

The Harbor is creating hope and opportunities for the hopeless

“You are the defender of orphans...Lord, you know the hopes of the helpless. Surely you will listen to their cries and comfort them. You will bring justice to the orphans and the oppressed, so people can no longer terrify them.”

-Psalm 10:14, 17-18

Katya (not her real name), a graduate of “The Harbor,” has been struggling while studying fashion design in college. For the first time in three years, she began to wonder if she had made the right choice. She was losing her passion, desire and interest in becoming a wedding fashion designer. The entire Harbor family was supporting & encouraging Katya not to quit. It would not be a smart move. It seemed that nothing would persuade her to continue. One evening about a month ago she was praying to God about her attitude toward college. She could not find the reason why she has lost her passion to study.

A few days later, late in the evening Katya called Luba, our program director, to talk, but she was not planning to talk about college. Luba was tired and when the phone rang, she had no strength for talking or listening especially to some random talk of Katya’s. However, Luba found herself asking how Katya was doing at college. She was answering Luba’s questions with stock answers, so Luba shared with Katya her observations for the past six months. After a long conversation, they said goodbye. At that point, Luba was afraid that she might not have been very helpful to Katya.

A few days later, however, Katya came to Luba and said that God used her through their conversation. As a result, Katya received peace and a new passion and inspiration to continue her studies. Luba was an answer to Katya’s prayer. Luba thanks God that He gave her wisdom to share truth with Katya and help her get back on its course. To God be the glory! It is so wonderful when we can listen to him. He worked the miracle of a transformed attitude in Katya.

Due to changes in the Russian law Luba, our program director (standing between Pastor Curt and his wife Marci supporters visiting from the US), must go to the Ukraine on June 6th for two weeks to renew her paper work. The Ukraine is Luba’s original home. **This is an urgent & important prayer request:** pray for her safety and that, she will be able to renew her paper work in two weeks and get back to St. Petersburg on time.



Katya, one of the Harbor residents, decided to leave the ministry and live on her own. She has learned and accomplished a lot in a year and a half being at the Harbor. That is encouraging. She is very pleased that she can live independently. Her life has much improved since she has been at the Harbor. Please pray for continuous growth, studies, work, and spiritual formation.

Unfortunately, we have to tell you some discouraging news, too. After many sleepless nights and many hours of work we found it necessary to let one of our newer participants, Lena go. This was a very difficult decision. We do not give up easily. We try to do whatever is necessary to help our residents to get on the right track, but if nothing is working then we have to let them go. Please pray that the seed, which was planted, will grow and she will reevaluate her life, get back on her feet, go back to university and grow spiritually. Pray, too, she will keep in touch with the Harbor and participate in the follow up so that we can create hope and opportunities for her.

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Update from my last newsletter on Tanya. Unfortunately, Tanya did leave the Harbor and now she lives with the family. In addition, we found out Tanya's true motive for wanting to live with the family. They have an older son and now he and Tanya live together. This news broke our hearts. Regrettably, Tanya does not think wisely, and thus, is easily manipulated, especially by guys. The Harbor is staying in close contact with the family and especially with Tanya. Tanya would like to officially get married, but it was recommended by an attorney to wait awhile until she has stable and has a permanent place to live. Please pray for her potential marriage, future, studies, emotional and spiritual growth, and keeping in touch with the Harbor.

The Harbor lost four mentors (3 male and 1 female), but God has already provided four new mentors. Praise Him! Pray that new mentors will connect with our residents and graduates quickly. Our former staff will keep in touch with the Harbor and may continue to partner with us.

The Harbor is working with potential residents. Our new resident's will be younger. Some are 16 and 17. Pray for the final selection and preparation of new residents starting September 2007. Pray for current residents, especially for transition into the real world on their own, and into the post adaptation independent living center.

Pictured here is one of our guys showing off his skills in preparing bilini (crepes)



We are continuing to work on development and expansion of the Vocation Training Center this fall. Please pray that we can find a larger apartment to host the Vocational Training Center, find trainers and staff, and advertise this opportunity to many more orphans across the city. Our goal is to launch the new Vocation Training Center this fall.

Thank you for your prayer support and we do need prayer warriors! Thank you for the financial support because together we are creating hope and opportunities for the hopeless. We must continue to facilitate the transformation of one life at a time.

Blessings and love, the Harbor & Alex