



Brenna Engle Foundation

Have FAITH, Provide HOPE, Demonstrate LOVE

September 7, 2014

Dear friends,

Psalm 37:7 says "Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes". I must confess, this verse has a special meaning to me this year, as I have (too) much emotional energy invested in the circumstances in Ukraine. First, it was the Euromaidan protests, which led to the corrupt resident fleeing the country. Next, the aftermath and current situation in Southeastern Ukraine, orchestrated by Russia's Putin has been so draining. It makes me realize how much my heart aches for the Ukrainian people to have peace and stability in their lives. The Ukrainian people have been through so much, and yet life goes on for them (and us). Please continue to keep Ukraine in your prayers. We do look forward to making a trip to Lutsk, likely in early January, 2015.

Brenna's Home - UKRAINE

We are happy that the children at Brenna's Home continue to thrive and grow in so many ways. The pictures we receive show positive, happy faces!

Some highlights:

Here the children are preparing cherries for canning and making compote. This will be using throughout the coming winter.



Of course the boys had some fun helping with the "clean-up"!



Here is the finished product:



Housemother Valya had a special birthday in July (50), and we had a card shower for her. She was grateful for the 25 + cards that many sent for her. She said it was "the best birthday ever!"

Here are the children on an outing which included one of our first Brenna's Home girls, Halya. She is now married and is shown here holding her son who is now 2 years old.



We are happy that we have healthy children and here are some pictures of the girls from this summer:



Valeria

Sasha

Yulia



Pavlina

Lilia

Here are some recent group photos of the kids:



Please continue to pray for them as they begin a new school year, and for Vasya as he starts college.

A Word about 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.

Unfortunately, we have been having some difficulty because some have expressed a desire to sponsor a child, but then fail to follow through. Thank you to those who commit to sponsor, and follow through. While we will remind people, we do not like to be "nagging". We understand if there are changes in financial situations, but please communicate with us!

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. We need just six more sponsors to meet our goal for this program! 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 will sponsor 30 girls for this program and need just ten more to reach our goal!



Children of Street Workers in Rehabilitation

Our third project in Ethiopia continues to develop. 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. Sponsorships for this program are \$30/month (we need a one year commitment). Two boys are currently sponsored and we are awaiting word on

additional children, as a new group of women are entering the rehabilitation program.

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!

Other News

We were excited to participate in a benefit concert for underprivileged children in Ukraine, featuring nationally known singer John Waller on July 19. We had a great time of connection with John and are hoping for future involvement with him in our Ukraine work.

Here is a link to our latest movie featuring John Waller's song "Somebody Else's Story":

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WFS1p_uoub8

A special thank you to New Beginnings (Poughkeepsie, NY) Vacation Bible School for your gift to Brenna's Hope - Ethiopia of over \$1700 !!

We were pleased to have the opportunity to share our story and work at Manheim (PA) Brethren in Christ Church over Labor Day Weekend.

In October, Gabe and Connie, our friends from Hope Community Services, in Ethiopia will be coming to the US for 6-8 weeks. We look forward to seeing them again, and planning for them to speak at New Beginnings Church, Poughkeepsie, NY on November 9th.

Love and blessings to all, Rich and Donna

This list server is maintained by The Brenna Engle Foundation, www.brennaenglefoundation.org If you wish to respond to any messages, please respond to richengle14@gmail.com (Rich) or DBRN1234@aol.com (Donna). If you prefer not to receive communications through our list server, please send a note to either of us requesting to "unsubscribe". We appreciate your support, whether through prayer or finances!

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