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# **ASSISTANCE TO RUSSIAN ORPHANS (ARO-3) PROGRAM**

**2006 – 2010**

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## A Message from the ARO3 Chief of Party

Dear Readers,



During ARO3, child welfare services and innovative programs developed across Russia as part of ARO1 and ARO2 expanded geographically and were institutionalized. ARO staff worked towards providing every child with access to education, the opportunity to live in a stable family, and the ability to become a productive member of society. As a result of these efforts, the program led to a tangible impact in the lives of tens of thousands of children living in Russia.

On the behalf of IREX, I would like to bid a fond farewell to our partner the National Foundation for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NFPCC) and all of IREX's other grant recipients and partners and thank them for their dedication, determination and tireless efforts to improve children's lives. I also would like to thank the federal and regional government representatives for working with the ARO team to ensure that the program achievements continue to benefit future generations of children throughout the country beyond the life of ARO.

We wish you all the best in continuing to improve child welfare in Russia.

Sincerely,

Galina Karmanova  
ARO3 Chief of Party

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Galina Karmanova". The signature is written in a cursive style. To the right of the signature is a vertical yellow line.

## ARO3 by the Numbers

Over **13,000** specialists received training

With **\$9,823,222** in support from USAID, ARO3 worked in **10** Russian regions over **3** years

Over **750** new and innovative services and governmental policies introducing preventative child welfare services were introduced in priority regions

ARO engaged over **560** change agents (governmental and NGOs) at federal and local levels to create diverse coalitions advocating for sustainable reform of child and family welfare services

**30** projects were implemented by NFPCC from 2006-2009

NFPCC's annual budget of **\$700,000** in 2005 increased to **\$2,285,000** in 2009

**156** legal acts were developed to improve the child welfare system and serve as the legal basis for social abandonment prevention systems

**16** national standards were developed at the federal level with NFPCC's assistance

Child welfare NGOs, schools, hospitals, and family centers received more than **200** grants for a total over **\$2,800,000** in direct child welfare grants and for workforce development

HIV prevention activities reached over **5,000** students

**25** orphanages were phased out

Over **1,000,000** hits were registered from 2007-2009 on the NFPCC website, [www.siroststvo.ru](http://www.siroststvo.ru) and the IREX/Russia website, [www.irex.ru](http://www.irex.ru), which have become leading resources for child welfare reformers across the country

Over **50,000** children and families received abandonment prevention and child welfare services

**2** professional organizations, the Association for the Modernization of Baby Homes and the Association of Telephone Helplines for Children and Teens, were created

## Geographical Focus



ARO3 adopted an aggressive approach to institutionalize new services developed under the ARO2 program to replicate them in other regions of Russia. These regions include Tambov, Tomsk, Novosibirsk; Irkutsk and Chelyabinsk Oblasts; Krasnoyarsk, Altay, Khabarovsk, and Primorsky Krays; and St. Petersburg.

## ARO Innovative Technologies

The ARO2 and ARO3 programs, through cooperation with NFPC, further advanced the innovative technologies developed and piloted by ARO1, as well as management technologies for working with families and children at risk of social abandonment, including the following:

**Early Intervention**, which targets children with disabilities aged 0-4 and creates a rehabilitative approach focused simultaneously on the psychological, educational and therapeutic needs of each child. The approach also includes corrective measures to prevent or minimize the effects of serious disabilities and maximize the child's psychological, emotional and physical development and his or her integration into the community.

**Social Hostels, Social Clubs and Rehabilitative Play**, which provide places for children to spend time after school and on the weekends where they are supervised, receive extra support and are able to participate in fun activities such as excursions and arts and crafts.

**Early Detection**, which identifies at-risk families\* and works with them to prevent abandonment of their children. The goal is to keep children in their biological families and ensure that the parents maintain their custodial rights.

**Family-Based Forms of Care**, which put children in foster families or allows them to grow up in situations that closely resemble family units. It provides guardians for children and promotes adoption. The goal is to transition children out of institutions and into family environments.

**Social Adaptation of Orphanage Alumni**, which is a mechanism of secondary prevention after children have aged out of state institutions. Using the life skills program, this mechanism teaches children who have aged out of institutions to adapt to independent living.

**Social Rehabilitation of Children with Special Needs**, which works to improve educational and support services for children with disabilities and provides counseling and psychological assistance to parents.

\* At-risk families are defined as families that meet one of the following criteria:

- Any type of a violation of a child rights in the family (abuse, violence, parental neglect of basic rights and laws protecting the child's interests);
- The family is believed to be at high risk level for a child rights violation, following an assessment of warning signs;
- The family or child has a juvenile division or juvenile service records, or is registered in the school as a lawless juvenile;
- The child has a disability that is less connected with an illness/disease, but is more connected to psychology (mental retardation, combined defects and other conditions);
- The family has abandoned children in the past.

## A Closer Look at NFPCC

Throughout the program's duration, the National Foundation for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NFPCC) was IREX's primary implementing partner and a key objective of ARO3 was to strengthen NFPCC's sustainable growth. NFPCC was created in 2004 by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and is now one of the leading child welfare think tanks in Russia. The foundation works with specialists, experts, and both the federal and regional governments to reform the child welfare system.

*Without a doubt, it is very important that the projects implemented by NFPCC provide tangible help to individual children. The problem of child abuse has been actively discussed in society over the past six months. Many seek new ways to protect children, and NFPCC has been at the front of this campaign, sometimes leading it. NFPCC has contributed to Russia becoming a country where child abuse is being overcome.*

**-Alexey Golovan  
Presidential Commissioner  
for Children's Rights**

*NFPCC closely works with many government organizations, including the Federation Council. Already many times we reported on and presented the results of our work in different regions to the Commission on Child Welfare. The Commission was pleased with our presentation because it showed that NFPCC is already working on problems that must be solved at the federal level. There are plans to continue cooperation in 2010. Already in January and February we will present at another commission.*

**-Galina Trostanetskaya  
NFPCC Expert,  
Former Deputy Director of the Department for  
Youth Policy, Upbringing and Child Welfare  
under the Ministry of Education**

Through its affiliation with the ARO programs, NFPCC has developed and grown into a flourishing, sustainable organization. NFPCC closely cooperates with the government and successfully attracts funding from a range of sources. NFPCC has implemented more than 30 programs since its foundation, and its annual budget grew from \$700,000 to \$2,285,000 between 2005 and 2009.

NFPCC's mission is to protect children's rights by improving the quality of support for children and families and to ensure that every child grows up in a safe environment. NFPCC also partners with government organizations to reduce social abandonment in Russia.



## An Interview with Marina Egorova, President of NFPCC

Communications Officer Betsy Engebretson interviewed Marina Egorova, the President of NFPCC, to reflect on ARO3 and NFPCC's cooperation with IREX.

