

# **Brenna Engle Foundation**

Have FAITH, Provide HOPE, Demonstrate LOVE

"Our 13th Year of Service to Underprivileged Children"

January 1, 2019

#### Dear friends,

We rejoice in the truth, for the truth sets us free! We enter the new year with renewed confidence in our work and vision for the Brenna Engle Foundation. 2018 was difficult in many ways, and now we are focusing on new activities, new life, and we hope that you will take time to read our news. I will be brief, because in less than two hours we will be on our way to JFK airport heading to Ukraine.



#### **Brenna's Home - UKRAINE**

Our work at Brenna's Home in Lutsk has taken on a new look. Our former assistant housemother, Oksana, is back and is out resident caretaker, mentor to girls, and housekeeper. We are happy to have her on our staff! Also, Lilya, who started at Brenna;s Home 10 years ago, came back in early June after turning 18. Here are Oksana (left) and Lilya (right).





Lilya has completed three years of cooking school, is now doing her practicum, and will graduate in March. We are proud of her.

In June, Golgotha Church staff started a day program for needy children. They used our home three days each week for feeding the children (about 15) and having lessons, and singing, craft activities, and other special events. When school started, this program began meeting on Saturdays. Here are some pictures of the day program.



The second program is that Brenna's Home is now home to five 18-year-old girls that aged out of the orphanage system. We are happy to have Natalia,









Vika, Yulina, Ira, and Lida living at Brenna's

Home while they further they education and develop practical living skills. They are guided by Iryna Levtsenyuk from Golgotha Church and some of the young women from the church.

### Brenna's Hope-Ethiopia



## **Education Sponsorships in Tigrai Province**

We work with Hope Community Services in Northern Ethiopia to provide monthly support for vulnerable young women to help them complete high school and university programs. For 2018-19 we are sponsoring 55 university students and 7 high school students. Some of the university students are girls we supported in high school, so we are happy to continue to provide opportunities for them. In addition, we sponsor four girls who were raped in their early to mid-teens. Our support helps them with counseling and education services. Sponsorships for high school girls and rape victims is \$25/month and for university students is



\$20/month. We are desperately in need of sponsors for these girls, so we do not have to reduce our commitment. These are some of our university students at Mekelle University.

### Central Ethiopia - Debre Zeit

We have been sponsoring a family of four girls and their single mother for the past year. We are thrilled to have Henok and Enat helping to care for them. This past November, we agreed to sponsor two brothers in another family in Nazreth. Here is a picture of Enat with all those we sponsor here. These sponsorships are \$35/ month.



# BRENNA'S BASEMENT

#### Brenna's Basement - New York

We continue to provide clothing and small household items to needy families in the Mid-Hudson Valley. We receive referrals from more than 10 local agencies as well as word-of-mouth. Items in the basement are given away without charge. Our biggest continued need is for boys clothes, and sheets, towels, and household items, especially kitchenware. During 2018, we logged over 230 visitors to Brenna's Basement. We were also able to assist four families with Christmas presents.

# Some words about financial contributions...

**Hudson Valley FCU Members** If you don't like writing checks, you can do member-to-member transfers to the Brenna Engle Foundation. Contact us for more information and account details.

**PayPal Giving Fund** Donors who have a PayPal account or eBay sellers can donate through PayPal Giving Fund at no charge to donor or recipient. The Brenna Engle Foundation is an approved not-for-profit to benefit from this service. This service is available through our website.

**JustGive.org** Online donations can also be made from our website using the JustGive donation button. These donations carry a 4 1/2% service fee.

**Billpay** Many of our regular donors utilize a Billpay system through their financial institution for regular payments. If you are able to participate in such a program, we encourage you to do so. It eliminates the need to send out reminders.

Automatic Transfer If your financial institution provides you the opportunity to set up regular, automatic deductions and transfers, we can provide you with our routing and account number to set up regular transfers each month. Just ask us! It saves everyone from dealing with checks.

We have been blessed year after year with what we need, and this has allowed our work to grow and prosper. When we receive extra gifts, it enables us to think about expanding what we do. If you are in a position to provide significant resources, or are willing to include the Brenna Engle Foundation in your estate planning, please contact us.



A special thanks to Thrivent Financial and to members that designate the Brenna Engle Foundation to receive Thrivent CHOICE Dollars.

DID YOU KNOW? If you shop on Amazon.com, you can use the Amazon Smile option to select the Brenna Engle Foundation and we will receive a percentage from every purchase.

All US donations are tax-deductible. Checks should be payable to "Brenna Engle Foundation" and sent to 3 Albert Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

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