



## VIN PAZ VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR VINCENTIAN FAMILY PROJECT IN UKRAINE



The Vincentian family has established a project that works with street children (aged 7 and upwards) in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second largest city. Child homelessness is a major problem in Ukraine with thousands of children living on the streets, often in underground sewers and heating ducts. In 2007, Depaul International with the collaboration of the Vincentian Fathers, Daughters of Charity, AIC and the Society set up a project to respond to these needs. It runs an outreach minibus service providing food and medical care to children sleeping rough and a day centre offering food, clothes, medical facilities, counselling and support. The Project also works in local orphanages to reduce the number of runaways and teach lifeskills.

The project has a core professional staff but relies heavily on volunteers. 2 young Irish women volunteers have recently completed their term and their replacements are now being sought.

The Vin Paz Commission of the CGI has been asked to assist with this and now invites applications from members of the Society interested in volunteering to work in the Kharkiv project.

A commitment of one year is requested. Experience of working with children would be desirable but not essential. Knowledge of Russian would be a great help but failing that, a commitment to learn basic Russian while on the project is essential.

Those members interested in having further information may contact Larry Tuomey, Vin Paz Commission, email [ljtuomey@iol.ie](mailto:ljtoumey@iol.ie)