### **✚ How would you describe the relationship between IREX and NFPCC?**

We have had a long partnership with IREX – it started even before ARO3. First, I'm very thankful for IREX because IREX saw our organization's potential for implementing the ARO programs and started to work with us. And most likely, we did not let them down due to the success of ARO3 and during these years we learned a great deal from IREX – a large, major, well-established organization. IREX gave us organizational and methodological support. So during these years we worked closely together.

### **✚ What are your thoughts about the ARO program in general?**

I think that all of the ARO programs, which started in 1999, not just ARO3, were the largest, most important funding programs, as well as the broadest in their goals. The programs' overall objective was achieved step by step – creating a regional system for preventing social abandonment to decrease the level of social abandonment in Russia by reducing the number of at-risk families and for those children already orphaned, by finding them new families.

The aims of such major funding programs included not only developing services for children and families, but also creating close cooperation with regional administrations in all regions, focusing on different regions in different years, as well as educational and methodological objectives. Taking this into consideration, they were very broad programs in their diverse purposes. But they were also broad in their geography. The programs spread from Magadan to St. Petersburg, and because of this, they were unique. This is why I'm happy that I worked with ARO from the beginning to the end. The specialists and I found the projects a great learning experience.

### **✚ What should the government and organizations do to build on ARO successes and ensure that the child welfare system continues to improve?**

The ARO program intentionally developed and designed innovations under the program to be institutionalized, which means that they have a regulatory, legal and infrastructural base. That's why in the program's target regions, the innovations are strong and can be made stronger in the future. And there is the question of scale. If some innovations in the ARO program were implemented at pilot sites and some were introduced at the regional level, the government and organizations should introduce them to reach all children. ARO-developed models must now be expanded to have them reach more children and families.

### **✚ How did ARO3 projects impact the lives of families with children?**

ARO social abandonment prevention models were introduced in cities, including villages, and in regions. And thanks to the partnership between Tomsk Oblast and the ARO program, a vertical management structure for child welfare, where the regional level and the municipal level have an agency that is responsible for action and all institutions are under one leader, the new Department of Family and Children Issues, has proven effective. The system was recognized by the State Duma Committee for Women and Children's Issues in March 2009. Duma members also noted how it has greatly improved children's lives in the region. In addition, ARO designed other innovations, which are able to change the lives of children. For example, ARO models improved the lives of children at baby homes.

The percentage of children with disabilities needing further state assistance in life was reduced by 8% and adoptions from baby homes increased by 26%. The number of at-risk families continues to fall. ARO models allowed for a comprehensive approach for addressing the problem of social abandonment and allowed for investment into the state child welfare system. Separately I would like to mention early detection and case management and rehabilitative services for at-risk children. Thanks to the program, there are regions where early intervention has been institutionalized and is developing at other levels.

✚ **What do you consider ARO3's biggest success?**

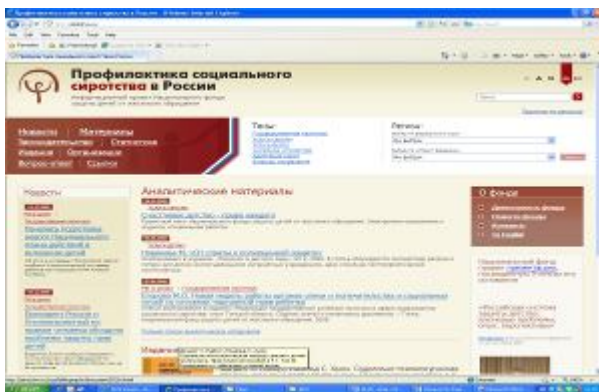
In all ARO target regions, there are successes that should be noted. Tomsk Oblast must be mentioned because of the major, successful reform of the child welfare system there. And in every region it is possible to note successes, including innovations and new services. In Altay Kray, there is a system for providing crisis assistance and early detection of at-risk families at the male crisis center. In Tambov Oblast, a high quality service for creating family-based forms of care was created. In Khabarovsk city, a system for helping young kids with Autism was introduced. This shows that in every region it is possible to point out their outstanding successes. And of course we can't forget St. Petersburg, where a system for providing services for families affected by HIV/AIDS was created closer to where the target population lives.

I believe that the program has left a large footprint in reforming the Russian child welfare system. ARO3 educated over 13,000 specialists and gave them new directions of thought. And I think that it is a significant accomplishment for USAID, which funded the program. They should be very proud of it.

***"We need to create the necessary infrastructure for preventative work and for a comprehensive system for rehabilitating children in socially dangerous positions in order to detect at-risk families.... everywhere where it is possible. That is our main task—to keep children in their biological families."***

**From Dmitry Medvedev's speech at the all-Russian meeting "The Work of State Agencies in the Social Development Sphere" on June 5, 2007**

## NFPCC's Website - a Valuable Child Welfare Resource



In 2008, NFPCC launched a new, expanded version of its informational portal on social abandonment prevention in Russia ([www.sirotstvo.ru](http://www.sirotstvo.ru)). The website is regularly updated and serves as an informational hub for representatives of governmental organizations, professionals, NGOs and mass media on a wide range of issues related to abandonment prevention and protection of families and children. The new version of the portal is user friendly, allowing informational searches by subject and region as well as a question-and-answer option for any material found on the site. NFPCC posts child welfare legislative acts and regulations, news collected in the process of monitoring information sources, analytical comments and articles by leading experts, information about publications, conferences and seminars on the website, as well as links to various Internet resources. A separate section of the website is dedicated to NFPCC activities, information about the ARO3 Program and implementation of other programs, annual reports and other relevant information.

NFPCC successfully uses the website to promote the results of the ARO3 program and establish a significant number of contacts and partnerships. After ARO3, NFPCC will continue to develop the site as an informational resource for specialists and professionals working in the child welfare field.



## Program Highlights

### ARO3 Final Conference

NFPCC, the Russian Children in Need Fund and IREX organized the final ARO3 conference, “A Childhood without Cruelty and Abuse: Protection and Assistance,” to highlight ARO successes and tackle child welfare issues. The conference, held in June 2009, attracted over 200 child welfare professionals from around the world and was supported by USAID, UNICEF, IREX, and the Charity Fund Help Center for Homeless Children of the Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



The conference further strengthened NFPCC’s expertise and leading role in the Russian child welfare sphere and promoted ARO models and strategies for continued replication across Russia. The conference participants adopted a draft resolution on future steps that need to be taken to improve child welfare in Russia taking into account international experience, which was shared with the federal government.

