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**“COMMUNITY SERVICES TO VULNERABLE GROUPS”  
USAID Cooperative Agreement Number: 121-A-00-05-00703-00**

**QUARTERLY PROGRAM REPORT**  
**Reporting period: 1 April – 30 June , 2011**  
**Date of report: July 29, 2011**  
**Component I “Supporting Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Belarus”**

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Development objective:

Democracy, human rights and development

## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### A. PROJECT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Orphans and Vulnerable Children component of the *Community Services to Vulnerable Groups* project is to reduce the number of children in Belarus being institutionalized in state-administered orphanages and boarding schools. In pursuit of this goal, the project will aim to foster a cultural environment conducive to family-based care, and move children from institutions into less restrictive environments when prior circumstances necessitate removal from their family home. The project targets 'social orphans,' i.e., children whose parents are living, but are unable to provide proper care, or children of parents who have been denied parental rights. The project's activities focus on working with families and social service professionals to maintain and reintegrate children within their original family units.

The project has three main objectives:

- improving access to and furthering development of an integrated system of community-based prevention and rehabilitation services for families as well as institutionalized and at-risk children;
- improving the quality of training and education available to social service providers and building awareness of community members surrounding the development of favorable family environments for children;
- promoting de-institutionalization of children through technical assistance to the national child welfare agencies in strengthening the national regulatory and methodological base and disseminating key findings of the project throughout Belarus to build a foundation for replication and sustainability.

### B. PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

This quarter ChildFund Belarus focused its efforts on ensuring sustainability of the training programs/services started in the previous quarters. Similar to the previous quarters the main areas of intervention were reformation of the child protection system, development of family type placement for orphaned children, and improvement of parenting skills and competencies to prevent child abuse and neglect.

In order to support follow-up activity of alumni of the Family-centered Approach to Child Protection Services program from Grodno and Mogilev oblasts five (5) small projects were awarded last quarter. This quarter all these projects received their official registration. This allowed grantees to start project implementation aimed at reformation of the local child protection system and development of multidisciplinary cooperation.

To increase sustainability of changes in training and education available to social service providers ChildFund strengthened the capacity of the national pool of trainers. This was achieved through an international advanced-level Training of Trainers workshop on Curriculum Development and Coaching. Among the participants of the workshop were faculties from partner re-training institutes, leading child protection practitioners, specialists from education, and specialists from children's institutions who worked with ChildFund as trainers within the project. The knowledge and skills obtained at the TOT propelled the trainers to the next level of mastery. It resulted in creation of three teams of Master trainers working on PRIDE, child protection and Parenting. It is expected that the Master trainers will be the key groups that will ensure the on-going process of preparation of new generations of trainers all over Belarus.

This quarter, ChildFund Belarus in partnership with six (6) re-training institutes<sup>1</sup> continued the activities on capacity building for specialists based on PRIDE, the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program, and the Family-centered Approach to Child Protection Services program. As a result of the established strategic partnerships, by the end of the quarter, the project expanded to **121** geographic locations from all over Belarus (112 locations were covered by the end of the last quarter).

*Please, see Annex 2: Project map*

Mogilev re-training institute demonstrated sustainability of ChildFund's previous interventions. This quarter in the framework of its regular curriculum they started dissemination of the training program on the Family-centered Approach and trained 29

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<sup>1</sup> there are 7 re-training institutes in Belarus and ChildFund Belarus works with 6 of them.

child protection specialists from 7 new regions of Mogilev oblast. Three (3) TOT alumni from Mogilev and Hotimsk conducted the workshop. All the expenses were covered by the local educational departments.

Brest oblast Re-training Institute was one of the latest partner Institutes. Despite the relatively short period of joint work with ChildFund (since the end of March 2011) during this quarter they made significant progress and increased their absorption capacity. In addition to the training program on the Family-centered Approach to Child Protection started last quarter, they launched PRIDE and the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program.

Thus, by the end of this quarter two of six partner re-training institutes from Grodno and Brest oblasts launched all three training programs that create a platform for implementation of ChildFund's successful model of de-institutionalization.

ChildFund Belarus again raised its profile as the leading agency in child protection as witnessed by strengthening its partnership with the network of Regional Committees on Juvenile Delinquents, the most influential decision making body in the child protection system. After a successful workshop for the Committees in Grodno region conducted last quarter ChildFund Belarus received two more requests for training from Brest and Minsk Regional Committees on Juvenile Delinquents for all their district committees from all regions of Brest and Minsk oblasts. It is expected that the committees will share expenses for the trainings and negotiations about a cost-sharing mechanism (for the expenses for accommodation, meals and premises) and other details of the workshops will be completed next quarter.

