

Highlights of TOUCH 13 Delegation's Trip to Ukraine - September 2013

Twenty-one members of the TOUCH 13 Delegation traveled to Ukraine including:

Nancy Boom
Mary Breithaupt
Christine Clausen
Emmy Escanlar
Lara Gamelin
Peggy Giles

Judy Juntunen
Sabra Killen
Els Lofgren
Jeanette Maier
Bill Maier
Julie Manning

Kate Mathews
Wendy McKenna
Judy Norman
Alice Rampton
Mark Rampton
Elaine Rea

Bill Smart
Ann Smart
Marc Vomocil
Interns:
Hannah Bittner
Sydney MacNaughton

The TOUCH13 delegation members varied in age from 13 to 82 years. They were extremely compatible and accomplished a great deal with the TOUCH program and in individual areas of focus. Each paid for their food, airfare, lodging & other costs.

Activities of the TOUCH 13 delegation included:

- Interviewing 18 youth from all five TOUCH programs who applied for scholarships.
- Enjoying a concert & gelato with the Pavlovo young women.
- Distributing sewing kits to teachers and guardians.
- Meeting with Uzhhorod's Mayor Viktor Pohorelov.
- Attending the opening of two medical training clinics.



- Watching the fireworks during City Days celebrating Uzhhorod's 1120th birthday.
- Taking 150 children shopping from the Chaslivtsi Orphanage and New Family Program.
- Distributing pizza to "honor students at Public School #14.
- Meeting "Milka" - the new milk cow at Pavlovo Farm Home purchased from various generous donations.
- Attending an Uzhhorod Sister City meeting.
- Watching New Family & Chaslivtsi youth perform concerts.
- Observing the breakfast program at Public School #14.

- Attending a Social Work conference with an emphasis on volunteerism
- Distributing beautiful quilts to children, handmade by Oregon quilters.
- Observing new library supplies at PS14 thanks to Elaine Rea.
- Providing talks on Native American history, good health habits, life for an American teenager, and a presentation on birds to TOUCH youth
- Watching 13 year old delegation member, Emmy, do the "Cup Song".
- Honoring our high school students who serve as interpreters.
- Attending the Social Work Conference at Uzhhorod National University.
- Viewing a touring national photo exhibit with pictures of children with disabilities participating in a variety of activities from skiing to dancing.
- Watching a young woman with Down syndrome perform the waltz with a young man in a wheel chair.
- Being with Hannah and Sydney, our 2 interns who are teaching English to TOUCH children until mid-Dec.
- Providing lectures on health care, wound care, and breast exams to medical students at the university.
- Purchasing a piano and books for an amazing young pianist who graduated from Public School #14.



- Riding the yellow Rehabilitation Center bus which was purchased through a Rotary International and TOUCH partnership in 2012.
- Touring castles in both Mukachevo and Uzhhorod.
- Enjoying meals with Ukrainian friends at homes and restaurants.
- Viewing new equipment for children with disabilities.
- Seeing sponsors meet their TOUCH child for the first time..
- Sharing time together with the children in The TOUCH Project.
- Always appreciating our TOUCH director, Zita, and program leaders who work year long.