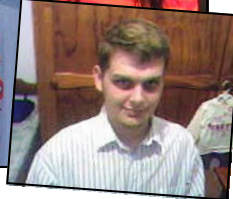


Student Scholarships Still Our Best Value

by Beverly Kubik

Giving a deserving student a scholarship is giving a gift that keeps repeating itself throughout the rest of that person's life. It gives young people skills to make a living and care for themselves and their families. At LifeNets, November is time to review ongoing scholarships and requests for new scholarships as the new school year begins in January for most of our students.

This past year our scholarship program has expanded to Zambia and Ghana. In the photos (from left) is Karen who graduated as a school



teacher in Guatemala. She now teaches elementary school near where she lives. On the right is Cherisse who is studying marketing in South Africa, along with Andre (below) who is studying mechanical engineering.

In Malawi some of our students are Shadreck, who is studying for an advanced diploma in mass communications and journalism. He will graduate next June. Wilmot will graduate next summer after four years of

Issue Highlights:

- Scholarships
- Revival Center in Chernobyl Area
- LifeNets Southern Africa
- New Computers in Ukraine
- Fort Worth Boot Scoot Fund-raiser
- Vinogradov Van Delivered

study at the Malawi College of Accounting. Wordsworth is studying mathematical sciences and technology. He is finishing his first year and would like to continue for three more years to earn his degree. Other courses of study that our students are pursuing are computer engineering, level two accounting and medical sciences. Still other young (see "Scholarships," page 2)

2007 Events at the Revival Center Near Chernobyl

by Dr. Vasyl Pasichnyk

Our relationship with the Revival Center began in 1996 and led to the founding of LifeNets in 1999. Dr. Vasyl Pasichnyk was the head pediatrician in the Chernobyl area, and he treated the first victim children on the fateful day of April 26, 1986. LifeNets has worked steadily with the Revival Center by sending containers of aid and financing the development of a remarkable center in Chernihev, Ukraine. Our annual budget for helping the Center stands at \$15,000. Dr. Pasichnyk writes this report:

In 2007 we treated 1,300 children. Of this number about 500 were treated free through the charitable support of our friends. We thank you very kindly for the help that you have given our children.



Ukraine's First Lady Katerina Yuschenko presents Dr. Vasyl Pasichnyk an award for excellence in working with children's rehabilitation.

We are now able to keep children overnight with a 30-bed facility. This helps us treat children further out in our region. This was opened in September

2006 and is working wonderfully. We have a three-month waiting list.

We had some interesting events in the life of the Center this past year.

We met with the wife of our president, First Lady Katerina Yuschenko at the Presidential Palace on Jan. 31. The event was to award grants from the Ukraine 3000 Foundation that she heads. This foundation works largely through non-governmental organizations to encourage the development of the tradition of charity in Ukraine. (see "Chernobyl," page 2)



At the Centre a staff member displays drawing by patient child.

“Scholarships,” continued from page 1

people are taking advantage of LifeNets scholarships to finish high school. Fees for attending high school cause many to drop out, and LifeNets bridges this predicament. Having this education makes a huge difference in their lives. Unemployment in Malawi can be very high and many others barely make enough to feed themselves. A scholarship may provide that once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to break out of the poverty cycle.

Many will go on to help support extended family members. This is a way of life for those who are able to get a job. In fact, most requests for a grant make reference to the student then being able to support others besides his or her immediate family. Here's a typical statement:

“Your scholarship will help to cover tuition fees,

where at the end I will hold a bachelor's degree that will enable me to secure a job. Then I will support myself and the needy people.” This comes from a young man who has lost his parents and is being raised by his aunt who is also poor. He has done well with his studies and should graduate in July of 2009.

In Malawi, LifeNets has ongoing scholarships for 16 students and an additional four are working to complete high school.

Zambia has two students studying at colleges in Lusaka. They are from a very remote area of Zambia and will be the first in their large families to have this opportunity.

We are also beginning scholarships in Kenya and in the Philippines.

LifeNets Southern Africa oversees several scholarships in their area.

“Chernobyl,” continued from page 1

There were 20 winners from 58 contestants that applied for grants for centers that rehabilitate children. Our proposal took first place. The grant was used for equipment for a sensor room for psychological therapy. There were many representatives of the press present.

Mrs. Yuschenko promised to visit us, but political events seem to interfere. We spoke to Mrs. Yuschenko about LifeNets and Victor and Beverly Kubik—she was pleased about the charitable work of LifeNets and we joyfully send greetings to you from her.

We have developed a good working relationship with the Kharkov Center of Genetics that is headed by academician Olena Hrechanino who gives lectures for doctors and consults our children whose health is affected by genetic problems.

At the Revival Center we had many festive concerts and gatherings and musical presentations—this improves children's quality of life.

Children now receive all the most contemporary methods of rehabilitation: drugs for epileptic and spastic episodes, massages, therapy baths and aerobic gymnastics. We also have acupuncture, psychological training, Montessori therapy, classes in



One of our darling children at the Center

computers, wood shops and other non-medical programs. Children receive four meals a day. They have various activities, musical events and choreography. As a result, the children become happy and adapt well to their environment. Effectiveness is well documented.

Eighty-two percent of the children's health improves.

The Center also greatly influences the

families of the disabled children.

We currently have a staff of 118. We started with 12 back in 1996 when we started working with LifeNets.

Right now what's most important for the Center is to build on a wing for 50 more beds. We have been working on a campaign to find sponsors. Unfortunately, there seem to be so many needs and they are growing. Since the Chernobyl accident of 1986, children's disabilities have increased by a factor of four.

There's one more point of interest. Our patient Yaroslav Bikh who was born with paralyzed arms has become the laureate of young pianists.

