

CRI FOCUS

Child Rescue International is the child sponsorship programme of Mission Without Borders

Hullo from us!

Dear CRI sponsor

This edition of CRI Focus has a summer camp theme, because this is when our staff are helping run summer camps in our field countries.

This is also our chance to say thank you for being one of our faithful sponsors. Your support helps us carry out our programmes in State orphanages and in the communities, to help to bring hope for the future to children so that they can overcome the hardships of being abandoned or neglected by parents or being orphaned.

Thank you for being a part of our vision to reach them with practical help, moral support, a Life-giving message and the possibility of a better education.

While we are not able to guarantee that every sponsored child will get to go to camp, it is our aim to give the opportunity to as many as we can, to go at least once. If last year is anything to go by, that may be more than 3600 children across our six field countries.

From *The MWB NZ Office*

Summer camps in Ukraine

Our Ukraine office reports that their 2011 Summer Camps are now in progress! 250 sponsored orphanage children are at camps now. Another 120 from our Family to Family programme have already finished theirs. We are so grateful for the help from Kiwi folk like you who have made this possible. Camps are planned to run continue right through the Northern summer in all of our field countries.

Our colleague Maria tells us that Ukraine has been blessed with wonderful hot, sunny weather. The children are enjoying outdoor games, sports, swimming and playing in the sunshine. When asked, the children enthusiastically told our staff that they like the food, activities and the staff in the camps –and also the games and worship sessions.

This year we hope that up to 900 Ukrainian children will experience the fun, love and care of the Summer Camps. Our colleague Maria asks "Please join us in our daily prayers for the success of the camps in the field countries and the children's health."



Helping at summer camps

This year we have four Kiwis helping with summer camps, one in Romania in June, two in Bosnia in July, and one in Bulgaria in July. This is exciting because the children get to interact (in English a little where they can) with people from far distant countries like New Zealand —people who really care about them, enough to more than circum-navigate the world to be there! And the Kiwis get to experience our camps and get to meet staff, other volunteers and of course the children. If you are interested in helping in 2012, please get in touch with us early.



You can see more about summer camp and find out more about our work on YouTube. Just search under "mwbit" and you will get all our videos.

You can also find short videos on our web site www.mwb.org.nz ♦



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update on Romanian orphanages
—moving into the communities

Then...



Romanian orphans in the nineties—inhumane conditions

The situation with children’s State Homes in Romania has been undergoing changes. In the late eighties and 1990s, Romania attracted massive attention from the world media , when President Ceausescu's orphanages were first seen by the Western media — shocking images of children left tied to their metal cots and crowded together.

And now...

Twenty years later, Romania has to improve their care of the 60,000 plus children in State care to meet EU membership conditions. The Romanian government has been steadily working to improve conditions and to down-size the large orphanages to much smaller placement centres of up to 14 children.

For the Mission, this means new challenges. For now, it means we have to gradually wind down our CRI sponsorships for children in Romanian State Homes because we just can’t keep servicing hundreds of orphanages that have just a one or two sponsored children each.

But what we can do is start moving into the poor communities (where some of the State Homes children have come from) to start our new CRI in Community sponsorships with abandoned and other “at risk” children—those with one or both parents who have died or gone to other countries to find work, those suffering abuse, struggling in poverty or isolation, without hope or a future.

Looking for more
SPONSORS

In 2011, we are making a concerted effort to find more sponsors for the children in our Child Rescue International (CRI) sponsorship programme. We have children on our books living in State Homes or “at risk” situations who need sponsors.

If you know of folk who may be looking to sponsor a child (or a family), please point them in our direction. We think sponsorship is a vital part of what we do for the poor and overlooked in Ukraine, Moldova and Romania.

CRI in Community

This new form of sponsorship is working in Moldova, where we have already covered all the orphanages but need to reach more children. In time, we hope to see this new aspect of our outreach to vulnerable children expand to our other countries.



Our CRI in Community children, Crihana Veche, Moldova

This newsletter goes to all our **CRI child sponsors**. It is sent by email to those sponsors who have given us their email address — so if you would like to receive future editions that way (and haven’t this time), please email us and we will add you to our email list for the next one.

To remove your name from our e-mail list, or to request a paper copy, please email us at nzadmin@mwbi.org and put “Unsubscribe” in the Subject heading or call us on 0800 469 269 (Auckland 09 309 6969).