You Too Can Save Lives

# UKRAINIAN DIABETES PROJECT

A Humanitarian Aid Project





Children in Ukraine have no insulin.

#### The Mission

The mission of the Ukrainian Diabetes Project is to transport otherwise unobtainable diabetes materials to Ukraine for children with insulin-dependent diabetes, and to provide education in diabetes care to improve and maintain their health and enable them to live.

The Ukrainian Diabetes Project is a people to people project which brings insulin, syringes and blood testing kits to the diabetic children of Ukraine. This is the only insulin aid project which provides an educational component.

## History

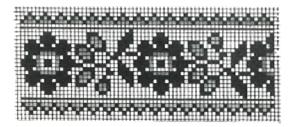
In Ukraine, children with diabetes are considered invalids who are not expected to live past the age of twenty five. Insulin is virtually unavailable. There are no syringes or blood testing materials. Children develop complications needlessly, such as blindness, loss of limbs, and premature death.

Andrea Skrypka, RD is a Certified Diabetes Educator who has had diabetes since she was fourteen years old. When she heard what was happening to Ukrainian children she felt compelled to act. In 1992, her efforts resulted in the Ukrainian Diabetes Project. The first clinic was established in the city of Cherkasy.



Diabetes teaching clinic

She spent one month teaching diabetes management to the children and their parents. A one year supply of insulin, syringes and blood testing strips were given directly to the children. The following year, as news of the clinic spread, a second clinic was started in Poltava and Kaniv. Other cities began asking for help. In 1995 a third clinic was established in Vinnitsa.



# **Accomplishments**

- Provided over 1 million dollars worth of supplies to the Ukrainian diabetic children.
- In 1992, provided services to 30 diabetic children.
- In 1993, provided services to 60 diabetic children.
- In 1994, provided services to 300 diabetic children.
- In 1995, provided services to 450 diabetic children.
- Translated into Ukrainian and printed a comprehensive manual on diabetes care.
- Collaborated with Ukrainian medical professionals in facilitating the organization of the first diabetic camp for children with diabetes.
- Collaborated with Santa Rosa Sister City organization in bringing a group of diabetic children from Ukraine to the Diabetic Youth Foundation Bearskin Meadow Camp.



# What You Can Do To Help

- If you have access to insulin, syringes, or blood testing supplies, please consider making a donation.
- Financial contributions are needed, all contributions are tax deductible.
- · Pass this brochure on to someone else.
- Volunteer. Please call for more information.

### **Letters From Ukraine**

- "People are slowly dying, we have no syringes, but the most dreadful thing is, there is no insulin."
- Olga Barinovsky
- "...thanks to people like you, my boy lives."
- Olga Rozdaibiga
- "...these blood testing strips are helping us to control my 11/2 year old daughter's blood sugar level; now I can not imagine what we would do without these strips!"
- Larissa Kundratova
- "We thank you gratefully for all you have done for us. We do blood testing regularly and follow all your advice. We no longer consider ourselves invalids."
- Lena Zubchenko
- "Thank you so much for bringing us diabetic supplies. Please send us insulin and blood testing strips because there is none to be found in the pharmacy.....we watch our children die and cannot get help from doctors or authorities."
- Kateryna Rosandill
- "In Poltava in 1992 we had 15 cases of ketoacidosis and in 1994, after the UDP services, we had only 2."
- Dr. Alexander Loboda



## Contributions

Make your tax deductible check payable to Ukrainian Diabetes Project. Mail your check to:

> Diabetic Youth Foundation 1954 Mount Diablo Blvd., # A Walnut Creek, CA 94596

One hundred percent of your donation goes to the Ukrainian Diabetes Project.

#### **Publications**

- American Diabetes Association Forecast, September 1994
- American Diabetes Association Forecast, April 1995
- Sonoma Physician, March/April 1995
- San Francisco Channel 7 News, Salute of the Week



#### How to Reach Us

By Post: Ukrainian Diabetes Project 9099 Starr Road Windsor, CA 95492 USA

> By Phone/Fax: (707) 836-0931

By E-mail: UDPandy@aol.com

#### **Our Goals**

- To continue providing insulin, syringes and blood testing kits to children in Ukraine.
- To continue teaching children and their parents about diabetes management.
- To train Ukrainian medical personnel in the latest diabetes research by sponsoring U.S. doctors to participate in the project.
- To provide an opportunity for Ukrainians to meet Americans and share experiences of living with diabetes.
- To bring Ukrainian children with diabetes to America to participate in children's diabetes summer camp.
- To assist in the development of camps for diabetic children in Ukraine.



У полі калина У полі червопа, -Хорошенько цвіте. Ой роде наш красний, Роде наш прекрасний, Не цураймося, признаваймося, Бо багацько нас є.

"In the field a guelder-rose,
In the field the colour rose,
In the field the blush of germination.
O, our comely generation,
O, our lovely generation,
Come let's make a true confession
For our richness grows."

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