In summary, thus far:

- **5 projects** on child protection reforms for a total amount of \$12,919 USD awarded in the previous quarter were registered in the Department of Humanitarian Aid at Presidential Administration and started.
- **579 parents** (against 170 planned as an annual target) and **221 children** (against 320 as an annual target) have been meaningfully served through community-based services. **95%** of services were provided using local community resources.
- **203 child protection specialists** (against 60 planned annually) from **163 organizations** (against 30 planned annually) were assisted to improve their expertise in services to vulnerable children and families.

### C. CHALLENGES/CONSTRAINTS

- The economic crisis broke out in Belarus in March 2011 and continues today. Unprecedented devaluation of the national currency (56%) in April 2011 led to significant losses for ChildFund's small grantees. They had to adjust their budgets and look for additional resources in order to implement all the planned activities and meet all the planned targets.
- Economic crisis impacted the opportunity of Minsk oblast Re-training Institute to share the costs for training on the Family Centered Approach in Child Protection Service that is planned for September 2011. ChildFund Belarus started the negotiations with Minsk Oblast Committee on Juvenile Delinquents about possible support.
- This quarter two key project staff were replaced-- The OVC Project Manager who left ChildFund Belarus March 30, 2011 and Inna Chirko, a small grant manager, who was promoted to the position of OVC project manager after a competitive process (and with USAID approval) on June 1. To ensure smooth project implementation in the transition period the roles and responsibilities within the project team were revised and redistributed which caused an increase in staff workload.
- The beginning of vacation season in education institutions and shrinking financial resources of the communities caused a decrease in the number of parents who participated in the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program (442 parents in comparison to 588 people trained in the previous quarter). ChildFund will consider this trend when planning the next year activity.
- Many Parenting Trainers reported their inability to attend the Trainer's Forum on the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program that was originally planned for this quarter. All the trainers were teachers and social pedagogues from schools and they were engaged in exams, annual reporting, and other school events associated with the end of the academic year. As a result, the Trainer's Forum was postponed to the next quarter (July 5) in order to comply with

the end of the academic year in the educational system. This decision allowed us to better utilize the existing resources and ensure full participation of the trainers' team from all over Belarus.

#### **D. LESSONS LEARNED**

- The success of International Training of Trainers proved that ChildFund Belarus selected a brilliant trainer (Nan Beeler), the right time, and the right participants for the event. The training was organized in the right time for the trainees, as they had the appropriate training experience to succeed in mastering new knowledge and skills,
- Communities where both authorities and specialists gained knowledge on modern approaches in child protection demonstrated better results in transferring knowledge into practice. Additional support from the authorities increased motivation of specialists trained by ChildFund to share the obtained knowledge and skills on a Family-centered Approach Program with their colleagues from local child protection services.

## **II. ACTIVITIES**

### **OBJECTIVE 1: *Improving access to and furthering development of an integrated system of community-based prevention and rehabilitation services for families as well as institutionalized and at-risk children.***

This quarter three types of services continued their further replication. They were: reformation of the child protection system, development of family type placement for orphaned children (PRIDE model), and improvement of parenting skills and competencies to prevent child abuse and neglect (Parenting Skills Enhancement Program).

The total number of new communities with specialists trained in the three selected methodologies reached (18) eighteen.

In total this quarter:

- **221** children (against 320 as an annual target) and **579** (against 170 planned as an annual target) parents were meaningfully served by new/improved community based services.
- **95%** of services were provided using local community resources.
- **5** small grants for child protection reforms the total sum of \$12,919 were registered in the Department of Humanitarian Aid at Presidential Administration and started their activities.

#### ***Parenting Skills Enhancement Program***

Within the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program the participants were offered training sessions about emotional, physical, psychological and sexual violence and their effects on the development of children and adolescents; reasons for a child's misbehavior and methods of non-violent disciplining of children, stress management and self-regulation. The participants were encouraged to foster assertive parenting styles that respect the rights of children and parents.

Parenting Skills Enhancement Programs were successfully implemented by the alumni of the Parenting TOT organized in previous quarters. 100% of all Parenting Skills Enhancement Program groups were trained using allocated local resources.

This quarter, the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program was implemented in **29** locations in Minsk, Mogilev and Vitebsk regions in **Mogilev, Minsk, Vitebsk, Grodno** oblasts and **Minsk city (for more details, please see Annex 1 Project Map)**.

#### ***In total:***

- **442 parents (41 groups)** attended the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program in schools and kindergartens in 29 geographic locations; **31% of parents (137 people)** attending the course were those under supervision of child protection services or those parenting children with disabilities.; **95% of all groups** were completed by the end of this quarter
- **100% of all** Parenting Skills Enhancement Program groups were trained using allocated local resources.

#### ***Outcomes of Parenting Skills Enhancement Program:***

The program helps to prevent child abuse and neglect by addressing the risk factors of child maltreatment such as parental knowledge and expectations of child development, parental knowledge, skills and attitudes re discipline, and using non-violent methods of interaction between parent and child. Outcomes are illustrated by the following indicators:

- 85% reported they know about the stages of child's development;
- 79% of parents reported that they know the reasons for child's misbehavior;
- 83% of parents know and practice non-violent methods of discipline;
- 79% of trained parents demonstrate an assertive parenting style;
- 72% of parents reported using methods of stress management and self-regulation.

