



President with Special Needs Infant

The Vancouver Branch of Ukrainian Canadian Social Services is a group of volunteers who work to assist socially underprivileged orphans and families in Western and Eastern Ukraine and to provide support and assistance to many needy families in BC.

Our accomplishments for the past 2011 year were many, including helping children in BC as well as in Ukraine:

- A child from Maple Ridge was able to attend a one month Summer Day Camp, thanks to a small donation by our organization.
- 26 parcels were shipped from Vancouver to both Eastern and Western Ukraine. Throughout the months of January – November. Clothing, shoes, winter wear, sheets, bar soap, and towels were sent to several orphanages and needy families with handicapped, special needs and sick children.
- Our organization donated 2 modern Electric Infant Weigh Scales to a hospital in Ternopil for sick children
- We also donated 3 large bolts of flannel material, which will be used for making sheets and blankets by the Nurses
- Among several of the other boarding schools, hospitals and orphanages we also donated children’s vitamins, cold medicines, nose drops, ear drops, flu vaccines and antibiotics that were all in great need.



Children at Orphanage



Dr. D Protskiv at the Maternity and New Born Children’s Hospital in Ternopil

OCTOBER 2011 UKRAINE TRIP

This October, I was fortunate to take a trip to Ukraine. I was able to visit 4 different children’s institutions; a school for hearing impaired and special needs children, a school for blind children, a hospital for sick children, and an orphanage in Ternopil. These visits and tours would not have been possible if not for the guidance of Dr. Protskiv, Head Administrator and Doctor at the “Maternity and New Born Children’s Hospital in Ternopil. It was a heart-breaking

and eye-opening experience. A large percent of the children I saw and had the opportunity to visit were new born to the ages 15, many children were brought to these institutions and left, **ABANODOND** by their parents and families as they simply can not afford to care for the child’s needs or impairments. Everything in these institutions is used and very old and they do not receive any government funding at all. These institutions need help!

I also had the opportunity to visit several

primary schools in different villages. For a child to attend just one year at these schools their families must pay well over \$300.00. Just recently Ukraine has announced that they will implement the teaching of English into their schools.



Deaf and Blind Boarding School for Teenagers

Starting in January 2012 from grade one onward. The people in these villages are poor, the economy is poor and the need is great. I have a very real sense of what the needs are and how we can make a difference.



Special Needs Children

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I would like to thank each and everyone who contributed and/or participated in any way to help with these huge accomplishments to help those in need. We have received many heartfelt thank you letters and I know we all want to do more and 2012 will give us that opportunity. I look forward to your continued support and enthusiasm. For anyone looking for an opportunity to help, please consider joining our dedicated group of members. We all sincerely want to help the children, our

group meets regularly to discuss the needs and what we can do to help.

In the upcoming 2012 year we will be having a Fund Raiser to help our depleting financial situation so we can continue our work to help all those in need. Look for details to follow in early 2012. If you are interested in helping to coordinate this event, please contact Joy at 604-477-0037.

Joy Richmond, President

HOW YOU CAN HELP

You can also help by donating money, children's clothing, sheets, towels, shoes, English story books and **your time**. With the funds collected we can ensure that any items needed such as medications, medical instruments, blankets and other basic and very important necessities are acquired. Please call me, **Joy Richmond, President**

UCSS Vancouver Branch, 604-477-0037. If you have any questions, suggestions, donations or time to help. Our mailing address is 12785 227 A Street, Maple Ridge, BC, V2X 2V8. UCSS is a registered charity and tax receipts will be issued – BN 891743973.

**Best Wishes to all for a Happy Healthy New Year!
Let's make 2012 the best year yet!**