

HEART OF UKRAINE MINISTRIES



Help Us Reach Our Next Goal

An exciting opportunity is upon us as we reach for the next step in the vision God has given us to meet the needs of the homeless, addicted and hurting in Ukraine. We would like to ask you to consider where God might be asking you to help!

In order to reach our next step the following is needed:

\$2,000 To purchase land across the street from David's House for additional garden space so more food can be grown to feed the homeless (just less than 1 acre).

FIRST STEP: FEEDING PROGRAM

2008-2009: We began our feeding program with weekly food bags to a number of homeless, addicted and needy. Building relationships was difficult as they are extremely suspicious but we eventually increased our initial four packets to over 26.

2009-2010 Winter: We began feeding a hot meal at a new site and continued to provide food bags at our original location. During the coldest part of the winter, the Vinnitsa City Government invited us to participate in serving at the Emergency Tent Shelter. We provided hot dinners two times a week for several months in addition to providing toilet paper, hand washing soap, some minor medical supplies, canes to two older women, and winter clothes and warm blankets.

2010-2011 Winter: We began feeding in late November as the weather was exceptionally warm until then. We discontinued the food bag ministry due to cost and operational issues, but added a 2nd site to the hot meal feeding program. We also added another day to our schedule, so we were feeding every Monday and Friday mornings. During 2011 we fed approximately 100 meals each day. Due to support from Friends of Ukraine (a group formed by Ada Bible Church, Ada, Michigan), we were able to provide better soups, sometimes with meat, and additional food dishes (plov: rice meat dish or galoopsie: cabbage rolls). Their help also was instrumental in adding the second site and a second day to our schedule. A number of local groups and individuals support the ministry through giving a variety of vegetables, or small amounts of money; i.e., one elderly lady who we feed, collects recyclables and occasionally gives a 2-3g (\$0.26-0.40), while a woman we've never met heard of our ministry and gives money she saves weekly, approximately 300g a month (\$39).

SECOND STEP: DAVID'S HOUSE REHABILITATION CENTER

We gave a name to the center this year: *David's House – Helping People Face the Giants in Their Lives*. It is in memoriam to Don Kirk who was the Director of the Union Gospel Mission in Sacramento. He was the Director when Mark went through the program over 19 years ago and Don was also very instrumental in Laura's life after she moved to Sacramento.

The purchasing of the house was final in December 2009 and remodeling began in January 2010. We moved from our temporary site into the house on June 22, 2010, and continue to remodel as money comes in. We are expecting our first mission team this year to help with the remodeling. Last year the garden produced a good harvest which fed the Rehab Center and some of the Feeding Program, while the first 10% of the crops were given to needy families. Animals were added in September with a female calf and three pigs, and then in February the center was given a goat. This year we are adding chickens and possibly turkeys. We have also rented more land (1 acre) for the next two years to grow corn, beets, squash and pumpkins for our animals so as to greatly reduce the amount of money needed to feed them.

The number of clients at the center ranged from 3 to 6 during the 2011 year, with our first clients graduating the program in 2011. Currently we have five clients, but after the remodeling, David's House will have 20 beds for men & four for women.

NEXT STEP: HOMELESS SHELTER

Grant: Laura attended a grant workshop with Renaissance International Fund (RIF) in 2010 and they were really interested in our work and asked for a one (1) page informational sheet on our Ukraine non-profit charity organization (**Vinnitsa –**

Heart of Ukraine). One interesting fact about RIF is that they request proof that the charity organization is trying to work with the local government and strongly encouraging the government to participate in activities that are social in nature and help the public (as it is greatly lacking here). Laura recently attended another seminar where several agencies who give grants talked of themes for this year's grants and RIF has one series of grants for public health, which includes work with the homeless and addicted. We are watching for the postings of new grants under this topic.

Vinnitsa City Government (VCG): Since arriving in 2007 as on site missionaries, Rev. Mark and Laura Bohanan have tried to reach out to the local government in different ways (i.e., Prayer Walks, meetings, etc...) to educate them and promote work that helps the homeless, addicted and needy. Unfortunately here, the homeless and addicted are very often considered *trash*, un-helpable, and not even counted in census surveys. It seemed like a lot of talking was going on but very little action, even after a few meetings with the Mayor, a Deputy Mayor and other staff.

Recently however, the VCG has renewed interest in this issue and we've had a series of meetings over the past month with a variety of Deputy Mayors and other city staff. After the first meeting we were sent to look at a fairly empty hospital building across from the main part of Hospital #3 in Old City (Vinnitsa). We were then asked to come up with a usable plan for the building and to present it to the city. Our plan included three variations and the more advanced version was preferred by the city. VCG is now allocating **this year's funding** for the project of remodeling the building. The VCG Engineers and Construction Department will be coordinating with us in the planning and remodeling of the building. We are currently waiting to present the overall project to Mayor Vladimir Grossman. **VCG wants the center to be open for this coming winter.**

VCG has expressed that they want a **contract of cooperation** with our non-profit organization and that **we would run the facility**. During later meetings we discussed what VCG would provide and expect from the relationship, and what our organization would provide and expect. Laura took a contract she used when contracting rehab services in her previous job and modified it to meet the needs here; it is being reviewed and will be translated.

The Homeless Shelter would provide daily hot **dinners** after some **spiritual** food. On a first come first serve basis **showers**, **laundry** services and overnight **beds** would be provided to 14 women and 28 men. A **clothing** closet and **testing** for communicable diseases would also be available. VCG and other agencies would provide **representatives** to the center at specified times to assist with different social needs (i.e., registration, identification, etc...). **Volunteers** (individuals or groups) would be able to serve the meal daily.