### ***Life Skills for institutionalized children***

***One hundred sixty-one (161) institutionalized children*** continued mastering life skills through life skills education classes in Zhodino, Orsha, Chausy, Volozhin and Kobrin using equipment purchased for these purposes. They also continued mastering sewing and carpentry skills, repaired old clothes, created new ones, and practiced cooking.

### ***Family type care development***

ChildFund used the PRIDE model for the development and support of family type community care and resource families (adoptive and foster parents). The PRIDE program helps foster and adoptive parents to develop five essential competencies including: protecting and nurturing children; meeting children's developmental needs and addressing developmental delays; supporting relationships between children and their biological families; connecting children to safe, nurturing relationships intended to last a lifetime, and working as a member of a professional team.

This quarter the PRIDE program has been continued in **16** geographic locations in **Brest oblast** (Brest, Ivanovo, Kobrin, Baranovichy, Luninets), **Grodno oblast** (Lida), **Mogilev oblast** (Chausy), and **Minsk oblast** (Zhodino, Molodechno, Cherven', Minsk region, Logoisk, Kletsk, Myadel, Dzerzhinsk, Smolevichy). In the reported period the PRIDE program for prospective foster/adoptive parents was launched in **Smorgon** (Grogno oblast).

In total:

- **57 prospective** foster/adoptive parents participated in the PRIDE pre-service training program
- **Family type care** has been provided for **60 children**, **eight ( 8)** of them were adopted
- **80 foster/adoptive parents** from Brest oblast (Brest, Ivanovo, Kobrin), Minsk oblast (Cherven, Kletsk, Smolevichy) mastered their parenting skills through the PRIDE in-service program.

### ***Reforming child protection system***

The pre-condition for successful child protection reforms is overcoming attitudinal barriers existing in key community groups and authorities. Transferring knowledge and skills to them is the key first step toward reformation. Alumni of the TOT conducted in Grodno and Mogilev re-training institutes served as agents of change in their respective communities and continued dissemination of new knowledge and skills in 11 communities in Grodno and Mogilev regions (please, see Annex 1 Project Map)

This quarter they trained:

- **659** community specialists from local schools, shelters, and kindergartens using local community resources.

Community specialists received knowledge about early detection of abused and neglected children, effects of child abuse and neglect on a child's development, investigation, family assessment and case planning; the emotional impact of a child's removal on family members, attachment, separation and placement; and engaging families in the initial stages of family-centered child protective services.

***For more information please, see Annex 4 Success Story***

### ***Small Grants***

In order to support child protection reforms 5 small projects for a total sum of \$12,919 developed by alumni of ChildFund training programs were awarded last quarter. This quarter they were registered in the Department of Humanitarian Aid at

Presidential Administration and the small grantees started implementation of project activities. The projects are aimed at strengthening multidisciplinary community cooperation and supporting local initiatives on reforming the child protection system in Mogilev and Grodno oblasts' communities. The Alumni of TOT courses on a Family-centered Approach to Child Protection Services from Grodno, Mogilev, Kirovsk and Ostrovets will be the driving force of these projects.

To ensure quality of project implementation ChildFund Belarus organized training on project management for grantees (11-12<sup>th</sup> of June, 2011). Eight (8) members of small project teams improved their capacity in project life-cycle management, reporting, and monitoring procedures. The trainees designed their monitoring and evaluation plans in compliance with ChildFund performance and monitoring targets.

*Please see the Annex 2 Small grants in operation between April - June, 2011*

**OBJECTIVE 2: Improving the quality of training and education available to social service providers and building awareness of community members surrounding the development of favorable family environments for children.**

The goal of improving the quality of training and education available for social service providers was achieved through partnership with the network of re-training institutes. These institutes shared the cost for expenses and provided their logistical and administrative support to ChildFund's training activity. This quarter, ChildFund Belarus in partnership with six (6 out of 7) re-training institutes continued the activities on capacity building for specialists based on PRIDE, the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program, and a Family-centered Approach to Child Protection Services program. As a result of the established strategic partnerships, by the end of the quarter, the project expanded to **121** geographic locations from all over Belarus (112 locations were covered by the end of the last quarter).

*Please, see Annex 2: Project map*

By the end of the quarter:

- **203 local child protection specialists from 163 organizations** were trained to improve their expertise in services to vulnerable children and families (on PRIDE, the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program and a Family-centered Approach to Child Protection Services, Curriculum Development and Coaching, and Project management).
- **Three (3) teams of national master-trainers** on PRIDE, the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program, and a Family-centered Approach to Child Protection Services were created

***Strengthening National Trainer's Resources***

To increase sustainability of changes in training and education available to social service providers ChildFund strengthened the capacity of the national pool of trainers. This was achieved through an international advanced-level Training of Trainers workshop on Curriculum Development and Coaching organized in cooperation with the Institute for Human Services (USA). Among the participants of the workshop were faculties from partner re-training institutes, leading child protection practitioners, specialists from education, and specialists from children's institutions who worked with ChildFund as trainers within the project.

