

Since 2005, Moldova World Children's Fund (MWCF) has been helping provide surgeries and other medical care for individuals...urgent, complicated, expensive, and otherwise unattainable within the limited capacity of the Moldova medical system. 2020 medical relief for individuals has continued despite the restraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Traditionally, MWCF does what it can to brighten the lives of needy children, particularly those struggling with serious medical conditions.

Alexandru Vlad Jordan, age 3

- Congenital muscular dystrophy, Ullrich
- Kyphoscoliosis



Each holiday season finds us traveling to localities all over Moldova doing Santa's work... east and west, far north to deep south.

Principal recipients of MWCF provided Christmas cheer have been the patients at the children's wing of the oncology hospital in Chisinau that serves the entire country.



Roman Ulinici, age 14

- Innate heart defect
- Aortic coarctation resection, 2014
- Balloon aortic dilation, 2017
- Scoliosis gr.1



Pulse oximeters help efficient coordination of drug regimes



Orthopedic mattresses help spine development

People in dire financial situations are not required to be suffering from cancer or other life-threatening conditions to warrant inclusion on Santa's medical list.



A private automobile to facilitate delivery of holiday gifts and humanitarian aid throughout Moldova around the year is needed.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(as of 01 January 2021)

PRESIDENT

Ray F. West, Jr.
Hendersonville, NC
828.551.8209

ray.west@moldovawcf.org

CHAIRMAN

Albert S. Gooch, Jr.
Flat Rock, NC

Faith F. Baker
St. Petersburg, FL

John H. Boyd, Jr.
Greenville, SC

Charles P. Brady
Alexandria, VA

Desmond C. Brooks
V.P. for USA Operations
Hixson, TN

Victor V. Bubuic
Charlotte, NC

Asif J. Chaudhry
Former U.S. Ambassador to Moldova
Pullman, WA

Michael A. Covell
Flat Rock, NC

Leslie G. Johnson
New York, NY

S. Joyce Jolly
Hendersonville, NC

Michael D. Kirby
Former U.S. Ambassador to Moldova
Fairfax, VA

Stephen B. Mackler
Greensboro, NC

Elaine F. Marshall
N.C. Secretary of State
Raleigh, NC

John N. Maxemchuk
V.P. for Moldova Operations
Chisinau, Moldova

William A. Vogel
Atlanta, GA

DIRECTOR EMERITUS
Mason G. Alexander
Charleston, SC

Community Center in Ruseni Village Nearing Completion

COVID-19 has certainly been difficult for us all. Moldova has been hit hard. Our efforts to build a community center to serve multiple villages in the country's north have turned from routine into a major challenge. Travel restrictions affecting our construction workers and project managers have at times brought work to a complete standstill. Inability to obtain building materials, equipment and supplies in a timely manner continues to be a problem. Nevertheless, slowly but surely, we are getting close to the finish line. Our revised completion target date of 22 May 2021 should be met with at least a month to spare.



Obvious necessity for major guttering repair of the long-ago abandoned Ruseni community center revealed the need to replace the entire roof. Delays in the arrival of natural gas service to the region led to construction of an independent heating system annex, adding an additional wing to the building.



Exterior close to its finish



Interior all but done



Landscaping, furnishing, and staffing up next

High on the Moldova World Children's Fund (MWCF) list of projects is the continuing education of young students...emphasizing need, merit, and resolve. Most school years find MWCF providing tuition and/or room and board support for between 10 and 12 individuals...many from low-income families...others facing particularly challenging situations...most having recently aged out of boarding schools for abandoned children. Recently added to our team of budding scholars...



Cristian

- College Center of Excellence in Economics & Finance, Chisinau
- Following his father's death, Cristian currently lives with grandparents

Milena

- Academy of Economic Studies "Business & Administration", a university in Chisinau
- MWCF provides tuition
- Father killed by a runaway truck while working abroad



Tatiana

- Orphaned and victim of assault, now a single mom
- Balti Alecu Russo University, Law & Social Sciences...Department of Social Human Sciences and Social Work

Humanitarian Aid Shipments



Moldova World Children's Fund (MWCF) Board Member, N.C. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall, associate Lora Sinigur, along with other volunteers from Raleigh and around the state continued filling up a partnering storage building in 2019 with over 17 tons of humanitarian aid. Contributed items included medical equipment, supplies, and training aids along with books and education materials for classrooms, libraries, and labs.



Donors included North Carolina medical centers, state agencies, universities, libraries, non-governmental profit organizations such as Rotary, and private citizens.

Shipping delays led to the aid arriving in early March 2020. Fortuitously, the shipment included many items ideally suited for helping establish Moldova's first two coronavirus hospital response units.



