



REPORTER

Reaching Millions For Christ



In October, 2014, the first sessions of vocational training began, with hands joining from across the globe, as tradesman from five churches across the US took time to teach some of their skills to graduates of our Pirkko Home program.

Vocational Training Begins

By God's mercy, the desire we expressed earlier this year for starting vocational training was fulfilled! The first session of vocational training for Pirkko Home graduates took place in October, 2014, at the Nikulino rehab center, giving a start to what we believe can be a new step in the adaptation of our men and women residents to a normal and productive life.

Christian brothers from five different churches (in Georgia, Colorado and Washington) performed professional training in three areas: woodworking (cabinetry), tile installation, and auto body work. We are still looking for people who would be willing to step up and teach the art of plumbing installation. Each area has a huge potential for both trainers who teach, and trainees who learn useful knowledge and skills. We invite every experienced professional, in these and other vocations, to come alongside and make a real difference in the lives of people. God gives people a second chance in life, and He does it through people; some help show how to overcome addictions and some help teach how to work and earn a living! This is a God-given opportunity for believers to use their job skills in a way that gives those people a second chance!



A large group assembled for the training.

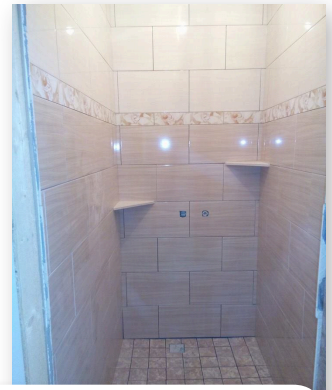
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Training was offered in woodworking (building cabinets), installing tile (in the new showers), and auto body work.

Despite travel and language difficulties, groups of eager “students” were formed for the classes. Through fellow Christians, God provided most of the needed tools and materials for woodworking and tile installation, and by the 4th day, wooden cabinets were built for the new kitchen and tile was installed in two new showers - thanks in great part to Ronny McWilliams and Peter Wlasiuk, and to Andrey Tuchin, respectively. Auto body work required a lot more tools than a couple hammers, and thanks to Vasiliy Karasev and his God-given wisdom and skills, one van was prepared for painting. Indeed, what happened before and after the classes and work was even more valuable: Christian fellowship together!



*The two showers needed tiling – and they came out great!
The students did the second shower all by themselves!*



The men learning carpentry skills were able to learn much while working on the new kitchen.

The most important outcome was not the jobs that were completed, but that the people who finished rehabilitation, and now face the tough realities of the world, gained a head start with some needed knowledge and skills. What can we add to this?

The Lord is opening a new door, a new opportunity for believers on both ends - for both those inside Russia and those willing to go; for both those who have matured in faith and vocation, and those who have just turned to faith and are beginning a new stage in life. Your experience in providing for Your family can now be Your new ministry - join God’s work of transforming lives!

New Way to Listen to RCR Radio Online – Try the App

You can listen to RCR Radio Online (in Russian) at our Russian website, www.rcr.ru, or on your smartphone/tablet using one of the radio apps like TuneIn Radio: <http://tun.in/sfb7L>. (Download the app on your device from your app/play store. Search for “Russian Christian Radio”, select an “icon” with the RCR logo and you can listen 24/7.)



Leadership Training in Russia

In April of 2014, RCR introduced a leadership program called G.P.S. Life Journey (God's Plan for Success) to the men and women directors of our Pirkko Home rehabilitation and adaptation centers. The program, designed by American pastor Nolen Rollins, helps people discover their individual God-given gifts and characteristics and to fulfill their special life purposes, by showing them how they are equipped to make a difference in the world.

It was our desire to help these leaders understand more about their own gifts, strengths, passions and abilities so they could grow in their own right, and in turn, learn how to use these assets to help those who come to our rehab centers burdened with drug and alcohol addictions.

The introduction of GPS was a complete success and through the encouragement of Dima Gusev, Coordinator of the Pirkko Home rehabilitation center ministry, a second round of training was presented in October 2014, with two new goals in mind:

1. Teaching Pirkko Home leaders how to independently conduct this GPS training for those going through the rehabilitation process.
2. Introducing GPS to other Christian rehabilitation center leaders.



Oksana (rehab leader) - identifying personal goals as part of GPS training

Five leaders from one of the eight rehab centers in the St. Petersburg area, unaffiliated with RCR's Pirkko Homes, came for this session and each left with new insights on how they could help the men and women in the rehab centers there.

In addition to the burden of addiction that our residents come to us with, Satan has robbed many of them of their self worth – the value which the Lord has given to each one of us. Many have never experienced grace or known the love of Jesus Christ. We saw with our own eyes how hearts were lightened and inspired, as they discovered the gifts God had created within them and found out that there was a plan for their lives.