<b>ACTIVITY: International Advanced-level TOT on Curriculum Development and Coaching for Master Trainers on Child Protection ( June 14-17, 2011),</b>	
<b>Location: Minsk</b>	
<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Targets achieved</b>
25 specialists practicing the program on a Family-centered Approach to Child Protection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80 % of specialists report improvements of specific knowledge and skills related to the training topics</li> </ul> 75% replicating a program on Family-centered Approach to Child Protection.	22 trainers on PRIDE, Parenting Skills Enhancement Program and Family-centered approach to Child Protection*;  100 % of trainees reported improvement of knowledge and skills on methods of planning and design of training curriculum development, training needs assessment techniques, and follow-up support to transferring knowledge into practice through coaching methodology.

Note:

\*It was decided to have a mixed group of master trainers from PRIDE, Parenting Skills Enhancement Program, and Family-centered Approach Child Protection Services. This approach proved its effectiveness and helped trainers working in the different projects to share their experience and enrich their vision and capacity.

The knowledge and skills obtained at the TOT propelled the trainers to the next level of mastery. It resulted in creation of three teams of Master trainers working on PRIDE, child protection, and Parenting. It is expected that the Master trainers will be the key groups that will ensure on-going process of preparation of new generations of trainers all over Belarus.

### ***Trainings of Trainers (TOTs) on Parenting Skills Enhancement Program***

This quarter the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program was pioneered by Brest oblast re-training institute.

The success of ChildFund Belarus' previous TOT on the program resulted in additional requests from Grodno and Mogilev oblast Re-training Institutes for an additional TOT for two more groups of specialists.

#### ***In total:***

- **50 specialists** representing **44 organizations** from Brest, Mogilev and Grodno oblasts were trained.
- **100%** of participants successfully passed post-training testing and reported improvement of specific knowledge and skills on the training topic.
- the regional cadre of qualified master trainers were prepared for Mogilev and Grodno Re-training institutes (2 trainers in Grodno, 2 trainers in Mogilev) in order to continue TOT independently.

Specialists that participated in the TOT on the Parenting Skills Enhancement Program this quarter will start their parents' groups in September 2011.

#### **Brest oblast**

**Seventeen (17)** people from 9 Brest oblast geographic locations completed the training program (*13-15th, 27-29th of April, 2011*). The trained representatives of social-pedagogic centers, kindergartens and schools obtained knowledge and skills on the training topics, learned about the process of group work, adult learning techniques, interactive methods of teaching, and implementation of an M&E system.

#### **Grodno and Mogilev**

Grodno and Mogilev oblasts re-training institutes demonstrated sustainability of the previous TOT conducted by ChildFund Belarus. This quarter the Institutions continued the TOT on the Parenting Skills Enhancement program engaging their own trainers' resources.

**Sixteen (16) specialists** from the city of **Mogilev**, representing social-pedagogic centers, kindergartens and schools, completed the training program this quarter. Two (**2**) master trainers from Mogilev Oblast Re-training Institute provided assistance to ChildFund's trainer on Parenting and mastered their trainer's skills on the TOT methodology (*6-8th, 20-22nd of April 2011*).

**Seventeen (17) specialists** from **11** Grodno oblast geographic locations got knowledge and skills to support parents in mastering their parenting skills and non-violent disciplining of their children. **2** master trainers from Grodno Oblast Re-training Institute worked as co-trainers at the TOT sessions on the Parenting Skills Enhancement program (*4-6th, 23-25th of May 2011*) in Grodno.

### ***Training of Trainers (TOT) on a Family-centered Approach to Child Protection Services***

This quarter the training program on a Family-centered Approach to Child Protection Services was continued in partnership with Vitebsk (*26-28th of April, 17-19th of May, 2011*) and Brest (*18-23th of May, 2011*) oblast Re-training Institutes.

- **55** child protection specialists of **48** organizations from **18** geographic locations continued the training program this quarter. **94%** of them improved knowledge and skills related to investigative processes, the effects of abuse and neglect on child development, engaging families, assessment and case planning.

- **65%** of the specialists (**35** specialists) reported practical application of the obtained knowledge and skills in their work in child protection services.

