

## Highlights of TOUCH 12 Delegation's Trip to Ukraine - September 2012

Nineteen members of the TOUCH 12 Delegation traveled to Ukraine including:

Lynne Abbey-Lee  
Carla Francis  
Sabra Killen  
Alice Rampton  
Beverly Smith

Kathy Bergevin  
Peggy Giles  
Keith Larson  
Mark Rampton  
Jenny Smith

Judy de Szoeki  
Becki Goslow  
Maureen Larson  
Sarika Rao  
Matt Smith

Roland de Szoeki  
Mandy Johnson  
Pat Pitts  
Tammy Skubinna

The TOUCH12 delegation was a varied group including librarians, homemakers, teachers, professors, an insurance agent, fire fighter, 4-H director, retired social worker, dental hygienist, professional harpist, physician, teen counselor, research assistant, graduate student, and a high school student. They came from Oregon, Washington, and Colorado. Everyone paid for their food, airfare, ground transportation, and lodging.

### The activities of members of the TOUCH 12 delegation included:

- Taking the Rehabilitation Center staff, families and children to a city park for play.
- Riding in the new bright yellow, wheelchair accessible Rehabilitation Center bus!



- Celebrating with select children at Public School #14 who worked hard to achieve good grades.
- Shopping (in the rain) at the outdoor bazaar with 100 children from New Family Center and Chaslivtsi.
- Meeting with Uzhhorod's Mayor and Asst. Superintendent of Schools.
- Watching New Family, Pavlovo & Chaslivtsi youth perform concerts for the delegation.
- Doing morning calisthenics with the children at Public School #14.
- Appreciating Oregon quilters who provided 10 quilts for TOUCH kids.

- Enjoying the fruits of the newly formed Buddy Project at a fundraiser.
- Attending the Social Work Conference at Uzhhorod National University.
- Viewing an art sale presented by the Animal Humane Society.
- Renewing friendships with the Pavlovo youth at their home and a pizza dinner in town.
- Taking a half day off to enjoy an excursion to the Mukachevo castle and city.
- Providing lectures to physicians and dentists at the Uzhhorod Medical and Dental schools.
- Seeing the value of a sponsor letter to their TOUCH child.
- Sharing time together with the children we sponsor in The TOUCH Project.
- Enjoying the company of our high school and university students who interpret for us.
- Meeting in Budapest with coordinators of Phiren Amenca who combat Roma stereotypes.
- Gathering with Ukrainian volunteers at the Regional Library's Window on America program.
- Feeling gratitude for our TOUCH director, Zita, and program leaders who work year long.