*This conference demonstrates important achievements to prevent child abandonment and reduce the number of children in institutions. But it also shows that more work must be done to provide a happy and loving home for every child in Russia.*

**-Keith Simmons**  
Acting Deputy Mission Director of USAID Russia

### National Standards

**National Standards determine the rules for implementing activities or providing services. They may be voluntarily adopted by regional governments to confirm their legality on the regional level. Regional authorities apply them as the basis for the development and establishment of mandatory state standards for social services.**

During 2007–2009, NFPCC took part in the development, assessment and provision of recommendations on the following drafts of national standards:

1. Social service for the population. Social services for families;
2. Social service for the population. Social services for children;
3. Social service for the population. Social services for women;
4. Services for children in organizations providing leisure and rehabilitation;
5. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Types of organizations providing social services for elderly citizens and disabled people;
6. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Special technical equipment of organizations providing social services;
7. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Types of organizations providing social services to families and children;
8. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Requirements for the personnel of organizations providing social services;
9. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Order and conditions of social service provision to elderly citizens and disabled people;

10. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Types of organizations providing social services for homeless persons;
11. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Social services for disabled people;
12. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Social services for elderly citizens;
13. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Documentation of organizations providing social services;
14. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Quality control of social services for children;
15. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Quality control of social services for women;
16. Government Standard R Social service for the population. Quality control of social services for families.

NFPCC is an active member of the federal Technical Committee on Standardization 406 “Social Services for the Population” within the Federal Agency on Technical Regulations and Metrology. In this role, the organization assists in examining and coordinating draft national standards in the sphere of social services for the population. NFPCC participated in the analysis and development of suggestions and recommendations on changes and supplements to the work of Technical Committee on Standardization 406. A significant portion of NFPCC’s suggestions and comments were incorporated into the final version of national standards. As a result of this cooperation, the Technical Committee suggested developing a separate national standard on rehabilitation of families and children (based on NFPCC’s recommendations).

## **Lekotekas: A Successfully Disseminated Standard**

*Together with NFPCC we created a new trend – Lekotekas. In Moscow there are currently 109 Lekotekas. Each Lekoteka has its own staff and is financed by the government. Lekotekas give priority to children who are currently not in the educational system. These children have disabilities or developmental problems, including autism, Down syndrome, etc. Now these kids are in the educational system and if you take all of the Lekotekas in Moscow, that is over 1,000 kids. Before Lekotekas, no one helped these children. And what else is new with the educational system in Lekotekas? Home visits have been expanded. Now it isn’t just specialists and parents coming to an institution, but specialists have the right to visit children’s homes and help the parents and children at home.*

**Valery Yarygin, Director of the Lekoteka Psychological, Medical and Social Support Center**

The Lekoteka is an early intervention technique that makes it possible to identify potential risks of delayed development and to form essential skills among disabled children by providing them comprehensive psychological and educational support. NFPCC established Lekotekas in several regions of Russia and in Moscow. Today, the Moscow Department of Education operates numerous Lekotekas based on the ARO model and Lekotekas received licenses from the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation.



The successful replication of this ARO model has now become a standard in Moscow’s early education system and there is organizational and governmental support for further development throughout Russia.

## Regional Highlights

### Altay Kray

In Altay Kray, the kray administration is now funding ARO-introduced services for preventing social abandonment. The administration institutionalized standards for early detection, case management, and early intervention, and created a telephone help line. Fifty-six new services are now being utilized in the region.

*I would like to thank NFPCC very much for the programs that they recommended. They were tested in other regions and were successfully used in Altay Kray.*

**-Aleksander Karlin,  
Governor of Altay Kray**

**Speaking at NFPCC's Anniversary  
Celebration on December 8, 2009**

#### Highlights:

- ✚ Development and approval of legal documents by the Altay Kray Commission on Juvenile Affairs and Protection of Juveniles' Rights. Documents approved included methodological recommendations on interdepartmental interaction for early detection and emergency assistance for families and children at risk of social abandonment (case management) in Zheleznodorozhny District of Barnaul. The case management system includes four governmental organizations/agencies, four social services centers and eight additional organizations.
- ✚ Introduction of the standard of service for early intervention for early assistance providers in Barnaul.

*Already at this stage we have good examples of interagency cooperation, not only in Zheleznodorozhny District, but also in others. Our next task is to fine tune the mechanism for interagency cooperation and attract other interested services to it and spread it to other areas. It is clear that there are specialists at health, education and social protection institutions for whom there is no excuse to not do this work.*

**-Vera Ushanova,  
Deputy Chair for Childhood and Obstetrics on  
the Barnaul Administration Health Care Committee**

- ✚ Co-financing and expansion of ARO-introduced services by kray target programs from 2009 to 2012 by the Russian Children in Need Fund, a major funder of regional child welfare programs in Russia.
- ✚ Launch of a 24-hour kray-wide telephone helpline for children and teens. The use of this number is included in the interdepartmental system for early detection.
- ✚ Training of 186 specialists and managers from 45 organizations on skills for the practical application of methodologies and techniques for early assistance, early detection of families, and telephone counseling in Altay Kray.



*"We really like it here, especially the relationships with the specialists. Theater starts with coat check, and the center with registration. There they treat you like you are family. The specialists are very strong, and are always looking to improve their skills. They are always very friendly, and always find kind words. At the center you can also get professional consultations. And finally, for me that is the specialists' important work. Mothers like me receive not only necessary information at the center, but also leave with homework. I am happy that the specialists are able to work with our kids and have modern equipment. Thanks to the center, we know that none of our problems will be dropped. We feel like normal people, valued members of society. These structures sponsored by the government and local administration must be supported."*

**- Nazheda,**

**A resident of Barnaul, who's child receives support at the Early Intervention Center in Barnaul**

## Khabarovsk Kray

Implementation of ARO-developed services proved extremely successful in Khabarovsk Kray and the government took an active role to continue services after the end of the program. One hundred and ninety-two new services are utilized in the kray.

### Highlights:

- ✚ Adoption of a resolution by the Khabarovsk Kray government approving family policy in Khabarovsk Kray until 2015, including a target program in 2010-2012 to create conditions for the realization of every child's right to be brought up in a family and the prevention of social abandonment and neglect.
- ✚ Expansion and institutionalization of social hostels in schools. In 2008, social hostels opened in 20 educational institutions in Khabarovsk and in 14 educational institutions in Khabarovsk Kray. Following the Khabarovsk experience, social hostels opened in schools in Komsomolsk-na-Amur and a rural municipal Khabarovsk District. Nearly 500 children from socially vulnerable families receive psychological, educational, and medical support at the social hostels, and enjoy organized leisure activities.
- ✚ Creation of a support service for foster families at the kray level and in five municipal educational offices in Khabarovsk Kray.
- ✚ Seven organizations won IREX/ARO grant competitions for "The Best Practices in Social Abandonment Prevention" and received ARO3 pilot site status.
- ✚ Opening of early intervention departments in five municipal healthcare institutions to provide professional assistance to families with children with special needs in order to prevent abandonment and the child's placement in an orphanage.
- ✚ Parental care training given to 83 families in Khabarovsk City.
- ✚ Establishment of services to develop family-based forms of care for children without parental care at three orphanages in Khabarovsk City.



