

ANNUAL REPORT 2013

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a family for every orphan

Letter from the executive director



Adoptee Vala cuddles Noelle, daughter of Executive Director Micala Siler.

Dear Friends,

I am so blessed for the ways we have been able to walk together this past year through our mutual desire to help orphans find families. I am consistently humbled by your generous outpourings of love, prayer and donations that have helped children around the world know God's love through the gift of family. On behalf of our entire team – THANK YOU!

I had the privilege to see in person what your generosity accomplished when I watched little Sveta playing with bubbles, knowing that she would get to grow up with her biological brothers, Andrey and Sasha with loving adoptive parents and siblings. Seventeen-year old Vala was cuddling my little baby, Noelle, and told me in her broken English, "My mother is so brave for adopting me and all my brothers and sisters. I do not know where I would be today without her." Your support of these adoptive families made it possible for them to provide the loving homes that Sveta, Andrey, Sasha, Vala and thousands of others so desperately needed.

Yet despite these happy stories, I remain haunted by the memory of Arturos, a boy with greasy hair and a crooked smile who has waited these last seventeen years in an orphanage in Lithuania for a family who never came. He, too, lovingly played with little Noelle, and shrugged shyly when I commented that he was good with little children. What will become of Arturos? Will he ever be able to have healthy relationships and a family of his own? Who will guide him and mentor him as he leaves the orphanage this next year and enters into one of the most formative periods of his life? Will he ever know of God's infinite love for him? It's hard for me to imagine how anyone could understand the unconditional love of an invisible God when they have never experienced unconditional love from other humans.

With your continued help, we pray that more children like Arturos will experience Christ's love through the love of a family, allowing them to become the individuals that God envisioned when he first "knitted them in their mothers' wombs."

We hope that you will be as encouraged as we have been when you read the many stories of how you have already transformed the lives of so many children like Arturos in these following pages!

Blessings,

Micala Siler



Micala and her daughters
Noelle and Keira

Finding a family and his voice

Though he is only three years old, Bogdan has struggled through more adversity in his short life than many people experience in their entire lives. Born to an impoverished single mom who neglected him, Bogdan was removed from his dire situation by the government right before his second birthday because social workers feared that he would die if left with his biological mother.

Instead of placing Bogdan in a regular orphanage, Bogdan was placed in an orphanage for deaf-mute children. Bogdan, who had no problems with hearing or speaking, spent a year in silence in the orphanage for deaf-mute children. At the age of three, he was thin, skittish around people, and could not say a single word.

Thanks to your support of the Bogdanovy family, they were able to open their home to Bogdan this year. Since being with the Bogdanovys, Bogdan has made amazing progress! He is gradually losing his fear of people, has gained weight, and has become energetic and inquisitive.

And best of all, at almost 4 years old, Bogdan is finally beginning to talk! His first word was "Mommy." Recently he added "Daddy" to his repertoire of words as well.

In addition to learning to talk, Bogdan has discovered a love of singing and dancing in his new family. Imagine what Bogdan would have missed out on had he stayed in the deaf-mute orphanage and not been brought into a loving family!

Thank you for helping Bogdan find a loving family! At almost four years old, his first word was "Mommy."



Thank you so much for your generous giving this year, which provided Bogdan and hundreds of children like him with the chance to experience the love of a family and hope for their future.

Provided a loving home for three disabled orphans



Thanks to the generous giving of Doorway's donors, the Novikov's are expanding their home to adopt three more special needs children!

Four years ago, Nikolai and Natalia felt God calling them to adopt three boys with special needs. People with disabilities are looked down on in Ukraine, and adoption of special needs orphans is quite rare. In fact, Child Services told the Novikovs that if they adopted Vanka (their first adopted son), he would bring them nothing but trouble.

However, the Novikovs ignored social standards and followed what they felt God calling them to do. They adopted Vanka, Vitya, and Vanya, who have all thrived in their family.

