The Overseas Missions Team are delighted to share with you our new project for 2021/22.

## "Love Russia"

As a Union of Churches, we have championed many OM projects over the years and as a committee we were delighted when John and Christine Houghton, (Cornerstone WRU Church Doncaster) suggesting that we consider supporting "Love Russia", which is a small charity they have supported for some time. They had mentioned this to the committee several years ago, but another project had already been agreed. John gave us some background on the charity.

I contacted Anna Thwaite who is the CEO for Love Russia, a lovely lady, who joined us in one of our OM zoom meetings. We prayed with Anna, and she shared how she came to be with the charity, it was definitely God appointed!

We are very excited to walk this wonderful journey together with all at "Love Russia" in the love of Jesus.

We will be raising funds for a minibus for the Volkhov Crisis Centre with a target of £10,000. This minibus will provide opportunities for children to attend medical appointments and school, and to collect donations of food and clothing. The minibus will also be used for transportation to summer camps for youth, mums, and children. It is very much needed for the work the crisis centre is doing.

Conference was the launch for our new project and as we wanted to have a visual impact, so it was decided that the team would all wear T-shirts with the Love Russia logo on them.

We should never be amazed when God moves through and in His people to bring us all together for His Glory. We can all do something to help, please join with us to raise the funds needed.

It would be great if you can take pictures of any fund raising you are doing for our OM "Love Russia" project. We will share them with our brothers and sisters, let us work together in unity to help our family in this Crisis Centre. We are all together part of a wonderful union, united in Christ Jesus.



## History of "Love Russia" Charity

The "Love Russia" charity was established in 1993, after the founder Noel Doubleday visited Russia to distribute Bibles. He discovered terrible conditions there and underdeveloped children with many of them not even having their basic needs met.

The charity was founded to improve the lives of orphaned children, and destitute young people in crisis. Their aim is to provide relief of poverty, suffering and distress by demonstrating practical Christian compassion and where appropriate sharing the Christian faith.

The charity partners with Russians who want to serve the Lord in their local communities, which leads to community led solutions led by strong Christian leaders.

They operate a range of programmes and as the charity has expanded since 1993, they have been able to support more and more marginalised people.

The Volkhov Crisis Centre, benefits mothers who are at risk of losing their children, due to addictions, domestic violence and/or poverty. In Russia, when women seek help for these challenges, they risk immediate removal of their parental rights and can lose their children to the orphanage system. The centre was established in 2012 and provides comprehensive rehabilitation for mothers seeking to recover from addictions, domestic violence and poverty. The centre is unique as it allows women to keep their children with them while they rehabilitate. The support

covers practical intervention, life skills interventions, emotional interventions and spiritual interventions.

They also offer a wide range of other projects such as summer camps, health support, dental clinics and transitional homes for orphanage leavers.

The picture below is of the T-Shirts and logos.



If you need any more information or help concerning the WRU Overseas Missions projects or our Missions please get in touch with our team. I would like to thank the OM Team for doing such a great job and all being involved.

Blessings to you all Lindsey Hedley – (WRU OM Secretary.)