

ECL Door of Hope

Bringing Hope to the hopeless and Help to the helpless

“Looking into the eyes of the little ones”

March/April 2007

The pictures that you see in this newsletter are of some of the children that Door of Hope helps to care for. The children that many of **you have supported** by your kind donations. You may not know them but they know all about you, and in their own simple, obscure way, appreciate all the help that **you** have given.



We are always looking into their little eyes just as you can do in these pictures. With many of the children, they are eyes that stare rather than gaze, probing but never seeing. They are eyes that never seem to express anything except a sense of need. *These two deprived beings are street children that we support in a Bulgarian gypsy village.*

Thousands of children in the Ukraine, Bulgaria, Rumania, & other Eastern European lands are forced to beg in the streets. Many suffer rape – girls and boys. Some receive regular beatings for not bringing in the quotas of money when they return home. Rather than face cruelty at home, they run away and live in deserted buildings, pipe and sewerage tunnels.

In the Ukraine, 90% of children from divided families, when placed in Orphanages, run away. In many towns, local government authorities insist that such children must be mentally ill to run away from the security of an orphanage. If the children return, they are given various psychiatric treatments that often include E.C.T. (Electric Convulsive Therapy). We are all aware that what they really need is loving care.



The picture opposite, taken two months ago show street children who have been placed in an orphanage. The girl, a ten year old street child from the town of Cherkassy, ran away from her mentally disturbed mother. She made her home in a

derelict house beside a railway track.

Thankfully, over the past few years, with your support, our workers have been able to provide safe shelters, hot meals, clothing and other basic needs for many of these children.

Such places of refuge have been a gift from heaven because left to themselves, many of these children living on the streets, are forced by group pressure to



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reside together. This has resulted in shared drugs, sex and considerable sickness and sexual diseases.



These pictures portray some of the children rescued by Door of Hope. They all live in a broken down housing estate strewn with rubbish. Pigs squeal among the stinking garbage. Forlorn-looking donkeys are tied to broken trees. Each home or hovel, crouches in a dirt yard. They are a hotchpotch of broken walls, planks of wood, corrugated iron and other throw-away items that can become a valuable source of protection during a cold winter.

Without appearing too emotional, can I ask you to take another look into these **eyes**? As you do, give thanks for the many comforts that you have. Long ago, Jesus said, "*a little child I shall lead them.*" Lead them where? Who knows, as long as it is into something beyond the pitiful surroundings that they live in.

As you are aware, Door of Hope constantly needs to top-up its money to support, feed and educate these deprived children. **Your kind financial contribution is invaluable and will most certainly receive our most appreciative response.**

We thank God that funding has been coming in, thus helping us to sustain and continue the vital work that we are doing. **Please, if possible, donate today. Thank you!**



The deep peace of God of Peace be with you.

Reverend Philip and Mrs Diane Streeter
DOOR OF HOPE



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