

Ministry Program Updates

Medical Aid in Eastern Europe Europe Committee

It is often said that we can't buy good health. Or, at least we can't control what diseases and handicaps we have. But many Americans and those in the Western world have access to excellent health care treatments and medications that we take for granted. If we take a look outside of what we personally experience day to day, health care for many in other countries is drastically different.

In Ukraine, many people aren't getting the basic health care that we have become accustomed to in our culture. Ukraine has a universal health care system, trying to follow in the footsteps of the Soviet system. Since 2009, different political leaders have tried to change the state of the health care system.

Currently, State funding only covers the minimum expenses to keep hospitals running and meager salaries for its workers, which puts many in hard situations. This leaves them to pay out of pocket for better health care that, according to law, should be "free" for all citizens. But in reality, many don't get the treatment they need, are misdiagnosed, or are required to pay out of pocket for quality treatments. This can be very taxing on families due to inflation, not to mention those that are on a fixed pension or have limited wages.

Similar to what we are accustomed to, in Eastern Europe they likewise experience the blessings of a church family which supports one another in time of need. *As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household*

of faith — Galatians 6:10. In many cases when severe health situations are made known to the church, the brethren take up a collection to help ease the burden of medical expenses. When these needs aren't met, HarvestCall gets the opportunity to aid in supporting these burdened families. As the brothers on the Eastern European Committee travel to visit the brethren in Ukraine, they have the blessing of visiting many that have received medical aid from HarvestCall. In many of these situations, the same type of accident, disease or trial could very well happen to us or someone we know. However, without proper medical treatment the problems seem to compound. Recently, there was a young father who had an infection that wasn't treated properly and caused his kidneys to fail. This brother is now on dialysis and is unable to return to work.

Many of us who are able donate blood at local blood drives in hopes that it can be used to help those in need and possibly even someone we know. In a recent situation in Ukraine, a sister started hemorrhaging and lost a lot of blood shortly after delivering a baby. She was in dire need of a blood transfusion. In the United States, units of blood are readily accessible for patients, but in this case HarvestCall aided in purchasing the needed blood for the sister to live.

The brethren in Eastern Europe are very appreciative of the aid that HarvestCall gives and the hope that we share together. As we continue to work side by side it draws us closer together and toward our Heavenly Father. *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye have love one to another — John 13:35*
— **by Christopher Indermuhle**

Breaking Up Hard Ground Haiti Dairy Committee

When brethren visiting Haiti years ago first thought about establishing a dairy program, plowing fields was not on their minds. As the HarvestCall Haiti Dairy program is evolving, however, it has been fascinating to see the direction the program is taking.

Haitian cattle are not used to eating anything except roadside scrub grasses. These do not include much nutrition, and the cows in Haiti reflect this with very poor production. As the farmers in Haiti observe the farming methods portrayed at Good Vision Farm, they see first-hand how a tractor and plow are able to loosen the incredible hardpan from decades of compaction. The Haitians oxen-pulled plow is woefully inadequate, and other mechanized options are simply not available. So, farmer after farmer has come with money in hand to plead with Bro. Les Kaeb and Bro. Daryl Knobloch to plow



their fields. And once their fields have been plowed and prepared, the farmers are able to finish the work of planting and harvesting themselves.

These farmers are typically growing corn and beans (not soybeans) for human consumption. It is quite a paradigm shift for Haitians to even think about growing a crop for animals to eat. The process of helping them learn the steps to produce milk profitably



is multi-faceted and will continue to take patience and research for our missionaries. And yet, they are able to use this as an opportunity to exemplify Christ and practically apply God's word to daily living.

The parallel to Christ's teachings are so clear. "Behold, a sower went forth to sow...and some (seeds) fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because



they had no deepness of earth: and when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away." (Excerpts from Matthew 13:3-6.) May these life lessons from the Word help the missionaries at Good Vision Farm to share the blessed gospel message and harvest fruit which points us to Jesus.

— **by LuAnn Troxel**