

Global Impact Update

Partnering in the Gospel Part 2

Last November we packed a container for Youth for Christ Belarus just before I went to Eastern Europe and visited. I was able to see firsthand how poverty, alcoholism and lack of government help was putting thousands of families at risk. This included the hundreds of kids that YFC is reaching out to through their Day Centres. The DC's are a place for kids to go after school where they are fed, helped with their homework and taught about a God who loves them. Kid's lives are transformed through these acts of love and through encouragement, in a world where they have little hope, and little support from their broken homes and parents. What a joy it was to get a report back from Sergey, the National Director, about the container and how it has impacted many lives. The first two stories are sad but not uncommon, and these are just a few from the many we could have received about the impact. What a joy and privilege as well to partner in the gospel with them – to work together to support and encourage kids and families at risk and let them know about a Saviour who can give them hope. Please pray for them as you read.



Family of girls from DC Tomashevich Vicky.

Vika comes to our Day Care Center in Rozhanka with her brother for the second year. The Tomashevich family consists of a father, mother and 4 children. The eldest child of Tatiana's mother from her first marriage, the girl's father died tragically (the car made a run-in at night, death). The remaining three children from the second marriage. The family lives in a dorm, occupy two rooms. Living conditions are deplorable. Father works at a local farm, mother - a cleaner at the plant. Salaries are small, money is not enough, especially alcohol abuse (the family is in a socially dangerous position). The family is very grateful for the help to the children. Children were able to choose clothes, shoes that are very expensive, parents rarely buy clothes. Money is not always enough even for food. Usually, such children are mocked at school because they are dressed poorly and cannot afford to buy high-quality, beautiful clothes. Having received the help, children were delighted!

Natalya, coordinator of the DC, being at the same time a foster parent for 7 children, whose parents are deprived of parental rights or not at all, thanks for the opportunity to dress these children.

And tells the **story of Valeria** (with a black sweater in her hands).

Valerie is 15 years old. A few years ago, she and her sisters came to a shelter when parents wanted to be deprived of parental rights, but then the parents regained their rights and corrected. And then, in November 2018, their mother, unfortunately, was deprived of parental rights and put in prison, and the girls again went to the shelter. The father died two years ago and the elder brother took all the male care if possible until he was in prison himself.

Today, Valeria, lives in a family-type state house and receives an allowance which is enough for food and the purchase of soap and stationery. She was very happy with the new sweaters and scarves - she felt she was not a flawed child. Visiting the DC, hearing the Word of God, Valeria thinks about her actions, plans for the future life, learn to replace aggression with mercy, learn to forgive and do good deeds.



Day Center is held 2 times a week in **Zhabinka church**. Children who attend the day center, 16 people. Our guys love to play sports, play football, ride bicycles, and now we are mastering a new sport, field hockey. All this is due to the fact that we received humanitarian aid for our children from brothers and sisters from Canada. We also received a completely new clothes, which the children from the DC have been trying on with pleasure and are now wearing.



We, the **volunteers of the Day Center (DC) "Transfiguration"**, want to express our deep gratitude to our sponsors for carefully, lovingly packaged humanitarian aid, for good quality things, and especially for materials for creativity. The budget of DC is designed in such a way that a small percentage of the total amount can be spent on creativity, because the main focus is on the purchase of food products. Therefore, when opening the boxes, the volunteers jumped from happiness when they saw boxes with threads, ribbons, a sewing machine and office supplies. Several classes have already taken place where we were able to apply these things in the art classes: we had the opportunity to learn new types of art, various techniques.

Thank you for your prayers and partnership that allow me to be involved in this kind of work. It truly is the Lord's work and it is such a privilege to be a part of it! YFC Belarus saw such impact that they would like to bring in another container in 2020 to continue to strengthen and expand their outreach, so more kids and families can hear about Jesus, the only one who can bring true hope. If the Lord moves you to give towards this next container you can make a gift through the Container Shipment Fund through this link:

<https://www.yfcvictoria.com/global-impact.html>

Many blessings to you.



