

OCTOBER 2020



HOUSE OF JOY ORPHANAGE 15TH ANNIVERSARY

On September 15th, House of Joy celebrated its 15-year anniversary. Ukraine is still closed to other countries, so we had to celebrate from afar.

We want to pause and celebrate a few significant people in the history of this journey with some photos. That being said, there is a great multitude of important people who will not be mentioned here that this journey would have been, and continue to be, impossible without. To each who have played a part, THANK YOU!

May our Lord bless and keep you!

John and Pam



Above (L): Lubov Terentevnya

Above (R): Yulia Nikishenko our Ministry Director for Ukraine.

Below: Yulia Nikishenko along side House of Joy Director Yulia Ygoryvnya. To say this journey would be impossible without these two is the understatement of the year.



House of Joy would never have existed with the persistence of Lubov Terentevnya. We had established a humanitarian fund with the Ukrainian government in the 1990's. In 2004, Lubov, as Head of Department of Education for Kakhovka, contacted us with a desperate plea for help with orphans in the community. She had her sights on a dilapidated, vacant kindergarten but no government support to pull it off. In fact, the local mayor basically told her she was crazy. But, she would not give up! Her tenacity and integrity, combined with the direction of the Lord persuaded us to get involved.

Another very key figure was the Governor of the state of Herson, Boris Silnikov (pictured above). Without his blessing and persuasiveness with the State Council, House of Joy would never have been started. Although State funds allowed for no participation in renovating the building and providing the gas line and heating system (this all came from our friends and partners), the Governor found a way to get the road paved to the entrance of the orphanage, which was huge given the condition of the roads.

HOUSE OF JOY



Last year many of our graduates returned for a 14-year celebration. It was the most rewarding time, confirming the journey has been worth it.... and still is.



One of our first group of siblings to join us at House of Joy, the Goulin children. Still with us!



House of Joy Orphanage Kakhovka, Ukraine

TEAMS



Teams from the USA made a gigantic difference in those early days. Thanks to all of you who participated. Your 'labor of love' lives on.

HOUSE OF JOY BATHROOM

BEFORE



AFTER



HOUSE OF JOY PLAYROOM FLOORING

BEFORE



AFTER



HOUSE OF JOY PLAYGROUND

BEFORE



AFTER





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