### **New technologies for preventing social abandonment helped Khabarovsk to:**

- **Reduce the number of at-risk families by 5% (from 3,453 to 3,288 families);**
- **Phase out 2 orphanages (35 orphanages remain);**
- **Increase the number of children living in foster families by over 10 times (from 78 to 803 children) and increase the number of foster families by 92% (from 44 to 527 families);**
- **Reduce the number of truant students by 58%.**

### **Cost Measurement Analysis of the Long-Term Economic Impact of Services in Khabarovsk**

In 2009, NFPCC and an expert from the Center for Fiscal Policy conducted a cost measurement analysis of the long-term economic impact of five innovative child welfare services in Khabarovsk Kray for preventing social abandonment. The ARO Program developed the initiatives under evaluation within the broader context of advancing a progressive regional system for preventing child abandonment. The following services were analyzed:

1. Psychological and educational support for children at risk of social abandonment in educational spaces—social hostels at schools;
2. Psychological and educational support for children at risk of social abandonment in social spaces—social clubs for neglected children at libraries;

3. A support center for families affected by alcoholism;
4. Services creating family-based forms of care for orphans; and
5. Early intervention services for children with developmental disorders living in families.

The analysis found that all five services are highly effective and will save the Khabarovsk government money in the long term. Over the next 10 years, the government will save between four and seven rubles for every ruble it spends on these services.

**Major Results of the Cost Measurement Analysis of the Five Services Include:**

**Social hostels, social clubs and services for families affected by alcoholism complement each other and provide a valuable social benefit to society – they promote the early detection of at-risk families and prevent situations from getting worse. The 20 social hostels in 80 schools in Khabarovsk, five social clubs in libraries and one service for families affected by alcohol have an annual cost of 11 million rubles. By providing support to at-risk children, these services reduce the number of children needing to be institutionalized. The savings from reducing the number of institutionalized children will cover the budget of these services in the second year.**

**Year-long support for four foster family services costs 2 million rubles and will pay for itself when two teenagers living with foster families do not have to be returned to orphanages. In addition, tax revenues will increase because the number of socialized and employed adults will increase due to more children growing up in foster families rather than in orphanages. This will increase every year and eventually exceed the cost of the services.**

**Early intervention services pay for themselves after a few years because without these services, children receiving assistance need more support for longer periods of time. Additionally, it costs less to educate a child in a typical institution, which covers the costs of supporting three early intervention centers for a year.**

**Krasnoyarsk Kray**

In Krasnoyarsk Kray, ARO3 activities focused on early intervention and improving the lives of children with disabilities. Specialists improved their professional competency through trainings and can now provide more services and support to children with special needs.

NFPCC, in partnership with the interregional public foundation the Siberian Center for Support of Public Initiatives (Novosibirsk), introduced early intervention technologies in the Krasnoyarsk Kray healthcare and education systems. The two organizations undertook these efforts as part of a partnership program with the Administration Council of Krasnoyarsk Kray and USAID entitled “Assistance for the Comprehensive Socio-Economic Development of Krasnoyarsk Kray.” The program’s objective was to improve the quality of life of children with special needs living in orphanages and foster families. NFPCC introduced the technologies by implementing two projects: “Reduction of Abandonment and the Level of Disability of Children Living in Orphanages” and “Creation of a System of Psychological and Educational Support for Young Children Living in Foster Families.”



**Early Intervention Gives Sasha a Better Life**

Sasha’s parents surrendered him to state care when he was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and, sadly, the baby home is the only home he has ever known. Like many very young Russian orphans with cerebral palsy, at first Sasha was mostly confined to his crib, able only to gaze at the ceiling above him. Staying in the same position day after day deprived him of essential cognitive stimulation, which can have devastating effects leading to the development of secondary disabilities and inhibited brain development.

Luckily, Sasha has a brighter future thanks to early intervention services provided under the ARO3 program. He now spends his waking hours in a special chair instead of a crib, which allows him to turn his head and grasp objects in his hands and has more interaction with people. A new world has opened for him. and he is as curious about it as any other toddler.

## Novosibirsk Oblast

ARO3's work improved the early detection system in the Leninsky, Iskitimsky and Kuybishevsky Districts of Novosibirsk. ARO3 created two telephone helplines, and 10 services now provide support for at-risk children in the pilot districts. Government funding for child welfare projects will continue until at least the end of 2010.

### Highlights:

- ✚ Development of legal documents for the social protection system, including the work of organizations providing early detection of at-risk families and case management at comprehensive centers providing social services in Leninsky District of Novosibirsk City and Iskitimsky District of Novosibirsk Oblast.
- ✚ Creation of structures for managing innovative early detection activities in Leninsky District including:
  - the coordination council on family policy and the social protection of children, which is overseen by the head of the district administration who ensures the implementation of strategic decisions; and
  - an interdepartmental council and an organizational department at the comprehensive center providing social services for the population.
- ✚ Completion of two grant competitions for the introduction and development of new services to prevent social abandonment, ultimately supporting 19 projects in the following areas:
  - assistance to families with children at risk of social abandonment;
  - rehabilitation of children and juveniles from groups at risk of social abandonment;
  - social adaptation of orphanage alumni;
  - social adaptation of orphans and abandoned children by creating family-based forms of care and supporting foster families.
- ✚ Introduction of two telephone helplines for children and teens at comprehensive centers providing social services for the population in Iskitimsky and Leninsky Districts.
- ✚ Design and development of four foster family support services in Leninsky District of Novosibirsk City.
- ✚ Creation of four services for the adaptation of orphanage alumni in Novosibirsk Oblast;
- ✚ Introduction of 10 services in Novosibirsk Oblast supporting at-risk children in social and educational spaces.

### Fairy Tale School Helps At-Risk Children

Sisters Masha, Yulia and Lena were not receiving proper care at home and began heading down the wrong path. They lived in a tiny one-room apartment in Iskitim, Novosibirsk, with their mother, father, aunt and 15-year old brother. Neither of the girls' parents had a steady income and their brother, Sasha, had been convicted of stealing. The girls received an invitation to attend the Fairy Tale School at the local children's library, which was a social club sponsored by the ARO3 program. At first their behavior was inappropriate – the girls disrupted games, were rude and lacked self-control. After attending the school for some time the sisters' behavior started to improve and they eagerly and successfully became friends with the other children. The library staff also tried to involve their mother in the school's activities. Although their initial efforts failed, the mother eventually came to the school in support of her daughters. Thanks to the Fairy Tale School, Masha, Yulia and Lena now have a brighter future and a safe place to spend their afternoons and weekends.



