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Lights for Ukraine-A Collaborative Effort

In mid-March I left for a 2-week trip to Moldova and Ukraine. My purpose was to deliver ten (10) Ray of Life (ROL) solar light units to Ukraine. In collaboration with For God's Children International (FGCI) staff, I was able to connect with 3 different groups of Ukrainians to pass off the lights.

Is this something they need and in reality, will utilize? Without question, pointedly spoken directly from Ukrainians, yes. These solar lights offer people living in basements, or living in village homes or city apartment blocks where the electric grid has been destroyed or compromised, the opportunity to have light and charge a cell phone. The battery, when fully charged will provide 8-10 hours of bright, LED light. At an apartment in Odessa where we shared a meal with 12 Ukrainians, everyone there knew someone either living in a basement or living without electricity. This solar light application is needed even more in cities in eastern Ukraine and the villages all through the gray zone, as well as the combat zone. The collaborative partners and the network involved in this project have contacts willing and able to get these lights to those people.

I took 10 as a pilot effort, to see if the ROL unit and the application of it was needed and desired by Ukrainians. As stated previously, it is. The cost of each unit is \$125.00 USD. The initiative we are now proposing calls for 500 lights, for a total cost of \$62,500.00 USD. We are asking churches, community organizations and individuals to engage. The ordering of parts and the pre-assembly are done by New Vision in rural West Virginia, the final assembly done by church and community group partners. The arrangements for transport to Ukraine and delivery in Ukraine will be handled by New Horizons Foundation-USA and FGCI.

The Ray of Life solar light unit was developed "for such a time as this". This opportunity to provide light for families, schoolchildren, rural and urban pastors and churches, the elderly who are unable to leave Ukraine and many other people who have no electricity available is offered. **Light brings hope, hope keeps people alive.** Might we all have a reason, and a call as people of faith, to provide this? If God be for us, who can stand against us?

Respectfully,

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