This year, the Novikovs felt God calling them to adopt again—three special needs children, two girls and a boy: Nikita (12), Diana (9), and Lutfia (5). However, the government wouldn't let them adopt because their home was too small.

Helped 20+ former orphans bike across Russia to promote adoption

For the past three summers, your gifts have not only supported former orphans as they rode more than 1,000 miles on behalf of adoption, but it also provided families for orphans!



Above: Misha was adopted after his parents attended a bikeathon event last year!

Left: Being HIV+, Kyril had almost no hope of being adopted. That all changed this summer, when his future parents attended a bikeathon event and heard Evgeny Isaev (who has adopted 8 HIV+ orphans) talk about adopting kids with HIV. Three days later, they brought Kyril home!



Provided critical medical care for HIV+ former orphan

Five years ago, the Isaevs adopted Dasha, an active, very social six-year-old who they knew had HIV and Hepatitis C. Last year, when the Doorways to Hope team visited the Isaevs, nine year old Dasha was in the hospital with Hepatitis that had destroyed 50% of her liver. Thanks to your generous giving, doctors were able to provide Dasha with critically needed medical care over the past year. She is now back home with her family and doing well!



Motivated families in Russia & Ukraine to adopt

Sweet baby Philip's adoption was a direct result of your financial support. Your gifts allowed Sergei, a Ukrainian pastor, to share God's vision of emptying orphanages through adoption. Philip's adoptive parents heard Sergei speak and as a result were moved to adopt Philip. They brought him home this summer!

Supported adoptive & foster families

Bespalov family

Alexander and Victoria Bespalov are a testament to the belief that children deserve a loving family. Five of their children are adopted, and as a result of sharing their powerful testimony approximately 100 children have been adopted by people inspired by their message! Victoria is especially thankful for your generosity, which provided a much-needed driveway for this wonderful family. She no longer needs to carry two of her disabled children through the precarious mud and slush to get to the car. Thank you!



Chernishov family

The cycle of orphanhood stops with Andrei and Olesya Chernishov. Orphans themselves, Andrei and Olesya have adopted 4 daughters! When Olesya became pregnant with their first biological child last year, she quietly dreamed of having running water in the house. None of them ever had this luxury! Thanks to your generous gift, Andrei was able to install running water, and remodel their dilapidated (or "broken-down") kitchen and bath. Andrei completed the remodel just as Olesya was coming home from the hospital with their new baby. Thank you for making Olesya's life long dream come true and enabling her to better care for her children!



pray for
every orphan

From Abuse to Endearment

Just a year ago we asked you to pray for Vlada, a charismatic 8-year-old who often asked, “When will someone come to get me?” She prayed continuously for loving parents.

We’re thrilled to report that your prayers—and hers—have been answered! A Ukrainian family adopted her at the beginning of this year.

Vlada’s journey to a loving home has not been easy. Her mother’s parental rights were terminated when Vlada was very young. She then lived with her father, who had remarried. Child Services intervened again when Vlada ran away to escape the cruel physical abuse and starvation that her stepmother had inflicted. At this point, her father’s parental rights were also terminated.

When a couple in Ukraine accepted Vlada with all the love they had to share, she was ecstatic. Since her adoption, she has made huge progress in school. She is very artistic and likes to sing and act in theater productions. Thank you for praying Vlada into a place where she is blossoming and beginning to believe in her future!



Our Vision is a

This past year, the vision of “a World Without Orphans” started spreading beyond Eastern Europe to the rest of the world! Doorways to Hope played an integral part in spreading this vision through its role of distributing grant funding to specific programs under the World Without Orphans Movement. While we are proud to be key supporters of this movement, it is a movement that is growing and changing the face of orphan care around the world because many organizations and talented individuals are giving their time and talents in a unified effort.

You may remember us telling you about Russian and Ukrainian churches and non-profits forming alliances with the goal of getting kids out of orphanages and into families. Other countries were so inspired by the amazing results of these alliances that they started forming their own national alliances – but often they realized that they needed help! They needed training on how to unite leaders on this common goal of getting orphans into families. They needed training on how to create advocacy packages for their governments in order to develop systems that would support adoption and foster care. They needed resources to provide families with adequate training and support to become adoptive and foster families. The list goes on and on.

