

Chornobyl Chronicle

CHILDREN OF CHORNOBYL RELIEF FUND NATIONAL NEWSLETTER Spring 2004 VOL. XXX



His Eminence Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA presents a check to Dr. Zenon Matkivsky in the presence of Hiermonk Daniel Zelinsky, Emil Skosypec, Mrs. Nadia Matkivsky, and Olena Welhasch.

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, USA DONATES \$17,400

For the past three years, CCRF has been collaborating with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA in helping two orphanages for disabled children in the Ivano-Frankivsk and Kirovohrad Regions of Ukraine. In January, the Co-Founders of CCRF, Dr. Zenon and Nadia Matkivsky, along with CCRF's In-Country Director in Ukraine, Olena Welhasch, met with His Eminence Archbishop Antony and the Consistory Treasurer, Emil Skosypec, to report on the improvements that have been made with the UOC's financial support at the Zaluchya and Znamyanka orphanages. During the meeting, the UOC gave a grant totaling \$17,400, with an additional \$6,000 pledge.

To date, most of the progress at the orphanages has focused on building renovations and capital improvements. This year, approximately a quarter of the grant will go towards replacing windows in the dormitories, but the largest portion has been earmarked for programs that will improve the quality of the children's mental and physical lives. There are plans to equip a physical (cont. on pg. 4)

UMANA GIVES \$10,000 GRANT FOR AIDS PREVENTION LAB

CCRF is grateful to the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) for a seed grant of \$10,000 to help prevent mother-to-child transmission of the HIV virus. The grant will be used to establish a laboratory and AIDS testing clinic at the Lviv Regional Perinatal Center (LRPC). This summer, a laboratory technician from the LRPC will attend an intensive training course at the Immunology Department at the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) under the supervision of Thomas Denny, a member of CCRF's Board of Directors. Mr. Denny is recognized as a pioneer in the field of international AIDS prevention and biochemistry.

Last year, President Bush announced that he would provide \$15 billion dollars to help fight the spread of AIDS. Although a majority of this funding will be allocated to Africa, there is growing awareness of the rapid spread of AIDS in Ukraine where, according to estimates from the World Health Organization, 1% of the Ukrainian population has been (cont. on pg. 4)

1ST NATIONAL INFANT CARDIAC SURGERY FORUM HELD IN UKRAINE

Kyiv, Ukraine – For the first time in Ukraine's history, on April 1st and 2nd, approximately 500 doctors and nurses working in various fields of neonatology participated in a national forum titled "International and Nationwide Experience in Treating Infants with Congenital Heart Defects." The purpose of the forum was to address the early diagnosis of heart disease in fetuses and neonates and to provide physicians with the training necessary to surgically correct the cardiac pathology.

Birth defects are becoming a leading cause of infant mortality in Ukraine. According to the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, each year between 6000-6500 babies are born with congenital heart disease, but only a small percentage can be saved through surgical intervention. In 2003, 384 heart surgeries were performed, targeting less than 7% of the population born with cardiac defects. Of the infants born with congenital heart disease who do not have access to needed surgery, 30% die within the first year of life and the others are destined to live the rest of their lives as cardiac invalids.



At the opening of the forum, seated from left to right are CCRF's President, Dr. Zenon Matkivsky, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, John Herbst, and pediatric cardiologist from the U.S., Dr. Robert Shaddy.

As part of its cardiac surgery program to reduce infant mortality and improve these grim statistics, CCRF organized an infant cardiac surgery forum with the support of the Ukrainian Ministry of Health and the Scientific-Practical Medical Center of Pediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery at the Amosov Institute in Kyiv. Upon arrival and registration, participants were given a variety of tools to help them with their daily tasks of treating patients: two manuals on the early diagnosis of congenital heart disease that were translated into Ukrainian and printed through CCRF, a book on the anatomy of the human body that was given to CCRF by the Sabre-Svitlo Foundation, a stethoscope, a program book that included 6 complete theses on the subject of infant cardiac defects, and items for use during the forum. (cont. on pg. 2)



Due to an infection that destroyed her nasal passages and cartilage in her nose, Maryyka Tkachyk must breathe through an artificial tube.

