

Friday, June 13 2008

Ukraine Charity raised 6,000 GBP for Help Us Help the Children at its inaugural fundraising celebration yesterday at central London's Ukrainian restaurant Divo.

The event, which attracted 126 attendees, featured traditional Ukrainian cuisine and live Ukrainian music, as well as speeches by Ukraine Charity Co-Founder and Trustee Ihor Okhrimenko and Ukraine Charity Communications Director Alexa Chopivsky.

Help Us Help the Children Founder and Director Ruslana Wrzesnewskyj, who is based in Toronto and Kyiv, traveled to London to introduce HUHTC to the UK audience. HUHTC already has an active list of volunteers in Ukraine and North America.

Following the program, participants took part in a live auction and celebrated Ivana Kupala, the ancient Ukrainian summer solstice tradition.

The money raised by Ukraine Charity will make a significant contribution to funding this year's annual HUHTC summer camp, to be held in July 2008 for three weeks in Vorokhta, situated in Western Ukraine's beautiful Carpathian Mountains. The camp's 500 orphans come from across the country and learn valuable life-skills like First Aid, computers and team-building. They make new friendships, participate in Ukrainian traditions, and are encouraged to speak in Ukrainian only, as some of the campers come from Russian-speaking eastern Ukraine. A highlight of the camp includes the annual hike to the summit of Mount Hoverla, Ukraine's highest peak.

About Help Us Help the Children: HUHTC has for over 15 years provided unrivalled leadership in improving the lives of over 30,000 Ukrainian orphans. Among its initiatives: a life skills-building annual summer camp in Ukraine's Carpathian Mountains, a scholarship program, anti-trafficking seminars, medical and dental exams and equipment distribution, and disbursement of educational materials, clothes, and toys to over 200 orphanages across the country.  
[www.helpushelpthechildren.ca](http://www.helpushelpthechildren.ca)

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