

News from Ukraine

Stepan & Oksana Terletsky

Mercy Truck Ukraine Dental Care Ministry

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Some stories from our trips...

Village Udajczy, Chernigov region, 170 km, Infant Boarding School, School for Mentally-Retarded



from the left top...Eric, Sharol & Martina, Dr.Roman, Dr.Inessa, Dr. Kshyusha, Dr.Inna, Oksana T, Oles Sh, Dima, Stepan T & children from the orphanage

Children. It was a very blessed and beneficial time of ministry. Eric, Martina Hill and Sherol were with us on this trip. They were a great help, support, and encouragement for Dental service. There are a total of 60 children in the boarding school. The children are 5 to 17 years old and are full orphans. **Most of them have slow mental development and many have physical defects** (harelip, cleft palate). Some of the teenagers (15-17 years old) are the same height as children who are 7-8 years old. They do not have a dentist in the boarding school or even in the village. **Therefore, the arrival of the**

dental service was an answer to their need. Some of these children have never visited a dentist! They clean their teeth very seldom and often do not even have a tooth brush. Those who clean their teeth, change the toothbrush only once a year.

This group of children, even those who are higher functioning, has very little chance to get an education. Because they are “full” orphans, the educational institution must cover the expenses for their education, accommodation, and meals. Therefore, the educational institutions reject such children in order to avoid responsibility for the costs. After leaving the boarding school, the youth do not know how to live



At the end of ministry, we brought all of children together...Children and teaches were listening message of Gospel and testimonies.

independently. They become alcoholics or addicts; girls become pregnant; others commit crimes and go to prison. **We treated not only their teeth but also their hearts. We showed them a lot of warmth and attention. We told about God's love and prayed for them.** God laid it on Eric's heart to interview the children and ask what each of them would like to receive as a gift... Some children didn't even know what they would like to receive because nobody has ever asked them before. Their answers were simple: a car, a doll, earrings, sneakers, a radio in order to listen music. Eric, Martina and Sherol gave them presents as they were able.

Khotiv – Evangelism with the Local Church. We were able to participate in the joint evangelistic program with other doctors and the church for the local population. We managed to examine about 50 people and treat 38. Many received consultations from the doctors, therapists, pediatricians and psychologists, as well as, many citizens of the village received free reading glasses from us.

Vorzel – Baby Orphanage. Children are from 0 up to 6 years old in this boarding school. With God’s help, we examined all 60 children, and we treated 35 of them. We managed to be a great support for the local Baptist church, which ministers to the children. **We believe that we were the bridge between the church and employees of the boarding school.**

Kolenczy – Evangelical Project with the Church. This settlement is located not far from Chernobyl zone. We are glad the God gave us the opportunity to serve in this village, where there are a lot of the needy and poor people. **There are also certain strong holds and people have very cautious attitude to listening of Gospel.** We tried to show God's love for these people in practical ways in order to melt the ice in their hearts. We examined 48 people and treated 39. For a village with the population of 200 people, this is a great progress. **We hope that God will bring up the seed that we sowed.**



Kiev Dental Clinics– We organized several trips of children into different clinics of Kiev and helped them to see doctors. Mainly these are the dental clinics of the doctors who work with us from time to time on short outreaches around Ukraine. We are grateful to God for doctors and the sacrifice of their time and skills.

This boy name Nikolay is a 15 years old boy, who had very serious problem with his teeth, without treatment he would lose a 4 teeth. One of dentist was willing to invite him to come to his clinic in Kyiv and treat his teeth there. We also organized trip for another 10 tenagers who had serious teeth problems too. Several dental clinics in Kyiv agreed to accept and treat them for free. God is so good!

Statistics for year 2011 / Total:

Exam – 1165	Extraction – 254
Appointment – 945	Root canal - 86
Filling - 2054	Consultation – 560
Cleaning teeth by hygienist – 160	

The most important things we try to bring Gospel and God’s love in practical way for kids and adults, needy people, and those things we not count ☺

We really Praise and thank God for His work in people’s hearts. Without His help and yours, this ministry would not be possible; it is His ministry and our joy to do it with you!

**With love and affection
in the name of Jesus,
Stepan, Oksana & Elianna**



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