



## Brenna Engle Foundation

Have FAITH, Provide HOPE, Demonstrate LOVE

June 26, 2014

Dear friends,

We apologize for being so overdue on a newsletter. Life for Rich is different, being back to work full-time, after having 16 months to spend on work of the Brenna Engle Foundation. I will try to give a brief update on the many things that have taken place in the last few months, both in Ukraine and Ethiopia. But first I would like to share a few verses from the beginning of Psalm 103 that really struck me during the past week. Verse 4 talks about the Lord who "redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and righteousness." I am personally thankful for that in my life, for I am no longer faced with living in the pit, the abyss, and God has allowed me to be motivated by love and righteousness. I also think how he is doing that for the many children and teens that we serve.

### Brenna's Home - UKRAINE

Life in Western and Central Ukraine goes on pretty much as usual, despite the turmoil in the eastern part of the country. I think the main issues that the folks at Brenna's Home deal with are uncertainty about the future and also some sadness about having a nation under divisive attack. We have maintained regular contact with Valya and the children and they are doing well. Some highlights:

Vasya graduated from high school earlier this month (below). Please keep him in your prayers as he decides on the next course of his life.



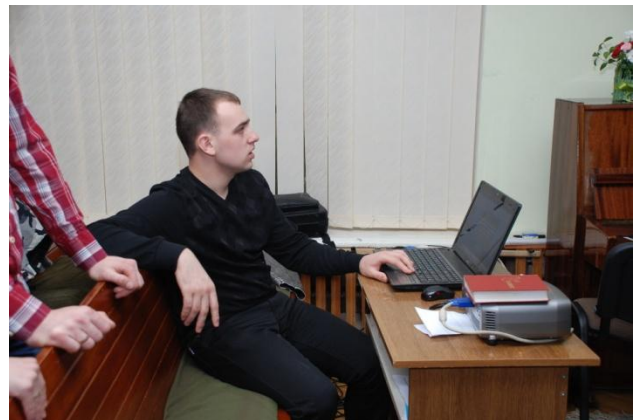
Here is Vasya, with the four girls from Brenna's Home on graduation day:



Housemother Oksana (shown below with Yulia and Pavlina) celebrated a birthday on June 20. Oksana is one of those people who never wants attention or praise, but is always there to serve any of the children in any way she can. We are grateful for her dedicated service to Brenna's Home for eight years.



Vanya is beginning a practicum at an eatery in Lutsk as part of his finishing technical school in Food Service. Here he is pictured helping with projection at church.



Kolya, our oldest, graduates from technical school on June 27 in Computer Services. Pray for Kolya, as he is seriously thinking about joining the army in Ukraine. Young men his age are very troubled by the political situation and want to do something that supports the freedom they have learned.

Vova & Pavlina turned 12 in June. Pavel turned 10.

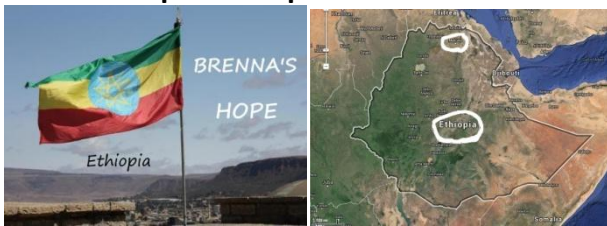


Please continue to pray for the nation of Ukraine in this time of turmoil with Russia. We are open to helping orphans or refugee children from Crimea and Eastern Ukraine, if that possibility arises.

### Sponsorships in Ukraine

We are grateful for those who sponsor children at Brenna's Home (\$25/month). This provides a source of support that we are able to rely on through the year. We encourage groups also to sponsor a child. This could be a scout troop, or small group at your church. Please consider it and contact us. If you have questions, we will send more information.

### Brenna's Hope - Ethiopia



### High School girls - Tigray Province

We are working with Hope Community Services in Northern Ethiopia to provide monthly support for vulnerable high school girls to complete their education. In this region of Ethiopia, many of these girls walk two hours or more EACH WAY to attend high school. This means they face dangers while walking in darkness, and also makes it difficult for them to complete their studies. Consequently they may drop out of school and are frequently used as wives for arranged marriages, even as young as ages 13 to 17. If this happens and they become pregnant, they face challenges with childbirth because their bodies are not fully developed. This may result in a condition known as [fistula](#).

We initially committed to sponsor 10 girls, but have increased our goal to 30. Just \$25 a month will provide a shelter and food close to school or transportation services for these girls at great risk.

### Girls headed to college - Tigray Province

Another opportunity has developed with Hope Community Services. Many girls graduating from high school who are orphans or from very poor families are excellent students and qualify for free tuition, room and board through a government

program. However, the costs for travel and monthly hygiene expenses can be prohibitive for them to take advantage of the education. The cost for sending one of these girls to college is \$20/month (\$240/year). We would like to sponsor 30 girls for this program and are halfway toward our goal. Here are some of these students:



### Children of Street Workers in Rehabilitation

Our third project in Ethiopia is still developing. In conjunction with Ellilta Women at Risk and Mekane Yesus Church in Debre Zeit, we have committed to provide the educational and daycare support for children whose mothers have entered a holistic rehabilitation program to leave "working the streets". This organization has been functioning effectively in Addis Ababa for nearly 20 years, and this is a new extension of the work in the city of Debre Zeit. Our contacts are Michelle and Asaua Tiatia. We have quite the story to tell of how we got connected, but will have to save that for a separate time. Sponsorships for this program are \$30/month (we need a one year commitment). Two boys are currently sponsored and one girl is awaiting sponsorship. Here are Samuel, Yohanis and Zenash:



We are excited about the doors that have opened for our work and we are fortunate to have people to partner with that we know are dependable and trustworthy. We know there is much more in store for the future, so we want to say thank you to those who make this work possible and hope you will also

share with others what we do, so that the lives of many more children and young people will be impacted.

If you do not currently participate in a sponsorship opportunity, we hope that you will consider how you may be involved in one of these programs. Thank you!

### Ukraine Benefit Concert - July 19

We are excited to have been invited to participate in a benefit concert for underprivileged children in Ukraine, featuring nationally known singer John Waller. This concert will be in Poughkeepsie, NY and details are on the poster below. Contact us with any questions.



Also on Facebook and Youtube:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Brenna-Engle-Foundation/101419966565747>

Youtube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Ah0gHE6eLM>

And our website [brennaenglefoundation.org](http://brennaenglefoundation.org)

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Love and blessings to all, Rich and Donna