BABY MARIYKA'S BATTLE TO BREATHE

The plight of a 22 month-old toddler from Ukraine has captured the hearts of scores of news-readers in the tri-state area. Born prematurely, Maryyka Tkachyk suffered a post-partum infection that destroyed the cartilage in her nose and upper mouth and threatened her life. Her treating physician, Dr. Oleh Korniychuk, performed an emergency tracheotomy that saved Maryyka but left her struggling to breathe through an artificial breathing apparatus.

Through the financial support of many donors, Dr. Oleh Slupchinskyj, a Plastic Surgeon from New York City, traveled to Ukraine on two occasions to perform the first of many operations to repair Maryyka's damaged airway. During his last visit, Dr. Slupchinskyj informed CCRF that Maryyka developed a tracheal stenosis and the next procedure would have to be done in the U.S. with the aid of modern surgical equipment and a tracheal reconstruction specialist. (cont. on pg. 4)

SAVE THE DATE!
CCRF'S NATIONAL CONVENTION
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Following the forum, members of the Kyiv cardiac center pose for a picture with Dr. Robert Shaddy, Dr. Zenon Matkivsky, Dr. Ilya Yemets and Renell Leichty, RN (center)

TEACHING LEARNING NETWORK RELEASES DOCUMENTARY ON CCRF

On April 5th, the Teaching-Learning Network released a half-hour documentary film on the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, providing a close-up view of the Fund's partner hospitals and the impact of its mission on the lives of Ukrainian youngsters. The documentary is scheduled to be broadcast on many public television stations as part of the award-winning "Voices of Vision" series that features the work of outstanding American charities and humanitarian organizations. PBS stations are currently running the series in several major markets, including San Francisco, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Miami, New Orleans, and Minneapolis.



The TLN filming crew, cameraman Dennis Pendleton (filming), producer Ike McFadden (standing), and sound specialist Brian Wohlust (kneeling), records as CCRF In-Country Director, Olena Welhasch, interviews Dr. Roma Polishchuk of the Lviv Regional Specialized Children's Clinical Hospital.

"We feel that the CCRF program is one of the finest episodes in the series," said TLN's senior producer Peggy Zapple. "It tells a very compelling story with strong images, and it packs a lot of information into a well-paced narrative." Directed by veteran filmmaker Ike McFadden, the program includes extensive footage of CCRF's partner hospitals in Lviv, Lutsk, and Rivne, highlighting some of the state-of-the-art equipment CCRF has delivered to local laboratories and neonatal intensive care units. It also includes interviews with young cancer survivors and Ukrainian physicians who explain the impact of CCRF's aid on their treatment efforts. The film crew also documents the long-term health impacts of Chernobyl, especially birth defects that are often overlooked and ignored by other documentary films or news reports.

"We are very grateful to the Teaching Learning Network for its in-depth focus on the Chernobyl aftermath," said Alex Kuzma, Executive Director of CCRF. "Ike McFadden's crew captured the essence of CCRF's mission, and we're confident that this documentary will help our donors and supporters to gain a better understanding of the direct results of their generosity."

The TLN documentary was made possible by a major grant from Cisco Systems and AOL-Time Warner and the "Network for Good." Additional donors for the CCRF episode included: Robert Metcalf, Tasos and Moki Kokoris, the Pryshlak-DeLalio Family, Irene Chaikovskyy, Ukrainian Self-Reliance New England FCU, Self-Reliance New York FCU, the Estate of Prof. Yuriy Yaremkevych, the Ukrainian Heritage Foundation, Brig. Gen. Yaropolk Hladkyj, Prof. and Mrs. Yaroslav Leshko, Helen Petrauskas, Alicia Szendiuch, Nestor and Nina Shust, Walter Hrynychuk, Ihor and Roma Hajda, Kenneth Morrison, the parishioners of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Hartford, CT, the New York Federal Orthodox Credit Union, and the Hartford Chapter of CCRF.

CCRF plans to make the Voices of Vision documentary available to community groups, churches and educators for classroom presentations. To arrange a local viewing of the documentary, please contact CCRF at 860-652-0458.



U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, John Herbst, delivers his remarks during the forum.

