



# LAMB International

LEADERSHIP ACTIVATING MINISTRY

October 17, 2010

## **From Kyrgyzstan to Ukraine**

It is difficult to know where to begin to update on the time in Kyrgyzstan and start the information sharing for our time in Ukraine. So much has happened and there is yet so much we want to do and share with our friends in these countries.

1. **Moscow Airport: The Somalians are still there** – They are now down to 7 total there now. They started with many more. Here is the story. Someone came to Somalia and told them they would get them safe passage to Canada where they would be accepted as refugees. They had to pay this person between \$2,000 and \$4,000 each for this passage. Papers seemed legitimate and they all paid for this passage. Tickets were purchased for them to travel to a “safe” country and then on into Moscow. At the Moscow airport, they were dumped – told to sit in a certain area and the person would return shortly and get them to their gate for their flight on to Canada. He never returned. With their documents gone and they were left alone. They have tried twice to be accepted into Russia – refused both times. They have been there for over eight months – sleeping on the floor, with little to no provisions.

The airport authorities said they would give them food if they promised to return to Somalia. Most said no, but later left for their country or origin. They left knowing that they were now on a list; likely facing torture and possibly even death upon their return. Others stayed and now they are down to seven – five men and two women.

Finally, the United Nations is helping them. They have been by a few times, bringing them noodles to cook in their hot water pot. They are also now trying to get them International Protection. This would mean that they can then look for a country to accept them – possibly the United States or Canada. They are hopeful. They are beautiful people and left their country to escape from being pulled into the Muslim terrorist groups. They are peaceful Muslim children – young adults – and so wanting hope and a future.



Our Somolian friends – 17 years old and 21 years old. Just waiting for passage to a free country.

We have prayed with them, cried with them and just loved on them. We have left coats, shoes, food supplies and money for them to keep their cell phones alive with minutes. This is their only link to the United Nations persons who are helping them.

They need your prayers.

GOOD NEWS from the United Nations about the man from India who has been in the same situation at this airport in Moscow FOR NINE YEARS. He has been the attention of the United Nations recently (it seems they are finally aware of the situation at this airport) and he has been given International Protection and they are hoping to bring him to the United States. He even smiled at us this time, shook our hand – and is walking with a little spring in his step. WHAT A CHANGE! Praise God for this news. Yet, it is not done, until it is done. Keep him in your prayers.

If you are going through the Moscow Airport – PLEASE go see them and help them – take food, t-shirts, socks, lip gloss, hand lotion, personal items for the girls. They are upstairs – past the large restaurant with the souvenirs – off to the far end of the hallway. Thanks and God Bless You.

2. **Kemin Senior Home for the Homeless:** What an exciting time with them. We attended two major celebrations with them. First we were invited to attend the Senior Day on October 1. This was sponsored by the home and had local government officials invited to see the work they are doing. Then the Seniors entertained us and we all had a meal together. It was wonderful. I have blogged about this and put much of this on Facebook. You can find it on [www.lambinternational.blogspot.com](http://www.lambinternational.blogspot.com)

Then the second big celebration was a combined effort. We cooked a big meal, they entertained us with dancing and a beautiful program of song and poetry. It was awesome.

And we have had some awesome experiences just spending time with them. The GREAT NEWS for them?

- New chairs for the dining room have made this home a pleasant and inviting place! – Gift of God Friendship Center Funds
- A new heating boost because all coal was purchased and delivered for the entire winter! – Sponsors who love the center!
- Alexy asked for a the pipes to be completed upstairs for heat to the men's areas – THE WORK IS IN PROGRESS AND ALL PAID FOR - Thanks again to the sponsor who loves our seniors and said – Alexy you are not forgotten!

We still need some paint by numbers, pencil by numbers, tap shoes for Anatolie, musical instruments – a piano would be awesome –, a sewing machine, and, of course, more love and attention!

Remember Olga? She just sat passively. Well, Cassandra touched her heart and it was then that she really became active and involved with living once again. She asks about Cassandra every time we are there – always wanting to know how she is and when she will return. Well, Cassandra, she even danced for us this time. There is a video we will post on our blog soon that will show this. What a change – she KNOWS SHE IS LOVED! We praise God for this return of hope and dignity to Olga's life! Cassandra, just your little touch and care made a huge change in her life!



Olga and Alexy dancing for us! The Coal at Kemin – 10 tons! And the party we gave them!

Let's replace this door. It leads from the outside to one of the sleeping areas of the seniors. It has big holes at the bottom of the door. \$250 will do this and keep the drafts out.



If you want to sponsor this door, let us know we will have it in before winter and you can rest knowing these seniors are not getting drafts!

And by the way, they now have new beds for more seniors to be received into the home. The beds have been purchased and delivered – thanks to you Dorothy's Mercy Mission Fund!