## Primorsky Kray

In 2007, MiraMed Institute received an ARO3 grant from IREX to implement the Keeping Baby Home project in Vladivostok. The grant supported advanced early intervention training for local specialists working in children's medical centers to identify children at risk of abandonment and to work systematically with their families, using a comprehensive approach involving collaboration among different specialists and agencies involved in child welfare.

During the project, MiraMed trained 26 specialists working at institutions in Vladivostok that serve over 4,000 children. The trained specialists serve as mentors for other specialists and network with other clinics in the Russian Far East. The project fostered a self-learning environment among participants, and all of the training materials were made available to encourage continued and shared learning.

MiraMed continued working to develop domestic and international partnerships among early intervention specialists, and held an international conference bringing together early intervention experts and federal policymakers to discuss how to implement standardized early intervention programs across Russia.

## Tambov Oblast

In Tambov Oblast, NFPCC and IREX developed and introduced an interdepartmental cooperation system for early detection to keep children in their biological families. A telephone helpline was created and children with disabilities living in orphanages now receive more support.

### New technologies for preventing social abandonment helped Tambov to:

- Reduce the number of at-risk families by 15% (from 3,324 to 2,810 families);
- Phase out 5 orphanages (9 orphanages remain);
- Reduce the number of children in orphanages by 23% (from 1,135 to 878 children).

### Highlights:

- ✚ Development and introduction of a system of interdepartmental interaction for early detection in Oktyabrsky District;
- ✚ Development of the early detection and case management legal and regulatory framework for testing social abandonment prevention technologies; Completion of activities to widen the geographical focus of the project on early detection of at-risk families in nine areas of Tambov Oblast;
- ✚ Establishment of a Lekoteka at the Tambov Oblast Specialized Orphanage, where more than 10 children with special needs now receive permanent specialized support;
- ✚ Creation of a system for family-based forms of care and social abandonment prevention, more than doubling the number of monitoring visits to foster families; Implementation of 15 services providing arrangements and support for children in families in Tambov Oblast, which use new social abandonment prevention technologies including schools for potential foster parents;
- ✚ Launch of a telephone helpline for children and teens at the Mercy House Center for social support for families and children.

The new technologies introduced during ARO trainings differed drastically from the methods used previously, and the specialists became more motivated about their work.

*Specialists want to work. They already can't sit by and do nothing. The positive results opened everything- their eyes show it and this is very valuable. We know for sure that the new technologies for the early detection of at-risk families are our first priority. This means that a return to old methods won't happen.*

-Tamara Kasimova,  
Director of the Child Welfare Committee  
of the Tambov City Administration

## Tomsk Oblast

Tomsk Oblast was one of ARO3's main target regions and the oblast served as a primary platform to develop a set of standards and best practices. Tomsk's reformed child welfare system and new services were a model for all districts of the oblast and other regions.

**The application of new technologies for preventing social abandonment helped Tomsk Oblast to:**

- Reduce the number of at-risk families by 6%;
- Phase out 2 orphanages (10 orphanages remain);
- Reduce the number of children living in orphanages by 39% (from 733 to 448 children);
- Reduce the number of abandoned children by 46%;
- Increase the number of foster families from 2 to 140, with 388 children now living in these foster families.

### Highlights:

- ✚ Creation of the Tomsk Oblast Department of Family and Children Issues, centralizing and reforming the oblast child welfare system.
- ✚ Creation of a team of child welfare methodologists who are serving as educational resources in the regional administration.
- ✚ Institutionalization of social hostels, and establishment of standards for rehabilitative play and foster family support services.
- ✚ Creation of 173 new services in Tomsk Oblast, including:
  - Social hostels
  - Support for foster families
  - Rehabilitative play
  - Social adaptation of orphanage alumni
  - Social rehabilitation of children with special needs
  - Early intervention
  - Child and teen telephone helplines
  - Early detection and case management



Using an ARO-developed model as its base, the Tomsk DFCI set standards for all grant competitions for social abandonment prevention services. This allows services for children and families to be more accessible, interdepartmental barriers to be overcome, and the quality of the competitions and services provided to be raised.

### Tomsk Oblast Representatives Join State Duma Expert Committee

A special session of the Russian State Duma's Family, Women and Children's Affairs Committee, held on March 30, 2009, in Tomsk, highlighted the social welfare achievements in the region. During the session, Tomsk Oblast government officials provided a set of recommendations on improving child protection legislation and the State Duma Family, Women and Children's Affairs Committee invited these officials to join its group of experts, who are tasked with developing the legislation. As members of the group of experts, the Head of the Tomsk Department of Family and Children Issues (DFCI) and two Tomsk regional specialists will assist in developing federal laws related to child protection issues. The selection of Tomsk for the State Duma Committee meeting brought national attention to the achievements of ARO3 in Tomsk Oblast.

To disseminate models and technologies developed within the framework of ARO's activities in Tomsk Oblast, NFPCC and the Tomsk DFCI published a collection of articles and legal documents for the meeting entitled, "Implementation of State Family Policy in the Sphere of Social Abandonment Prevention: The Tomsk Oblast Experience." The publication included a description of how government agencies introduced administrative mechanisms for social abandonment prevention in Tomsk, as well as information on rehabilitation of at-risk families and children, assistance to foster families and social adaptation of orphanage alumni. The publication included a supplementary CD containing a set of legal documents, a consolidated list of the main mechanisms of the regional prevention system, and results of research conducted by the Center for Fiscal Policy titled, "Socio-Economic Consequences of Family and Childhood Social Protection Reform in Tomsk Oblast and Budget Expenses for its Implementation." The Chairwoman of the State Duma Committee, Ms. Elena Mizulina, underscored the importance of the publication and recommended its dissemination in other regions throughout Russia.



## Partnership between Tomsk State University (TSU) and the University of Alaska Anchorage

Tomsk State University and the University of Alaska Anchorage worked together to create a master's equivalent program in child welfare at TSU. Students now can major in Social Work with Families and Children at the university, and professors are using adult education principles to teach. Further, students in the School of Social Work at TSU have more opportunities to continue their practical application of social work. Other universities in Russia can benefit from the developed curriculum as it is available online, and the Tomsk DFCI is interested in working with TSU on staff development.

*Three years ago, the attitude towards at-risk families was much different than it is today. On my most recent trip here, I found a real desire to learn about prevention and the need to work with families, not just remove children from a bad situation. I saw that our partners in Tomsk really believe in strengthening families and providing them with support. There is no longer the idea that at-risk families cannot change. They recognize the opportunity and responsibility to prevent social abandonment through specialized social services. The broad-based acceptance of such ideas is a wonderful accomplishment.*

*During my most recent visit, I learned that Tomsk State University plans to make the curricula we developed together available to all universities in Russia. It is my hope that they will work to replicate their experience in other regions of Russia.*

**Dr. Eileen Lally  
Program Director – Family and Youth Services  
Training Academy University of Alaska Anchorage**



**An Interview with Tatyana Shaido,  
Director of Zyryansky Orphanage**

IREX Communications Officer Betsy Engebretson met with Tatyana Shaido to learn more about Zyryansky Orphanage and its work with the ARO programs.

