

PD-ABP-561

93131

**FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT**

**Grantee: United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, Inc.  
1206 Cottman Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111  
215-728-1620**

**Grant No.: #NIS - 2022-00-24**

**Project Title: Vocational Training Program for Needy Children in Lviv, Ukraine**

**Name of NIS Partner: Lviv United Regional Trade Union Council (LURTUC)**

**Country Site: Ukraine**

**Grant Amount: \$355,000**

**Grant Start/End Dates: Sept. 28, 1993 - November 30, 1996**

**Reporting Officer: Zoriana E. Siokalo, Grant Administrator**

**Date of Report: January 30, 1997**

## Project Summary

In September 1993, the UUARC was awarded a subgrant (final award total \$355,000) from USAID ("PVO Initiatives for NIS"), administered by World Learning, Inc., with a match of more than \$191,994 (cash and in-kind) from the UUARC, to design and implement a vocational training program for needy children living in youth homes in Lviv, and in more remote and economically depressed regions of the Lviv *oblast* in Ukraine. This three-year program, which ended November 30, 1996, targeted a particularly needy, and mostly neglected, population: children of varied need and physical and mental capabilities. The successful project functioned under the direction of the following major goal: create a social/educational structure which will encourage the re-channeling of mentally and physically disabled youths in Lviv, Ukraine back into fuller participation in the productive sectors of Ukraine's economy.

Working with an NGO, the Lviv United Regional Trade Union Council (LURTUC), project outputs included educating and training identified youths in trades which will assist them, in turn, to become more productive members of society. During the project period, the NGO and PVO project staff accomplished the following major project objectives: 1) implementation of a vocational training and apprenticeship program for mentally and physically challenged youths, 2) establishment of 13 trade shops in eleven schools/youth homes for needy children (sewing, carpentry, thrift shop/small business administration) and 3) production, sales and distribution of products from each trade shop. Any revenues raised from the production and sales of these hand-crafted items and donated clothing were returned back to the program to help sustain the vocational training program and to make desperately needed repairs to the youth homes.

## Project Budget

	World Learning	UUARC	UUARC In-Kind
A. Personnel	108,741.25	80,150.00	24,000.00
B. Procurement	129,573.46	10,450.36	51,840.00*
C. Travel & Transportation	71,737.50	15,599.11	
D. Communications	16,635.77	5,569.85	
E. Other Costs	9,473.05	1,384.67	
F. Mid Term Evaluation	6,410.15	0.00	
G. A-133 Audit	12,200.00	3,000.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>354,771.18</b>	<b>116,154.00</b>	<b>75,840.00</b>

\*Value of donated clothing (shipped to the thrift shop) collected by PVO Project Managers during the 3-year grant period

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

In September 1993, the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was notified of the grant award in the amount of \$275,000 from World Learning, Inc. and funded by the US Agency for International Development. Following notification of the award, UUARC Project Managers, as identified in the original grant proposal, Chrystia Senyk, Christine Kulchyckyj, Roxolana Siryj, and Grant Administrator, Zoriana Siokalo, met to lay the groundwork for the project, and to develop a rational plan of activities for the implementation of the vocational training program for needy children living in youth homes in Lviv, Ukraine.

Major activities, as described in detail in quarterly reports submitted to World Learning throughout the project, included:

1. Establishment of a partnership between PVO Project Team and NGO, Lviv United Regional Trade Union Council to implement grant project.
2. With the assistance of the partnering NGO, the Lviv United Regional Trade Union Council (LURTUC), the establishment of three pilot vocational training programs and trade shops for needy children in Lviv:

**1. School #102** (school for children with mental disabilities)

Carpentry shop, 30 students per semester

Curriculum objectives: Basic carpentry theory, workbench use and care; produce cutting boards wooden stools

**2. School #106** (school for children with speech disabilities)

Thrift Shop/Small Business, 34 students

Objectives: Introduction to small business administration, basic business principles, merchandising, display, inventory, sales, customer relations, calculator use.