(Cardiac Forum cont.) The President and Co-Founder of CCRF, Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky, opened the forum and introduced the forum's first speaker — the U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, John E. Herbst. Ambassador Herbst stressed the importance of a nation's health and well-being and commended CCRF for its efforts to provide Ukrainian physicians with medical training and technical assistance. Other speakers included Dr. Raissa Moiseyenko, the Head of the Department of Women and Children's Health from the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, and Dr. Ilya Yemets, the foremost infant cardiac surgeon in Ukraine who created the center in Kyiv where infants can receive cardiac surgery free of cost.

The guest lecturer from the U.S. was Dr. Robert Shaddy, a renowned pediatric cardiologist and medical director of children's heart transplantation at the Primary Children's Medical Center in Utah, who spoke extensively about U.S. methodologies in diagnosing cardiac defects and performing neonatal open-heart surgery. CCRF also invited Renell Leichty, a head neonatal intensive care nurse from Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne, Indiana, to conduct a separate seminar for nurses that addressed additional issues such as hospital hygiene and helping families cope with the loss of a child, and provided a comparison of U.S. and Ukrainian neonatal intensive care units.

In addition to the educational component of the conference, sponsors had a chance to exhibit their medical equipment and products. The conference was made possible through the generous support of the following: U.S. Medtronics Foundation, Nestle, Brig. Gen. Yaropolk Hladkyj, NZ Techno, Paramed, Aesculap, UkrMed, US Optics, Dana and The Parkview Foundation.

At the conclusion of the forum, participants contributed to a discussion about the healthcare crisis currently gripping Ukraine. In a democratic fashion, members of the audience voted against a proposal by the Ministry of Health to create a single centralized neonatal cardiac surgery center. As stated by CCRF's President Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky, most agreed that "It is important that more than one center in Ukraine have the ability to perform cardiac surgery (on neonates)... Concentrating the entire nation's infants in one hospital for treatment is unfeasible and a continuation of Soviet mentality." Additional goals that were discussed included the creation of a national cardiac defects website and the development of internet access in every hospital in order to provide real-time consultations between Ukrainian cardiologists and doctors abroad.

Presently, Kyiv has the only center in Ukraine that performs complex cardiac surgeries in neonates. There are cardiac surgery centers for adults in Lviv, Kherson, Donetsk, and Odessa, and CCRF plans to provide the hospitals with the medical equipment and physician training necessary to establish cardiac units at the centers that are capable of performing open-heart surgeries on neonates. Last year, CCRF donated a heart-lung machine to the Lviv region that will provide Western Ukraine with a center capable of performing open-heart surgeries on neonates.

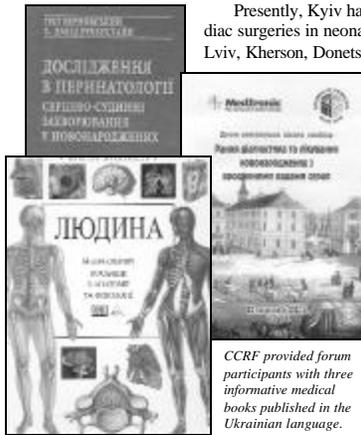
Doctors and nurses who attended the forum and CCRF staff that was present agree that the infant cardiac forum was a successful venture. Foremost, it provided physicians and nurses with additional training for diagnosing and correcting congenital heart disease in neonates. The forum also addressed the urgent need for a decentralized system of cardiac centers that will be placed strategically in major cities throughout Ukraine. But most notably, the forum raised the bar and challenged the medical community to broaden their vision for the improvement in the field of cardiac surgery in Ukraine.



Reporters interview Dr. Ilya Yemets, creator of the infant cardiac surgery center in Kyiv.



Dr. Robert Shaddy, U.S. guest lecturer, delivers his lecture with the help of his translator, Dr. Atamanuyk.



CCRF provided forum participants with three informative medical books published in the Ukrainian language.



Above, forum guests and participants listen to the lectures. Right, Renell Leichty, NICU nurse from the U.S., poses with her translator, Dr. Ihor Mokryk.