**Outcomes:**

- **22** of 30 specialists (**78.5%**) who were trained as a trainers did their own training for the specialists from community social-pedagogic centers, schools and kindergartens in **Mogilev oblast** (Mogilev, Kostyukovichy, Khotimsk, Kirovsk, Krichev) and **Grodno oblast** (Grodno, Grodno region, Ostrovets).
- Mogilev re-training institute demonstrated sustainability of ChildFund’s previous interventions. This quarter in the framework of its regular curriculum they started dissemination of the training program on a Family-centered Approach and trained 29 child protection specialists from 7 new regions of Mogilev oblast. Three (**3**) TOT alumni from Mogilev and Hotimsk conducted the workshop. All the expenses were covered by the local educational departments.

**Training of Trainers (TOT) on PRIDE model**

This quarter ChildFund Belarus has started the PRIDE program in Brest oblast in partnership with Brest Re-training Institute. The PRIDE training program was successfully continued in Minsk oblast Re-training Institute, Minsk City Re-training Institute, and Grodno oblast Re-training Institute.

<b>Activity: TOTs on family type care development for orphans (PRIDE methodology)</b>			
<b>Location</b>	<b>PRIDE session</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Results</b>
<b>Grodno oblast</b> (in partnership with Grodno Oblast Re-training Institute)	Training session on mutual assessment and teamwork in PRIDE model (5-7 <sup>th</sup> of April, 2011)	<b>17</b> child protection specialists from 15 organizations from Grodno oblast	The participants obtained knowledge and skills on mutual assessment of prospective foster/adoptive parents and working in a team of specialists
	Training of trainers (7-9 <sup>th</sup> of June, 2011)	<b>13</b> of them were selected as participants in a Training of Trainers	The participants learned about the logical framework of the training, training planning, methods of organizing trainings for adults, types and particulars of active methods of learning, and standards for training delivery. The participants practiced carrying out a training session based on the curriculum of the program. 1 trained trainer started trainings for prospective foster/adoptive parents in Smorgon.
<b>Minsk</b> (in partnership with Minsk City Re-training Institute)	Training session on mutual assessment and teamwork in PRIDE model (26-28 <sup>th</sup> of April, 2011)	<b>23</b> child protection specialists from Minsk and Minsk region	The participants obtained knowledge and skills on mutual assessment of prospective foster/adoptive parents and working in a team of specialists
<b>Minsk oblast</b> (in partnership with Minsk oblast Re-training Institute)	PRIDE In-Service (19-21 <sup>st</sup> of May, 2011) – a training program on supporting parents who raise foster/adopted children.	<b>10</b> specialists from <b>10</b> Minsk oblast child protection organizations	The trainees learned how to meet the developmental needs of foster/adopted children and how to use discipline to protect, nurture and meet developmental needs of a child.
<b>Brest oblast</b> (in partnership with Brest Re-training Institute)	PRIDE – pre-service (20-25 <sup>th</sup> of June, 2011).	<b>24</b> specialists from 18 organizations from Brest oblast	The participants learned about the PRIDE model, obtained knowledge about the impact of abuse and neglect on a child’s development and attachment formation; types of losses and their impact on the child and

			his/her behavior; supporting contacts with the biological family; and the importance of a permanent family environment for children. One lecturer from Brest oblast Re-training Institute took part in the training for further replication of the program in the region.
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**In total:**

- **74 specialists** from **59 organizations** responsible for family-type care development in Minsk, Minsk oblast, Grodno oblast and Brest oblasts were trained on PRIDE methodology ;
- **60 %** of specialists trained in Minsk oblast Re-training Institute have already reported applying new knowledge and skills in working with provided prospective foster parents. This work was based on PRIDE curriculum and used allocated local resources.

**OBJECTIVE 3: Promoting de-institutionalization of children through technical assistance to the national child welfare agencies in strengthening the national regulatory and methodological base and disseminating key findings of the project throughout Belarus to build a foundation for replication and sustainability.**

*Development of regulatory documents for child protection system reforms*

This quarter the ChildFund’s Task Group continued working on the contents of the new document “**The Procedure of Social Rehabilitation of Families at Risk**”, describing main stages of rehabilitation of biological families, case management and family re-unification. Communication between the members of the Task Group was supported by e-mail.

*Strengthening Partnership with Committees on Juvenile Delinquents*

ChildFund Belarus has made significant progress in building partnerships with regional Committees on Juvenile Delinquents to support reformation of child protection system on the local level. After a successful workshop for Grodno Regional Committee on Juvenile Delinquents ChildFund Belarus received two more requests for the same workshop from Brest and Minsk Regional Committees on Juvenile Delinquents.

*Expert Group on PRIDE*

To eliminate barriers for PRIDE implementation in Belarus ChildFund created its Expert GROUP on PRIDE. The members of this group are PRIDE trainers and faculties of partner re-training institutes. This quarter they worked towards adaptation of PRIDE materials to the requirements of Belarus’ educational system in order to get PRIDE officially approved by the Ministry of Education.