This is a wonderful witness to the effectiveness of our rehabilitation efforts. Many of our patients have found their place in life and in society.



Parents with their children at the Center



“Dr. P.” with his wife, Natalya



LifeNets (Southern Africa)
In Association with **LifeNets International, Inc.**

Our LifeNets affiliate in South Africa was established on May 18, 2001, and has conducted its own outreach in fulfilling our mission in South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In 2007 LifeNets Southern Africa provided university level textbooks in Zambia.

In Zimbabwe it repaired a dam on a person's property to provide irrigation. Also three student scholarships were given. One was



LifeNets Southern Africa Management Committee. From left: Andre van Belkum, president; Elize van Belkum; Jenny Tyler; Jenny Fatcher, secretary; and Neville Smith, vice-chairman.

to finish secondary school; the others were for a marketing and a hairdressing and beauty course.

In South Africa scholarships were given for courses in marketing, mechanical engineering and computer science, as well as for one student from Zimbabwe who is studying music in South Africa. All in all about \$5,000 in project aid has been provided.

For more about our Southern African affiliate, please go to www.lifenets.org/rsa.

New Equipment for LifeNets Computer School in Western Ukraine

by Ivan Yurishko, Director, LifeNets Ukraine

Since 2000 LifeNets has provided computers and developed a curriculum for computer education in Transcarpathia for those who could never have afforded it. It was done through our own computer schools and through public schools. Please be sure to see photos of the history of our computer program in Western Ukraine at <http://lifenets.org/ukraine/computers2000.htm>.

Recently we provided our LifeNets computer school in Khust 15 brand-new Pentium 4 XP Dell computers, each having an 80-gig hard disk. They are all networked to a laser printer. This is the second time we have replaced the computers since 2000.

Altogether 48 computers, nine copy machines and three printers have been purchased by and through LifeNets since the start of our program. We have been conducting a two-year class called "Operator EOM" for



students from Boronyavsko, Rokosov, Krivskoy and Izyanskiy schools in the Khust region, and also students from schools 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7 in Khust. Students from grades 10-11 of the selected schools were brought to Khust for vocational training where they went through a school program for both the theoretical and practical learning of certain professions. Some chose to be electricians, others tailoring, some commercial and business, others metal workers. Some chose the "Operator EOM" course sponsored by LifeNets.

Khust's high school education trade school did not have the means to support itself with computer equipment, but local corporation Shturmer Ltd. [which is owned by Ivan Yurishko] and LifeNets provided the facilities and computers to run the program with access to the Internet. We were able to educate 219 students from the outlying region of Khust.

Fort Worth Boot Scoot Raises \$3,500 for Scholarships

by Kelli Hogg

Nearly 100 guests gathered at the Inaugural Boot Scoot in Fort Worth, Texas, on Sept. 8 to raise more than \$3,500 for the LifeNets Developing Nations Scholarship Fund. Live music was generously provided by the *Soundpost* band, while guests had the chance to fellowship, shop at the bake sale and bid in the silent auction.



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My family first became involved in LifeNets in 1997. My mother, Brenda Hogg, had then been recently diagnosed with uterine cancer and was suffering from radiation treatments. Mr. Kubik happened to visit the Dallas area during that time and spoke about the project he was organizing to send medical supplies to the victims of the Chernobyl radiation tragedy. My father, Willis Hogg, told my mom about it, and she immediately became involved. She knew firsthand the horrible effects of radiation and could not imagine being exposed to the extreme amounts that the families in Chernobyl had experienced.

Since then, my family's involvement in LifeNets has con-

tinued to grow as the organization grew. The Developing Nations Scholarship Fund also touched my family as my parents did not attend college and always strongly encouraged me to earn my degree. When I finally graduated, we celebrated with as many family members and loved ones as possible. Since then, we have continued to gather annually for one celebration or another.

So many of our friends and family asked us when our next party would be that we decided to have an event that would not only be fun for everyone involved, but also raise money and awareness for LifeNets. We have received such positive feedback that we are going to make it an annual event.



"Boot Scoot was a blast, awesome food, live music and fun," said Jerry Girard. "I really enjoyed the silent auction—it was fun to watch people trying to win their items and check out what other people were bidding on." Amy Wuerfel commented: "It was awesome to be able to contribute to LifeNets here in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, and have fun doing it too! We are so glad to have participated in raising money to create opportunities and

hope for others so they will be able to have a better future and be able to give back to their community." One thing to always remember: You can impact someone's life for just a few dollars—the same amount you would spend going out on the town on a Saturday night. We hope to see you at the Second Annual Boot Scoot in 2008!

Vinogradov Van for Street Children Delivered in September

In our street children program, many of the children have to be transported to Vasyl and Irina Polichko, who care for them. Transportation that was used previously was becoming unreliable. There were no seatbelts and not enough seats.

Last year we committed to obtaining reliable transportation at a modest cost. We bought a used late-model panel van in Germany. A pastor in Minden, Germany, converted the van into the beautiful 20-passenger van you see here. We then gifted the van from LifeNets to "Light of Love" mission. It was an arduous process involving much documentation.



Volunteer drivers came from Ukraine and then took the van across the border to Vinogradov. It is about a



24-hour drive straight through. Now the children can be transported to and from home and be able to continue excursions as part of the care that Vasyl and Irina provide. We thank you again for your contributions. We particularly thank our friends in California who provided the lion's share of the funding for this \$24,000 project.

We have sponsored the Vinogradov Street Children Program in Ukraine since 2001. Vasyl Polichko and his wife, Irina, who have no children of their own, have devoted themselves to children who come from broken and dysfunctional homes.