



Volume 1, Issue 1

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Your response

There are a number of ways we'd appreciate your support in our ongoing work to bless the children of Russia and Ukraine.

We'd really value your prayers particularly for our preparations to travel to Ukraine this summer. We'd also appreciate your prayers for the finances to help build this playground/basketball court at the Hearts of Love centre.

As part of our fundraising efforts for this project in Ukraine, I'll be running in the Los Angeles Marathon March 2nd. You could sponsor me by sending cheques payable to: **ASSIST Europe, Fountains Building, Upper Northgate Street, Chester, England CH1 4EF.**

Any donations to our ongoing work would also be much appreciated and if you wish to set up a regular standing order to support any of our projects please email me at:

assisteurope@yahoo.co.uk

You can also donate online at: www.assisteurope.net

Below: Lena Vuschenko who runs the Hearts of Love Centre in Konotop, Ukraine.

Nastya one of the children drawing at the centre



Out of the Cot Mission To Russia

In Easter 2007, a team from Northgate Church in Chester along with members from Cookstown Methodist Church in Northern Ireland went on the ASSIST Europe 'Out of the Cot' mission trip to Vladikavkaz, Russia.

The team was able to spend time at the Laska special needs orphanage creatively telling Bible stories using puppets, games and songs. The vision for the trip was also to literally get some of the younger children and babies out of their cots and give them lots of cuddles and provide stimulation for them.

Thanks to the team's great fundraising efforts and a grant from the charity 02H, the stimulation for the children was greatly enhanced by a lot of the resources the team was able to leave with both the orphanage and the local ACCR church that ministers there, which included the Bible in

felt, a DVD player, bedding and lots of toys.

The team was also able to identify a number of much needed resources there and I'm delighted to say that as a result of that and some of your kind donations and our fundraising events, including a Comedy/Quiz night, we've just sent finances through the charity Russian Ministries to fund medical, sports and playground equipment for the children there.

Russian Ministries and Beslan Youth Centre

As I just mentioned we are now working closely in partnership with the charity Russian Ministries to not only pool resources to the Laska orphan-



Special needs child at Laska orphanage enjoys new book

age, but also we've been able to send a donation towards building work at the Beslan youth centre.

This place has been a lifeline to the survivors of the terrible Beslan school massacre, and has become a great centre for the local community now with a computer centre, library and a Bible college.

Heart of Love Centre for Kids in Ukraine

We are also now expanding our work into Ukraine thanks to our new partnership with another charity called Eastern European Outreach. This summer from Aug 1 – Aug 10, we'll be taking our first team to Konotop in Ukraine to work at the Hearts of Love special needs centre. This project provides vital support for families with special needs children. Our team will be helping run a number of summer camp activities for these families and serving in a number of practical ways.

Eastern European Outreach executive director Jeff Thompson explains more about our plans: "I look forward to partnering with ASSIST Europe in helping the handicapped and needy children in Ukraine.

"Doors are wide open for ministry and these special needs children and their families will especially benefit from the love and care the ASSIST Europe team will bring.

"We desire to bless the Konotop Handicapped Chil-

dren's Centre called 'Hearts of Love' with a tangible gift such as playground equipment or a basketball courts. For just a small sum of money such as 2,500 pounds (\$5,000), joy will be heard in the laughter of children for many years to come."

Thanks for your continued support and prayers.

Peter Wooding

ASSIST Europe Director