**KILIMANJARO EXPEDITION
RAISES FUNDS FOR CCRF**



On February 15, 2004, at 7:30 in the morning, Ukrainian Bohdana Zwonok and her climbing partner, Viviane Elferink, reached the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. The Canadian climbers dedicated their ascent to the efforts of three organizations that help children, the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund (USA), the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund (Canada) and the Children's Wish Foundation of Canada. Each organization will be receiving a share of the fundraising goal of \$1 per foot of the mountain's altitude totaling \$19,335.60. The fundraising campaign for CCRF will continue until December 2004, when a new fundraising expedition is planned to launch. American donations should be sent to CCRF's National Office at 272 Old Short Hills Rd. in Short Hills, NJ 07078, while Canadian donations should be sent directly to the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund in Toronto, Ontario: cccf@chornobyl.ca.

**YEVSHAN CHOIR PERFORMS
BENEFIT CONCERTS FOR CCRF**

On March 21st and 28th, the Yevshan Ukrainian Vocal Ensemble of Hartford performed two benefit concerts for CCRF. The first concert was held at Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church in Boston and drew music lovers from Rhode Island, Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. The second concert was held at the community center of St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Johnson City, New York and attracted an audience from Ithaca, Binghamton and Elmira. The first half of the program featured sacred works by Bortniansky, Stetsenko and Vedel as well as an Irish hymn, "Be thou my vision," in honor of St. Patrick's Day. The second half included folk songs and traditional ballads from various regions of Ukraine. One of the most haunting selections was a suite of folk songs from the Polissia region that encompasses the villages of Chernobyl and Narodychi. Arranged by Mykola Kolessa in the early 1920's, the suite ends with a prophetic lament that seems to foretell the Chernobyl tragedy: "Oh you fields, my barren fields; where are your harvests?" CCRF is very grateful to Rev. Ihor Nalysnyk and Rev. Zinovy Zharsky and the parishioners of both churches for hosting these benefit concerts and for their generous donations to CCRF. Special thanks to Vera Mykyta, Christina Slywotzky, Andrey Mykyta, Alina Kuzma, the Boston and Binghamton Chapters of CCRF and all the members of the Yevshan Ensemble for helping to make these performances such a success.

CCRF LAUNCHES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TO BUILD ITS NEW HOME

On April 25th, the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund took part in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Ukrainian Cultural Center of New Jersey (UCCNJ) in Whippany Township. Once construction is completed, the UCCNJ will house the new offices of CCRF, along with several other organizations.

For the past 15 years, thanks to the generosity of our co-founders, we have been able to operate rent-free out of a private carriage house in Short Hills. This arrangement has allowed us to keep our administrative costs low and to pour our resources into humanitarian aid shipments. As much as we have grown fond of our Short Hills home, the property is being sold. Therefore, CCRF needs to relocate, and what better place than the local community center? The UCCNJ office will offer ample workstations and meeting rooms for CCRF strategy caucuses, training sessions, conferences, and fundraisers.

This summer, CCRF will launch a capital campaign to raise funds for the construction of its office space and additional capital needs. CCRF will work to secure foundation grants, leadership gifts and private funding that can help ensure the success of this project and build a real stronghold for our future activities.

As we launch this capital campaign, we do not plan to diminish our ongoing charitable activities. Thanks to our chapters in other areas of the country, and special friends like Viktor Petrenko and his colleagues in the international skating community, we began the year 2004 with an infusion of funds earmarked for our partner hospitals in Odessa, Ivano-Frankivsk, and new funds expected for Poltava and Chernihiv. We will continue our intensive campaign to support our partner hospitals and orphanages in Ukraine.

We ask our supporters to join in this visionary campaign to strengthen CCRF's institutional capacity to bring life-saving aid to children in Ukraine. By the end of this summer, we hope to mobilize a "Leadership Circle" of 100 core supporters who can commit \$1,000 or more to launch the first phase of our capital campaign. Our campaign will build momentum toward our National Convention, celebrating the 15th Anniversary of CCRF's first airlift, on November 19-21, 2004. We invite our supporters to attend this important convention to help chart CCRF's future and take stock of our many important successes over the past 15 years.

Our mission has always been an ambitious one: to save the lives of Ukrainian children, all of whom confront the human legacy of the Chernobyl catastrophe and other environmental problems. Thank you for appreciating and sharing the scope of our vision.

Sincerely,
Alexander B. Kuzma
Executive Director

His Grace Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Church speaks at the ground breaking. Members of the future UCCNJ hold golden shovels, including CCRF President, Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky.



