

Update from Holly June 2015

“But I will sing of Your power; Yes, I will sing aloud of Your mercy in the morning; For You have been my defense and refuge in the day of my trouble.” Ps. 59:16

God’s promise to be our refuge in the day of trouble has new meaning when you minister to people who have fled from their homes because of the war going on around them. We heard many heartbreaking stories during our trip to eastern Ukraine to minister to refugees from the war zone. We spoke with people whose homes were destroyed by fighting. They fled with the clothes on their backs and what items they could carry to nearby towns where they did not know anyone or what would happen to them. Many of them endured weeks of hiding in basements and bomb shelters while the fighting went on around them. One woman told me with tears in her eyes that her son was killed in the fighting. Many are suffering from anxiety, insomnia, and depression. The most heartbreaking cases were the children who still struggle with nightmares and have trouble sleeping at night. One mother brought her 6 year old son to me wanting to know how she could help him because he rarely speaks and started to stutter badly after they fled their home.



God provided us with a wonderful ministry team for this trip. Thank you for your prayers! Dr. Miriam and I saw around 230 patients in 5 different locations. A local nursing student joined our team to help register patients, take vital signs, and do fingerstick blood sugar and hemoglobin tests. My nurse friend Lena traveled with us from Odessa and handed out the free medications we prescribed as well as medical health information. Pastor Lonya from Odessa also traveled with us and was able to meet with many of the patients individually to minister to their emotional and spiritual needs. Local pastor Sasha arranged our schedule and provided transportation and help. We were able to provide some much needed physical/ medical help, and to support the efforts of local pastors and believers in ministering to the more desperate emotional and spiritual needs. It was wonderful to see how the local churches are reaching out to these refugees and ministering to their needs for housing, food, and medications. Many patients told me that they

had begun attending church after receiving so much help and were giving more thought to their relationship with God. A highlight was having two of my patients share how they had accepted Christ as their personal Savior on Easter Sunday. Their faces radiated their newfound joy, in spite of the fact that they had lost almost everything, and are living in a crowded home with other refugees. Pastor Lonya shared that 7 people prayed with him to receive Christ as their Savior during the course of the week! Praise the Lord for the work He is doing in hearts in the midst of this tragic situation! Lord willing we will be going back to eastern Ukraine June 21-27 for another week of clinics. Please pray for physical & emotional stamina for our team, and pray that we would have the joy of seeing more people come to salvation.

Thank you for your continued prayers for the pro-life ministry. We heard in a round about way that an abortion minded client who came to the center last year and then did not respond to our follow up, did keep her baby. Even though she chose not to come back to our center, it is encouraging to know that she chose life for her baby. We are currently working with a number of clients. Pray that we would have the wisdom we need to best help each client, and to point them to our Savior!

Thank you for ministering with us in prayer!
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- Ukraine Crisis Fund, account #0717401
- Pro-Life in Ukraine, account # 0757353
- Holly's ministry account # 0139523