

Present Realities:

The Dnipropetrovs'k (region/state) of Ukraine has a population of 3.5 million people. The region is located east of the Ukrainian capital of Kiev in the central part of the country. Ukrainians have been greatly affected since the fall of the communist system in 1991. Many children whose families are unable to provide for them are abandoned and the elderly have been forced into the streets to beg for food and money. Ukraine's orphans have also been greatly affected which has resulted in only 10% making it on their own in society when released at the age of 16. The majority of Ukrainian people live within village areas and grow their own gardens, which are their primary source of food. Due to the extreme heat during the summer of 2007, many crops were burned and provided most people little to nothing at harvest time. In addition to yielding poor crops, the cost of food at the market has risen due to supply shortages and political instability.

The Baptist churches in the Nikopol region currently have 27 churches/Bible study groups. Not only have the churches been expanding to care for people's spiritual needs, they have been providing for the social needs of the poor. Since 2003 churches in Canada have come alongside the Nikopol Central Baptist Church and provided aid in 14 of the 27 church/Bible study group locations.

Plan of Action:

In 2001, three people began to meet regularly and in 2003 a home was purchased and converted into a church. Currently the church has 15 members and an average congregation of 25; however, the church building is falling apart and is in need of renovation. The team will be involved in assisting with the renovations of the church. The team will also be providing much needed compassion and care to orphans and widows through visitations and banquets, where they will have the opportunity to provide a month's supply of food to widows. They will also visit the Priazovje Orphanage to see the children and bring much needed financial help.

Project funds and activities include:

- > Purchase food supplies for food hampers (sugar, flour, macaroni, rice and cooking oil—each hamper will feed one person for one month).
- > Purchase hygiene supplies for hygiene hampers (detergent, shampoo, soap, toothbrush and toothpaste).
- > Hold banquets for widows and poor families.
- > Conduct home visitations.
- > Provide finances for those in need of medical treatment.
- > Provide finances to pay for workers caring weekly for bedridden widows.
- > Provide finances for renovating rehabilitation home.
- > Provide hydro and gas payments for widows and poor families.
- > Furnish Priazovje Orphanage with tables, chairs, doors and new flooring.
- > Provide a stipend for deacons to travel into remote church locations each month.
- > Renovate Chkalovo Church.

PROJECT COMPONENTS	FUNDS REQUIRED (CAD)	PEOPLE AFFECTED
Food Hampers	\$2,600	325
Hygiene Hampers	\$2,000	325
Banquets / Dinners	\$900	300
Medical Care	\$4,200	170
Widow Assistance Fund	\$2,800	35
Rehabilitation Home	\$1,000	-
Hydro and Gas	\$2,100	21
Priazovje Orphanage	\$3,200	37
Deacons Fund	\$1,200	6
Total	\$20,000 CAD	325 avg.



Positive Benefits:

We will demonstrate and communicate the love of the Father to those that have received past assistance by establishing relationships. We will be improving the health and general well-being of the neglected widows and orphaned children by providing them with food, fellowship and compassionate care. Renovating the church will provide a safe building for the Chkalovo Church members in addition to increasing the church's capacity to grow.

Persons Responsible for the Project:

The staff of Hungry for Life, under the leadership of the Board of Directors, are responsible for the project.