

## Cattle, Medicine Benefit Zambian Community

In December 2001 LifeNets supplied heifers and bulls to three communities in the Mumbwa region of Zambia. They had lost all their livestock to Corridor disease several years before. Here is a report from Kambani Banda, LifeNets director for Zambia about the success of this project:

All twenty-two heifers and two bulls are in good health. The heifers have dropped 20 calves in total. One was still born and the other died shortly after birth, the live ones are 18. This represents a 91% calving and 90% survival rate. The bulls have now grown and doing an extremely good job, hence the increase in the number of calves.



The heifer component of the LifeNets projects in Zambia will soon enter a new phase. The initial heifer recipients will complete the process of "passing on the gift" as families will begin to manage the heifers on their own. There will be little monitoring from LifeNets staff. From sale of excess milk produced by the heifers they will have the money to buy veterinary drugs and vaccines.

This progression is the acid test of this project which fulfils one of LifeNets missions that is *providing assistance that creates self sufficiency.* Self-management will reveal to us whether we have succeeded (see "Zambian" page 3)

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## Vinogradov, Ukraine Street Children's Program Starts Fourth Year

In June we visited our Street Children's Program in Vinogradov. Here LifeNets helps nearly 40 children who are abandoned, orphaned, have a single parent or come from impoverished conditions.

Often the children come from large poor families. We specifically remembered some of the children who wandered the streets when we visited in 2001. Now, they are in the loving care of the Polichko's. What a difference! The Polichko's transformed an old government building into a soup kitchen and a center for the care of the street children. But, what is more wonderful is the transformation in the personalities of the children when they are loved, fed and cared for.

The program for the children is as follows in the summer. They are picked up at 9:00 am and breakfast is served at



Irina Polichko with happy children.

9:30. Then they play volleyball and other games in the courtyard until 12 noon when they have a Bible Study, reading of stories and singing. This is followed by lunch. Then they have more recreational activities such as volleyball in the courtyard. Or they go on an excursion in the Polichko's vans out in nature in the beautiful Carpathian Mountains or visit historic sites such as castles. When they return, they are served dinner and are sent to where they were picked up from. During school time they go to classes and are served two meals. Ivan Yurishko, our LifeNets Director in nearby Khust, has also helped provide transportation.

LifeNets has provided over \$22,000 for this program. The children and the Polichkos express their great gratitude for giving them love, concern dignity and most of all hope for the future.



# Dream Coming True: Finishing the "Revival" Centre in Chernihev, Ukraine

The "Revival" Centre for Disabled Children is a dream that LifeNets has had a part in turning into reality. After the terrible 1986 nuclear accident the Ukrainian, then Soviet, government decreed that a children's rehabilitation center be constructed in each of the 24 provinces. But, after ten years, only eight were built. Complicating things was the fact that Ukraine became independent in 1991 and was having to deal with the effects of the disaster alone. Critical facilities to rehabilitate elevated incidences of cerebral palsy, epilepsy, speech defects, learning disabilities and other problems were non-existent.



Therapist massaging boy with his mother close by.



Dr. Vasil Pasechnick and British surgeon Maurice Frohn at the Centre in April 1996, two months before opening. Maurice Frohn and Victor Kubik traveled to the Chernobyl area three times in 1996-1997 to help with the Centre.

But, that didn't stop three doctors in Chernihev 40 miles to the east of the nuclear accident. This included the head pediatrician in the Chernobyl area, Dr. Vasil Pasechnick. The doctors went ahead and started a rehabilitation center on their own beginning with 30 children. The city gave them space in an old Soviet nursery. Since the opening of the clinic LifeNets has sent six large shipping



containers filled with supplies. We have helped purchase medical equipment and constructed a recreation area on the grounds. The Centre has grown from 30 to 60, then 120 children. We are now helping to expand the Centre to its maxi-



The story of the "Revival" Centre showing remodeling, the recreation area and happy children.

mum capacity of 220 children as the rest of the nursery building is being remodeled for clinic use. We thank all of our donors for helping finish this project.

When Dr. Pasechnick visited Indianapolis he was asked many questions about conditions in Ukraine after the Chernobyl accident. Here is an answer to another question.



## Blankets for LifeNets Orphan Care Centre in Malawi

In Balaka LifeNets assists in caring for 195 orphans in Balaka who are forced to sleep only in their clothes. In the southern hemisphere July is the coldest month of the year. This year it was colder than usual in Malawi, and it was colder than usual this year. We arranged to purchase blankets for all the orphans as you see on the right. We already provide food, medicine and medical attention for the orphans who live with guardians or siblings. Our program connected with Chizeni Clinic cares for pre-school orphans up to age five who are most vulnerable. The children eat communal style and often the older children take all the food leaving the young ones to starve. Our program makes certain that these children are not overlooked. At the clinic we are building a fish pond and planting mango trees to provide food on an ongoing basis for



**Question:** *You've spoken about the effects to children near Chernobyl, but how far away were the effects noted? And what were those effects? Also, what about adults? How many children have been orphaned as a result of the accident.*

**Answer:** *A lot of children and adults in other regions were effected by radiation. There are 12 Ukrainian regions affected by the radiation that includes more than 3.5 million people of which 1.7 million are children.*

*Radiation clouds were blown by the wind to other countries. Parts of Russia, Byelorussia and other countries are polluted by radiation.*

*There is no official data concerning the number of liquidators who died in cleaning up the nuclear power plant. But, knowing the situation in our region and having given medical and psychological rehabilitation to Chernobyl children, I must tell you that there are a lot of orphans from the liquidator's families.*

LifeNets was started because of our work in Chernobyl. We are looking for more supporters who would like to help us help Dr. Pasechnick and his dedicated staff at the "Revival" Centre. Contact us for more information.



