



# DIEMA'S DREAM

## Newsletter ~ Events of 2006

### Update on the Village

In October 2005, through the generosity of our supporters, we were able to begin construction of the village, Gorodok, for our children. Gorodok will serve as a permanent residence for our young adults leaving Charity House at age 18. They will live as a family of 5 to 6 young adults with house parents. Gorodok is being provided as an alternative to life in an institution for the adult disabled and elderly which usually has 600 to 800 residents.

At this time, the first house is almost ready. We plan to finish the interior before the summer. We will build a fence around the entire property and move in the first group of young adults by July. If funding allows, we'll lay foundations for the additional new houses.



We already have our first resident!!! She took it upon herself to move in. When she came to the village, she was very skinny with long black legs, so her name is "Mooha" or "fly" in Russian. Her sudden appearance was as if she had "flown" in one day to the site. She has become fiercely defensive of her new home and she knows who should be on the site and who shouldn't! Welcome!

### Diema's Dream Family Center

In April 2006, we opened a Family Center not too far from the orphanage. The center provides services for disabled children and their families. These families have made the brave decision of keeping their disabled child at home instead of abandoning them to state care. Our specialists provide an initial assessment; development plan for every child, individual therapy sessions and group parents meetings. Currently, we have special education teachers, a motor therapist, and a psychologist on staff who work with 27 families and 28 children. One mother, Svetlana, brings her twins three times a week. They both have cerebral palsy. Our teachers work with our Orphanage program at the orphanage in the morning and at the center in the afternoon.

We have made some progress already, and what's more important – parents can see this progress. For them, they are happy and pleased to see their child's abilities. For example Anya K.. She is 2 years 9 months old and has Downs syndrome. Our special education teacher and motor therapist have worked with Anya since the center was opened. Anya wasn't able to walk by herself. After several months of work, she started walking and running. Now she is dancing and using different movements to express her feelings. It's wonderful for us to see all the children's progress.

One of the mother's, Vova B., said "At first I was kind of shocked by the fact that consultations in Diema's Dream center are for free. It seems incredible in our capitalistic time. I want to bow low and to thank heartily our teachers, organizers, sponsors, and all who help to realize this kind project".

Next year, we plan to extend our work and provide such services as home visits, parents support groups and a support resource center including a literature and toy library.

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#### Upcoming Events

*June 2, 2007*

*Third annual "Dreams"*

*Moscow*

*If you would like further information about attending the auction, please contact [mary@diemasdream.com](mailto:mary@diemasdream.com)*

## Moscow Times Article

### Abandoned at Birth, Kids Find a Friend

*A charity is helping disabled children at a Moscow orphanage who once died of neglect.*

By **Alastair Gee**

STAFF WRITER

**Reprinted with permission**

There was a time before Mary Dudley arrived at Internat No. 8 in 1999, when more than one in three kids died there. Today, the mortality rate has been eliminated at the disabled students' home.

Dudley, the founder of Diema's Dream, a charity that supports orphans in Russia, said many of the kids, stricken with cerebral palsy and other brain-related disorders, died of neglect.



Now few, if any, of the 5- to 18-year-olds at the home are forgotten in their cots, and everyone who's able to, learns how to walk and speak. One of the biggest challenges facing Diema's Dream is the severity of the children's disabilities. Zhenya Markova, for instance, one of the home's older residents, is barely three feet tall. Her bones are twisted because her mother bound her stomach to hide her pregnancy. Nearby are several children who must wear restraints that look like straight-jackets; otherwise, they're likely to scratch or bite themselves. Several kids rarely brush their teeth. Some are clubfooted. They wear the clothes that other people are kind enough to give them.

Dudley said it was all too common for parents to give up their disabled children to orphanages at birth. Doctors and state-employed social workers often strongly urge them to do so. "It's the Soviet mentality," Dudley said. "They want to hide all the imperfect people away."

Dudley, who is from Washington, began working regularly with Moscow orphans in 1994 after a chance encounter with a boy at another city orphanage. While on a trip to the orphanage sponsored by the International Women's Club, Dudley happened to walk past a playpen with a 3-year-old boy. Dudley tossed the boy a ball. "He was sitting in the corner but suddenly did a commando crawl to the ball and threw it back to me," Dudley said. She continued to spend time with the boy, Dima Martinov until the authorities transferred him to an orphanage that barred visitors. Jill Blonsky, then the IWC head, played spy for a day to check on Dima and the other orphans, pretending to be a cleaning lady at the orphanage.