Oleg, the head of one of the rehab centers, shared his personal goal: "I live to glorify God, showing genuine concern for people who are addicted, and helping each person to see and begin to implement God's purposes for his life."

We are grateful to our Board of Directors member, Lynn Doty, for introducing this program to us and to Risa Baker, Dan Baker, and Doug Hodge who took their time and effort to come to Russia and teach this. These four people are not strangers to Russia and each have been used by the Lord in Russia. They have shared their knowledge and experience to benefit those the Lord has placed in their path. We highly recommend this program to others in ministry. More information can be found on their website: www.GPSLifeJourney.com.

The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire - Recent Issue's topic: "GOD"



In this issue we talk about God - the Creator of life and the Savior of the Soul. We embarked on this topic in fear and trembling, in prayer and in reverence, knowing the limitations of our knowledge; and at the same time with the determination and courage of our position as the children of God, for whom the Heavenly Father has prepared His kingdom!

It is tragically sad that some people do not believe in the existence of God. "For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God.' So then each of us shall give account of himself to God." (Rom. 14:11-12). So, no matter what we believe, one day we will each give an account of ourselves before God.

Our heart's desire is to show the reader the greatness, glory, goodness, accessibility, proximity and forgiveness of the Living True God!

The magazine is available in Russian and can be seen on our Russian website, www.rcr.ru.



Dmitry when he came to the Dyatkovo Pirkko Home.

Dmitry Bolotin - I was at the very bottom

My name is Dmitry Bolotin. I'm 37 years old. My grandmother is a believer. I also have a wife and a son. Since I was about 22 years old, I was an alcoholic and drug addict. At the age of 29, I was sentenced to prison, and after 2 years, in 2008, I was released.

In the beginning, everything was fine. I had a job, and I thought all was well in my family. But after a while, I slid back into to my old lifestyle. By 2010, I lost almost everything. My family asked me to leave. In order to somehow fill my emptiness, I was beginning each morning with a glass of alcohol, and took drugs with it. I went to hospitals for treatment, trying to get help with the addictions, but it was all in vain. Overall, I became so depressed that it seemed like there was no way out. I knew about God - that He existed; well, that's nice, but so what? Sometimes I used to go to the church with my grandmother. I came and went, but nothing happened to me.

Because I knew I needed to do something, I decided to try going to the Christian rehabilitation center, "Pirkko Home – Liberation," in the city of Dyatkovo, in the Bryansk region. A brother from the church had told me about this center. Actually, I did not care where I went. I had such a deep emptiness that it did not matter, and I did not pay much attention to anything. In such a state I arrived in Bryansk, where I met a minister from the rehab center, who took me with him to Dyatkovo. While traveling, I told him that I was at the very bottom. He replied that some time ago he had also been at the bottom. At that moment I did not think that what he said was important, but later, when I learned more about his life, I realized that there was something different going on here at this center. Gradually I began to realize who God really is and what repentance is. There, in the rehab center, I knelt down and asked God for forgiveness. I did not feel any "tide" come over me, or anything unusual, but I knew that I was doing the right thing. I went on to finish the entire rehabilitation and adaptation program (8 months). After that, brothers from the "Grace" Church supported me and helped me find a job. My family has accepted me back, and they've forgiven me. Now my son comes to church with me. On January 19, 2013, I was baptized.

I am very grateful to the Lord our God, Jesus Christ, who has forgiven me and continues to bless me. Praise the Lord for everything! Amen.



Dmitry after graduating from the Pirkko Home program. Christian brothers helped him find a job and now he has his family back, as well.

RCR's Mission Statement

As we reach the end of our calendar year, RCR would like to share our mission statement with you, which reaffirms who we are, what we do, and how we are motivated:

We exist to reach hopeless and broken Russian-speaking people with the transforming love and power of Jesus Christ.

- **A passion for Jesus Christ**
- **Love for Russian-speaking people**
- **Compassion for broken people**
- **A burden to rid people of drug and alcohol addictions**
- **A desire to reach and impact as many as possible.**

We do this through our prison magazine, rehabilitation centers and audio programming; we help new believers grow in faith and to find their mission and purpose; we provide ministry opportunities and encourage the involvement of local church bodies, individuals, and likeminded organizations.

Founded in 1946 by Nikolai and Earl Poysti, our ministry is about to enter its 69th year of service to the Russian speaking people. We are grateful to each and every supporter who has helped this ministry over the years and we appreciate your prayers and contributions as we continue to strive to reach "Millions of Russians for Christ." We welcome any year-end gifts you might consider.

