

September 2015

*Our mission:*

*Help people learn to value life from conception to death and receive God's love, forgiveness and gift of eternal life.*

## Highlights

April: 2nd group completed prenatal classes

May: 7 ladies completed the Forgiven & Set Free Bible study

5 volunteers attend an all - Ukraine pro-life conference.

June: For "Protect the Children" Day, we had a sidewalk display of fetal models and handed out balloons & information about our organization.

3<sup>rd</sup> group completed prenatal classes

Second "Good Soil" evangelism training for volunteers.

20 volunteers completed the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the "Self-Confrontation" discipleship training.

July: 1<sup>st</sup> annual volunteer appreciation picnic

### Women's Center

31 new clients in 2015

4 studying Story of Hope

5 in parenting course

4 women decided against abortion!

It is always a joy to share with you the evidence of God's working through the ministry of "Choose Life" in Odessa, Ukraine. We are grateful for those who faithfully support this ministry financially and prayerfully.

### Post-Abortion Ministry

Spring of 2015 gave us two new milestones in Odessa!

For the first time, nonbelievers agreed to attend an FSF group ("Forgiven and Set Free" Bible study). They had been visiting one of our partner churches occasionally. Experienced FSF leaders led them gently through the study with a lot of additional teaching. Both of these ladies accepted Jesus Christ as Savior! Pray that the Lord would lead us to other lost individuals suffering from post-abortion emotional trauma, who want to seek Him.

We had our first FSF group in a village setting. These two ladies were thrilled with the opportunity to study God's Word in depth and to find complete healing from the pain of their abortions. Miriam and Holly see many women in village medical clinics who suffer emotional and spiritual trauma from their history of 5, 10, 15 abortions. Transportation is difficult to villages, so it is challenging to arrange regular Bible studies in rural areas. Pray



Post abortion ministry leaders helping with "Protect the Children" Day display.

that God would open the way for us to take FSF "on the road".

Eighty-two women have completed FSF since this ministry

began in December 2011.

## Women's Center

The center has been open for one year and August marked the 1<sup>st</sup> birthdays of two babies of initial clients. We continue to offer support to these moms through the early years of their children's lives. We have set up a program for them to earn points by doing a Bible study or a parenting course. With these points, they are able to "purchase" clothing, diapers, or food staples at our center. Ukrainians who want to support this ministry have donated most of the clothing and all of the food staples. Gifts from partners in the States allow us to make diapers available to our clients, which is a huge blessing for them. If you would like to be a part of making these items available to our clients, donation information is available below.



Appreciation picnic for Choose Life volunteers & their families

One client who was initially abortion minded, has decided to keep her baby and is now working through a parenting course with one of our counselors. She has been open to talk about spiritual things, and at her last visit told the counselor, "I know God brought me to your center". Pray for her salvation!

One of our first clients continues to deal with numerous difficulties including an alcoholic husband. Her husband recognizes his problem and says he wants help. He even came with her to the center several months ago to ask us to direct him to a church with a rehab program. He attended one of our partner churches twice, talked to a pastor several times, but then fell back into his old patterns. We gave him information about an alcohol & drug rehab program through another local church. Pray

that he would be willing to try this and that God would bring him to salvation and freedom. On her last visit to the center, his wife agreed to start studying "Story of Hope" with us. Pray that she would follow through on this commitment and that God would bring her to salvation!

## **Specific Prayer Needs**

**Post-Abortion Ministry:** Pray for Ira Lupanova as she begins directing this ministry in September, when Miriam leaves for furlough. Pray for God to lead more participants into new FSF groups this fall, both Christians and nonbelievers, both in the city of Odessa and in nearby villages.

**Women's Center:** Pray for the salvation of our clients & for spiritual growth of clients who are believers. Pray for wisdom for our counselors as they help them deal with some very difficult problems. Pray for God's blessing as we try some new means of advertising our center. Pray for financial support for the ongoing needs of the Center—paying rent, utilities, and salaries of two Ukrainian staff members.

**Ministry to youth:** Several volunteers are interested in a ministry to youth teaching about abstinence, abortion, STD's and related topics. Pray for wisdom as we develop this aspect of "Choose Life".

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**Do you want to know more about "Choose Life"?** Check out our website: [www.ukrainemedical.abwe.org](http://www.ukrainemedical.abwe.org)

Sign up to receive this newsletter by e-mail by writing Holly at [esperanza@abwe.cc](mailto:esperanza@abwe.cc)

**To support the ministry of "Choose Life"** Send gifts to ABWE account # 0757353 by mail or online at [www.abwe.org](http://www.abwe.org)

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