### 3. Iskra – Home for Disabled Men

- Paint was purchased and delivered so they can paint the 4<sup>th</sup> floor.
- Lots of sewing supplies purchased and delivered for the craft/art business they are starting.
- Painting/art supplies purchased and delivered to keep them painting and selling! Started by our doctor friend from Atlanta!!!!
- Ice Cream Party with a concert was held and how they danced! (see the blog video!)
- And next? We have a sponsor who is going to purchase a second set of sheets for every one of the beds! They have only one set now and this creates real problems on days they wash them as there are no dryers and they depend on air drying. You can imagine how long this can take on some days.
- We have a wonderful little prayer room there for us to pray with men who want to pray.
- There is a new learning room – a little class room. This week a doctor from Alaska will work with the staff in this room - helping them

understand how to work with the disabilities they have in the home. This doctor, his head nurse and Dr. Eileen Lally are there to serve. All the way from Alaska – just to serve. Can you imagine? Just to serve! What an awesome God we serve Who brings so many wonderful doctors, sponsors and friends to help in the work in Kyrgyzstan! We are in awe!



1. Pastor Sam getting a gift from Iskra. 2, 3: Delivery of supplies. 4. Purchasing the velvet.

When we arrive they are full of smiles and waves and hugs. You can see in their eyes they know we love them and care for them. And it seems this is so evident as well by the local church who has adopted them. This is the church that Larissa (our on-the-ground connector) goes to. We are the foreign friends, but most importantly, they now have national friends. And they help in all they can do. Larissa connected the men to her church and the church has picked up the commitment to help the men at Iskra

4. **Jessica’s Family – doing well.** The home is in good condition. The father is now working in construction and they seem to be holding together well. We were delightfully surprised that she was attending the Chinese Church where we attend when we are in KG. She did not know that is where we go to church, so when she saw us, she was really excited. Her little daughter was quick to come up and sit with us through the service – it felt so right.



Medina with Melana, her baby sister. (Melana means Grace! We even named another little one this name a few months ago. She was an abandoned baby – now adopted!) Here we have another little Grace!

We have never pressured her to come to church – we have many times prayer with the family and for their lives. This little family is growing in strength, they are beginning to have hope and by all means we see the dignity they embrace in their home and how they manage things. This is one

family of hundreds who need this type of encouragement. It is the one that was in front of us – so we stopped – and that is all thanks to Jessica who is the little social worker who joined one of our teams a number of months ago. Jessica – you made a difference as you “stopped for the one in front of you.”

5. **University Project:** We are really on a roll with this project. We were able to bring two very important guests to help. Dr. Eileen Lally from Alaska, and Dr. Tatiana Voronini from Tomsk, Siberia, Russia. Both are very familiar with our work and have experience in working with the tools that have been created by the Institute for Human Services in Ohio. These are the tools we will be using to create a specialization year in Child and Family Services for the University Social

## Work Program.

The Institute for Human Services funded this exchange and the results were amazing. After meetings with the University Dean and faculty, we have a plan. A committee will be formed to develop the plan for the implementation of the year specialization. We will work together with Tomsk State University in Siberia, Dr. Lally, Dr. Voronini and Chris Tappan from New Hampshire to bring this to reality.

You might ask, Why would a Christian ministry want to be involved in a University Program? Well think of this:

*We spend most of our time helping nationals in down to earth humanitarian ways, loving on them, providing food, shelter and clothing. We share the love of Christ through our actions, words and deeds with the resources you have so generously given. Yet, the children and families continue to suffer, services provided by the state are far from adequate and we just continue to see “children and families in the river of despair!” We believe that if we are really going to make a difference we need to be both upstream and downstream in the work we do. Downstream is pulling them out of the water – the humanitarian work. Upstream is teaching and helping them to know how to keep children and families from being tossed into the river of despair.*



Faculty from the Humanitarian University who will be working with us to create the specialization. Here with Dr. Eileen Lally (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Dr. Tatiana Voronina (4<sup>th</sup> from left) in front row.

*You see, our team has skills to be both upstream and downstream. John and Julie are the most talented people we know who are focused on the downstream work. We join them and help, yet they know the work and do it with commitment and passion the best of anyone we have ever known in the work. Jayne and David are upstream with us on our team as excellent teachers, trainers and pastors.*

*They have unique skills in working with people, and offer counseling, teaching and encouragement to those who often feel trapped in situations of despair. Together with our team on the ground; Hymanot, Natasha, Tanya, Dabu, Isar, Acel, Talant, Aigoola, Larissa, and others we work focused on doing both – in both areas – upstream and downstream.*

Our goal? That nationals would pick up the commitment and as we someday leave this land we love, they would carry on.

