other, and with the orphans who live there, has profoundly affected this 19 year old. One day she, too, would love to be a housemother just like Tonia!

Anya loves to cook for family and guests. "Many times, she prepares something special just for Vova and me, which is such a treat," said Tonia. Anya is also part of the puppet ministry at church. She records the voices of the puppets and then as a puppeteer brings them to life, all because she loves bringing smiles to the faces of children. Additionally, Anya enjoys going to summer camp and helping with the children in any way she can. Needless to say, Anya loves children!

Anya is a sweet, humble girl who loves to help others without calling attention to herself. She has come to learn that when you are loved and when you belong, you stop being an orphan.



Our Transition Home Program is the missing link in an orphans' life. Here they learn about family and what it truly means to be loved. It's a ripple effect because now they want to share this love. They want to give back which in essence has become the seed that keeps on giving.

Roma Frye, a Ukrainian-American, is a member of the Heart for Orphans staff.

"The harvest you reap reveals the seed that was planted"

GALATIANS 6:8 Passion Translation



When I look back over the past 15 years, I am in awe of what God has done! What began as a passion to help orphans, with little more than a vision and much prayer, has blossomed into a ministry that has helped hundreds of orphaned kids. From our early days of helping older orphans find adoptive families, to our teen Transition Home Program in Ukraine today, it has grown to something that only God could have done.

Heart for Orphans has sponsored 10 Transition Homes through the years, and more than 300 kids have experienced a healthy family life, most for the very first time. Now, we are into our fourth "generation" of kids who have come through our homes. It is remarkable to see how many have changed the trajectory of their lives. Some have gone on to college or seminary, while others are working in ministry in Ukraine, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, and India. Many have married and

are raising young families of their own. All because God touched their lives with loving house parents who showed them their life had meaning and they, too, could have a future!





We are so excited to see our first home in Kenya open this summer! Our partners there, Volodymyr and Vika, have been working with street kids for years. What's more, Vika is one of our own! She lived in Ruth's House as a young teen. What a joy it is to see her mature and come full circle sharing the love she received with other orphans. Another boys' home is due to open in Ukraine this fall, and just last month, Anastasia's House opened in eastern Ukraine. There are so many orphaned kids who need help everywhere, and so many opportunities to open Transition Homes in other areas, both within Ukraine and in other countries. As God leads us and provides the resources, we will continue.

Nancy Hathaway is the Director and Founder of Heart for Orphans.

## WELCOME

## **LUBA**

E ver since Luba was a child, she has dreamed of becoming a teacher so she could inspire kids. To her, it does not matter whether they come from a home or an orphanage. Kids are kids! Luba began volunteering with Heart for Orphans in 2014 and joined the Ukrainian staff this past May. She said she wants to serve kids with the gifts God gave her. Luba co-leads the Orphan Outreach team in Kirovograd. She is also an active volunteer in her church.

Luba received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theology and Christian Education in 2011 followed by a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Ukrainian Language and Literature in 2016. Welcome Luba!









Heart for Orphans is excited to announce the opening of Anastasia's House, a new home for orphaned girls in eastern Ukraine! The name is truly fitting as Anastasia means "resurrection" or "new life", which is at the very heart and mission of our Transition Home Program.

We are proud that Natasha, once an orphan herself, and her husband, Sergey, will be the house parents of Anastasia's House. Many of you may remember Natasha, as she is one of our own. When Natasha aged out of the orphanage, she came to

live at Esther's House where she grew very close to her housemother, Nadyezhda Ivanovna. Because of Nadyezhda's sympathetic nature, her guidance, and the loving care she gave the girl's at Esther's House, Natasha decided that she wanted to follow in her footsteps.

Her dream became reality in August when she and Sergey opened the doors at Anastasia's House to three teenage girls. The couple met the girls when they, with members of their church, delivered



food to the children at the orphanage because there was never enough to eat. Over time, the couple connected with the girls and when they aged out of the orphanage and had no place to go, Natasha and Sergey welcomed them.

Heart for Orphans has been blessed to see so many orphans who once lived in our homes, grow up and want to give back, just as others gave to them when they were vulnerable. Isn't that the way it should be?



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2016 4pm - 8pm

## THE LIVE AUCTION ITEMS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

The count down is on for this year's Hands Touching Hearts fundraiser! Mark your calendars for October 1st as this will be another unforgettable event!

Once again, an elegant private home in Charles City with breathtaking views of the river will be our venue. Our guests will be treated to a reception on the lawn, featuring grilled oysters, as they sip wine and enjoy the sounds of a jazz quartet. A silent auction with many appealing items will be offered. A sumptuous dinner follows in the tent, prepared by well-known local chef, Steve Flanary. Next is an inspiring program, followed by a fun-filled live auction.

If you are interested in attending this annual fundraiser as a guest, or having your business be a sponsor, please email Roma Frye at roma@heartfororphans.com.







2 Round-Trip Tickets on Southwest Airlines to be used in the continental U.S. and San Juan – Your first and second bags fly free!



Join Heart for Orphans' Director and Founder, Nancy Hathaway, for a journey of a lifetime! On October 19th, Nancy will lead a group of visionaries to Ukraine. This 12-day trip will provide an experience unlike any other. The team will have the opportunity to see first hand the difference Heart for Orphans is making in the life of an orphaned child. Some of the highlights... visiting Heart for Orphans' Transition Homes and meeting our incredible house parents and teens, loving on baby's at the baby houses, and playing with children at the orphanages. This trip will give you an overview of who we are, what we do and why we do it. Why go? Because you will never be the same!

For more information, call Lindsay at 757-220-3457 or email info@heartfororphans.com







