



A little
help—a big
difference

Support for Kids Organization, Inc

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Special points of interest:

- November 7th – please mark your calendar
- Budget for the year 2011
- Legends and facts about Georgia

Dear readers and supporters,

Time goes so fast that I just realized that we are towards the end of summer which we have not really seen yet. I guess we should not complain; it is still beautiful and we are blessed to live in San Diego even with these cool temperatures.

In the beginning of September, I am leaving for Georgia for a month. You still will receive the September issue of the newsletter, but in October you will have a little break from Support For Kids Organization Inc. news.

Hopefully I will manage to do everything I plan for this trip. Besides visiting the kids in 3-4 orphanages, evaluating their condition and defining the work orders for their needs, I plan to have some meetings with government officials to seek their cooperation with 2 projects. One of them is continuation of the medical—Teddy Bear Project to cover the rest of the orphanages in the remote areas of the country. So far it was done only in the capital city of Tbilisi and the ones that really need this project are in hard to reach areas. For this particular project, besides an approval from the Department of Health I will be asking them also to cover some of the doctor's expenses of that mission. At least I can try.

The second project is in a preliminary stage and we hope to get the Georgian government to be involved in training for future employment of the kids who have to leave the orphanages .

I also need to find housing for one kid—Roba, who hopefully will be accepted in a college (we still did not know the final results and I did not want to delay with this newsletter). Unfortunately, the practice of “roommates” is yet unknown in Georgia, so it makes it harder to find him housing [also no concept of renting a single room].

As you can see I will have plenty of things to do and I will make sure that the most important things for the kids will be done during my visit.

Thanks as always and enjoy the rest of the summer and have fun!

Ani Mdivani-Morrow

The Second Annual Fundraising

Most of you probably remember our first annual fundraiser brunch at Tom Ham's Lighthouse Restaurant in San Diego. Although it was last year, the memories of that event are still vivid — great venue, magnificent view, gourmet food, fun raffle prizes, beautiful art, the star of the day — Dallas (our amazing auctioneer) and even my (a bit) emotional presentation.

Well, this year Mike and I got an early start and we looked at several possibilities for the venue for this years fundraising. While we still were deciding on which one as the most suitable for the event, our very close friend — Mark Allen made a comment: "Why would you look anywhere else but Tom Ham's after such fun and a success last year?!" This comment was enough to make up our minds and I hope I did not disappoint you with our decision to host our second annual

fundraiser at the same place. The only difference is that we are going to have a bigger room (capacity is 200 +) which also means that we have to guarantee 100 people . This time Tom Ham's will set up their buffet tables in the same room so the guests will avoid going up to the second floor to fill up their plates.

As before, we are planning to have a lot of fun and useful raffle prizes, the same gourmet food and unlimited flowing champagne and "mimosa", a live auction with great items and fine art and yes, Dallas already promised to be our auctioneer.

The price for the tickets are the same as last year - \$55 per person. Some of you have friends and family members who want to participate as well. So if your group is 8 or more (up to 12 people), you can get a table with a discounted price of \$50 per person. This will give you advantage of a better rate and in addition you will be sitting with your friends. Please keep in mind this option - table of 8 will be \$400, table for 10 - \$500 and table for 12 - \$600.

So please mark your calendar for **November 7th, 2010** spread the word, invite your friends to join us for yet another great event to support the kids.

If any of you still have the invitation card from the last year, there were the photos of 3 girls on it; one of them was a cute girl without front teeth. I am sure you remember her mischievous smile. The sweet girl in a pink fleece sweater is the same "toothless" cutie just an year later. Yes, they do grow fast.

Support For Kids Organization, Inc

A Little Help - A Big Difference

Annual Fundraiser Brunch

November 7th, 2010
10:30 AM - 2 PM

Tom Ham's Lighthouse
2150 Harbor Island Drive
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 291-9110

Tickets \$55 Per Person or
\$50 per person for table of
8, 10 or 12 people



www.supportforkids.org

Where does the money go?

You are probably wondering why are we having another fundraiser? Why are we trying to raise more money? What for? Once again, I want to assure you that the very last penny from these funds goes to the kids and are not for our salaries. From almost \$9000 raised from the last year fundraiser, \$6000 went to the bed manufacturer for 40 beds and approximately \$3000 for the 380 pairs of boots, joggers and 200 pairs of jeans by the time they got to San Diego. As you remember, almost all the shipping from USA to Georgia was free (except \$150 charge within 2 ports in New Jersey) thanks to FedEx and my contacts in the Georgian government. Besides, we still have not reimbursed ourselves for many expenses associated with first fundraising, advertising, printing, travel between the orphanages, legal and other miscellaneous fees. Also, when I travel to Georgia, I don't even consider covering the airline ticket from the funds raised (I usually buy my ticket using airline miles). Our goal is to make kids lives better, improve their living conditions and prepare them for an independent future.