In 1998, Dudley founded Diema's Dream, which uses a Westernized spelling of Dima. For a while, she ran the charity from home, in the United States. A few years later, her husband, Robert Dudley, became president and chief executive of the oil giant TNK-BP, and the Dudleys moved back to Moscow. Today, Dudley runs the charity from her central Moscow apartment. She says the working relationship she has with Russian authorities is rare for a nongovernmental organization.

Still, she frets that her work may be in jeopardy; Authorities recently threatened that the older children at Internat No. 8 may be moved to other facilities, making it difficult, if not impossible, for the NGO to work with them. But at a recent performance at the orphanage organized by the Anglo-American School, everyone looked happy. Fifth-graders from the school had made paintings for a room being redecorated at the orphanage. The orphans, in turn, gave a recital.

Now the charity is building a village 250 kilometers south of Moscow for older orphans, and on June 3 it will hold a ball to raise money for the project. Other projects are also afoot.

But Dudley is worried about the future. The government does not like foreign NGOs meddling, as they see it, in Russia. And the kids Diema's Dream works with need around-the-clock care. While living at a state-run home in 2002, Diema died, after having gone blind from an eye infection easily cured in the West. He was 11. "You go to the government with a good idea, and you'd think they'd say, 'That's great, that's six or eight less people we have to care for,'" Dudley said. "But the system is so difficult to change. It'll take generations."

## We are thankful to Barbara Spier and Allied Pickfords!!!

Every year Barbara Spier and Allied Pickfords Moscow collects items from their clients who are moving and want to donate the items to charity. Their efforts support various Russian organizations with a purpose to provide material support to baby houses, orphanages, animal shelters and other organizations. Diema's Dream was among them. Through the efforts of Barbara and Allied, we have received many items for our village – beds, mattresses, furniture, linens, lamps and even a piano!!!!

# Diema's Dream Events

## Winter Holidays

One of the most important goals of our foundation is the socialization of disabled children. We try to give the children many opportunities to go out. This winter holiday, Diema's Dream provided several Christmas events for children. One was a trip to the circus. It was not the first visit to the circus for some of our children, but it was a great performance and all of the children were very excited and happy. The event is organized each year by TNK-BP, who invite 4,000 orphans each year. We currently are the only orphanage involved who have disabled children.



## Family Center Christmas Party



We had a Christmas party for the children and their parents from our Family Center program. Our special guests were Father Frost, Snow White and other fairytale characters. There was a wonderful and exciting Christmas Story performed by an organization "Krug". There were with lots of surprises and presents. Our kids participated in the performance. They were playing, singing and dancing with actors.

There was such an atmosphere of happiness and celebration. We all had a lot of fun!

## Dreams 06

On June 3, 2006 the second annual Moscow fundraising event "Dreams 06" was held at Forum Hall. We sincerely want to thank the artists who donated their artworks for this Gala event ~ Olga Kobilinskaya, Yuri Kriklovensky, Alexander Dedushev, Evgueni Jidkov, Pavel Lazarev, Alexei Firsov, Anna Birshtein, Lucia Popenko, Kirill Protopopov, and Vladimir Clavijo-Telepnev. A model for our village, created by Aleksey Voznesensky, was on display.



Mary Dudley

For the second year, great music and dancing was provided by Sky High Band from Israel. We want to thank our sponsors ~ Deloitte, Price Waterhouse Coopers, Akin Gump, Caterpillar, Chevron, Citicorp, Conoco Phillips, Halliburton International, Linklaters. Special thanks to: Deutsche Bank, Raiffeisen Bank, Renaissance Capital and Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein. These four leaders in the Russian banking Industry joined together in support of this charitable event. All funds raised went to the construction of our village, Gorodok, for disabled young adults and for the development of Diema's Dream Family Center program.



## Celebrity Charity Ball



The London annual fundraising event "Celebrity Charity Ball" was held on the 24th of November 2006 at The Four Seasons Hotel. It was a magnificent evening and we hope all our guests enjoyed every minute of it. Especially the great music that was provided by Olga Schalaeva, who performed songs from popular operettas and Russian romances to the piano accompaniment of Igor Zapravdin, girls band "Triquetra" and band "Reyes". It was a pleasure to see such guests as Princess George Galitzine, Annabel Croft, Denise Waterman, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Konnie Huq, Kim Medcalf, The Earl of Bradford, Camilla Dallerup, Esther Rantzen OBE, CBE... We want to thank all the artists - Anna Birshtein, Pavel Lazarev, Vladimir Clavijo-Telepnev, Andrey Medvedev and Misha Levin - who donated

their artworks for the auction. Their generosity is greatly appreciated!