At the meetings (13-14<sup>th</sup> of May, 3-4<sup>th</sup> of June, 2011) the Expert Group on PRIDE designed the structure and content of training manuals on PRIDE model for trainers and prospective foster/adoptive parents. It is planned that the developed manuals will be officially approved by Minsk Oblast Re-training Institute and published next quarter.

This quarter **50 organizations** received **100 copies** of ChildFund Belarus’ **Methodological Recommendations on Rehabilitation of Families at Risk** (*circulation 500 copies<sup>2</sup>*) describing the most effective methods of social rehabilitation of disadvantaged families and supplemented with the practical examples of its application into child protection practice.

**III. COORDINATION AND COOPERATION**

- *Coordination with USAID*

<sup>2</sup> The remaining 400 copies will be circulated at a later date.

Irina Mironova, ChildFund's Chief of Party, and Jahor Novikau, USAID AOTR communicated regularly through meetings, e-mails, and phone calls.

In May 2011 Mary Moran (Sr. Program Specialist – ECD, ChildFund International Headquarters) and Irina Mironova, Chief of Party, visited USAID and DCOF offices in Washington and shared the success of the project.

□ Cooperation with ChildFund International Headquarters

ChildFund Belarus was in regular communication with ChildFund International's Headquarters in Richmond via e-mail and Skype. In May 2011 Irina Mironova, Chief of Party, visited ChildFund International Headquarters in Richmond to meet with technical specialists and the project's backstopping team. She shared the success of the project through a presentation to the organization.

In May 2011 Irina Mironova visited the Institute for Human Services in Columbus, Ohio for training and discussion of further partnership with ChildFund Belarus.

#### IV. PROJECT MANAGEMENT & STAFF DEVELOPMENT

ChildFund Belarus has held weekly project review meetings in Minsk to strengthen project management, performance, and integration leading to enhanced cooperation and communication between project staff.

Inna Chirko was promoted to the position of OVC project manager after receipt of USAID AOTR's approval. This quarter Irina Ivashkevich joined ChildFund Belarus' team in the position of Small Grants Manager.

6 members of the ChildFund Belarus team participated in the International TOT on Curriculum Development and Coaching and will apply the acquired knowledge and skills in their work.

#### V. BUDGET

The SF-425 report has been submitted under separate cover by ChildFund Headquarters.





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### Annex 2. SMALL GRANTS implemented between April–June 2011

#	NGO Name	Project name	Grant amount	Status
<b>I. Creation of network database on child protection:</b>				
1	Department of Education of Orsha Executive Committee	Creation of network database on child protection in Orsha	\$19,862	October 26, 2007 April 3, 2011 the project is prolonged until September 1, 2011
2	Department of Education of Chausy Executive Committee	Cross-sector cooperation on child and family protection through creation of unified informational record system	\$24,851	March 26, 2008 June 1, 2011 the project is prolonged until September 30, 2011
<b>II. Reforming Child Protection System:</b>				
1	Mogilyov City Social-Pedagogic Center	Family-centered approach in Mogilev child protection system	\$2,500	April 18, 2011 December 18, 2011
2	Education Department of Grodno Executive Committee	Developing multidisciplinary cooperation of child protection organizations	\$2,500	May 6, 2011 - December 6, 2011
3	Education Department of Ostrovets Executive Committee	Prevention of social orphanage through introduction of family-centered approach in child protection system	\$2,500	May 12, 2011 - October 12, 2011
4	Education Department of Kirovsk Executive	Family is everyone's concern	\$2,500	May 30, 2011

	Committee			January 30, 2012
5	Grodno Region Institute of Development of Education	No more children's tears	\$2,920	June 2, 2011 December 2, 2011

## II. Creation of network database on child protection:

<b>NGO name:</b> Department of Education of Orsha Executive Committee		<b>Grant amount:</b> \$19,862	<b>Project dates:</b> October 26, 2007 September 1, 2011
<b>NGO contact information:</b> Zamkovaya Str., 11, Orsha, Vitebsk Region			
<b>Project name:</b> Creation of network database on child protection in Orsha			
<b>Brief description:</b>	The goal of the project is to strengthen cross-sector cooperation of community child protection organizations in Orsha through creation of a computer network with access to an electronic database on disadvantaged families and children at risk.		
<b>Planned services and planned number of beneficiaries:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 child protection system agencies are provided with technical equipment to set up an unified network that connects partner organizations to a network data-base</li> <li>• 23 specialists from Orsha who work in child protection system get trained to use the children database in accordance with the Procedure of Database passed by Local Executive Committee</li> <li>• To develop a security protocol that defines roles and tasks of each service involved in social investigation and rehabilitation</li> <li>• 6 child protection system agencies in Orsha use the network data-base</li> </ul>		
<b>Achieved project outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The network equipment was purchased and installed</li> <li>• Alternative solution the for multidisciplinary network operation was</li> </ul>		

	elaborated
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 partner organizations were connected into the multidisciplinary network</li> <li>• 23 multidisciplinary specialists and social workers of local schools were trained to use the software</li> </ul>
<b>Comments on the project activity</b>	Orsha community will create the protocol that defines the level of access for all the users and describes the roles of all the agencies that are involved in the network. To complete this work the project was prolonged until September 1st, 2011.

