



February 2016 Medical Mission
Voronezh, Russia
In Loving Memory of
Anthony C. Messineo





KURT WEISHAUPHT --MEMORIAL MEDICAL MISSIONS TO VORONEZH

Gift of Life, Inc., Russian Gift of Life USA, and renowned cardiac surgeon Dr. William Novick are collaborating to improve the care of children with heart disease by developing children's heart centers abroad. Currently, several areas of Russia still do not provide comprehensive pediatric cardiac care to children in need. Instead these little patients are being referred to Moscow, St. Petersburg, or out of the country, while others face a shortened life expectancy. Russian Gift of Life USA identified the city of Voronezh as one of those regions where children with heart disease continue to be underserved and require referral out for comprehensive care.

Voronezh is a city located in the Voronezh Region, 250 km from the Ukraine border, in the heart of Chernozemye. It is located on the Voronezh River and is an important railway junction with lines to Moscow, Rostov-on-the-Don and Kiev, Ukraine. Due to its relatively large population (ca. 960,000), it is often considered as the capital of Chernozemye.

Voronezh was founded in 1586 by Tsar Feodor I as a fortress protecting the Russian state from the raids of invaders. However, settlements were present in Voronezh since the Stone Age. The name Voronezh is also very old, with an unknown meaning. Tsar Peter the Great built his great fleet in Voronezh. During his reign the city became the largest southern Russian city and was the administrative center of the large southern region.

By the end of the 18th century, the region acquired agricultural importance and the town became involved in the processing industry. At the beginning of the 20th century, Voronezh was populated by about 61,000 people and there were 47 plants and factories. During World War II the city was badly destroyed, but by 1960 Voronezh had reached its pre-war status and since then it has kept growing. Today, with a much larger population, Voronezh is an important scientific, industrial, educational and cultural center of Russia.

In 2013 on the 100th anniversary of Kurt Weishaupt's birth, the Voronezh Regional Hospital, RGOL USA, and Dr. Novick agreed to a long-term project that will assist children facing life threatening heart disease. Gift of Life, Inc. is helping to fund the medical missions and save many children's lives. The ultimate purpose of the project is to develop a Pediatric Cardiac Care Center of Excellence at the Voronezh Regional Hospital, which serves a population of over two million people.

A site assessment was conducted in April 2013 and just a short six months later, a fifteen member international medical team arrived for the inaugural Gift of Life medical mission to Voronezh. The team performed twelve open-heart surgeries in collaboration with their Russian counterparts. Everyone was grateful for the opportunity to spend Thanksgiving helping children in need.

The sixth medical mission to Voronezh took place in February 2016 and was dedicated in honor of Tony Messineo, who passed away on February 20th.



Gift of Life, Inc. dedicates the February 2016 medical mission to Voronezh, Russia in memory of Tony Messineo.





The Novick Cardiac Alliance is committed to bringing sustainable health care solutions to children with cardiac disease in the developing world.

We are dedicated to improving the skills, knowledge, technology and experience of local health-care providers in regions of the world without access to quality Pediatric Cardiac Care.

We aim to provide comprehensive care to all children with congenital or acquired heart disease regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion, political ideation, genetic factors or economic means.

Our vision is that in the future all children with heart disease, no matter where they are born, will be able to receive the medical and surgical care they require to live a long and healthy life.

Voronezh, Russia



The NCA trip to Voronezh in February 2016 was the 6th team led by Dr. Novick to the Voronezh Regional Hospital site. NCA staff and co-founders Pavel Shauchenka, Frank Molloy, and Sergey Liauchonak are now considered frequent repeat visitors to the site. They were accompanied by 5 other volunteers—making a total team size of 8.

During our trip, 10 operations were completed on 10 children and many, many more were evaluated. Of the 10 operations, 4 were led and performed by the local surgical team, Dr. Sergey Bykov and Dr. Dennis. This is a critical component of the NCA trips: enabling and educating to support and build on existing independent practice. In fact since Dr. Novick's team's very first trip, 1 in 3 of all surgeries were performed by the local team; and with each additional visit,

Patient List

1. Akim Kaverin	1 year	VSD closure, PDA ligation
2. Petr Solovjev	7 months	Tetralogy of Fallot repair
3. Marjana Tsevashova	6 months	Tetralogy of Fallot repair
4. Sofiya Kislakova	1 year	VSD closure, PA debanding
5. Nikita Zhuchkov	1 year	LPA augmentation, Central shunt
6. Maksim Nenashev	2 years	PDA ligation, Aortoplasty patch
7. Vladimir Tsukanov	1 year	VSD closure, ASD Closure, PDA ligation
8. Michail Avdeev	3 years	Resection SAM
9. Milana Sementsova	5 months	PA Band, PDA ligation
10. Egor Marishev	1 year	Tetralogy of Fallot repair, BT shunt



Akim Wednesday 17 February

Akim is a one year old boy born with a VSD or hole in his heart. His surgery was performed by local surgeons Dr. Bykov and Dr. Denis. Baby Akim was breathing on his own just five hours after his surgery.

