



An abandoned baby in the Hospital on Titova Street.

Mulberry International Crimean Children's Ministries

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Dear Friends,

Mulberry International is adopting Philippians 3:13 as our theme for 2013. "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal."

We've learned some valuable lessons and we feel we are now in a very strong position for the future. I will give a brief update on each of our ministries.

Thanks to all of you for your prayers and financial support. Children's lives are being impacted and you make it possible.

**Don't grow weary.
Charles**

Foster Families

There are currently seven foster families in Mulberry's ministry. The number of foster children in each ranges from two to twelve. Additionally, five families have applied for assistance. These new families are smaller, fostering one or two children.

Mulberry feels the smaller family size is a better, more sustainable model. This will be an emphasis going forward. We are still committed to supporting our large families, just shifting our focus. (over)

A local council has been established to review applications for support. This council will make recommendations after thoroughly reviewing each family's spiritual and financial position. Support may be in a form other than monthly financial support.

This local control and accountability will lead to better utilization of Mulberry resources.

Abandoned Baby Wards

Mulberry will continue to emphasize placing workers in Abandoned Baby Wards. Two workers in Simferopol regularly visit the three major hospitals for children. This ministry continues to reach some of Ukraine's most unfortunate children. Being in Simferopol, we are able to monitor this ministry and see the results.

We are discussing a partnership with a local church in Sevastopol, the largest city in Crimea and home of a large naval base for both Ukraine and Russia. The local church will recruit a worker and provide accountability. We will search for more partners as we extend this ministry into other large cities.

Orphan Care Partnerships

Mulberry has identified several other ministries working with Ukrainian orphanages, adoption and foster care. Each of these ministries brings its own unique approach to ministry. The opportunity for a new abandoned baby work in Sevastopol and the applications for support from families interested in foster care both resulted from an orphan care conference, co-sponsored by Mulberry.

Plans in 2013 include a seminar on the long-term effects of life in an orphanage and the new baby ministry in Sevastopol.

Legal Issues

While there is no way to predict what the Ukrainian court system will do, we are definitely nearing the end of this saga. A final ruling is expected soon.

Matters for Prayer

Praises-

- God has given us a new vision in each area of our ministry.**
- Local Christians have agreed to serve as a Mulberry council.**
- Mulberry and other ministries are getting access to speak in Ukrainian churches.**

Requests-

- God to raise up Ukrainian Christian families willing to provide foster care.**
- Abandoned baby ministry partners in more Crimean cities.**

Coming Events/Trips

Please contact us if you are interested in a visit to Ukraine. We have two construction projects and could use a worker team. Exploratory trips can be arranged to fit your schedule.

Mulberry International is a 501(c)3 organization. Tax deductible donations can be made by clicking on "Donate" in the quick link box above, or mailed to:
Mulberry International, PO Box 43623, Louisville, KY 40253
(502)-267-1009