<b>NGO name:</b> Department of Education of Chausy Executive Committee		<b>Grant amount:</b> \$24,851	<b>Project dates:</b> March 26, 2008 September 30, 2011
<b>NGO contact information:</b> 17, Leninskaya Str., Chausy, Mogilyov Region			
<b>Project name:</b> Cross-sector cooperation on child and family protection through creation of unified information and referral system			
<b>Brief description:</b>	The goal of the project is to strengthen cross-sector cooperation of community child protection organizations in Chausy through creation of a computer network with access to electronic data-base on disadvantaged families and children at risk		
<b>Planned services and planned number of beneficiaries:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 child protection system agencies are provided with technical equipment to set up a unified network that connects partner organizations to a data-base server</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 specialists from Chausy who work in child protection system region get trained to use the children database</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop a define security protocol that defines roles and tasks of each service involved in social investigation and rehabilitation</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 child protection system agencies in Chausy and Chausy region use the unified information and referral system that complies with Procedure of</li> </ul>		

	Database passed by Local Executive Committee
<b>Achieved project outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The network equipment was purchased and installed</li> <li>• VPN-network that connects partner organizations to a data-base server was set up</li> <li>• 5 partner organizations were connected into the multidisciplinary network</li> </ul>
<b>Comments on the project activity</b>	The server is in disorder because of technical issues and the system has not been tested yet. It is planned to fix the server, to provide an access for the organizations-users, and train the specialists on software using. The project is prolonged until September 30, 2011

## II. Reforming Child Protection System:

<b>NGO name:</b> Mogilev City Social-Pedagogic Center <b>Project duration:</b> 8 months	<b>Grant amount:</b> \$ 2500	<b>Project dates:</b> April 18, 2011 December 18, 2011
<b>NGO contact information:</b> 2a Melnikova str, Mogilev, Belarus		
<b>Project name:</b>	Family-centered approach in Mogilov child protection system	
<b>Brief description:</b>	The goal of the project is to reform child protection system and increase professional competence of local multidisciplinary teams of the specialists in Mogilev city by implementing family-centered approach in child protection system.	
<b>Planned services and planned number of beneficiaries:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 specialists who work in the child protection system get trained the family-centered approach in child protection system</li> <li>• 169 specialists from Mogilev social and educational public agencies take</li> </ul>	

part in the annual conference where the report on a family-centered approach in the child protection system will be presented.			
<b>Established services and number of beneficiaries:</b>	<b>Number of participants:</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>In the reported period</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15 specialists participated in the trainings on a family-centered approach in the child protection system.</li> </ul>	15 specialists (14 female/1 male)	15 specialists (14 female/1 male)

<b>NGO name:</b> Education Department of Grodno Executive Committee		<b>Grant amount:</b> \$2500	<b>Project dates:</b> May 6, 2011 - December 6, 2011
<b>Project duration:</b> 10 months			
<b>NGO contact information:</b> 76a Vrublevskogo str., Grodno, Belarus			
<b>Project name:</b>	Developing multidisciplinary cooperation of child protection organizations		
<b>Brief description:</b>	The goal of the project is to increase the professional competence of local specialists involved in the child protection system and strengthen multidisciplinary cooperation through implementation of a training program and developing the regulatory documents for the child protection system.		
<b>Planned services and planned number of beneficiaries:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>22 specialists who work in the child protection system get trained the family-centered approach in the child protection system</li> <li>Grodno State Executive Committee develops the document that regulates the procedure of child protection organizations functioning in the region</li> </ul>		
<b>Established services and number of beneficiaries:</b>	<b>Number of participants:</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>In the reported period</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23 specialists participated in the trainings on family-centered approach in</li> </ul>	23 (21 female/2	23 (21 female/2

child protection system		male)	male)
<b>NGO name:</b> Education Department of Ostrovets Executive Committee <b>Project duration:</b> 8 months		<b>Grant amount:</b> \$2500	<b>Project dates:</b> May 12, 2011- October 12, 2011
<b>NGO contact information:</b> 5 Pionerskaya str, Ostrovets, Belarus			
<b>Project name:</b>	Prevention of social orphanage through introduction of a family-centered approach in the child protection system		
<b>Brief description:</b>	The goal of the project is to reform the child protection system in Ostrovets and develop multidisciplinary cooperation within the child protection system organizations by introducing a family-centered approach and creation of the document that regulates the procedure of child protection organizations functioning in the region.		
<b>Planned services and planned number of beneficiaries:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18 specialists of different backgrounds who work in the child protection system in Ostrovets district get trained on a family-centered approach in the child protection system</li> <li>• 10 specialists who work in the child protection system participate in the round table where the project is presented.</li> <li>• 22 specialists who work in child protection system get trained the family-centered approach in the child protection system</li> <li>• Expert group develops and presents for the approval by local authorities the procedure of multidisciplinary cooperation in the child protection system in Ostrovets district</li> </ul>		
<b>Established services and number of beneficiaries:</b>	<b>Number of participants:</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>In the reported period</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 specialists participated in the round table where the project was presented and possibilities of creation of the document that regulates the multidisciplinary cooperation of child protection system organizations was discussed</li> </ul>	11 (10 female/1 male)	11 (10 female/1 male)

