

IREX/ASSISTANCE TO RUSSIAN ORPHANS (ARO) PROGRAM



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Child Welfare Workshop in Tomsk

From October 1-9, ARO Educational Consultant Dr. Eileen Lally and Head of the ARO Expert Consulting Group Antonina Shepina visited social welfare organizations and conducted the final in a series of workshops on professional skills for child welfare workers in Tomsk.

During their stay, the ARO representatives had the opportunity to accompany workers from the local NGO *Kristall* on visits to disadvantaged families in the nearby town of Bogashchevo. Dr. Eileen Lally and Antonina Shepina also met with the group of social workers from the Tomsk region that will conduct social work trainings on case-work, case management, and early intervention. The six members of the group who volunteered to conduct the initial trainings in four regions presented their materials to the group in a mock training session and finalized the curriculum for the first training in November. ▶



Dr. Eileen Lally and Yvonne Chase (seated in front) with the group of Tomsk child welfare workers

Summary:

In October, the ARO team conducted educational study tours to Barnaul and Tomsk for child welfare specialists and government representatives.

ARO expert consultants conducted the last in a series of child welfare workshops for the *New Development Charity Foundation* in Tomsk, which will begin training other specialists in case management and supervision starting in November.

The Child Helpline Program, which seeks to provide quality emergency psychological assistance to children and adolescents in crisis, released a new publication devoted to the organization of helpline services.

The Second Annual Child Helpline Conference was conducted in October and enjoyed attendance by representatives from throughout Russia and abroad.

Finally, ARO representatives continued negotiations with regional partners regarding individual packages of child abandonment prevention services and their financing.