We also want to thank our sponsors for their donations! A special thank you to Egnoussa Yachting for a great a two-day cruise on a luxury yacht, Lanificio Zegna for a tailored garment, XLR8 Cars and Old Course Hotel, Gianni Lazzaro for a beautiful moonstone & diamond necklace, Boodles for an eighteen carat white gold "Roulette" pendant, Donna Karan for a Persian Lamb messenger bag. We appreciate the sponsorship of Kenwood Electronics, Solway Management, Management of the Four Seasons Hotel, Moet Hennessy UK Limited, Alexandra Spezzotti and Emine Basak, Annabel Croft, Mr and Mrs P. Williams, Duchess of Norfolk, Mr Eric and Mrs Olga Mhitarian, Mrs Talia Bronstein, Mr Ioury and Mrs Natalia Chliaifchtein, Harrods and Mr. Kris Sliger and Ms. Sandy Braun, Through the auction, we raised around £70,000.00!

All money raised will provide support for disabled Russian orphans in our Charity House program in Internat №8, to our Family Center program and our Gorodok Village.

Olga Makharinsky & Elena Ragozhina



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Diema's Dream is a Registered Charity  
US Registration # EIN 36-4254630  
UK Registration # 1102848  
Russia Registration # 1067746380096

## DIEMA'S DREAM MISSION STATEMENT

To provide financial, medical and educational support for physically and mentally disabled children in Russia and FSU states. To affect societal and legislative changes in order to create social and medical support programs which would allow parents to raise their disabled children at home.

Mary H. Dudley  
Diema's Dream Founder

## Holiday Bazaars & Other Fundraisers 2006

We would like to thank our hosts for their time, effort and hard work in raising funds throughout the year for the orphanage, Family Center and the Village. Thank you all!

### Olga Maharinsky

Charity Concert held March 06 in London  
Kremlin Cup held October 06 in Moscow co host Mary Dudley & Sergey Andryshin  
Elka 06 held December 06 in London

### Lee Alexander in Annapolis, MD

Annapolis First Nights held October 06 co host Debra Cockrell

### Dawna Bankus in Ashburn, VA

Ladies Night held November 06 hosted for the second year

### CJ Franey

AWBS held May 06, co host Aynur Southall in London  
AWS held November 06 co host Aynur Southall in London  
Russian Treasures held December 06 in LaQuinta, CA

### Kim Wepler in Hudson, OH

Russian Treasures held November 06 co hosts Lynn Stocks and Debra Cockrell

### Dan & Janice Maxham in Farmington, ME

Heirlooms of Tomorrow held November—December 06 hosted for the third year co hosts Danny Gazette & Jarad Platt

### Anya Orochko in Moscow

Note cards and Christmas Card Sales held through out the year in at many functions.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce our Moscow Director, **Sergey Andryshin**. There are not enough words to express our gratitude for what this man does for Diema's Dream. Sergey has been with us since the beginning (1998). He is our translator; he interfaces with the orphanage and the Family Center; he knows how to reach the vendors for the items we sell at our bazaars; he is our Moscow office, Family Center & the Village bookkeeper; he participates in every fundraising event in Moscow; he solves everyday crises and problems (which you can imagine are immense); helped with the construction of the Village and so many other things and then, of course, he's always there to drive us everywhere we need to go, no matter what time of the day or night. Our hats off to you Sergey. Where would we be with out you??? **Thank you Sergey!!!**



It is through the generosity of our supporters that we all are able to make a difference in the lives of disabled children. We thank ALL our supporters who make it possible for us to do what we do. We would like to recognize two very special supporters. Since 2002, **Irene Johnson** of Noank, CT & **Frank Burke** of Fairfax, VA generously send Diema's Dream a donation every month. **Thank you!**

If you would like to make a **tax deductible donation**, please visit our website where we accept Visa, MasterCard and American Express. If you would like to send a check, please remit to the US corporate office.

**Through your generosity, Diema's Dream is able to make a difference in the lives of the disabled children of Russia!**  
**Thank you for your support!**