

# Hope Update

May 10 2003

## Our Vision

Mortality rates for children in orphanages are significantly higher than for those in the general population. Many that survive the institutional experience fail to integrate into society. Scripture makes clear that caring for the fatherless is a priority for believers. Our goal is to conduct projects that will impact the outcome for the children, and to raise the status of the orphan in the eyes of the Church and the world to a level consistent with Biblical principles.

## Dear Friends & Partners in Ministry,

This update is mainly devoted to highlights of last week's field visit to Russia. A more detailed report will be posted soon on the website. Our thanks for your continued care and support.

In His service,

*Stephen & Sue Smith*

### Assessment - Special Orphanage #7 Moscow

Supported by EuroVangelism and the Brotherhood of Compassion, this facility cares for HIV positive orphans. Because of the excellent standard of care and positive spiritual influence, most of the babies become HIV negative by age 3. A new wing of the building is being renovated to expand the capacity from 37 to 80. While the ministry of health is funding the building work, we will need a large amount of equipment and furnishing to complete the expansion.



**Special Orphanage #7**  
A few babies with HIV receive excellent care.

### Assessment - Special Daycare #24 Krasnodar

This facility is 5 year experiment sponsored by the ministry of health. The centre provides care programs for disabled children, enabling their parents to continue caring for them at home rather than placing them in an institution. The director is a member of Grace Church, planted by our friends Burt & Marilyn Dumerton. The centre operates to its current capacity of 91. The Ministry has made the adjacent building available for expansion - it will need major renovation.

## Teaching at Grace Church, Krasnodar

It was a privilege to speak on God's Heart for the Orphan, a topic rarely explored in Russian Churches. I was encouraged at the positive response and very moved that the congregation spontaneously collected a financial gift for the work in Haiti!

## Prayer Items

1. Thanks for successful field visit to Russia.
2. Continue to develop good relations with new ministry partners - EuroAid & Brotherhood of Compassion in Moscow, Grace Church in Krasnodar.
3. Personal support - that God would meet our family's needs soon so we'll be free to initiate more projects.
4. Safety and wisdom for the next field visit to Haiti, May 12 to 18.

## OrphanFacts

**Globally, there are currently 16 million orphans.  
By 2013 that number is predicted to rise to 32 million.**

## Financial Update

Please prayerfully consider investing in the following needs:

1. **Personal Support** – to meet our family needs we urgently need \$2,000 in new monthly support.
2. **Software** – we would like to further develop and expand the **orphans.ca** website and need to invest about \$400 in software.
3. **Digital Camera** – To properly record assessment visits and projects. For a good one, we need to spend about \$700.
4. **Field Visit, North Korea** – The DPRK government has invited **GAiN** to work with 6 orphanages. The initial assessment visit will cost \$3,000. This is an opportunity to invest in one of the few remaining closed countries. The investment would be a real step of faith since we cannot predict how far we may be able to progress this project.

Please let us know if you have any questions about our ministry.

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