We are so excited about this step in the vision that God gave us. Everyone here is in shock and considers it a real miracle that the government is willing to give up a building for a population they never admitted to having, and then dedicating money to remodel it. If it weren't for knowing our God and how mighty He is, we wouldn't believe it either. We are being very careful and prayerful about everything to ensure we fully understand the politics and motivations of all involved.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

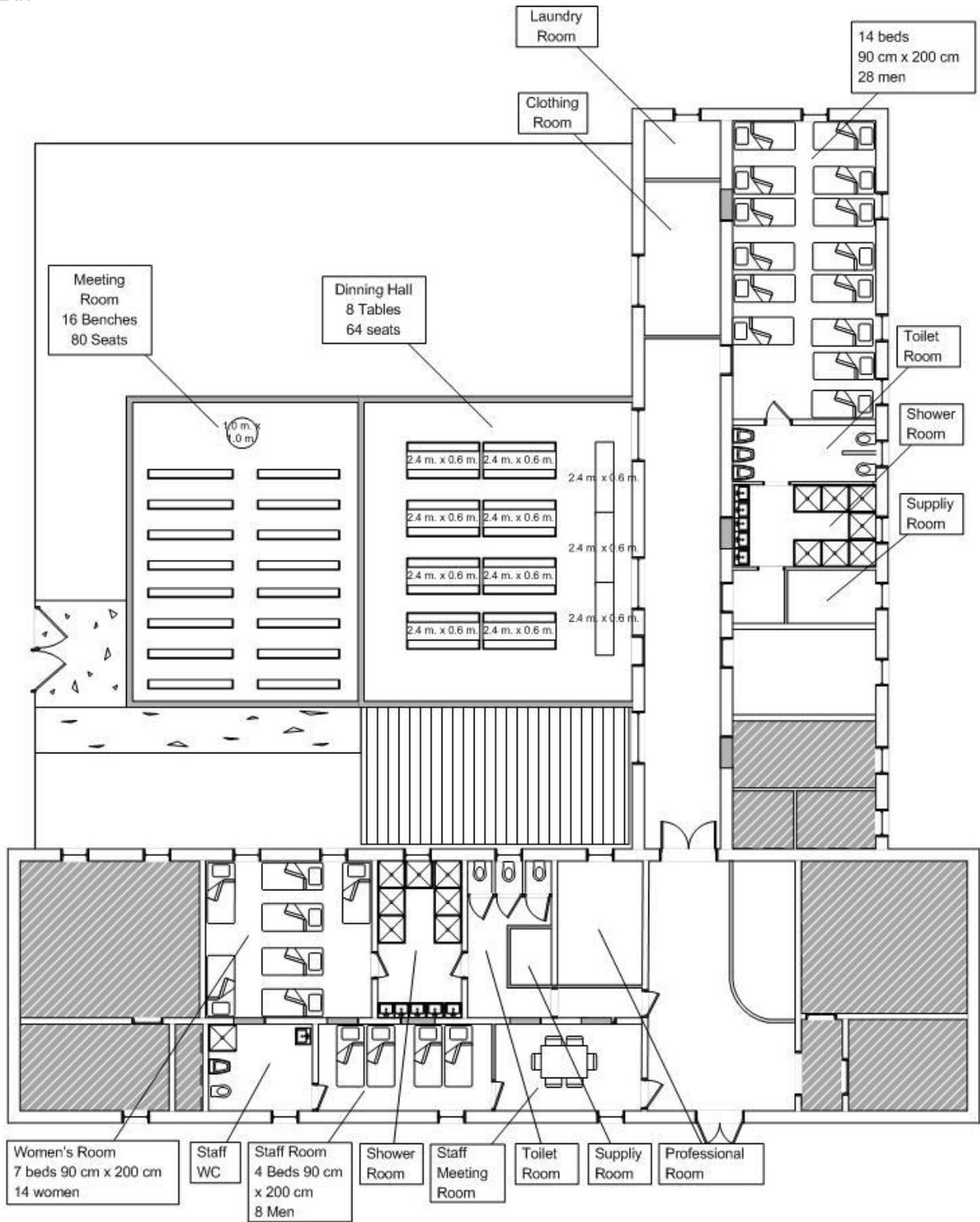
Building Relationships: We continue to build a variety of relationships with government officials, churches, ministries, businesses and people. Some significant new relationships include the Sheriff of the Kaleenivka Region, the Senior Lieutenant of Passport Control in the Kaleenivka Region, the Police Inspector for our Village, and the 1st Deputy Mayor of Vinnitsa City.

We also continue to meet and talk with people in our village and the surrounding villages, usually by giving rides or picking up and taking home drunks. Our relationship with the Mayor of our village is very good as we do a number of 'Good Neighbor' projects within the village, for example, last year we created ten food bags for the Mayor and she and her staff gave them out to Veterans in the village on Victory Day; we are doing the same this year.

Statistics: Of specific note in 2010 are 779 meals served and 482 food bags. This year, 2011, reflects already 1,153 meals (January through March only). More statistics are located on our website: www.HeartofUkraine.com.

Finances: Of specific note is that money donated for English lessons on-site paid for all personal expenses of missionaries Rev. Mark & Laura Bohanan, so 0% went to support them. Costs for administrative items were only 0.01988%. Additionally, costs were lower for the Feeding Program as some of the vegetables were grown in the garden at David's House. More information is located on our website: www.HeartofUkraine.com.

DRAFT PLAN



NOTES:

- Shaded areas are occupied by others
- Meeting Room and Dining Hall would need to be built on in addition to covered patio (just below dining hall)
- Potential kitchen is located just below men's supply room; Meals may be cooked in Hospital's kitchen.