



LAMB International

LEADERSHIP ACTIVATING MINISTRY

November 23, 2010

THANKSGIVING IN THE US IN JUST TWO DAYS.

Starting this journal is different than most. We want to reflect on our partners and our beginnings for LAMB International, as we are eternally thankful to our Lord for His hand of grace and mercy.

OUR BEGINNING

It was in 2002 that things began to “bubble” for LAMB International. We (Lynn and Ruby) had been thinking for some time about doing leadership training for our church in Barrie, Ontario Canada and for churches around us. At the same time, unbeknownst to us our partners (Don and Johanna) were thinking the same thing for their church in Tucson, Arizona.

In casual conversation – our visions began to emerge. We decided to meet together, pray and consider what this all meant. Sitting around the dining room table at Don and Johanna’s home in Tucson, we all knew this was what we wanted to do. A vision was being defined into a mission. Training in Ontario took place, training in Arizona followed, then Ohio, then Mexico and then Ukraine. This was the beginning of what is now the organization we all have been called to – LAMB International.

The years have moved us in many directions – furthering Kingdom work. Johanna, Lynn and Ruby worked diligently in Ukraine while Don coordinated materials for us in Arizona. What started out to be training with church pastors, Bible Colleges and church leaders evolved into working with orphanages, homes for disabled persons and with the elderly. We took the training into these organizations, took humanitarian aid in and followed the leading of the Holy Spirit to where we were being led.

Years later we would come to understand the method of work to be “just show up and stop for the one in front of you.”

Many in front of us have passed – humanitarian aid delivered, training shared, operations completed, organizations encouraged, while all the while hope and dignity was being restored. We have shared the love of Christ in Ukraine, Mexico, US, Canada, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Poland and Kyrgyzstan. Each of our team walk this love in all they do and say.

We are made up of an incredible North American team:

- Kim and Randy Gebele – who coordinate our incoming funds in the US
- Adam and Jenny Buchman – who work diligently to ensure we get the word out

and listened to interesting content of the training and they changed. Now they keep repeating that it's very useful and interesting information and they say they knew nothing about adoption and needs of children from orphanages.

We do 2 modules a day (6 hours). Janell did Module I, and I did Module II, Lena did Module III, and Dr. Tatyana did Module IV. Everyone was doing well. Now we know the content much better. We all were speaking loud enough and were well articulated.

They gave many examples from their work and experience that matched the content of each Module. Also we showed the parents the "Daddy" video and it touched their hearts. In addition I printed out handouts for them. The parents like to do different activities; they are very active and very excited about their new babies.

I think those were very useful and successful 2 days. Next time we are meeting on Friday and Saturday.

The report is exciting for many reasons. In Ukraine we are working together with many different NGO's to bring to reality UKRAINE WITHOUT ORPHANS IN 2015 and we believe we can carry this movement into Kyrgyzstan too. How will this be done? Consider this:

1. We work with the churches and help them to create an orphan ministry.
2. We work with local authorities to help them see the way to recruit and train prospective adoptive parents.
3. We advocate strongly for International Adoption.
4. We gather interested persons and train them on the ways to work with families and children.
5. We distribute lots of literature and books we have in the Russian language about strengthening families and working with children. For example:
 - a. *The Field Guide to Child Welfare* by Judy Rycus and Ron Hughes
 - b. *Telling the Truth to Your Adopted or Foster Child* by Jayne Schooler and Betsy Keefer
 - c. *Wounded Children, Healing Homes* by Jayne Schooler and Betsy Keefer
 - d. *Step by Step Booklets*
 - e. *Life Skills*

These are just a few of the ways we can help. Here are the pictures of Natasha and the team on the ground there conducting the THIRD GROUP of prospective adoptive parents in Kyrgyzstan – moving closer to a KYRGYZSTAN WITHOUT ORPHANS!



#1: Our families in training.



#2 Watching the video – Daddy.



#3 Preparing the cycle of attachment.