

## Got school supplies? Donations sought for Ukrainian orphans

MAGGIE JIRASEK  
Editor-in-Chief

Inna Grigorov, a Clackamas student, has made it her mission to support orphans in her home country, the Ukraine. Now she asks college faculty and students to help the effort.

Twenty-year-old Grigorov, who was born in the Ukraine, has lived in the United States for over 10 years. When going back and visiting her family, Grigorov realized that poverty marks the landscape of her home country. Especially the orphanage in Crimea has caught her attention.

"There are around 300 children in the orphanage. Most of them have some sort of disability and were left by their parents when they were babies," explained Grigorov. "The kids know that their parents are still alive. That is the worst thing for them; to know that their parents are somewhere out there but do not want them."

According to Grigorov, often times employees at the orphanage are not being paid for their work

due to the country's financial situation.

"People have barely enough money for food. A lot of times, people just work for promises," said Grigorov. "I went there and I saw the children. They were so skinny. They need medicine as well, but there is no money available."

Grigorov and her husband wanted to help the children and started collecting school supplies in order to ship them overseas. With help of the "Nazarene Ministry of help for Crimea," an organization that supports children in Crimea, Grigorov has been able to successfully support Ukrainian children throughout the past. This year, Grigorov once again hopes to give as much support to the children as possible.

"Everybody can help. People can support the children by either donating money or putting together a package with school supplies that will be shipped over there," said Grigorov. "Anything would help. Even if you just want to donate \$1. I believe that everybody needs to do his

or her part in this world. There are so many problems out there."

If you would like to help the orphanage, you can give support financially by writing a check to "Nazarene Ministry of Help for Crimean" and send it to P.O. Box 11778, Portland, OR 97211-1778 or donate school supplies and drop them off in B-104, the student publications office. One bag should contain:

- 5 pencils
- 2 black pens
- 2 blue pens
- 1 red pen
- 1 12-inch ruler
- 1 eraser
- 1 pack of markers (8 or 10)
- 1 watercolor set with brush
- 1 small notebook
- 1 child-safe scissors
- Letter from you or your family (optional)
- Picture of you and your family (optional)

Grigorov and her husband are planning on taking a trip to the Ukraine in June.

"We are going to ship everything over in May so that my husband and me will get there at the



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY INNA GRIGOROV

A photograph of Ukrainian children at one of the orphanages in Crimea. Clackamas student and Ukrainian native Inna Grigorov is accepting donations for school supplies to help these children pursue schooling in their native country.

same time as the packages," said Grigorov. "We then will be the ones giving out the packages to the kids."

When dropping off a package, people are also asked to leave their address and phone number.

"We would like to send those who helped pictures of the orphan-

age so they can see the children with their presents," explained Grigorov.

If you have any questions, you can reach Grigorov at (503) 650-3818.

To reach Maggie Jirasek e-mail [bunny\\_97222@yahoo.com](mailto:bunny_97222@yahoo.com) or drop by B-104.

## ASG goes to Washington, discusses issues with lawmakers

ISAIAH CREEL  
Staff Writer

On March 22, 15 of the Associated Student Government's finest embarked on a quest for further understanding of the infrastructure of government. Their quest led them to the Associated Student Advocacy of Community Colleges

(ASACC) conference in Washington, D.C.

Greeted by fair weather, a pleasant surprise after the discouraging downpours of the previous year's endeavor, the students set out to both apply the knowledge accumulated through numerous classes in lobbying taught by Mary Joe Jackson, director of student financial

services, and to gain new insight on how to more effectively lobby for students.

While in Washington, D.C., students had a chance to meet with some of our state's politicians, Rep. David Wu (D), Rep. Darlene Hooley (D) and Sen. Ron Wyden (D), giving the students the opportunity to learn more about both federal and state issues.

The issues discussed included childcare and textbook prices. Issues of special focus were Pell Grants, Hope tax credits and the two-year nursing programs, all of which were chosen as topics by the participating students as the most important issues.

An estimated 400 students attended the five-day conference. The majority of the schools par-

ticipating obtained monies through grants in order to send their three to five representatives, while our own students' fundraising efforts paid for 100 percent of the cost for all 15 ASG members to make the trip to our nation's capitol possible.

Kudos, therefore, to the ASG for their determination and perseverance, and to you the student for your support. This unique opportunity provides our ASG with a stronger base of knowledge of the important issues that affect campus life. By giving our student government a better working knowledge of federal lobbying, we as students are empowered by their new-found ability to bring these issues to our attention and to participate actively in changes to better campus life.

You can look forward to fundraisers for next year's trip starting soon, including pop can drives and BBQs. In addition to the traditional fundraising tactics, the ASG will attempt various "awareness days," a concept received at the conference through interaction among the colleges. These fun-filled days will be scheduled for trial throughout the year in order to bring to light issues such as binge drinking and other commonplace college tragedies. Never fear! These aren't intended as "downers" but escapes from the monotony of campus life with music, refreshments and perhaps guest speakers!

To reach Isaiah Creel e-mail [cccprint@clackamas.cc.or.us](mailto:cccprint@clackamas.cc.or.us) or drop by B-104.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY STEFAN MYERS

ASG members that went on the Washington D.C. trip include (from left to right, top row) Michelle Waggoner, Danielle Peterson, Mariana Norby, Abby Trueb, (middle row) Ben Bistline, Molly Stanley, Erika Egger, Marlies Berney, (bottom row) Stefan Myers, Erin Peterson, Jennifer Bell, Raquel Lemus.

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