**3. School #103** (school for children with mental disabilities)

Sewing shop, 20 students

Objectives: Basic sewing techniques, use and care of fabrics, different stitches, use/care of machines, sewing of dresses, nightgowns, others.

Following successful evaluation and completion of initial 2-year grant period, and with a project extension and additional funds (\$20,000) from World Learning, **the following four shops/schools were added to the program in November/December 1995:**

**3 Sewing Shops:**

Chervonohrad, 30 students (orphans)

Skole, 25 students (orphans, children without families)

Livchytsi, 25 students (orphans, children without families, and children with disabilities)

Curriculum objectives: as outlined above for sewing

**1 Carpentry shop**

Skole, 27 students

Curriculum objectives: as outlined above for carpentry

**Five shops in four additional schools were selected to host the new training shops.** An extension of the project period to November 30, 1996 and additional funds from USAID (\$60,000) allowed the Project Managers and Grant Administrator to plan and implement the set-up of five new shops in four schools in the more remote and economically depressed outlying regions in the Lviv *oblast* in the Fall of 1996:

**2 carpentry shops**

Pidkaminska School in the Brodivsky region (school for children with hearing disabilities) and in Velykiy Lubin (school for orphans and children with mental disabilities).

28 students per semester

**3 sewing shops**

in Sambir (school for children with mental disabilities), in Nahuyevichi in the Drohobitskiy region (school for children with visual impairments) and a partial sewing shop in the Pidkaminska School.

48 students per semester

**Project Documentation:** A video was produced in both English and in Ukrainian, which documents the initial two-year project, and serves as a training tool for new and visiting teachers. Detailed quarterly reports were submitted to World Learning, outlining goals and objectives, and cumulative accomplishments. Two A-133 audits were completed, and the audit for 1996 will occur in Spring-Summer 1997.

## **PROJECT LOGICAL FRAMEWORK: Summary and Notes**

**I. PROJECT GOAL:** create a social/educational structure which will encourage the re-channeling of disabled and disadvantaged youths back into fuller participation in the productive sectors of Ukraine's economy

**INDICATORS:** Tracking of program "graduates" and evaluation of standards of living

**ASSUMPTIONS:** 1) Government policies remain open to implementation and enhancement of vocational curriculum for mentally/physically challenged youths; 2) trades chosen for program reflect current economic needs in Ukraine.

### **Notes/Observations:**

The PVO Project Team implemented a program which, from the onset to its completion, maintained the larger project goal to improve the basic standard of life for the target population. This target group, needy children with varying disabilities and capabilities, living in youth "hostels" in Lviv and more remote regions of the Lviv *oblast*, received instruction and hands-on training in several trades, including carpentry, sewing and small business administration/thrift shop management.

The assumptions remained correct for the entire three-year period. Not only did government policies remain open to implementation of this type of program, but contact with a number of government officials allowed the program to begin and proceed with minimal interference from the government. PVO Project Managers found several government officials to be particularly useful in the early stages of the projects. Support from the Education Ministry included inclusion of the program objectives into the curriculum of the Lviv *oblast* and use of the original 3 shops as models for teachers to visit and study. Education Ministry officials value the program in other ways. The school in Velykiy Lubin was originally slated to be shut down and because of the successful vocational training program, it not only remained open, but was chosen to become the main regional orphanage for the Lviv *oblast*.

PVO early contact with officials of the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs resulted in duty-free customs clearance for all equipment and supplies shipped to Ukraine, and assistance with other customs related problems. Additionally, they helped gain access to other government officials for support (e.g., with the final shipment of equipment which was detained in Odessa). Contact with the mayor and governor, through the NGO team, allowed the project to proceed, as well. The NGO project team tracks program graduates. They keep records of the numbers of students who receive training, students who complete the program, and those who continue their education in higher level trade schools. Other students enter the workforce as assistants.

