

doorways to

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a home for every orphan

annual report 2012

letter from the executive director

Dear Friends,

As we put this annual report together, I was increasingly overwhelmed and inspired by your generosity over the course of 2012. Thank you SO much for the gifts you made to ensure that orphan children could know the love of a permanent family!

Our deepest prayer is that each child will come to know God's personal love and purpose for their individual lives BECAUSE of their new families and the stability they provide. You have been an integral part of making this happen over the last year. We know that this is a tough economic time in our own country, yet your compassion for children who don't know the love of a mother and father prodded you to give even when it often meant a sacrifice for you and your own family. That kind of selfless giving has been the source of great encouragement to our team and staff and makes us ever more vigilant in ensuring that your gifts are going to the children and families who need them most.

This last summer our team had the chance to visit with many former orphans who had been adopted. Their adoptive parents told us verbally what a blessing their adopted children have been in their lives. Yet, more powerful than words was actually seeing four year old little Anya (biological child of the Isaev family in Mariupol, Ukraine) cling to her adopted sister Ira (9), and witnessing the friendship that Olga and Mila (adoptive sisters in the Kravchuk family in St. Petersburg, Russia) share as adults, both awaiting the birth of their first child. Tears welled up in the eyes of Gennady Makhnienko when he told us proudly that his 16-year old adopted son, Sergei, has been sober for over three years now. The young boy had been addicted to alcohol since the age of five, long before he met Gennady, but today he is an incredibly hard worker who hopes to help other children at the Pilgrim Rehabilitation center where he was rescued from the streets.

It was apparent in these meetings that not only has your generosity blessed children who needed to be adopted, but the relationships they have formed with their adoptive families have allowed that blessing to expand to every person in their new family. You have not only rescued individual children, but you have allowed them to dream and form healthy relationships that will affect thousands of other people for generations to come. Through the relationships and the love they experience in their families, we know that these formerly orphaned children will have the opportunity to truly experience Christ's love for them.

Yet, despite the great joy we experienced every time we met a child whose life had been changed by adoption due to generous people like you, we also witnessed the sad reality that millions of children in our world are still waiting for that chance. Last month I wrote to you about a little girl named Inga at the Pilgrim Center in Mariupol, Ukraine. As long as children like her are still waiting with longing in their hearts to be adopted into loving families, we must continue to work hard on their behalf. Thank you for inspiring us and giving us the courage to continue in the mission of providing a home for every orphan. We hope you will continue to help orphans in 2013!

Blessings,



Micala CH. Siler

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from neglect to love...

Yura's story of rescue



Because you cared enough to give, little Yura finally found a family who cherishes him!

For the first twelve years of his life, Yura was beaten and verbally abused by his alcoholic father; his mother had died at a young age. Told daily that he was a curse and a burden, the little boy began to believe those awful words. As if these examples of hardship were not enough in this young child's life, Yura is also HIV positive. His father's neglect and poverty meant that he went weeks, sometimes months, without medical treatments. When Yura was taken into custody by social workers, they took photos of his frail body covered in nasty bruises and lacerations from his beatings.

This last year, shortly after Yura had been rescued from his dire situation, **the Isaev family of Mariupol, Ukraine transformed his life forever when they adopted him.** The Isaevs have long been known for their strong Christian faith and generosity, as they are the first family in Ukraine to have adopted an HIV positive child. They now have eight adopted children (seven of whom are HIV+) in addition to their two biological children. **This amazing, loving family would not have been able to take Yura into their home had it not been for our generous donors like you who helped to support them in a variety of ways over the last two years!**

As an example of how much Yura's life has changed, his adoptive father, Yevgenniy, shared a story with us: One day Yevgenniy got a call from one of Yura's teachers alerting him to the fact that Yura had not been doing his homework. The next morning Yevgenniy told Yura before he left for school that they would have to "have a talk" when he returned. In Yura's past life, "having a talk" with his biological father had always meant a severe beating. Heart racing, Yura fled the school after second period and had run nearly 15 miles before Yevgenniy caught up to him. Yevgenniy explained, with tears in his eyes, that he would never beat Yura and that Yura had been a blessing to their family from the day he had arrived.