**Thanks to medical aid delivered by
CCRF, the Odessa RCC Hospital celebrates the lives of children who otherwise might not be with us today.**



At birth, Danylo Patlozhan suffered from a hemo-dynamic breathing anomaly. He remained on artificial ventilation for 25 days and was released. He is now nearly two years old, living a normal life.



Left, Leonidova was born with hemo-dynamic anomalies and remained on artificial ventilation for 28 days after birth. She is now a healthy two-year old who is developing normally for her age. Right, Baby Murenko was born with a breathing anomaly associated with pathology of the central nervous system. He spent 16 days on artificial ventilation, and is now one year old.

To the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund:

The Odessa Regional Children's Clinical Hospital takes this opportunity to express its sincere thanks to the leaders of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund for their cooperation in providing humanitarian assistance to the neonatal intensive care department and to the hospital in its entirety.

During the years 2001-2003, 852 children underwent treatment in this department accordingly: in 2001 - 97 children, in 2002 - 261 children, in 2003 - 294 children. The percentage of ailing infants who underwent artificial ventilation were as follows: in 2001 - 42%, in 2002 - 40%, in 2003 - 47.5%. On long-term artificial respiration of the lungs (more than 14 days), there were 14 children in 2001, 18 in 2002, and 15 in 2003.

Among the nosological (sic) forms that required long-term artificial ventilation of the lungs, the more remarkable cases included: respiratory distress syndrome, ... breathing anomalies associated with pathology of the central nervous system, ... and hemo-dynamic anomalies.

The entire staff of the hospital once again extends its thanks to the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund and all of their donors, supporters and volunteers, and especially to Viktor Petrenko for his productive cooperation in the name of saving the lives of the little citizens of Ukraine.

Respectfully, and with best wishes for continuing productive cooperation,
Oleksander Liman
Chief Doctor of the Odessa Regional Children's Clinical Hospital

(*UOC Donation cont.*) therapy room in the Zaluchya Orphanage and hire two full-time physical therapists to work with the disabled orphans. In addition, CCRF plans to hire three full-time teachers with special-education training and two liaison personnel who will serve under the auspices of CCRF's Kyiv office and monitor developments at each orphanage.

Initially, the UOC committed to the orphanage adoption program for five years, but judging by the support that the program has generated, "That commitment will go on for many years to come," as stated by Father Daniel Zelinsky, the pastor of the Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Clifton. Last summer, a group of young college and high school students participated in the first mission organized by CCRF and the UOC's Offices of Youth and Young Adult Ministry and Missions and Christian Charity. As a result of the positive results of the mission, a second mission to travel and work with the children at each of the orphanages is planned for August. For more information about the mission trip, please contact Natalie Kapeluck at 412-276-0342.

(*UMANA Grant cont.*) infected. So far, the Lviv region has been spared the brunt of the AIDS epidemic. However, Lviv is a vulnerable gateway region where AIDS incidence is expected to grow rapidly as thousands of migrant workers return to Western Ukraine from southern regions and countries where they have been exposed to HIV. "This is the critical time for us to implement preventive programs, BEFORE the disease reaches epidemic proportions in our region," said Dr. Sluzhinska, director of the Lviv-based Salus Foundation.

By installing an HIV testing lab in Lviv, CCRF hopes to extend its campaign to combat infant mortality by providing timely diagnosis of HIV-infected women and safeguarding their unborn children. Western pharmaceutical firms such as Boehringer-Ingelheim have donated effective retroviral medications that, when properly administered, can completely eradicate the HIV virus in the newborn. CCRF thanks UMANA for its pioneering grant, and looks forward to more joint projects.



Just prior to departure, Mariyka and her parents, Vera and Serhiy, spend a few precious moments together.

(*Mariyka cont.*) On March 28, 2004, Mariyka arrived to the United States with her mother, Vera, to undergo surgery. Upon arrival, Valerie Burachinsky and Tanya Vena greeted them at JFK Airport and escorted them through customs.

On March 31st, Mariyka underwent a preliminary procedure that revealed complications necessitating a more intricate and costly surgery. Her story was printed in *The New York Daily News* and in reply, donations poured in from the tri-state area. During a phone interview, Vera Tkachyk thanked all of the strangers who have sent donations and cards to her family, "Words cannot express the gratitude that I feel towards all those who want to help Mariyka."