The World Without Orphans Movement is addressing these requests for help from nations and regions around the world as they strive to help orphans find families in their home countries.



World Without Orphans

What World Without Orphans (WWO) accomplished in 2013:

14 nations assisted: Hungary, Ukraine, Belarus, Latvia, Russia, Kenya, Colombia, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Uganda, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Chile

5 countries assisted with an existing WO movement: Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Latvia, Kenya

9 countries currently taking steps to form a “WO” alliance: Bangladesh, India, Hungary, Kenya, Colombia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Nepal, Ethiopia

3,000+ participants at WWO events, representing 70 countries

14 conferences/leader forums held in Korea, Spain, US, Hungary, Colombia, India, Bangladesh, Thailand, Indonesia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Ukraine, Belarus

Distributed approximately 1,500 copies of the WWO pamphlet and Roles for Churches Discussion Guide

Networks supporting WWO: 4/14 Window, Transform World, Compassion International, Alliance for Ukraine Without Orphans (UWO), Alliance for Russia Without Orphans (RWO), Home For Every Orphan Partnership (HFEO), Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO), Global Children’s Forum



in a child's words

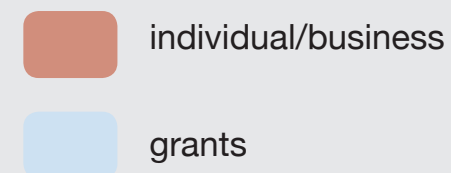
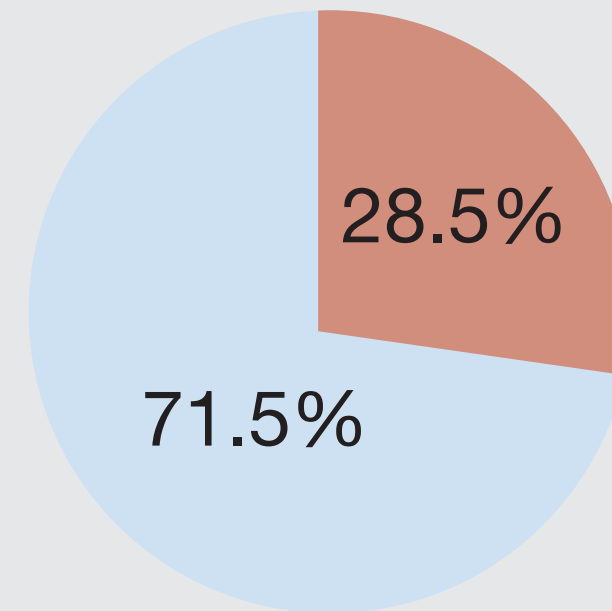
“ When I was in the orphanage, I really wished for a family. And I believed in my heart that God would give me one. I was lonely and bored and didn't know what to do with myself in the orphanage. But God answered my dream, and gave me a good family. Now I have people who love me and I also have sisters. We have a good house and a good school. I'm so happy that God gave me this family. ”