### **✚ How would you describe the relationship between IREX/NFPCC and your organization?**

Our partnership with NFPCC started quite a while ago. The ARO program held seminars in Tomsk Oblast and we started participating in them at the end of the 1990s. And already in 2002, we signed our first project called "Developing of Foster Care Provision in an Orphanage," which was supported through the ARO program. At the orphanage, we were able to create a service for placing children in families. From that moment on, we worked closely with IREX and NFPCC. Then we implemented a few other projects, including "Support for Foster Families in Zyryansky Region of Tomsk Oblast." The project was successful- creating family-based forms of care and providing support for foster families became activities at the institution, not just project activities. In the following years, our institution became a methodological hub for NFPCC where our experience in creating and developing services to prevent social abandonment was spread to other regions. Specialists from the Siberian Federal Okrug participated in a study tour at our orphanage and specialists from our orphanage conducted seminars in Khabarovsk Kray and Tambov and Novosibirsk Oblasts. We have had many years of close cooperation.

**✚ *What are your future plans for working with NFPCC and using your experience from ARO?***

At the moment, we do not have specific plans, but we think that our orphanage is needed to create services for at-risk families and foster families. As long as these services are not in place at all Russian institutions, NFPCC can use our experience to expand these services. Therefore, we are currently analyzing our activities, which will allow better concrete activities to take place in the orphanage because we are examining the situation from various angles. Also, during seminars and study tours we meet with specialist from other regions who know what type of questions to ask, which allows us to look at our activities from different perspectives and improve them. We do not only share our experience, but at the same time also receive suggestions for improving our activities.

**✚ *What are your thoughts about the ARO program in general?***

I think that the ARO program allowed us, Russians, to look at the position of orphans in other countries. Before this program, the government dealt with orphans by institutionalizing them. But with the help of the ARO program, it can be said that specialists' knowledge changed directions, especially in Tomsk Oblast. As the director of an orphanage, I am probably not a "good" director because I don't believe that it is good to have children in an institution. Conversely, I believe that the best place for children is in a family. From the point of view of an orphanage director, who must fight to keep one's institution, I am probably not a good director. From the general world approach regarding where it is best to have children grow up, my position is probably correct. This question is asked all the time, on the one hand, to allow specialists to work in this new direction, and this work is successful and is the basis for new activities. On the other hand, while there are still kids who need help, the reason for our institution remains because, unfortunately, at this point in time, not all children can be raised in families. It is very complicated to find families for teenagers and children with disabilities. We try, and have had some success, but on the whole, there are more of these types of children than we are able to find homes for. Therefore, unfortunately, we still have lots of work, including at orphanages.

**✚ *What should the government and organizations do to build on ARO successes and ensure that the child welfare system continues to improve?***

In our region, this work continues and a regional program for preventing social abandonment has already been created, but a great deal of work remains. There are services that prepare families and children and afterwards provide support for the foster families and help orphanage alumni and child who no longer live with foster families adjust, which is also a major problem, but these are long-term directions. And I think that even after the ARO program, the Tomsk Oblast Administration will continue to address these issues. In principle, we have financing from the program "Children of Tomsk Oblast," which provides funding for these types of activities, but not all of the services have been institutionalized, which means that many of the services are only offered as part of projects. We have developed minimum service standards for Tomsk Oblast, but much work remains to be done.

**✚ *Why did you become involved in the ARO program?***

I started to work with the ARO program because from the moment the orphanage was created in 1995, I realized that the activities there were a road to nowhere. Unfortunately, orphanage alumni were not prepared to adapt to life in society, and at that time many of the children coming to the orphanage had previously lived in families where something hadn't worked. Now we know what didn't work, but at that moment I hadn't completely examined the reason why; I hadn't forced myself to reflect on why it was happening. Therefore, in 1998, I began to analyze our three years of work and then started to work with the ARO program. It was such a happy coincidence that I saw the prospects for my activities and the ARO program was able to help me implement our goals. Our ideas coincided, which probably is a unique occurrence. That's why I'm happy that our organization was starting to do work that was interesting for the ARO program and NFPCC. For us, this program was doubly interesting- it allowed us to organize the activities that we had wanted, but that weren't funded by the government and NFPCC allowed us to do that. And from the outstanding program for specialists, we received high-quality methodological literature published by NFPCC, which was extremely important because in Russia this type of literature is not published. It was a wonderful coincidence for us that allowed us to implement, create, and fill our work with new thoughts and support. You can say that the stars aligned and everything fell into place.

## Focus on Zyryansky Orphanage

Social workers from across Russia are frequent visitors to an orphanage in the village of Zyryansky, two hours from the city of Tomsk in western Siberia. The orphanage has become well-known among child welfare specialists as a model institution implementing innovative foster family programs.

Since 2002, NFPCC has been working with Zyryansky Orphanage to develop and institutionalize a model for foster family care. Through trainings and counseling, the prospective foster parents are better prepared to receive foster children. The trainings focus on good parenting skills and the challenges of raising children who have lived in orphanages. The training and support increase the likelihood that the children will transition well into new foster families. In addition the model involves partnership with the government agency responsible for placing children with foster families.

The specialists at Zyryansky orphanage believe that there is value in sharing their experience developing and institutionalizing the ARO foster family care model. With a grant from the ARO3 program, Zyryansky decided to support the replication of their model in the ARO target regions by providing trainings and demonstrating how the model can be implemented practically.

## Professional Associations

ARO3 fostered the creation of two professional associations working within the sphere of child welfare – the Association for the Modernization of Baby Homes, and the Association of Telephone Helplines for Children and Teens.

### The Association for the Modernization of Baby Homes

Based on its previous work experience in social abandonment prevention and introduction of early assistance technology in healthcare institutions and baby homes, NFPCC decided to create a professional union for baby homes – the Association for the Modernization of Baby Homes. NFPCC's experience showed that the modernization of baby homes is necessary because of certain characteristics commonly found in baby homes, such as personnel's ineffective approach to care, frequent rotation of personnel, inadequate communication with adults, frequent and unreasonable transfer of children from group to group, a strict schedule for children, and lack of living space required for the development of a child's individuality – all of which contribute to developmental delays in children.