CCRF expresses its gratitude to all the angels who were touched by Mariyka's story and responded by sending donations and get well cards. Specifically, CCRF thanks Ann Zinich, who initially sponsored Dr. Slupchinskyj's efforts, Dr. Oleh Slupchinskyj, Dr. Jay Dolitsky, Lesya Kruchowy and Andrea Procaccino of Johnson & Johnson, Andrew and Valerie Burachinsky and their family for providing accommodations for Mariyka and her mother, and the Michael Scotto Foundation and an anonymous donor who each donated \$15,000 for Mariyka's cause. Together, over \$50,000 has been collected for Mariyka's first phase of surgeries. Additional funds will be needed for her facial reconstruction. Thank you for your donations.

ECHOES OF CHORNOBYL IN THE WAR ON TERROR

In this time of war with Iraq, there is growing concern that civilians and soldiers stationed there have been exposed to an invisible enemy, the same one faced eighteen years ago when Reactor #4 exploded at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant. At Senate hearings on April 20th, Joint Chief of Staff Chairman General Richard Myers vowed to intensify medical screening and tracking of U.S. troops returning from Iraq who may have been exposed to radioactive dust during military operations. The source of the exposure is depleted uranium that the U.S. military has used widely in armor-piercing shells. When these munitions are detonated and explode, they release radioactive dust that can pose a health risk to U.S. troops and Iraqi civilians. Although the amount of radiation in any one artillery shell may be small, the cumulative exposure to thousands of exploded ordnance can produce the effect of "dirty bombs" of the kind Jose Padilla, an "enemy combatant," was accused of trying to smuggle into the United States.

The *New York Daily News* conducted independent tests on nine ailing soldiers from the 442nd Military Police Company of the New York Army National Guard and found that four of them tested positive for depleted uranium. Thousands of veterans of the first war with Iraq, "Operation Desert Storm," have complained of strange illnesses referred to as the "Gulf War Syndrome," and depleted uranium has been suspected as one of the contributing factors. NY Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton and the *New York Daily News* have been pressing the U.S. Army to test all returning soldiers and to reduce the backlog of troops at Fort Dix, NJ who are still awaiting testing for possible contamination.

Soldiers are not the only ones who are in danger of exposure to depleted uranium. Civilians are also at risk, specifically children whose development is severely affected by exposure to radioactive elements. Cases of severe birth defects have been reported in Iraq that are similar to ones that the CCRF staff has seen in hospitals and orphanages throughout Ukraine.

Following the Chernobyl disaster, over 600,000 Soviet troops and emergency workers were exposed to high levels of radiation. Most were never properly tested for radiation health effects and the Soviet government ordered that their illnesses be attributed to other causes. Now, that figure has resurfaced in the number of children who are born with birth defects and other illnesses whose statistical occurrence is abnormally high, and whose origin is most probably the effect of their parents' radiation exposure.

BE A VISIONARY!

Remember the Children In Your "Zapovit"



One of the first poems that every Ukrainian schoolchild is required to memorize is Taras Shevchenko's "Zapovit" - the final "Will and Testament" in which this great human rights champion described the legacy he hoped to leave for future generations in his beloved homeland.

Unfortunately, many Americans who care deeply about Ukraine and the children of Chernobyl forget to follow Shevchenko's example. They forget to write their own "Zapovit!" Your will and your estate can be a powerful instrument in promoting your vision for a new Ukraine, where children can live in a healthier, more democratic environment with proper medical care and dignity and hope.

By designating a portion of your estate to the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, you can reap important tax benefits and you can plan your future with the comfort of knowing that you are leaving a cherished legacy for some of the world's neediest and most deserving children.

CCRF is very grateful to the many individuals and families who have remembered to include the children of Chernobyl in their estate planning. Their gifts have restored the strength and life of some of Ukraine's most promising and idealistic young citizens. They have helped to build the "strategic partnership" with a new Ukraine that is so vital to the long-term security of the United States and the entire world.

If you have not yet drawn up your will, please contact CCRF's National Office or Alexander Kuzma, Attorney at Law, at 860-652-0458. Your legacy will not be forgotten by the children of Ukraine.

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