

Newsletter 3 16 March 2018 (16th volume)

Camp Ukraine 2018 & Working Hands 2018



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Dear reader!!

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Situation in Ukraine

The situation in southeast Ukraine remains unsettled. It looks like permanent attempts of destabilization. Meanwhile, there are a number of improvements in the rest of the country, but progress is very slow. However every step forward counts!

Working hands

Two representatives of Foundation Oekroe visited Ukraine from February 24th until the March 2nd. Amongst others there were talks about two 2018 Working Hands projects. In Ukraine things often go a bit different than we are used to in the West. This does have a relation with the situation in the country. Sometimes the funds for the projects become available somewhat later than agreed. The consequence of no money is no action! We visited Szultsyn where we will work on a day-care facility. The arrival of the Working Hands crew is eagerly awaited. The crew will stay in the building where the project is located. That's also the place where the crew will eat and sleep. The contractor will install a boiler to facilitate that crew members can shower after work. In this respect people there are very resourceful. An advantage with this project: the mayor is also mayor in Chotyrboki, where the team worked last year. In the mean time that project has been finished and taken into use with full satisfaction. In Szultsyn the electricity, the walls, the ceilings and perhaps the floors need to be replaced. That's quite a challenge. Preparations progress well, airplane tickets have been booked, an appointment for the vaccinations has been made and the travel assurance has been arranged. Everything is ready to depart April 16th for Working Hands 2018. The sponsor dinner held March 9th was a big success. We had 90 guests! All sponsors, volunteers and guests to

the sponsor dinner: Thank you very much! It was exquisite!

Camp Oekroe 2018

The second preparatory evening was held in De Poort at Rijnsburg. Also there we got a hospitable welcome for which we are very grateful! The number of volunteers stands at 25 of which a few with a question mark. This years we will again have 3 summer camps at 3 different locations: 1 in Lavki, 1 in Klinovets (approx. 20 km from Lavki) and 1 in the proximity of Perescin (approx 70 km from Lavki). The group from Hlyns'k, which would come for the third consecutive year, could not arrange the local leadership. They will consequently skip one year. In their place a group from Novograd-Volynski will come. During the February trip we discussed with them the way our camps are run. We did that also with the group that will come from Rivne. The Dutch Camp Ukraine 2018 crew is fully engaged in actions to raise money.

Yampil Orphanage visit

During our February trip we also visited an orphanage at Yampil. Approximately 140 children live in this state orphanage. Once per two weeks the children get a visit from Nina and her team from the Inspiration Centre. We joined them during a visit. The journey in a hot minibus took approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. Upon arrival the children were given a small bag with some delicacies. There was singing in the dining hall and some games were played. After that the children were split in 3 groups. A Bible story was told there was tinkering. After 2 hours we left again towards Shepetivka. It was good to be here and see the children growing under the attention they received. The buildings looked pretty good and the director cares for the children. This does not alter the fact that these children grow up under difficult circumstances and this will not get easier in the future. The work by Nina and the Inspiration Centre team remains to be highly necessary!

Agenda

3 April: Presentations at Oranje Nassauschool Rijnsburg

?? April: Plant market Rouveen

4 – 6 May: Start weekend Camp Ukraine 2018

8 June: Jubilee Concert Roman Twelve Kids at Maranatha Centrum at Katwijk

13 June: Horse market Rijnsburg

*Camp Ukraine 2018 and Working Hands 2018 activities of Foundation Oekroe at Rijnsburg
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