## LifeNets Volunteers Raising Money — Benefits / Garage Sales /Car Washes

We want to express a special thank you to our many LifeNets volunteers who organized fundraisers for our various projects. Fundraisers like this provided not only much needed financing; it also brought awareness of the people who are helped and how their lives are being improved.

Here are photos of just some of the fundraisers.



On July 18th the Ambassador Bible Center in Cincinnati, Ohio held bake sale and silent auctions in connection along with an entertaining Variety Show to raise \$2829 for the Developing Nations Scholarship Fund

In Chicago, a United Church of God Young Adults group held a yard sale that raised \$1500 for the Developing Nations Scholarship Fund. This event was held at the home of Tim and Yulia Dick on June 6th.



Car wash on August 15th in Crawfordsville, Indiana raises \$1291 for the Revival Center in Chernihev Ukraine and Life Gaps School in Monticello, Indiana.



In addition \$3585 Australian dollars were collected throughout United Churches of God and Festival sites for much-needed Zambian well projects. If you are interested in a fundraiser with interest in a particular project contact us at 888 821-0095 or at [fundraisers@lifenet.org](mailto:fundraisers@lifenet.org).

### “Zambian” continued from page 1

in developing a mindset that creates self-sufficiency. To put it simply, we will learn whether or not the beneficiaries have learned to manage their small herd in a business-like manner and can practice, without supervision, the skill of animal husbandry. We will continue to monitor (but not supervise) these families.

Three families have received two heifers each born from the original lot. For this incredible gift, they are excited as well grateful. At the current level of income, and considering the size of the families it is impossible for a family to buy a heifer.

The male calves born from the first lot have been castrated and will begin yoke training by the end of the year and should be ready for work the following farming season. This new and exciting development, will unlock the gate to the tremendous potential of this project. This phase of the project should witness a dramatic boost in the food production through the power of draft animals. We cannot wait to see these young oxen begin to work and produce!

Having said this, we do not wish to down play the critical



Victor Kubik standing alongside a gentle Brahma bull on October 8

and on going benefit received from the milking the cows. Quietly and without drama they provide a much-needed supply of milk, a major source of protein. Milk is made into curds, eaten as a delicacy to accompany the Zambian main dish of *nshima*, a thick porridge made from corn. This combination is wonder panacea for malnutrition in children.

Mortality among our heard is nil thanks to the foresight that led us to invest in the animal husbandry training course. Our insistence on disease prevention, through vaccinations, dipping, deworming and hygiene has paid good dividend. The veterinary support component of this project, the financial engine, without which all these activities would not possible, is praiseworthy. Even the bigger and more experienced farmers in the area cannot match our low mortality rates.

We have also provided medicine to our community in the Mumbwa region for the past three years that has greatly added to general state of health and has made people ever more productive. We are very grateful for this.

As a matter of fact, since the program started, we have had no deaths from malaria or diarrhea. There is no malnutrition among our children either.



Milking in progress.



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LifeNets is a 501(c)(3) corporation that helps people in need and promotes self-sufficiency. Contributions to LifeNets are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

### How to Effortlessly Double or Triple your LifeNets Donation

Many companies will match their employees' and retirees' charitable contributions. Check with your personnel office and they will provide the necessary forms and instructions. Then send LifeNets the completed form. Thank you very much!

If you would like for us to put a friend on the mailing list, please let us know via email at: [newsletter@lifenets.org](mailto:newsletter@lifenets.org) or write us at the address above.

## What Is Still Needed?

Every day LifeNets transforms individuals and communities as you see in this newsletter. We count on the continual support of our friends to keep all of our programs going. We CAN make a difference in bringing people from subsistence poverty, from unsanitary living conditions or no medicine that many of take for granted. Our desire is to continue with the projects we already have in progress. *Thanks again to those who have made LifeNets their charity of choice.*

Our particular needs are as follows:

- Expansion of our Developing Nations Scholarship Program, as we add students in Malawi and Zimbabwe.
- Livelihood development projects in Africa and Latin America.
- Completing the "Revival" Centre in Chernihev, Ukraine.

## Wheelchairs, Vans and Ambulances

Through our website LifeNets receives several donations of manual and power wheelchairs every week. We are happy to be able to provide mobility to those who could not otherwise afford it. Most of our recipients are within the United States.



Here are photos of two of our happy recipients in California and Alabama.

Through a fundraising effort headed by our Minnesota chapter of LifeNets, \$15,000 was raised for a van for Wade Malwitz who suffers from Multiple Sclerosis. After our purchase of the van, the county provided extensive modifications to make it possible for Wade to enter into and drive the van.

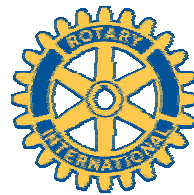


In South Africa, LifeNets helped organize fundraisers around the world to help purchase an acceptable van for quadriplegic Martin Brown. We raised \$15,000. Martin is a tall person who needed a vehicle with adequate clearance for his head. His mother drives the van; the old one was dangerous and the steering was on the "wrong" side where you drive on



the left side of the road in South Africa.

In Malawi, the Rotary Foundation donated two new ambulances to the Malakia Clinic in Lilongwe and the Chizeni Clinic in Balaka. This has been a wonderful gift that expands the capacity of these two health facilities that LifeNets helped build. The Malakia clinic is now certified as a antenatal care center and has



hired an extra nurse and the Chizeni Clinic will be able to perform more advanced medical procedures. On the right is a photo of the handing over of the two ambulances from the Blantyre Rotary President Han Wouters to Dr. Sam Chilopora and Gladstone Chonde who are directors of the two LifeNets clinics.