**II. OUTCOME:** With the Lviv United Regional Trade Union Council (LURTUC), educate and train identified youths in trades which will assist them, in turn, to become more productive members of society

**INDICATORS:** 1) Sustainability of program and the on-going vocational training of targeted youths; 2) funds raised and structural and mechanical repairs made to youth homes

**ASSUMPTIONS:** 1) NGO viability in current political climate; 2) educational structure in Ukraine remains open to USPVO involvement.

**Notes/Observations:**

The success of the project in Lviv can be attributed to a number of factors, including the following:

1. LURTUC, with an extensive network throughout the region, played an outstanding and active role in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the training program.
2. The PVO team's intimate understanding of Ukrainian history, culture, politics, identity, and language allowed the Project Managers to overcome a number of management and communication barriers and gave quicker access to proper channels for assistance.
3. The PVO Project Managers' extensive experience with humanitarian assistance programs, particularly in the region.
4. The PVO team's positive relationship with World Learning from the onset ensured support from diverse sources in achieving the project's goal and outcomes, in Ukraine and well as in the United States. PVO team utilized a number of humanitarian assistance experts which were recommended by World Learning. Key staff members in World Learning were extremely supportive of the project and offered assistance in program and financial matters, and helped PVO team overcome a number of grant-related barriers (e.g., the myriad of government regulations and requirements which are overwhelming to a small organization venturing into its first large government grant with little or no organizational structure to support a grant of this size.)
5. A positive relationship with USAID representatives in Kyiv, and particularly in the last 1 1/2 years with Molly Mort, gave the project a higher profile in Ukraine.

**III. OUTPUTS:** 1) Implementation of a vocational training and apprenticeship program for disabled and/or disadvantaged youths; 2) Establishment of trade shops (sewing, carpentry, thrift shop/small business); 3) Assistance with production/sales and distribution of items produced in trade shops.

**INDICATORS:** 1) NGO Project Team and vocational training program instructors identified and trained in project management, office space and equipment provided, salaries paid. 2) Sewing machines, carpentry tools and equipment and thrift shop equipment procured, delivered, installed. 3) An identified number of students per shop, per quarter received training with measurable objectives.

**ASSUMPTIONS:** 1) NGO is viable organization regardless of project funding. 2) Physical and mechanical systems functioning and energy resources available. 3) Turn-over of students dependent upon school schedule, health of students, success level of training.

**Notes/Observations:**

By the end of the project in November 1996, project outputs were four times the anticipated results of establishing 3 vocational training shops. The PVO Project and NGO team established 13 shops in 12 schools in Lviv and in more remote regions of the Lviv *oblast*. More than 400 students received, or are receiving, training through the program. Levels and program requirements were adjusted on an individual basis, and were dependent on the student's abilities. With all 13 trade shops functioning, more than 250 students participate in the program each semester.

The three-year project employed the following positions:

**PVO:** 3 Project Managers, 1 Grant Administrator, 3 technical advisors, 1 evaluator, 1 translator and 1 auditor for the A-133 audit.

**NGO:** 1 Project Director, 3 field coordinators, 1 shop manager (thrift shop), 1 bookkeeper, 2 computer clerks, a management program director (1st year), 2 translators, 37 teachers, and 10 principals.

Sustainability is an important assumption of the program. The trade shops are fully operational and functioning and will continue to train students, especially since the program has been included in the Lviv curriculum. School 102 continues to serve as a model for training new teachers in the vocational training curriculum. All funds raised by selling of the handicrafts and wares produced by students in the trade shops, and managed by the NGO, continue to help sustain the program and are used to make desperately needed repairs to the schools. UUARC's regional office in Lviv will maintain contact with the NGO to evaluate the program's sustainability and will request semi-annual reports from the NGO.

Replicability of the vocational training program occurred with additional funding from World Learning when new shops were added in 1995 and again in 1996. However, procurement funding is a critical requirement of replicability because of the costs involved in establishing trade shops with potentially expensive technical equipment. However, teachers and other education and program specialists visit the training schools to study potential similar programs.