Sea-land container ready to be unloaded in Chisinau, Moldova

This program has been up and running for several years. Donations are made to MWCF, organized on pallets at a storage area in Raleigh and flown to Moldova aboard U.S. Air Force C-17 cargo planes crewed by Air National Guard components in North Carolina and West Virginia...or trucked in sea-land containers to an east coast port for seaborne transport to Romania for further trucking to Moldova. Contents of the shipments are documented and transferred to the Moldovan non-governmental organization A.O. CICD "PHOENIX" run by MWCF's volunteer in-country manager Irina Rusanovschi. The aid is stored in Chisinau and subsequently distributed throughout Moldova at no charge to recipients.



Work crew assembles...MWCF's Ray West, U.S. Ambassador Dereck Hogan, "PHOENIX" president Irina Rusanovschi, and N.C. Bilateral Affairs Officer Patrick Mohan



Pushing to get maternity ward cribs moved timely into place



Students exploring their school's new English books

Over the years, MWCF has teamed up with others in trucking donated aid from Western Europe... principally originating in Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, and the Netherlands. Again spearheading these shipments has been MWCF's collaboration with the charity A.O. CICD PHOENIX.

Six separate shipments (two in 2019 and four in 2020) of hospital equipment, furniture, and supplies have come from Verona, Italy based non-profit charity Operae Life. The real value of these "Gifts-in-Kind" has been estimated at over \$300,000...principal hospital recipient: Institute of Mother and Child in Chisinau. Board member Mike Covell is MWCF's point-of-contact for aid shipments from Italy.



One of the trucks from Verona, Italy



The Moldova-Italy Connection

MWCF has added Four New Members to its Board of Directors



Former U.S. Ambassador to Moldova Asif Chaudhry

Asif J. Chaudhry, Vice President for International Programs, Washington State University

Pakistani-American Dr. Chaudhry was U.S. Ambassador to Moldova 2008-2011, then for three years Foreign Policy Advisor to Chief of Naval Operations at the Pentagon. During his U.S. State Department career, he played instrumental roles in formation of trade agreements with South Korea, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. During 1992-1999 he served U.S. Embassies as Attaché-Warsaw and Counselor for Agricultural Affairs-Moscow. Asif completed his undergraduate at University of Punjab, Pakistan, masters at American University of Beirut, Lebanon, and his Ph.D. in ag-economics from Washington State University. He speaks English, Russian, Arabic, Polish, Urdu and Punjabi. Asif and his wife Charla worked closely with Moldova World Children's Fund renovating boarding schools for abandoned children in both the south and north of Moldova during his ambassadorship in Chisinau.

S. Joyce Jolly, MSN, Colonel (R), U.S. Army Nurse Corps

After three years as an Army medic and finishing nursing school, North Carolina native Joyce earned a bachelor's degree from UNC-Charlotte. She received her Army officer commission in 1975, and a dual Master's in Nursing and Business Administration from the University of South Carolina. Military assignments included head surgical nurse, Combat Support Hospital, Southwest Asia, multiple chief nurse positions in Germany, and as Commander, Blanchfield Army Community Hospital, Fort Campbell, KY. Colonel Jolly is a recipient of the Legion of Merit and Meritorious Service Medal (5). She retired from the Army to become a nursing education consultant/faculty member/planner for Mountain Area Health Education Center, Asheville, NC. Joyce currently resides in Hendersonville, NC and volunteers for several non-profit organizations, including as Chair, Board of Directors, Henderson County Hunger Coalition.



*Colonel Ret. Joyce Jolly
U.S. Army Nurse Corps*



*Dr. Steve Mackler
Dentist &
Exchange Coordinator*

Stephen B. Mackler, DDS, Periodontist, Greensboro, NC

A native of North Carolina, Steve received an A.B. from UNC, then his D.D.S. and M.S. from UNC School of Dentistry. Active military duty followed through 1974, obtaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Naval Reserve. Licensed in North Carolina, Florida, and Virgin Islands. Dr. Mackler's specialty Board certifications include Diplomate, American Boards of Periodontology and Geriatric Dentistry. Steve's research interest is Periodontal Disease in Children. Published four times, he has taught at UNC and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. He is currently Adjunct Assistant Professor at UNC and Adjunct Associate Professor, State University, Republic of Moldova. Active with Rotary International, Steve has been instrumental in initiating and coordinating North Carolina-Moldova partnership exchange programs in geriatrics, plastic surgery, pediatrics, physical medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and general surgery.

John N. Maxemchuk, Entrepreneur & Corporate Executive

Bringing both business schooling and related experience to Moldova, John is a pioneer of the country's developing free market economy. He received a B.S. in finance from the Wharton School, a B.A. in International Relations with focus on Eastern European Economic Transition, from the University of Pennsylvania and an MBA from Harvard Business School. John was the CEO of Sun Communications in Moldova 2003-2016 and more recently the COO of Purcari Wineries. He is the co-founder of Chisinau International Preschool and the lavender producing Asterid Group. John is a mainstay of the American Chamber of Commerce in Moldova, having co-founded the association in 2006, serving as its first president for six years, and remaining on the Board of Directors until the present. A longtime supporter of the NC-Moldova Partnership, John continues his volunteer work as Moldova World Children's Fund's newly appointed Vice-President for Moldova Operations.