Akim was discharged from the ICU two days later. During recovery we got some great smiles from this little guy!



Petr Wednesday 17 February

Petr was the second surgery for this trip. At just seven months old he needed surgery to repair a Tetralogy of Fallot. His surgery was performed by the local surgeon Dr. Bykov and assisted by Dr. Denis and Cardiac Alliance's Dr. Novick. The operation went smoothly with zero complications. Petr was breathing on his own again three hours after surgery.

Two days after surgery Petr was discharged from the ICU to heal in the pediatric ward with his family. When we visited he was very happy and playing



Sofiya Thursday 18 February

Sofiya is a one and a half year old girl who has had a tough life already. She spent almost eight months of her life in and out of the Pediatric Hospital with serious lung complications. She has already had two complex surgeries on her heart and on her abdominal wall. Because of these complications she is incredibly malnourished and only weighs about eleven pounds!



During Cardiac Alliance's February trip Sofiya was able to have corrective surgery. Her operation was performed by local surgeons Dr. Bykov and Dr. Alexei. After surgery Sofiya spent some time on the ventilator because of her previous lung trouble. She was discharged from our care on February 25, and went to the Pediatric Hospital to finish recovering.



Marjana Thursday 18 February

Marjana is a six month old baby girl diagnosed with Tetralogy of Fallot. Her surgery was a total repair of her defect. The operation was performed by Cardiac Alliance's Dr. Novick and assisted by local surgeon Dr. Bykov. Marjana was taken off of the ventilator ten hours after surgery and discharged from the ICU just two days later.



Marjana has the most adorable chubby cheeks on the planet and a beautiful smile. Our team really enjoyed having her as a patient.

Milana Thursday 25 February

Milana is a five month old baby girl. She was the ninth surgery on this trip. Her surgery was performed by Cardiac Alliance's Dr. Novick and assisted by local surgeon Dr. Bykov. She did well after surgery and was taken off of the ventilator after just three and a half hours. It was not long before she



was smiling and playing with her mom and new found friend Marjana!



Cardiac Alliance Team

Dr. William Novick	Surgeon	Tennessee, USA
Sergey Liauchonak	Anesthesiologist	Ontario, Canada
Tim MacKnight	Respiratory Therapist	Utah, USA
Pavel Shauchenka	Intensivist	Minsk, Belarus
Jen Turi	Intensivist	North Carolina, USA
Viktoria Buina	Intensivist	Washington, USA
Frank Molloy	PICU Nurse Educator	Tennessee, USA
Roslyn Rivera	PICU Nurse	California, USA



Three Core Principles of NCA

COLLABORATE

We Collaborate with Governments, Health Ministries, healthcare professionals and Humanitarian Organizations to provide total cardiac care to children in developing countries. The children we serve have limited access to quality care and the families lack the financial resources to seek care elsewhere. This collaboration will enable local health-care authorities to build Pediatric Cardiac care services in country and in time eliminate the

EDUCATE

We educate Local health-care professionals and work with their educational institutions to improve the standard of training and hence care provided to children with Heart disease. Our education model is open and flexible and is delivered using multiple modalities. We work with each site individually to find the best template for education and development of clinical judgement. We provide clinical bedside teaching, didactic lectures and ad hoc teaching sessions on site: and encourage the use of internet based resources and access to international academic journals. We are currently in the process of building a virtual learning environment using “Moodle”™ as

SUSTAIN

Our goal is that of our partner site's – to develop full independence over time and to operate on and care for the children with a home grown team of experts and no continuing need for direct outside assistance. We monitor the quality and effect of our assistance, and tailor our teams size and skill set accordingly. We commit to maintaining professional relationships with those hospitals and personnel well into the future and focus on areas such as academic work, conference attendance and occasional short visits. We have seen that a significant proportion of volunteers and core staff



Thank You, Gift of Life, Inc. and Russian Gift of Life USA
for your generous and continued support and for helping the
children of Russia with congenital heart disease!



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