

## Brief report about the work of the “Russia with No Orphans” alliance

I greet our dear friends and partners! And I want to share news about development of the “Russia with No Orphans” project for the past three months. A lot of things changed since last June.

### Public tour “Russia with No Orphans”

The main summer events were concerts within summer tour “Russia with No Orphans”. Friends of our alliance held more than 30 events in more than 20 cities of Russia. There were concerts of youth Christian music bands on the central squares and in concert halls of Russian cities.



During each concert there were banners with symbols of “Russia with No Orphans” on the stage, presenters on the stage told how important it was for everyone to participate in a common cause of struggle against orphan hood. There had been distributed flyers “7 steps towards Russia with no orphans”. As a result the alliance consultant Ella Muzychenko received tens of appeals from families all over Russia who want

to learn more about adoption. Some of them are completing the formalities to adopt children.

Also people from 15 Russian cities visited the alliance website and signed the manifesto “Russia with No Orphans”, they also wrote touching comments and words of support.

For example: Igor from Tambov, Russia, wrote:

"My name is Igor Petushenko. I am pastor assistant of the church “New Life” in Tambov, Russia. We have a great desire to start an orphan ministry in our church, and also my wife and I want to adopt a child. If you can help us somehow, suggest how to start and which direction to move in, we would be very thankful.

With best regards, Igor Petushenko"

Igor`s letter was sent to three alliance` experts who now help the church in Tambov to organize orphan ministry and help Igor and his wife to receive an orphan child to their family.

Here is one more example of touching comment to the manifesto:

Oksana Fomicheva from Iskitim, North Ossetia, Russia, wrote:

"I agree with each word of the manifesto and I will do everything possible for the shameful phenomenon of social orphan hood disappears from Russian life! I guarantee that I will take a girl under guardianship in the nearest two years. And if I am allowed I would take a boy too!"

The message of the alliance makes hearts of Russian people to burn with the desire to overcome the orphan hood in our country. And the most important, people start getting faith that we can do it! The tour continues thanks to participation of people who are not indifferent to the problem.

### Seminar of motivators` team in Saint-Petersburg

In the end of September in the very center of Saint-Petersburg in front of Kazan Cathedral a seminar for ministers, ready to spread the message about adoption in Saint-Petersburg and its region was held. Wonderful ministers took part in the seminar; some of them have from 2 to 30 foster children: Petr and Leah Kravchuks, Mikhail and Galina Kozitskiys, Ivan Shaporev and his wife, and representatives of 4 more churches, interested in adoption.

The chief speaker of the seminar was a well-known minister, father of 3 foster and 2 own children, **Sergey Demidovich** (one of the founders of the alliance "Ukraine with No Orphans"). Sergey came to inspire and equip foster families, to share the gift of adoption with new force.



Sergey is sure that God wants to move powerfully in Russia. He told that recently he went to another country through Moscow. And though he lives in Ukraine, in the airport he saw matreshkas (Russian dolls) and his heart was filled with a very deep love to Russia. He said, "I was watching that matreshkas and suddenly I started crying right before other people`s eyes. I felt how deeply God loves Russia and I promised Him to do everything possible to spread the message about His love towards this country".



**Petr Kravchuk** also spoke on the seminar. He thinks that we can't be slow in adoption. Today we must hurry to do truth and seek sanctification. If the Church pays attention to this problem we will have time to do many things together.

He also said, "The best environment for a child is a family. Devil wants orphans to go to hell. God wants to adopt them".



**Mikhail Kozitskiy**, member of the alliance` board of administration, also spoke on the seminar.

He made an interesting suggestion: "Our status lets us take children home from the internat just for the weekend. Let us take advantage of it to take children to the church on Sunday!"

Mikhail called ministers on the seminar to use any connections and opportunities to involve in October

more churches in participation in the Day of Prayer about orphans.

## **"Day of Prayer about orphans" (Orphan Sunday)**

We complete preparation for holding a Day of Prayer about orphans within an international Orphan Sunday, November, 6, 2011. This year two alliances "Russia with No Orphans" and "Ukraine with No Orphans" actively work together involving churches in this event!

Alliance members connect with all accessible churches, spread informational materials, special banners and speak in churches and on conferences.

In particular, Ivan Iklyushin, alliance manager, took part in three large conferences with the same message: "It is very important that precisely Christian families adopt orphans, it is a matter of saving child's soul, it is not just a social project. Orphans are harvest of the Church."

The Word of God says, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

It applies directly to the problem of orphan hood. "That is why it is so important to take part in the Day of Prayer about orphans. It is a direct implementation of Jesus` commission. Only this way we will see enough Christian families ready to adopt all orphans to the last", Ivan says.

Many pastors and bishops decided to hold the Day of Prayer in their churches.

Here is what Pavel Ryndich, pastor of a large church in Nizhniy Novgorod, Russia, said, "We will surely hold the Day of Prayer in all our churches. We also invite alliance representatives to visit us and we will organize a special conference in connection with their visit."

Alliance also received invitations to hold conferences in large churches in Samara, Krasnodar, Volgograd, Perm, Krasnoyarsk, Nizhnevartovsk, Noyabrsk, Kaliningrad, Yaroslavl and other cities.

The nearest conference takes place on Sunday, October, 16, 2011, in Saint-Petersburg in Good News church (one of the largest in the city).

We expect about 400 churches in Russia to pray together about orphans on first Sunday of November.

We actively distribute special folders with the materials to about 1,500 churches who applied for it. In the folder: posters, flyers, 16 pages of special materials with a summary of a sermon, Biblical basement for prayer, plan for Sunday school for children and youth and other helpful information.

Together with the alliance "Ukraine with No Orphans" we applied to churches all over the world to pray about orphans in Russia and Ukraine.

At the moment more than 1,100 churches supported our request. Pray with us!

## **Conference “Russia with No Orphans” in Moscow**

Members and partners of the alliance “Russia with No Orphans” showed initiative to hold a large conference “Russia with No Orphans” in Moscow for the alliance supporters from all over Russia to gather and approve a general plan of work.

The conference will take place in April, 20-21, 2012, in Moscow in a wonderful building of Word of Life church. The first meeting of organizing committee took place in October, 22, in Moscow. Organizers from different sides took part in it. Next important meeting will be in November, 14.

## **Two new organizations joined the board**

During the last months two very respected and useful organizations joined the board of the alliance:

1. Charitable fund "Care for Neighbor". Managers of the fund, Sergey and Maria Chekmaevs, are responsible for holding events now.
2. Russian-American Institute. Vice-President of the Institute is responsible now for educational programs of the alliance.

## **There is a lot of work ahead on the way to the aim – Russia with no orphans.**

1. Day of Prayer
2. Conference
3. Summer tours finished
4. Seminar (more about it in a separate report)
5. Two new organizations in the board of administration

For Russia with No Orphans,

Ivan Iklyushin

Big Family Mission is providing seed funds for the first year of the Russia with No Orphans initiative. If you would like to join with our brothers and sisters in Russia to bring all of Russia’s orphans into families, you can become a partner by clicking here: [Russia with No Orphans partnership.](#)

Big Family Mission home page: [www.BigFamilyMinistry.org](http://www.BigFamilyMinistry.org) .