- Sveta, 8 years old

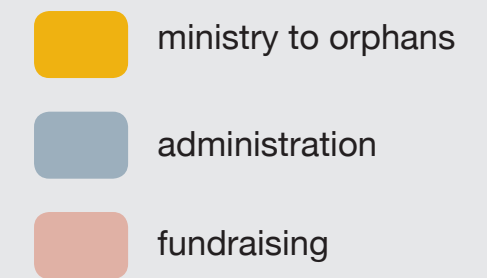
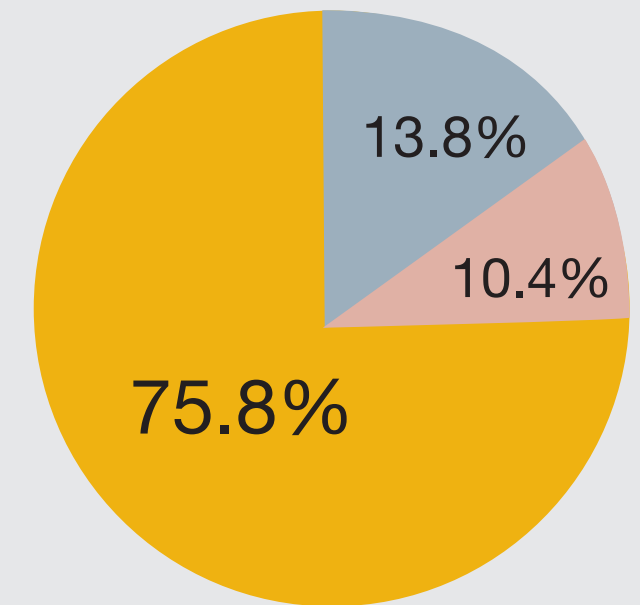


financial overview

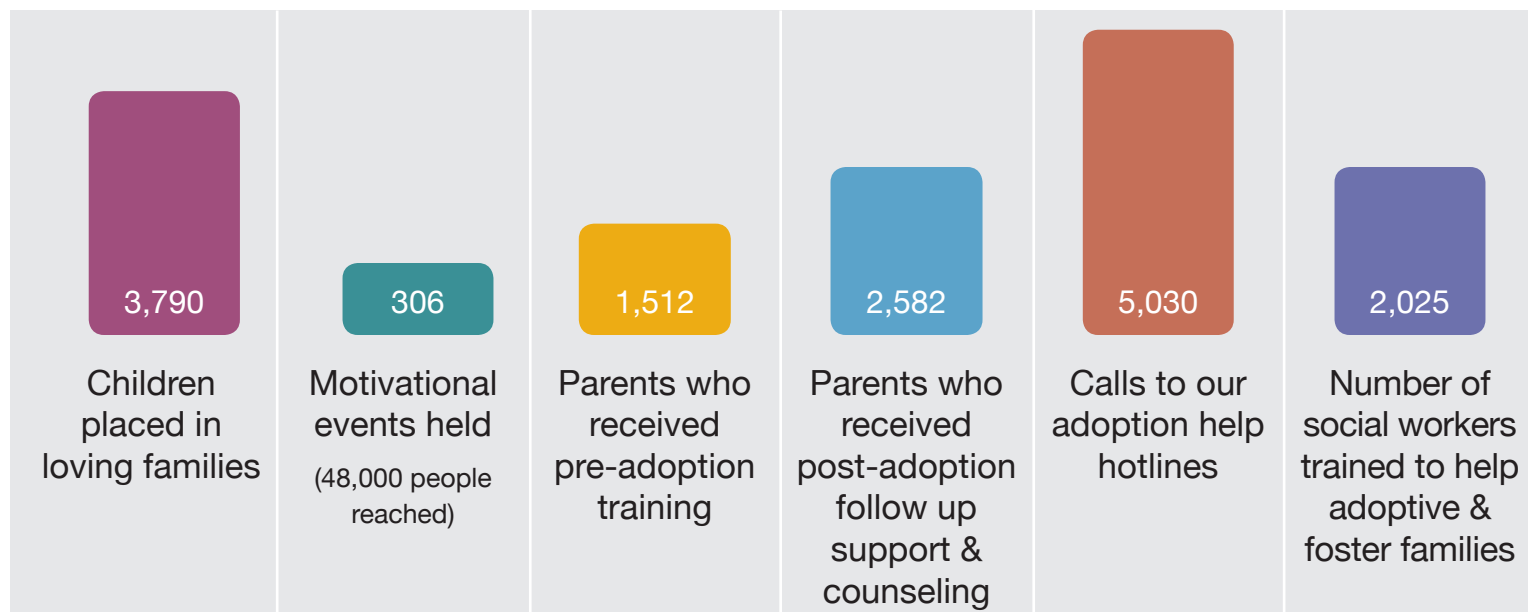
sources of funding



uses of funding



number of children & families helped by Doorways to Hope & partners



financial statement: FY comparison

	FY 2012	FY 2013
Revenue	\$215,199	\$346,088
Expense	\$204,081	\$304,432
Change in Net Assets	\$11,117	\$41,656
Net Assets, End of Year*	\$51,811	\$93,467

*includes funding designated for Ministry to Orphan programs in FY 2014

the need is still great!