Our preliminary estimates for the next 2011 year budget is around \$20,000, Those include:

1. \$4,000 - for the repairs in Mestia Orphanage (heater, paint, plumbing, electrical, water heater, doors and windows and roof repair)
2. \$6,000 - for 25 more new beds (\$225 per bed) plus the mattresses, pillows and bedding for them
3. \$ 3,000 - for appliances (3 stoves and 2 refrigerators)
4. \$ 1,500 - for the Teddy Bear Project (gas only for doctors transportation. We are calculating around 1500 liters of gas to cover the distances between the orphanages)
5. \$ 1,000 - workroom supply for 300 kids (pencils, crayons, notepads, craft making supplies)
6. \$ 2,000 - One student's scholarship that includes living allowance for a year (\$150 per month) and college supply (books, etc)
7. \$1,000 - Volunteer expenses that includes compensation to 2 tutors for Roba and to Manana (our Georgian manager) to cover the basic management and associated expenses.
8. \$1,000 - transportation expenses that includes traveling to remote orphanages and delivering the shoes, clothes and other materials for them (for example appliances, beds, building materials, etc)
9. \$500 - unexpected expenses that might include legal (like translation, notary, etc)

Of course I don't expect to raise all these money from the upcoming fundraiser, even though it would be very nice. Your support and encouragement are very important. Sometimes I am so scared that I will not be able to deliver the promises I made; first of all to the kids and also to myself that I will do whatever in my power to improve their lives. Even in this tough economy you been more than generous to our cause and I want to thank you for that.

We still are planning to apply for grants for some bigger projects, but we still are new (we have been told that we need at least 2 years to be even considered for a grant) and we are trying to select a long term project that the kids will benefit from. There is one interesting possibility for a big project and I will be checking on it while in Georgia . Unfortunately I don't have much information at this time to share with you, at this stage it is just an idea . Hopefully I will know more upon my return and if everything goes well we might be able to start a pilot program that will involve the most vulnerable age group in the orphanages, possibility of their employment and preparation for their independent future.

We shall see - and of course I will have more info for you as we make progress.

I hope you feel involved because you are with funds and heart. For certain we can't do it alone!



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A LITTLE HELP—A BIG
DIFFERENCE

Your tax-deductable financial gift is the most important action you can take to help this great cause. Please visit our site www.supportforkids.org donation page

Please help

Georgia up close - Tbilisi

Tbilisi (old name is *Tiflis*), the capital of Georgia is located in the eastern part of the country, 120 km from the Greater Caucasus and at a distance of 350 km from the Black Sea. This enchanting, ancient city situated along the winding river Mtkvari was founded in the 5th century AD. According to a legend, the King Vakhtang Gorgasali (the most powerful king of early Georgia) was out hunting when he shot a pheasant. The bird fell into a spring and when the king went to recover his prey, he found it boiled. The spring was fed by very hot sulfurous waters, which still flow to this day. The king was so impressed that he decided to relocate his capital (Mtskheta) to this site. He ordered to build a city in the beautiful ravine and naturally, the name was derived from the Georgian word *Tbili*, meaning *warm* and indeed, both the spring and the people live up to this name.



The city grew up along both banks of the Mtkvari River in an asymmetrical valley. There are mountains on three sides. From ancient times the site of Tbilisi has been a trading point between Europe and Asia.

Since the 6th century Tbilisi is the nation's largest city. It is home to nearly one and a half million people, the city continues its long cosmopolitan traditions. During medieval times, Arabs, Armenians, Azeris, Kurds, Persians, Turks and later Russians would venture and settle in Tbilisi together with its indigenous Georgians. Today Americans and Europeans are adding more

western flavor to the city's life. You can find Orthodox Churches, Mosque, Synagogue, Gregorian and Catholic Churches standing together in a very little spot. The Old Town of Tbilisi has retained its fascinating atmosphere: narrow winding streets, houses with inner courts surrounded with balconies decorated with intricate carving. This is my city where I was born and raised. Every time I go back, I am more and more convinced of its uniqueness. There is no other city like it. Some might argue that there are so many beautiful cities in the world, what makes Tbilisi so special? I don't know. If you ask any locals regardless of their origin about their nationality, the answer will be "I am Tbilisian".