The Association for the Modernization of Baby Homes unites Russian baby homes, on a voluntary basis, that support initiatives employing a humanistic approach to the development and upbringing of children. Baby homes that join the Association receive necessary methodological and training support, send their specialists to conferences and seminars, have the right to receive methodological literature as soon as it is available, and take part in traineeships to increase their staff's professional competency.

**The goal of the Association for the Modernization of Baby Homes is to bring together baby homes to improve the care of institutionalized children, by promoting early assistance techniques, which make it possible to identify potential risks of stalled development, and to correct or form essential skills among children by providing them comprehensive psychological and educational support.**

As of 2009, the Association had 11 members and 37 partner organizations from 19 regions of Russia.



**An Interview with Rifkat Mukhamedrakhimov, an NFPCC early intervention expert and professor at St. Petersburg State University**

IREX Communications Officer Betsy Engebretson talked with Rifkat Mukhamedrakhimov about his work on the ARO3 program and child welfare in Russia.

**✚ How would you describe the relationship between IREX/NFPCC and your organization?**

NFPCC occupies an extremely important and needed space in the Russian child welfare system. There is a type of organization that can unite different professionals from different regions, including universities and practitioners together, and before, this type of organization did not exist. But NFPCC is this type of organization and they didn't just look for professionals; they united professionals, leaders, and people responsible for the lives and development of children with a professional and organized program. It turned out that this was very needed and a good start. I have already worked with NFPCC for a few years and our first project was early intervention for children in families. Now we actively work together. I am a representative of St. Petersburg State University and actively work to reform and modernize institutions for young children.

**✚ What are your future plans for working with NFPCC and using your experience from ARO?**

Today NFPCC displayed their books, there on that shelf, and I thought that we must order these books for our psychology department's library at St. Petersburg State University because they present multidisciplinary experience: psychological, social, psychiatric, and administrative experience of working with children and families. It occurred to me that it is very, very important to have all of that in one place. NFPCC's library was very well done and assembled, very thoughtfully created in one direction. That is why it is possible to use NFPCC's experience for various trainings- for professional preparation and also for students. Regarding plans for cooperating with NFPCC: we started a project and now the Association for the Modernization of Baby Homes exists. And we plan active joint action. We have a project in Krasnoyarsk, in Krasnoyarsk baby homes. And I assume it will be in other Russian regions too. This is our sphere of professional qualifications and our work in this sphere will continue. Additionally, I think that one of the most important directions of NFPCC's work is protecting children from child abuse. And in this part, where infants are protected from abuse in families and in institutions, we would also actively work together.

**✚ Why did you become involved in the ARO program?**

Very simple – we started working on this in 1992 in St. Petersburg by starting the first early intervention program for infants and young children from groups at medical and social risk. This was my and my university colleagues' project, part of our professional lives and it's ours, including our belief as people that we must do something to change the lives of children in society and that is why we will continue this work.

**✚ What are your thoughts about the ARO program in general?**

I already mentioned that the program, firstly, is extremely important for Russia. The number of children who need help in Russia is extremely large, including in families and in institutions, starting from the first month of life until the teenage years and beyond. And during the program NFPCC joined different spheres of knowledge, from the lowest level, including at municipalities, institutions, and places where children live, to the State Duma, where legislation, legal acts, and regulations are developed. I think that that is a very positive direction.

**✚ What should the government and organizations do to build on ARO successes and ensure that the child welfare system continues to improve?**

ARO3 was very different from other initiatives in that it started with a few areas, showed how to do things differently and showed how it is possible to organize children's lives differently. And if the project was effective, then the goal was to have that effective project continue to exist in the region on its own financing, based on the budget of the city or region, which created new opportunities for children and families to start everyday work with the people that could help them. It occurred to me that NFPCC actively works in this direction. In order for the programs not to only be called programs or projects, after the end of the project, the innovative work that was started was continued in the region. That is what I consider very important for improving children's quality of life. Here I would also like to note that ARO3 did many things to change children's lives. NFPCC, in my opinion, focuses on research-based resources that they can use to implement their models. After successful results, professionals should use the models in daily services at their institutions.

### The Association of Telephone Helplines for Children and Teens

In 2007, NFPCC created the Association of Telephone Helplines for Children and Teens. Its current membership includes 35 service providers from 24 regions of Russia. From 2007 to 2009, the 270 telephone helplines that are partners of the Association received over 148,000 calls. The Association's goal is to improve the quality of emergency assistance provided to children and teenagers and increase the professional qualifications of telephone helpline specialists.

*Thanks a lot to NFPCC for creating the telephone helpline and helping with each phase of work! Now people in the city and even in the region know of the helpline. It forces us to be more attentive and conduct work on high level as we are responsible for supporting the children calling the telephone helpline. Our high level of professional work is possible because of the close cooperation between the city of Perm, the regional government and NFPCC.*

**–Vera Kozharskaya  
Director of the Psychological  
Medical Social Center in Perm**



### Irkutsk Oblast

To strengthen the organization and improve the quality of assistance provided to HIV-positive women and their children in the city of Irkutsk, ARO3 implemented three projects and fostered the creation of a model for interaction between government agencies and NGOs to provide services to clients from the target group.

In the City of Angarsk, Vesta, a comprehensive center providing social services for the population, developed a city model for organizing medical and social assistance for families with children with HIV-positive mothers. Vesta also designed a mechanism for interaction between the agencies providing healthcare and social protection for the population and at-risk groups. The mayor of Angarsk approved this system by issuing a decree on the Municipal Interdepartmental Coordination Council to Prevent the Spread of HIV/AIDS and TB in Angarsk.

### Chelyabinsk Oblast

The Magnitogorsk Charity Fund Civil Initiative developed a system of comprehensive medical and social support for HIV-positive pregnant women and mothers in order to decrease the risk of social abandonment among children with HIV-positive mothers. A decree of the Magnitogorsk Department of Social Protection of the Population approved and institutionalized this support system in accordance with the department's efforts to organize psycho-social assistance for families affected by HIV/AIDS.

### St. Petersburg

#### HIV Care

ARO3 supported projects in St. Petersburg to develop comprehensive assistance for families affected by HIV.

The AIDS Center widened the spectrum of services provided to clients, and social workers from social service centers in Kalininsky and Krasnogvardeysky Districts gained experience in psycho-social work with new clients. The projects further developed services at centers of social assistance for families and children in these two districts. The projects were implemented by the NGO Doctors to Children in Kalininsky District and NGO Bethany Social Services in Krasnogvardeysky District.

The projects, which targeted HIV-positive women with children at the social centers in the two pilot regions, also found support from the St. Petersburg Committee on Labor and Social Protection of the Population, which supported the projects as it worked on a concept for the social protection system for people living with HIV/AIDS.