<b>NGO name:</b> Education Department of Kirovsk Executive Committee <b>Project duration:</b> 8 months		<b>Grant amount:</b> \$2500	<b>Project dates:</b> May 30, 2011 January 30, 2012
<b>NGO contact information:</b> 23 Gagarina str., Kirovsk, Mogilev region, Belarus			
<b>Project name:</b>		Family is everyone's concern	
<b>Brief description:</b>		The goal of the project is to promote the development of multidisciplinary cooperation within the child protection system organizations by implementation of a training program for specialists who work in the child protection system.	
<b>Planned services and planned number of beneficiaries:</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 specialists from Kirovsk region get trained the family-centered approach in the child protection system</li> <li>• 2 round table for 17 executives of the local agencies involved in the child protection ( education, health, law enforcement, ECD, child protection) to discuss and develop local policy/ procedures for multidisciplinary cooperation within local child protection system in Kirovsk district</li> </ul>	

<b>NGO name:</b> Grodno Region Institute of Development of Education <b>Project duration:</b> 10 months		<b>Grant amount:</b> \$2920	<b>Project dates:</b> June 2, 2011 December 2, 2011
<b>NGO contact information:</b> 6 Gagarina str., Grodno, Belarus			
<b>Project name:</b>		No more children tears	

<b>Brief description:</b>	The goal of the project is to strengthen the child protection system and develop multidisciplinary cooperation within the child protection system organizations in Grodno region by implementing of a family-centered approach in the child protection system.
<b>Planned services and planned number of beneficiaries:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 specialists ( health, education, law enforcement, social work) involved in the child protection system get trained on the family-centered approach in the child protection system</li> <li>• 30 authorities from Grodno social and educational organizations participate in the round table where they discuss the organization of multidisciplinary cooperation within the child protection system agencies</li> <li>• 100 copies of the brochure "Recommendation on the development of multidisciplinary cooperation within child protection system in Grodno region" to be published</li> </ul>

### Annex 3: ChildFund Belarus project helps children to discover their talent

8 year-old Anya is a very gifted child. She participates in each theatrical performance of her school in Kirovsk



town (Mogilev oblast). Unlike many other children she looks very confident on the stage and helps her friends to relax and enjoy their play. The girl dreams of becoming an actress one day. She also demonstrates good academic achievement and finds time to help her mom with household duties. Anya is a popular person in her school and many children seek her friendship.

Nobody would ever guess that two years ago Anya was a withdrawn, frightened, and unhappy child who had no friends. Her family was under the supervision of local child protection services because of her parents' severe drinking problems. The girl was completely neglected. She still does not understand why her father hates her. Her parents rejected cooperation with child protection specialists because they considered their work and everyday threats to remove their daughter from the family as an invasion of

their family life. The conflict between the family and child protection services would probably have resulted in removal of their daughter and her further placement in an institution.

But at that time Elena M., one of the child protection specialists working with this family completed the training program on a Family-centered Approach in Child Protection Services provided by ChildFund Belarus' specialists within the USAID- funded project "Community Services to Vulnerable Groups: Supporting Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Belarus" component. As a result, Elena realized the importance of a nurturing family for the successful development of a child, and why many families are so resistant to changes dictated by child protection specialists. In working with Anya's family Elena mastered her skills in building cooperative and positive relationships with parents to inspire them to bring changes in their lives and the lives of their children. She treated parents with the dignity and respect that was pretty unusual both for her colleagues and for the family. Together with Elena the family developed a plan targeting their main problems. Anya's mother started the process of change with great enthusiasm. With the qualified endorsement of care providers Anya's mother quit drinking and got a new job. Unfortunately, it was too late to help Anya's father. Despite all the efforts of the team of specialists, he did not change his behavior. To protect the child her mother decided to divorce her husband as he became a barrier to her free-of-alcohol life and posed a threat to her child's safety.

The situation in Anya's family has remained stable for almost 2 years. The girl is loved and cared for. Thanks to changes within the family Anya opened up, made many friends and discovered her talent as an actress.

The first success inspired specialists from Kirovsk and in May 2011 they started a small grant project supported by ChildFund under the USAID funded project to train multidisciplinary teams of specialists from education, ECD, law enforcement and health on a modern family centered approach to reform Kirovsk's child protection system.