- We have set up a Thursday lecture series for the HU Social Work department to compliment our work we are doing together:
  - Dr. David Schooler – Power of Emotions
  - Dr. Eileen Lally and Joanne Sullivan – Developmental Disabilities
  - Dr. Tatiana, from the Baby Orphanage in Tokmok – Working with Adoptive Parents, a National Example
  - Julie Wright – Psycho Education Groups, examples from her work
  - Kyle Zimmerle – working with families who have disabled children – examples from his work in Kyrgyzstan

- Janel, the local director of family services – her experience in social work in a city outside of Bishkek.

6. **Mercy Foundation:** Our work with the Foundation continues. We serve as consultants to this fine organization. The founder and leader of the Foundation, Captain Yang, has communicated to the staff and others that his intentions are to take a year sabbatical starting the Fall of 2011. He also asked everyone to consider how they will lead – how they will fill in the gap during his absence.

Mr. Yang is 84 years old. He leaves a legacy and is hoping to ensure there is a team ready to take over as he passes the legacy on to others. His ideas, leadership and passion for the children of Kyrgyzstan is powerful and cannot easily be picked up by any one individual. It will take a team that will work together and work hard to carry forth the vision he has cast for the future of MCCF.



Mercy Foundation – 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party – Lynn, Captain Yang and David – The Mayor and Captain Yang with other officials from the city. Captain Yang was made an Honorable Citizen several years ago.

Our role is to support this vision and work in any way we can. We offer support, encouragement to staff, and commitment to doing what our skills allow in ensuring the work of this Christian organization continues. Mr. Yang has started five Christian schools, sponsors a mountain camp, a home for disabled children, a gymnasium program, a national University, and now has hopes of a new seminary for teaching and training leaders who work for MCCF.

We are committed to working with MCCF, with the President John Tsai and his wife Christa. We extend our hand where we can – as a team of LAMB International.

7. **Training of Nationals:** This list is long and involved, so to make it simple, I will just list some of the different groups we are working with – each in a major way:
- SOS Kyrgyzstan – full Competency Based Case Worker Core Training – now training trainers
  - Child Rights Defender's League – preparing to train trainer in Life Skills Program, bringing key leaders to Ukraine to see alternatives to orphanages, writing for their newsletter, taking part in their round table conversations about alternatives to orphanages
  - Tokmok Baby Orphanage – training of trainers who will continue to carry

out training to prospective adoptive parents.

- 8. DAYSPRING FAMILY LIFE RESOURCE CENTER** – The house is nearly furnished and now getting ready to train staff and finish our registration, which will involve inspections by the Ministry of Labor, etc. Our resource parents are in place and have been living in the house for two weeks now. The home is very pleasant, clean, and newly renovated. The renovations took about three months and are also almost complete.

We have sponsors starting to come on board, coal purchased and delivered for the winter, new water pump in place, gate and fence complete and will now begin to find the final sponsorship for the children.

Our foundation church in Kyrgyzstan is excited to begin working toward getting volunteers together to help in working with and teaching the children. You might ask, What is this all about? It is about bringing hope to Tokmok, offering alternatives to orphanages and bringing together families that will adopt older children who have no hope of returning to their birth families. We dream of a KYRGYZSTAN WITHOUT ORPHANS and we ask you to dream with us.

These pictures say it all...two children lived here. They are now in care in one of our orphanages. We know these children and love them. Dayspring will be home to others who have been abandoned, abused or are without hope of growing in their birth family home.



This was daily living for two children whose parents were alcoholics – they cooked, ate and slept in this – and this is all there was – what you see is what they lived.

Dayspring is about hope, a future and a life for children and families. We will do training at Dayspring along with raising a family of children. We will train “at risk families”, social workers and our own staff. We invite you to join us – come to Kyrgyzstan and work beside us in developing this home – pray for the children and resource family – become a LAMPLIGHTER and donate to grow children in this family.

Dayspring Family Life Resource Center is alive and well thanks to our donors from HOH in California – we tip our hats and our hearts to you. Spacibo!

But look at the future – as you browse some of our recent pictures.....



Children will eat together as a family at Dayspring...one large table for all! And this is our cleaning crew. Every person in this picture is either a team member for LAMB or has been at the receiving end of LAMB aid. Think about this – this group represents many who are giving back what they have received. In the picture is a family who was homeless and received a place to live, children who were rescued from alcoholic parents and now living in a safe family home with loving parents.



Pastor Ben and the Wrights putting together the new beds for Dayspring – and the grand feast for the cleaning crew! The kitchen works well, we cooked, and fed the crew with ease!



The Vice Mayor – Sergae came to see the progress and said it was GOOD! He is here with us and the Tokmok social worker that we work with – Janel. Natasha, our staff is on the right.

We must stop now – will report more later – but likely we will just move to reporting Ukraine there is so much to say about all – and this is now eight pages.