

In 2015, Jeff Biscoe founded the Bird of Pray Foundation with a vision of bringing hope and humanitarian aid to people around the world by involving our local community and partnering with others along the way.

Currently working in nine countries, our family, team, and partners strive to bring encouragement, assistance and hope to people in need. We are very thankful for the support we receive to continue and expand our programs.



BELARUS



Belarus is a small country nestled between Russia and Poland. Previously part of the Soviet Union, it gained its independence in 1991 with the collapse of the USSR. Belarus today has a population of about 10 million people.

This little country has made great strides in recent years to improve the lives of its citizens and especially its orphans. There is still a long way to go, and a lot of work to do, but each life touched in a positive way will have a profound impact on the future of this nation and its people.

BIRD OF PRAY FOUNDATION

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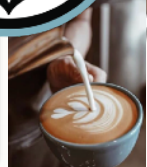
www.birdofpray.org



Belarus

“To bring humanitarian aid to those in need around the world, and to bring hope to those who are without.”





One of our capital projects in Minsk, Belarus is Compassion Coffee. This coffee shop is a pilot program Bird of Prey Foundation and Direct Connect Humanitarian Aid have partnered together with to bring to the Minsk community.

One of the primary objectives is to provide job and life-skills training, English lessons and gainful employment for orphans who have "graduated" from their orphanage or shelter home. Life-skills and job training are two areas not taught in most institutions, therefore the youth coming out of these homes are ill-equipped to successfully navigate life on their own which often leads to military service, prison time and/or sex trafficking. Our goal is to prevent this from happening to as many youths as possible.

Another objective of Compassion Coffee is giving back to the community. Profits from the coffee shop will be distributed to various humanitarian projects in Belarus, making it a source of local revenue for local humanitarian work.

The shop is unique in the area, as it provides two things most public places and almost every coffee shop doesn't; a wheelchair accessible entrance and restroom, and a child-friendly environment, including a private baby changing table and a play area. It also offers a private room suitable for classes, parties, meetings and small gatherings.

We are excited to see how this project grows and how it will positively impact the lives of all who are involved.



TEAMWORK IN THE TRENCHES

We have excellent teamwork with several organizations in and around Minsk who work day in and day out to bring hope through humanitarian aid to people in need.

This collaboration ensures that funds used in Belarus are applied appropriately, by vetted organizations, making everyones contribution as impactful as possible.

SASHA'S SOUP KITCHEN

Sasha started a soup kitchen in 1997 in an effort to feed the many street children in Minsk. In 1999 he expended his work by opening a small shelter for children. An artist by trade, Sasha was moved by the great need he saw and took the opportunity to help those he could. Today, he operates a soup kitchen and clothing closet for homeless adults. His continued efforts touch the lives of hundreds of adults in Minsk everyday.



Sasha helping a homeless man with his new winter coat from the clothing closet.



A filling, mid-day meal served at the soup kitchen.

SPRING OF REVIVAL

Olga Goncharenko founded Spring of Revival in 2001. Olga's vision was to help the children in the many orphanages and shelters around Belarus. She has been instrumental in bringing reform to the system, better care for orphans and invests a lot of time and effort into helping older orphans succeed once they are out of the institutions. She also works with post-foster families, helping them succeed in an effort to stay together.



Olga Goncharenko having a meal with the orphaned girls in her program.



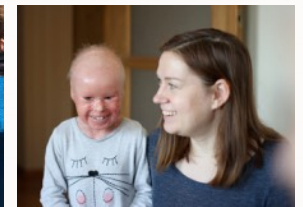
Olga's girls volunteer weekly by spending time with younger kids still in shelters.

UK BASED NONPROFIT - THE BELARUS FUND

The Belarus Fund has been working to support families and orphans in Belarus since 2006. Alan, Carol and Janet, three friends who lost their hearts to the people of Belarus and so founded the Belarus Fund. Their focus is to help with all of the health problems that arose from the radiation contamination after the Chernobyl disaster.



Nicolai Balbutski of Samaritan's Purse explains the situation of a disabled family to TBF.



One of TBF's support contacts, a five year old girl named Valvarra, who has a severe skin condition.