Christians, government leaders and orphan care providers around the world are working hard to systematically change the face of orphan care and ensure that children are moved out of institutions and into loving homes. Every day, orphans are welcomed into their new forever families. However, the need is still great. There are children still anxiously waiting to hear the words “You are loved. You are part of this family.”

Brothers Jura (16) and Dima (10) have been waiting patiently to be adopted for over a year. Both boys long for a family they can trust and feel safe being a part of.



Calm and even-tempered Artur dreams of parents to adopt him. At age 15, his likelihood of being adopted is very small.



Ira has a form of dwarfism, and has been in an orphanage for disabled children since she was three years old. She loves sports and theater, and dreams of someday becoming an athlete or actress.

“What I really lack is support—someone who tells me that I can do what I put my mind to. Someone who I can go to when I’m having trouble with my school work, who believes in me and helps me believe in myself.”

- Ira

Alyona lives in an orphanage for disabled children in Ukraine. She loves beadwork and wants to become a florist. Her life goal is to show people that individuals with disabilities have worth. Alyona hopes to have a loving family to call her own.



letter from the chair of the board

Dear friends,

We are privileged to share some of what the Lord has done over the past year through your generosity to provide for orphans across the world. This annual report is both an expression of joy for the things that have been accomplished, but also a reminder that the needs of the orphans worldwide are still prevalent.

More challenges to international orphan care arose in recent months due to political disagreements between countries. Russia suspended foreign adoptions of their orphans, and we have observed similar activity in other parts of the world over the past few years. Furthermore, it’s becoming increasingly expensive for waiting families here in the United States to adopt an orphan from overseas.

In light of these realities, we believe Doorways to Hope’s strategy of empowering Christian families in foreign countries to domestically adopt the orphans within their own communities has the greatest potential to significantly reduce the number of orphans in the world. I cannot emphasize this point enough, and this novel and unique approach is what sets Doorways to Hope apart from other organizations.

The board of directors for Doorways to Hope has remained highly committed over the past year to ensuring responsible governance, transparency, and financial accountability. We

are blessed to have an Executive Director and staff who serve and use their exceptional talents in ways that increase the impact of our strategies and projects far beyond what the dollar amounts would suggest. Our donors can rest assured that their contributions are used effectively to directly enable numerous orphans to be placed in loving, forever families. While our projects have remained primarily in Ukraine and Russia, we have laid groundwork to expand operations to several other countries in the former Soviet Union this year, with hopes of bringing this model of ministry in the future to other countries across the globe.

Thanks you again for your interest in and support of Doorways to Hope. May God bless you and the children living throughout the world who do not yet have a family to call their own.

In Christ,



Karl A. Scheerman

Karl Scheerman
Chair, Board of Directors
Doorways to Hope

how can you help in 2014?

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 2014:

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 and 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 in the U.S. to raise awareness for orphans. Contact us at info@doorwaystohope.org to learn more about how you can participate in an existing run in a city near you or plan your own!

KEEP IN TOUCH: Stay current with Doorways to Hope news; sign up to receive our e-newsletter or postal mail.

LIKE US & FOLLOW: Like us on Facebook (facebook.com/doorwaystohope) and follow us on Twitter ([DoorwaystoHope](https://twitter.com/DoorwaystoHope)).

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.

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a family for every orphan



doorwaystohope.org

OUR MISSION

Doorways to Hope helps orphans find loving Christian families in their home countries.

OUR VISION

Our vision is a world without orphans.

OUR BOARD

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