Today the bond between this loving father and his son is obvious. Yura dreams of becoming a famous cook some day, and told us that his favorite things to make are blini (pancakes) and soup. **Thank you for giving this little boy the chance to dream!**

life-saving medical care

Doctors thought little German would never find a family because of his medical diagnosis—failure to thrive combined with childhood diabetes. However, from the moment they saw him, Roman and Larissa knew that German was the son for them. Unfortunately, they lacked the money to cover German's medical expenses and to provide him with the care he needed for his diabetes. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide little German with life-saving medical care this year!



how your donations help



family support

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to help our partners hire an adoption coordinator named Olesya in Slavyansk, Ukraine. Olesya helped place 48 children in families this year! She also helped provide parenting training for over 340 adoptive and foster parents.

Pictured: One of the families Olesya worked with this year.



warm coats

Thank you for providing these former orphans (and 80 others like them) with warm coats last winter, which was the coldest winter in recent Ukrainian history!



pre-adoption training

The Lesechko family lives outside of St. Petersburg, Russia with their two adopted children, Danya and Sveta. Thanks to generous donors like you, the Lesechkos and other families like them were able to attend pre-adoption training and counseling. In addition, your generous gifts allowed us to send funds for the Lesechkos to make some much-needed repairs to their home. Included in these repairs is a new door for their entry way, which will ensure that they can secure their home and keep in warmth.

adoptees and families!



home repairs

Sasha and Sveta Meroshnik in Mariupol, Ukraine have adopted 19 children (13 live with them currently)! Not long ago, their home was in great need of repairs to make it livable for the family. Thanks to your generosity, they've been able to remodel several rooms and insulate the house.



how your donations help!

resources for foster families

Father's House in Kiev, Ukraine allows caring foster parents to provide transitional living for orphans waiting to be adopted. This past July, our team had the opportunity to meet some of these families. We were struck by the evident warmth between the children and their foster parents. Several of these families needed basic household amenities—refrigerators, bunk beds, etc. Thanks to you, 5 of these families were provided with the resources they desperately needed!



The Zadorogny Family now has the much-needed refrigerator and dishwasher they prayed for. Imagine the piles of dishes 12 people make every day!

biking for adoption!

**Thank you for supporting
20+ orphans as they biked**

1100 miles across Russia and Ukraine this summer to advocate for adoption. These kids put on performances, press releases, TV interviews and more! The bikeathon was a great success and drew huge crowds at every stop.



Ukraine Without Orphans

Two years ago, our partners in Ukraine launched a movement called Ukraine Without Orphans. Their dream is to empty the orphanages in Ukraine through believers caring for orphans through adoption and foster care.

We're so excited to share with you that your giving has helped make that dream a reality! For the first time in history, there are now waiting lists in Ukraine to adopt children under the age of 7! There are still many older orphans and disabled orphans who need families, so the work is not yet done, but amazing progress has been made!

Our national partners in Ukraine are doing amazing work-- from hosting training conferences to publishing resources to providing emergency hotlines for families in crisis. Thank you for supporting them! In addition to supporting Ukraine Without Orphans, your giving has helped to support the launch of Russia Without Orphans, Belarus Without Orphans, and Latvia Without Orphans! The vision from Ukraine is spreading to former Soviet Bloc countries, and we believe that we will see it spread globally! Towards that goal, we are working with our national partners in Ukraine to launch a World Without Orphans movement which would strive to provide families and care for orphans around the world.



Despite breaking his collarbone on the journey, 19-year-old Slavik continued to ride to advocate for orphans!



The team, ready to spread the word that we can have a World Without Orphans!

2012 outcomes & accomplishments

Sophia was 12 years old when her mother died in the hospital after being beaten by Sophia's stepfather. Left wondering who would care for her two sisters, Sophia recounts:

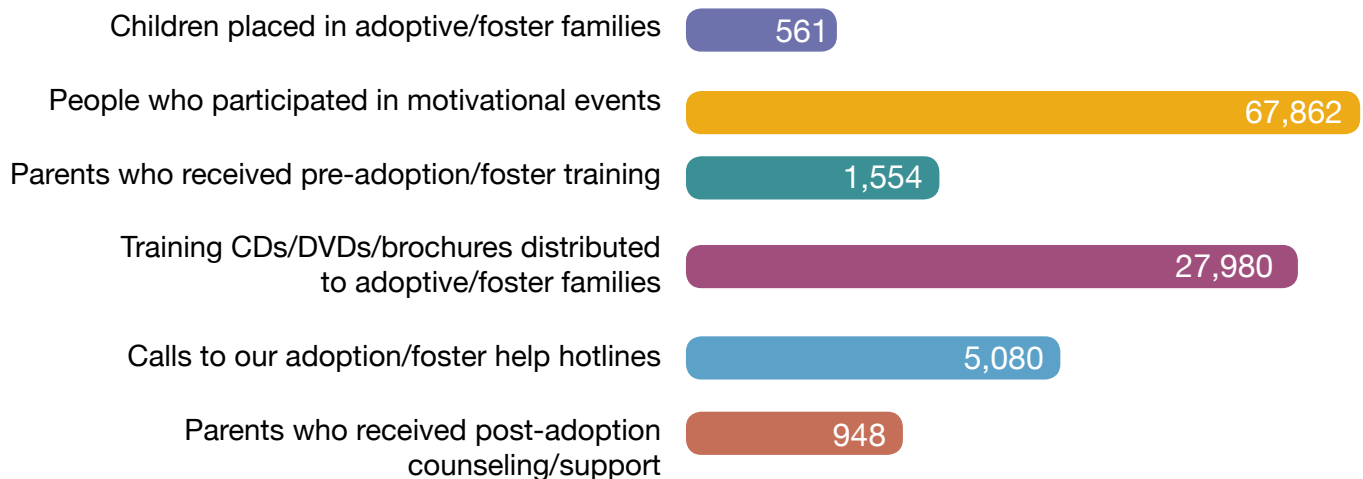
“one day a couple came to the hospital who had read in the newspaper that an abandoned girl was in the hospital. They saw her and asked whether there were more children. They were told about us. So we were introduced to these wonderful people who became for us the most kindred and loved people—now they are our parents.”



partnership

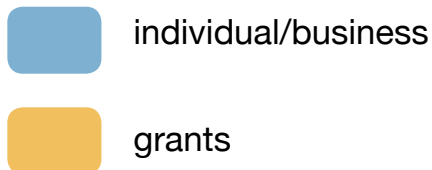
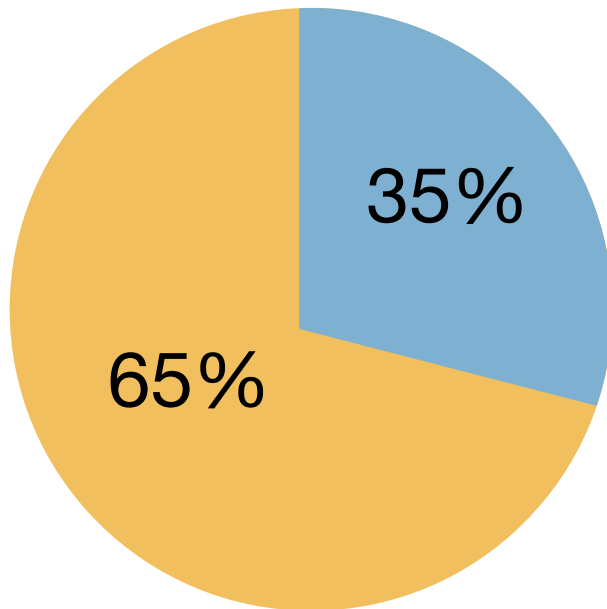
Doorways to Hope is proud to be an integral part of the Home for Every Orphan alliance. Made up of 10 partner organizations in the U.S., Russia and Ukraine, each organization brings unique strengths to our partnership. We encourage you to read more about each of these wonderful organizations on our website (doorwaystohope.org).

number of children and families helped in 2012

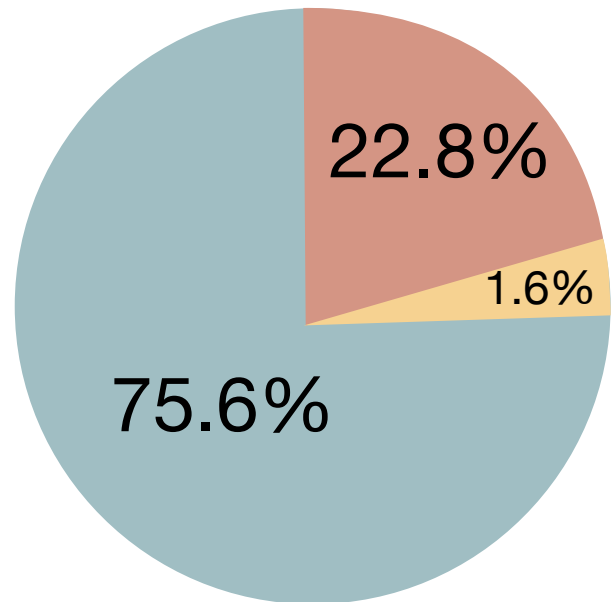


2012 FY financial overview

sources of funding



uses of funding



Financial Statement: Comparing FY11 to FY12

	FY12	FY11
Revenue	\$214,979	\$112,089
Expense	\$201,764	\$80,065
Change in Net Assets	\$13,215	\$32,024
Net Assets, End of Year*	\$45,239	\$37,980

