



# Mission to Ukraine

*Orphanage Ministry*

August 6, 2010

*We serve the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of women with crisis pregnancies, and their children, children with special needs and their families, and orphans in Ukraine with the love of Christ.*

## Forgotten No More...

by Oksana Shulyak,  
Head of MTU Disability Department

### Fight for the Boys

“See our boys first and then decide if you want to work with them”, said the director of the Romaniv Orphanage for the boys with disabilities, pretty confident that we wouldn’t. When I saw a crowd of mentally retarded, physically deformed, dirty, smelly, neglected boys in small, dull rooms doing nothing, my heart broke. “That’s where God wants us to be”, I heard in my mind. The same words resounded in the hearts of our MTU team and we made a decision to come on weekly basis. The director was surprised by our decision, but welcomed it. Thus began our joint fight for the boys’ well-being and dignity.

### Challenging Task

Although at first our task seemed challenging and somewhat unavailing, as the boys had never been taught or stimulated by any organized activity, God’s guidance, consistency, and care made their way. The effect of Bible lessons, games, and creative work on the boys inspired both the director and the head teacher with the hope and desire to develop the orphanage and expect more of the boys in their care.

### Anything You Want, Ladies...

Every time the MTU team wanted to try a new “wild” idea, like doing beading with the boys, taking a group of them to an overnight camp, doing a day camp, the director’s eyes would

Mission to Ukraine wants to say a special thank you to all the Ukrainian and American hearts that pray for the boys, travel long distances to touch their lives, and who love them as children of the Most High!



Older boys having snack outside

open wide with surprise, but he would say: “Anything you want, ladies, if it is good for the boys!” It was awesome to witness the changes: the boys’ eyes became bright and clear nourished by God’s love; smiles appeared on their faces because they felt cared for. They simply appreciated their cries being heard.

### Supernatural ?!

For the time of God’s presence at the orphanage, things began to happen that had never happened before: one of the boys was taken home by his biological family; another one was adopted by an American family, a third was adopted by the family of a Ukrainian volunteer, who would come with us on our weekly trips (more of his story at [www.worldnextdoor.org/2010/06/welcome-home/](http://www.worldnextdoor.org/2010/06/welcome-home/)). American volunteers joined Ukrainian teams to do day camps for the boys ([Enjoy the pictures of the day camp 2010 on our FB page](#)).

It is pure joy to see the boys’ attempts to speak and pray to God,

their excitement when God’s love touches them. We are privileged to witness numerous blessings in this once forgotten place, which is not forgotten any more...

### Help From God's Resources

And the greatest reward in this work is hearing the words of the director: “The work you are doing here is definitely God’s work!” God inspired him to regroup the boys and to create a beautiful classroom with colorful furniture for them to be able to learn and have activities. Now Vasily wants to add gym and toilets to the main building and also to build a summer playground with shelter and toilets. It will allow to do both sport and educational activities with the boys regardless of the weather and will make life skills lessons more effective. To save money, the director is using his staff men to do the construction. The funds he needs will cover only building materials about \$3000.

He is also looking for funding for winter boots for the boys (\$3000). Unfortunately, the government doesn’t provide for these needs and we are looking for help from God’s resources.

If you feel God tugging on your heart to help these boys, please send a contribution payable to Mission to Ukraine, 1033 3rd Ave., Suite 105, Carmel, IN 46032. Designate it for Romaniv.