

The Belarusian Children's Hospice (BCH)

BCH is the leading children's palliative care centre in Belarus. Founded in 1994, it was the first of its kind in the former Soviet Union countries and Eastern Europe. Today, BCH is still the leading centre in the Region, it has set up 8 smaller children's hospices around Belarus and is also advising other countries in the Region on establishing professional children's palliative care centres and hospices using the home care model.

BCH firmly believes that the best place for the majority of long-term sick children is in their own home with their family and not in an institution. Thanks to BCH, parents in Belarus and other countries of the Region now have a choice and they can care for their child at home with the support of a children's hospice.

BCH works with the whole family of the sick child. It has activities and counselling for parents and siblings and encourages self-help groups. If the family needs a break from 24/7 caring BCH offers in-patient respite care.

Respite care at BCH



There are times when, even with increased support, parents feel that they cannot cope at home with a dying child. BCH can accommodate the child and family members and give them the medical and psychological care they need.

After the death of a child, family members receive counselling and have the option of joining a bereavement group.



A growing band of volunteers helps families with everyday tasks.

Taking a wheelchair out is quite an undertaking in a country with poor disabled access.

Holidays in the countryside

The BCH summer site is a rural haven where groups of hospice children and their siblings can enjoy a holiday cared for by teams of professionals and hospice volunteers. The site has been adapted for children with special needs and has the first purpose built outdoor playground for disabled children in Belarus. This means that hospice children can have a holiday in the fresh air at least once a year either with or without their parents.



There is also purpose-built accommodation for up to three families with their children at any one time.

What does Friends of BCH do?

Friends of BCH is a major contributor to BCH funding and development. Our support remains vital during these difficult economic times as BCH expands in response to its growing waiting list.

Friends of BCH:

- Funds half of BCH staff salaries
- Purchases medical equipment and replacement parts
- Provides strategic advice to BCH
- Sets annual goals with BCH and monitors progress
- Helps to train and support BCH staff
- Develops BCH's fundraising and PR activities

The chairwoman of Friends of BCH is a fluent Russian speaker and currently chairs the BCH Advisory Board in Minsk. Regular visits to BCH ensure that we know how the money and expertise we provide is being used to help sick children and their families.

BCH standing on its own two feet

Two years ago, Friends of BCH helped BCH set up the first dedicated charitable fundraising department in Belarus. It now has 2.5 employees and in 2011 raised half of BCH's entire funding requirement – a considerable achievement.

Our goal is to help BCH move towards full financial independence



How I will help hospice children

- I will make **regular donations** by standing order
- I am making a **donation to mark a special occasion** and enclose a cheque for £ made payable to FoBCH
- I want to **sponsor a hospice child/nurse/doctor/play therapist**
- I will **organise a fundraising event**

Name

Home address

.....

.....Postcode

Tel

Email

Please treat

- The enclosed gift of £ as a Gift Aid donation; or
- All gifts of money that I make today and in the future as Gift Aid donations; or
- All gifts of money that I have made in the past 4 years and all future gifts of money that I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid donations.

Please tick the appropriate box

Please notify us if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

Date

Please return this form or a copy to

The Treasurer, Friends of BCH (UK)
47 Copperkins Lane, Amersham, HP6 5QP

Each family is assigned a doctor, a nurse and a social worker



Some facts...

The Belarusian Children's Hospice cares for more than 100 children and their families each year

BCH provides all its services and equipment free of charge

The Belarusian Children's Hospice is the leader in palliative medicine in Eastern Europe

...and figures

- £40 – a child's birthday party
- £150 – holiday for a child at the summer site
- £200 – a nurse's monthly salary
- £310 – 6 month's supply of replacement parts for a child's ventilator
- £1,786 – humidifier for a child on a ventilator
- £2,400 – annual salary for a nurse

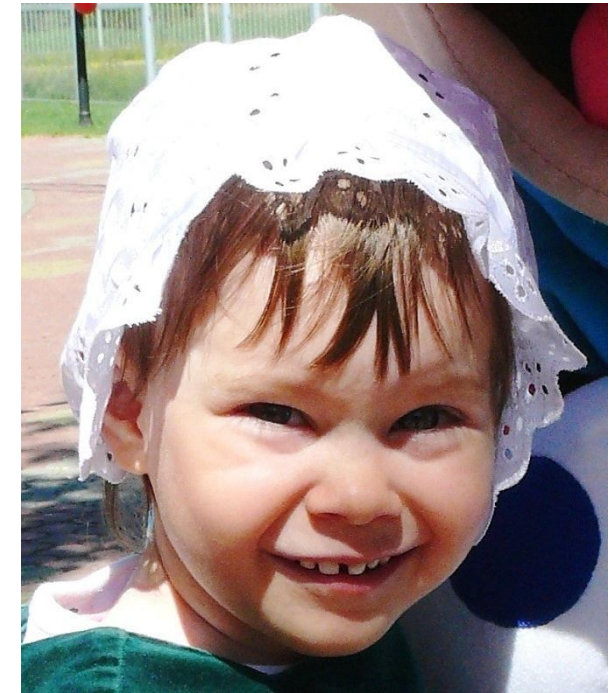
Friends of the Belarusian Children's Hospice (UK)

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Patrons
The Baroness Cox of Queensbury
The Lord McColl of Dulwich CBE
Lady Middleton
Peter Harper KSG FCA
Kate Adie OBE



A brief guide to our charity

Friends of the Belarusian Children's Hospice (UK)

Brief lives, precious memories

Registered charity number 1116116