**includes funding designated for Ministry to Orphan programs in FY 2012 and 2013*

the need is still great!

We are so blessed to be able to serve with you. Progress is being made, but the plight of the orphans is far from being over. There are thousands of children waiting for someone to reach out a hand and say, **“you’re a part of a family now.”**



Eight-year old Vlada is described as smart and strong-willed. She longs to be adopted and often asks, “When will someone come to get me?”



Calm and quiet, fifteen-year-old Jura worries that he won’t be adopted because of his age.

Siblings Arthur (8) and Diana (5) are reserved. Arthur struggles in school and likes to play with toy cars. Diana is very patient and a quick learner. Both dream of being adopted.



letter from the chair of the board

Dear Friends,

The needs of the underprivileged throughout the world continue to pose a challenge for all in a position to serve. Of particular concern to us at Doorways to Hope are parentless children who are the most vulnerable, impressionable, and too often, marginalized members of society. When we open our eyes to the challenges they face in certain parts of the world, the scope of the problem can be overwhelming.

I, along with other Doorways to Hope team members, have been exposed to the reality of child soldiers and suicide bombers in Afghanistan. Recent reporting has highlighted how austerity measures in Europe has led to the significant growth in the use of “baby hatches” where unwanted infants are left anonymously for government caretakers to take away. Scores of similar examples demonstrate the continuing need for us to answer the overt calling in the Old and New Testaments to care for orphans.

I consider it a privilege to serve on the board of an organization that is seeking innovative, efficient, and sustainable ways to place orphans and foster children in loving families within their home country. I am aware of no other organization whose strategy has the same potential for widespread reduction in the numbers of the “Orphan Nation.” Doorways to Hope’s method of ministry is different than international adoption. International adoption provides a wonderful opportunity to those who can participate, and we support those families who choose that path. At the same time, we realize that financial and diplomatic barriers reduce the number of kids who can be adopted internationally. Doorways to Hope programs are assisting orphaned children at a fraction of the cost by placing them in families within their home country.

The sacrifices of our staff to make Doorways to Hope programs a reality are truly remarkable. Our board’s commitment to transparency and accountability have enabled the organization to grow effectively and responsibly since it began as a very small group of volunteers four years ago. Thank you for your interest in Doorways to Hope, and we hope that you will consider joining our effort for the sake of those children who find themselves in the greatest need.

In Christ,



Karl Scheuerman
Chair, Board of Directors, Doorways to Hope

ways to help in 2013

We would love for you to get more involved with placing children in families in Eastern Europe! Here are some ideas for how you can help in 2013:

- ➔ **GIVE:** Donations of \$39 a month for one year provide an orphaned child with a loving family in their own country.
- ➔ **PRAY:** We send out brief weekly e-updates with prayer requests and praise reports for individual children and families in Russia and Ukraine. View past prayer requests/praises or sign up to receive the weekly email: doorwaystohope.org/pray
- ➔ **SPREAD THE WORD:** Did the story of a particular child catch your heart? Then please share with your friends via email, facebook, twitter, or in person!
- ➔ **RUN:** We host annual Fun Runs for the Orphan Nation in cities in the U.S. Contact us at info@doorwaystohope.org to learn more about how you can participate in an existing run or plan your own wherever you are!
- ➔ **VOLUNTEER:** Want to get more involved? We’d LOVE for you to volunteer! Whatever your strengths and passions are, we’re sure we could use them! Contact us for more info on how to volunteer: info@doorwaystohope.org



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

doorwaystohope.org

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

info@doorwaystohope.org

Phone: (360) 358-3293

TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION,
visit doorwaystohope.org/give

or give via check at:

Doorways to Hope

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Seattle, WA 98124-1628

Thank you for making the difference
in the life of an orphan!