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SPECIAL NEEDS ORPHANAGE RECEIVES HELP

BY JOHN L. KACHELMAN JR.



John L. Kachelman Jr., chairman of the Advisory Committee of PartnerSHIP for Impact and president of Life Resources International, stands with volunteers Wednesday who helped load a container in Judsonia that is destined for Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine.

We have been assisting a special needs orphanage in Zaporozhe, Ukraine, for a number of years. We became involved in this work when we were asked to provide clothing and hygiene supplies because the state was not providing any assistance.

The orphanage is for boys only and the children are ages 5-18.

Since our initial involvement we have delivered disabled equipment, clothing, personal hygiene supplies, linens and other supplies. The orphanage serves children who are disabled physically and genetically.

On my last trip to Zaporozhe, I visited a home and was told that they had lost their hot water. They had paid the bill but the supplier of hot water had not paid his bills. So the orphanage lost access to hot water. This was a

critical situation as the special needs of the children require constant cleaning of soiled clothes, bedding and personal hygiene and bathing.

When I found out the need I asked how much would be needed to provide hot water that the orphanage could maintain on its own and have a constant supply. I was given the cost and committed to paying for two separate boilers.

The cost for each was \$360, which was rounded to \$400 each as I knew there would be extra costs involved.

When the orphanage director (Lyudmila) finalized the purchase and installation, she was able to leverage the costs of two into a purchase and installation of five.

We were able to provide this immediate assistance to these children because of the compassion and generosity of the class members of Don England's "Seekers Class" at the College church of Christ! Each month this class takes up a collection to assist in the efforts of Ukraine missions.

We also loaded a container from the Judsonia warehouse that is destined from Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, on Wednesday. This container carries furnishings for schools and clothing for those displaced by Russia's invasion on the eastern regions of Ukraine and Crimea. The load went very well and we were able to complete the loading in one hour and 50 minutes. This was a wonderful surprise because we were lacking some of our usual workers. The challenge of this load was deciding how to stack the school desks so that volume would not be lost.

Those working inside the container did a fantastic job in stacking the desks and we did not lose much volume inside the container. In the voids caused by the school desks, we were able to stuff in bags of clothing that are greatly needed by those displaced.

Here is what the container contained:

- 713 bags of clothes
- 6 bookcases
- 10 filing cabinets
- 40 chairs
- 187 desks
- 21 chalkboards

The totals of the load are impressive:

- total pieces shipped, 977
- total pounds loaded, 29,942
- total value shipped, \$179,470

Upon completion of the final load documents, I received a wonderful email from the shipper. It accurately compliments our efforts and the great team that we have working together on these projects!

John L. Kachelman Jr. is chairman of the Advisory Committee of PartnerSHIP for Impact and president of Life Resources International, where he has coordinated humanitarian efforts in 23 countries. He is also a lecturer and author of more than 20 books. Donations can be sent to Ukraine Missions, 2934 E. Moore Ave., Searcy, AR 72143

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