Brenna Engle Foundation

February 2012 Newsletter

Dear Friends and Family:

In the book of James (3:18), it says "Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness." We are called to be peacemakers, and caring for children and orphans is one way that we have been led to "sow peace" in this world. We are grateful to see the rewards and the "harvest of righteousness" in the lives of the children at Brenna's Home. We see the growth in each child-physically, emotionally, and spiritually. We are not able to guarantee the end results of our labors, but it is encouraging to see results from the seeds that have been sown.

Since we returned from our trip in January, Ukraine and much of Eastern Europe experienced three weeks of incredibly bitter cold- ranging from 0 to -25F degrees. Most of the schools were closed during this time, and we are thankful that Brenna's Home remained a place of warmth. We know of many people and friends who struggled to stay warm during this time. The beginning of the year is a time with many birthdays at Brenna's Home. There have been three since we returned.



Here is a picture of Yulia from out most recent trip. She has been in Brenna's Home longer than any of the other children. Yulia just had her 10th birthday on March 3rd. She came to us over five years ago when she was just 4 years old.





To the right, Yulia at age 4 (Yulia is wearing one of Brenna's shirts in these photos.) Vala taught her to pray!

We had two other recent birthdays since we returned from our trip: Vasia turned 15 on January 24th. We were so encouraged to hear from Vala this week that he attended a Youth conference in Kiev along with Kolya and Vania and made a decision to follow Jesus at that conference! Praise God! He has been very active in the church Youth Group. Here is a picture of Vasia at church working on the "soundboard".





Kolya, our oldest, turned 18 on February 23rd. We are so proud of him! He is in college

studying computer services. He has become a leader in the church as well as an excellent example for the other children at Brenna's Home. He is very helpful to the housemothers in Brenna's home with cooking, cleaning up and helping with the younger children.

Below we have added some more photos of the "Special Needs Orphanage" when we took the children of Brenna's Home to visit in January.



The toddlers at the orphanage all lined up to receive their slippers and stuffed animals.



Here are two of them after they received their slippers and stuffed animals.



This picture shows Kolya and Yulia helping the toddlers put on their new slippers.



Vala, the housemother from Brenna's Home is shown here putting slippers on one of the girls.



All three of the oldest boys have all been very active in church. Vala just sent us this photo of Vanya helping out at Youth Group! He looks so grown up! (age 16)

JANUARY 2012 (Rich, Donna, Emily, the housemothers and all 9 children). A very big THANK YOU to all of you who continue to pray for these children, send support and donations of clothing and items for us to bring on our trips! We appreciate you who are "partners in sowing the seeds of peace" in Ukraine.

Love, Rich and Donna

If you wish to respond, please contact:

richengle@aol.com (Rich) or DBRN1234@aol.com (Donna).

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