#### **ARO3 Projects in St. Petersburg Led to the Following Changes:**

- **Creation of a special psycho-social assistance department for families affected by HIV at the AIDS Center;**
- **Introduction of the informed consent system developed during the project to refer families from the AIDS Center for further services at district social service providers;**
- **Comprehensive assistance provided to 170 families in two districts at the Social Welfare Center and medical institutions in the districts where they live;**
- **Treatment and care provided to 100% of mothers and children in the target group who came to the AIDS Center; 10% of the target group accepted directly administered antiretroviral therapy from the AIDS Center;**
- **Introduction of a protocol of interdepartmental cooperation in order to provide services to HIV-positive women and their children, including those who were exposed to domestic violence, in Kalininsky District of St. Petersburg;**
- **Implementation of new services for HIV-positive women at Social Welfare Centers – legal consultations and an emergency helpline.**

## HIV Prevention

The St. Petersburg NGO Stellit developed, tested and promoted an efficient model of HIV prevention programming, which is being used by state educational institutions in St. Petersburg.

Other main achievements of the prevention program include:

- ✚ The establishment of working groups known as Health Councils, which permanently implement HIV prevention programming by introducing it in the school curriculum at 10 vocational schools and the City Youth Club.
- ✚ 50 students received training to be HIV peer educators.
- ✚ 30 specialists from the City Department of Education and its affiliates received training on basic HIV prevention and on planning and monitoring HIV prevention programs.
- ✚ Stellit trained over 30 City Youth Club employees on planning and monitoring HIV prevention programs, and coordinating volunteer activities.
- ✚ The establishment of an Expert Committee on Healthy Lifestyles at the city level.
- ✚ The four most active vocational schools formed volunteer teams. These teams became the leaders of the city volunteer movement and attracted 11 more volunteer teams.
- ✚ Over 5,000 students learned about HIV prevention through program activities.



*Participants in HIV Prevention Activities at a Vocational School in St. Petersburg*

Stellit introduced an HIV prevention model for youth at the City Youth Club, which coordinates prevention programs among students in St. Petersburg. A city youth volunteer movement aimed at HIV prevention among students was formed at the club. In vocational schools, all planned work on promoting healthy lifestyles uses methods developed in the projects. The St. Petersburg Committee on Labor and Social Protection of the Population recommended including informational materials that were developed and published as part of the project into programs promoting healthy lifestyles directed at upperclassmen at secondary schools and underclassmen at higher educational institutions.



## ARO3 Replication

In addition to improving the lives of children in the ARO3 target regions, NFPCC introduced ARO-developed models and services in other regions, further ensuring the legacy and long-term impact of ARO3.

### The Republic of Tatarstan

The Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Protection of the Republic of Tatarstan signed a partnership agreement with NFPCC to launch new services to prevent child abandonment and facilitate the community integration of children with special needs. The new project in Tatarstan will replicate ARO models already successfully implemented in different regions of Russia.

“NFPCC’s proposed techniques to help children with special needs have opened an unexpected horizon for our organization of social services,” said Tatiana Fomicheva, Director of Public/Private Partnerships for the Ministry. “Introducing community-based rehabilitation programs in social rehabilitation institutions will significantly raise the level of rehabilitative services for clients who are currently very limited in their access to social opportunities and do not receive rehabilitative assistance. They will allow for the provision of rehabilitative services at home, and will raise the quality of life for those with special needs and their families.”

### The Republic of Buryatia

NFPCC launched a new three-year project in the Republic of Buryatia. The government awarded the project, “Developing a Republic-Wide System of Child Abandonment Prevention and Family Placement for Children in Need,” to NFPCC after an open competition with several other Russian organizations. The project, which began in late 2008, aims to solve key issues facing abandoned children and children without parental care in the republic.



The NFPCC Program Coordinator, Olya Loburets noted, “It is not simple to come into a new region with different traditions and culture. However, the problems of social abandonment and abuse of children are similarly found in different regions of Russia. It’s important that the government authorities are disturbed by these problems. And more importantly, that they are trying to solve these problems. The work of NFPCC in the ARO program helps develop services in the Republic of Buryatia, transferring mechanisms for the prevention of social abandonment and developing the system. We hope that our combined work will be fruitful and provide help to at-risk families and children.”

*NFPCC’s mission of preventing cruelty to children is based on a system and comprehensive work to provide help to families and children. Many orphanages, thanks to the work of NFPCC’s staff and experts in the regions, including in the Republic of Buryatia, have successfully introduced innovative technologies for working with children and families and implemented educational programs for specialists. I am sure that as a result of our joint work in Buryatia, we will significantly reduce the number of orphaned and abandoned children, as well as increase the number of children being raised in biological or foster families.*

**-Vyacheslav Nagovitsyn,  
President of the Republic of Buryatia  
From a Welcoming Address read at NFPCC’s  
Anniversary Celebration on December 8, 2009**



## NFPCC ARO3 Publications

The following publications were produced by NFPCC during ARO3 and are available from NFPCC.

<b>1</b>	<b>Bobyleva I. Social Adaptation of Orphanage Graduates, 2007</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Blokhina L., Kalinina S., Morozova N., Samarina L., Sivukhina T., Toropova I. Early Intervention Service. Methodological Recommendations for Working with Children in the Early Intervention Service, 2007, 2010</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>The Role of Emergency Psychological Assistance by Telephone in Solving the Problem of Child Abandonment in Russia. First International Child Helpline conference. Collection of theses, 2007</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Prikhozhan A., Tolstykh N. Psychology of Orphans (republished), 2007</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Organization of Emergency Psychological Assistance to Children and Adolescents in Russia: Principles, Standards, Practice. Collection of Materials, 2007</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>NFPCC Annual Report in English and Russian, 2007</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Telephone Helplines: Services for Understanding in Society. Second International Child Helpline Conference. Collection of Theses, 2008</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Rycus J., Hughes R. Field Guide to Child Welfare, Practical Manual in Four Volumes, Volume I, 2008</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>NFPCC Annual Report in English and Russian, 2008</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Britten S., Puckering C., Dovbnya S. and Morozova T. Early Relationships and Child Development, 2009</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Rycus J., Hughes R. Field Guide to Child Welfare, Volume II, 2009</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Rycus J., Hughes R. Field Guide to Child Welfare, Volume III, 2009</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Rycus J., Hughes R. Field Guide to Child Welfare, Volume IV, 2009</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>NFPCC Annual Report in English and Russian, 2009</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Social Abandonment Prevention Model of Tomsk Oblast, 2009</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>The Effects of Early Social-Emotional and Relationship Experience on the Development of Young Orphans, 2009</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Tomsk/University of Alaska Educational Programs for Specialists in Child Welfare, 2009</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>NFPCC Publicity Brochure, 2009</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Analytical Report for Regional Government, 2009</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Alekseeva I., Novoselksy I. Child Abuse: Reasons and Effects (republished), 2010</b>

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