



# Brenna Engle Foundation

Have FAITH, Provide HOPE, Demonstrate LOVE

"Our 14th Year of Service to Underprivileged Children"

April 10, 2019

Dear friends,

We are grateful that we can continue to help plant seeds of faith and encouragement, increase opportunities for those that might not have a chance to further their goals in life. Our faith allows us to provide hope and share God's love in tangible ways. Thank you for your continued prayers for us, for those that serve with us, and most of all for those we serve. Your prayers and financial contributions make this possible. This coming Saturday, April 13, is our 2019 Fundraiser, and while it appears our numbers will be small, we trust that the resources needed to continue our programs will come in. Anyone who would like to come, please contact Rich immediately at (845)309-8056

We got to see the day program in action and had the chance to meet at the kids. Rich cooked a meal for 30 people that day! We also got to take them to Port City, the new mall, to enjoy roller skating and the fun house there. There are about 15 children that come for this program on Saturdays and the program is staffed by volunteers from Golgotha Church. These children all come from homes that have a challenging home life and we hope to make even a small difference in their lives.



The older girls at Brenna's Home, are involved in studying in technical schools, some fashion design, some beautician and hairstyling. On the right is Julina and Lida with Julina's sister, Nadia. Vika, who studies



## Brenna's Home - UKRAINE



Our January trip was quite exciting as we had the opportunity to meet all the new people at Brenna's Home. The house was buzzing with activity the entire time, with girls coming and going, siblings of girls coming to visit, and especially the opportunity to see firsthand, how the various programs with our partners



from Golgotha Church are progressing. It was great to see Lilya (right) back at Brenna's Home and are delighted that she graduated from her three-year cooking college program on April 1.



design, painted a picture that she presented to us! Natalia was happy to create a new



friendship with Pavlina. It was such a joy for us to have Pavlina visit with us for two days. She was in Brenna's Home from 2009 to 2013.

Tolik and Ira (right) are so supportive of the girls and our programs. We are happy for their leadership.



Another trip highlight was seeing Halya, one of our first two girls at Brenna's Home in 2005. She is now 28 with two children and travelled two hours to see us! We also got to visit with Sergey, our first boy in Brenna's Home. We always make a point to connect with him when we get to Lutsk.



Kolya, our "son" who got married to Ira in 2016 came to visit as well (below). We also had a nice visit with the Litvinchuk family, Many of you remember Patrick, the boy in the wheelchair who passed away in 2016. They are such a lovely family!



### Summer Camp in July

We are excited to be in the planning stages for our 2019 Summer Camp Trip from July 17-28. We have a team of six going from the USA and joining with Randy and Annette Hillebrand in Kyiv. We will be doing this camp with youth leaders from Golgotha Church and will be hosting 100 children. Please pray for this as we plan and prepare, that things will come together smoothly and be a blessing to all. In addition to Rich and Donna and the Hillebrands, we will be joined by two of Rich's great-nieces and a great-nephew from Pennsylvania, Daniel, Lauren, and Sarah Steffy. **One tangible way that you can help is to sponsor a child for camp (\$100 for 6 days).**

### Brenna's Hope-Ethiopia



### Education Sponsorships in Tigray Province

We work with Hope Community Services in Northern Ethiopia to provide monthly support for vulnerable young women to help them complete high school and university programs. For 2018-19 we are sponsoring 55 university students and 6 high school

students. Some of the university students are girls we supported in high school, so we are happy to continue to provide opportunities for them. In addition, we sponsor four girls who were raped in their early to mid-teens. Our support helps them with counseling and education services. The first 14 university beneficiaries graduated in 2018. Sponsorships for high school girls and rape victims is \$25/month and for university students is



\$20/month. We are desperately in need of sponsors for these girls, so we do not have to reduce our commitment. These are some of our university students at Mekelle University.

### Central Ethiopia - Debre Zeit

We have been sponsoring a family of four girls and their single mother for the past year. We are thrilled to have Henok and Enat helping to care for them. This past November, we agreed to sponsor two brothers in another family in Nazareth. Here is a recent picture of Enat with all the family of girls we sponsor. These sponsorships are \$35/ month.





### Brenna's Basement - New York

We continue to provide clothing and small household items to needy families in the Mid-Hudson Valley. We receive referrals from more than 10 local agencies as well as word-of-mouth. Items in the basement are given away without charge. Our biggest continued need is for boys clothes, and sheets, towels, and household items, especially kitchenware. During 2018, we logged over 230 visitors to Brenna's Basement. We were also able to assist four families with Christmas presents. We worked with four new local agencies this past year.

### A Change in our Board of Directors

**Janet Gerhardt** served faithfully on our Board of Directors since we came into existence in 2005. We are grateful for her service. Janet felt it was time for her to step down and we certainly understand. While we will miss her, we are also happy that **Thomas Slaughter** has agreed to join our Board. Tom has had an active interest in our work in Ukraine and has been to Lutsk numerous times, most recently as part of our Summer Camp Team in 2017. Join us in welcoming Tom to our Board!



**Automatic Transfer** If your financial institution provides you the opportunity to set up regular, automatic deductions and transfers, we can provide you with our routing and account number to set up regular transfers each month. Just ask us! It saves everyone from dealing with checks.

We have been blessed year after year with what we need, and this has allowed our work to grow and prosper. When we receive extra gifts, it enables us to think about expanding what we do. If you are in a position to provide significant resources, or are willing to include the Brenna Engle Foundation in your estate planning, please contact us.

With love, Rich and Donna



A special thanks to Thrivent Financial and to members that designate the Brenna Engle Foundation to receive Thrivent CHOICE Dollars.

**DID YOU KNOW?** If you shop on Amazon.com, you can use the Amazon Smile option to select the Brenna Engle Foundation and we will receive a percentage from every purchase.

All US donations are tax-deductible. Checks should be payable to "Brenna Engle Foundation" and sent to 3 Albert Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

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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### Some words about financial contributions...

**Hudson Valley FCU Members** If you don't like writing checks, you can do member-to-member transfers to the Brenna Engle Foundation. Contact us for more information and account details.

**PayPal Giving Fund** You can donate through PayPal Giving Fund at no charge to donor or recipient. The Brenna Engle Foundation is an approved not-for-profit to benefit from this service. This service is available through our website and on our Brenna Engle Foundation Facebook page..

**JustGiving.org** Online donations can also be made from our website using the JustGiving donation button. These donations carry a 4 1/2% service fee.

**Billpay** Many of our regular donors utilize a Billpay system through their financial institution for regular payments. If you are able to participate in such a program, we encourage you to do so. It eliminates the need to send out reminders.