*John Maxemchuk
Businessman &
Philanthropist
Chisinau, Moldova*

Bishop Charles and Mrs. Nancy Duvall Fund

When Moldova World Children's Fund's (MWCF) Chaplain Bishop Charles Duvall died earlier this year, the Board of Directors envisioned that a fitting memorial would be to establish a fund honoring both Charles and wife Nancy to essentially endow two of its longstanding initiatives.

For over twenty years we have been enabling medical treatment for seriously ill children and supporting deserving youngsters, most aging out of orphanages, to improve and continue their education. The first two pages of this report touch on those ongoing activities. A steady stream of income from a memorial and honor fund will ensure continuing and expanding both signature programs. We are confident that this endeavor will grow to become an appropriate tribute to two of MWCF's most active board members, generous contributors, and beloved friends.

Nancy and Charles were early supporters of MWCF's efforts and made the required visit to Moldova following her joining the Board of Directors in 2009. With this sharing couple, when blessed with the loving involvement of one, you automatically had the enthusiastic participation of the other. Following Nancy's term as a board member, Charles agreed to serve as the organization's chaplain.



Team Duvall

Within a week of MWCF's Annual Meeting in November, early commitments reached just over \$100,000. With individual pledges spread over the next four or five years, the Board feels that a goal of one million dollars is a reasonable target for us to pursue. **You can help now.** Please consider making a campaign contribution by completing the enclosed pledge card and mailing it to us at your earliest convenience. We will acknowledge your participation to the Duvall family.



*Nancy
Member, MWCF
Board of Directors
2009-2014*

Reflecting upon his and Nancy's involvement with Moldova for last year's Report to Friends, Charles recalls *"meeting two Moldovan musicians at Kanuga Episcopal Conference Center in the early 2000s. They were delightful and talented, prompting Nancy to write a poem about them which led to her joining the MWCF Board. For six years she served and we gave. We visited Moldova in 2010 and were struck at the almost impossible things that were happening to improve children's lives. It has become one of the top three items on our giving list. In my retirement, I have served as an Assistant Bishop to two Bishops of Upper South Carolina. It is now time for me to travel less and spend more time at home. Becoming the Chaplain for Moldova World Children's Fund, at a time when I'm slowing down, is a sign of our commitment to their good work."*



*Bishop Charles
MWCF Chaplain*

MWCF is an approved IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization registered in the state of North Carolina. Form 990 is filed annually and accessible at the IRS and NCSOS as public information.

Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 919-814-5400. The license is not an endorsement by the State.





Major Moldovan television series features the North Carolina – Moldova Partnership ...highlighting Moldova World Children's Fund (MWCF).

The United States Department of State, through the U.S. Embassy in Chisinau, Moldova awarded a grant to local Moldova film company TeleFilm for the production of a 20 episode video series entitled "People to People". As a principle player in the state-country collaboration, MWCF and its activities throughout Moldova are receiving top billing. With filming begun during the second half of 2019, release of the series for public viewing began in 2020, and telecasts will continue into early 2021 and beyond.

The first seven episodes can be easily viewed via YouTube links:

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYdn58psb80&t=416s>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=71xjnZgYPtQ&t=1520s>
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGOInxDQYQ4&t=676s>
4. https://youtu.be/tcqlCs_YKJY
5. People to People. Episodul 5.
6. <https://youtu.be/k4CMh3bNjQA>
7. People2People. Episodul 7 YouTube

Facebook is also a source for navigating to the video series:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/524181444772869/>

One filming session took place at the home of MWCF's Mike & Joanie Covell in Hendersonville/Flat Rock, NC.



2020 with severe burn victim Natalia Bolea, her children, and mom, now living in Spain



Camera crew at the MWCF sponsored Fortuna Home for Orphans in Drochia



Making the rounds in Manta...filming at a home constructed by MWCF for deaf mute mom and her two sons



Pro-western Maia Sandu won Moldova's 15 NOV 2020 election becoming the country's first female President. With 58% of the vote, she supplanted the Moscow-backed incumbent in a landslide.

September 2020 brought disaster to Moldova's historic National Philharmonic Hall...a huge blaze consuming the building, reducing everything to ashes, including all of the Symphony Orchestra's instruments. Constructed in 1912, the cultural center served over the years as a revered platform for several MWCF sponsored youth given the opportunity to demonstrate their developing natural talent. Now it is gone, efforts to rebuild the structure are well beyond MWCF means alone. Where we can help is with a modest expansion of one of our previous initiatives...providing musical instruments. High quality instruments in excellent condition can be donated to MWCF, and overseas transport will be arranged. Contributed items not selected for orchestra use can either be audited for sorely needed cash or awarded as competition prizes for deserving grade school students aspiring to become musicians.



National Philharmonic Hall...built in the early 1900s



View from main stage, September 2020



Photo from audience area now