

January 2006 News from American Ukrainian Medical Project (AUMP)

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Million Dollar Milestone

With a recent gift from a local biochemical supply company AUMP has officially passed the \$1,000,000 mark for total donations since we incorporated. Almost every dollar's worth has been distributed in Ukraine, thanks to our successful shipment last year. Now we are beginning to accumulate the donations necessary for a second shipment. As our charity achieves this major milestone so far beyond our wildest dreams, we wish to take this opportunity to thank all of our many donors and sponsors. Support has come to us in so many ways and from so many places. All of us at AUMP are grateful to you all.

Christmas Season Gifts to AUMP

One of our steady, valued in-kind donors recently contacted us about having some additional equipment and supplies which would help our project in Ukraine. The gift put us in a difficult situation as we presently have nowhere to store it. Learning this, the donor agreed to keep the goods in their warehouse until we could make other arrangements later in 2006. With this gift our once-depleted inventory of medical equipment and supplies is surging ahead again.

This single gift actually meets the value requirement of our shipping program, however, the volume is not yet present to justify another shipping container. We are sure this will not be a problem!

The Christmas season brought financial gifts to AUMP as well. Over \$600 in cash contributions were received, including our largest check yet from our e-commerce affiliate iGive.com. These gifts breathe new life into the AUMP bank account as we continue to plan our next training mission to Ukraine. Thank you donors, and thank you to our online shoppers too – your support is crucial to our success.

Counterpart Report to US State Department

Late in 2005 we were asked by staff at Counterpart International to provide pictures and captions for a report they were preparing. You will recall Counterpart is the shipping coordinator for charities and similar organizations doing work in the former Soviet Union and elsewhere. Our January 2005 shipment and subsequent distribution report made such an impression there that we were one of four featured organizations and shipments for Counterpart's quarterly report to the State Department.

It is very gratifying to have such high-level validation of our work and mission. Of 83 containers sent to Ukraine in 2005, ours was singled out for two paragraphs and two beautiful pictures in Counterpart's three-page report. You can see one of the pictures used by visiting the AUMP website at www.aump.org and clicking on "Volunteers". We will upload the other picture to our Photo Gallery shortly.

Tax Exemption Advance Ruling Period Ended

December 2005 marked the end of the advance ruling "evaluation" period for our US tax exempt status. To mark this point in our history we compiled a brief report summarizing our donations and programs since incorporation. The report, like so many tax forms, required a number of calculations and comparisons designed to indicate the level of "public support" which AUMP has received. If the level of public support is adequately high, AUMP will be officially and finally declared a public charity. Up to this point we have been operating under public charity rules, of course, but only as part of our evaluation period.

We are confident our operations will meet the requirements of a public charity. The alternative designation for AUMP would be a "private foundation" and all of us are sure we are not that! The good news for us, and all of our donors, is that the tax deductibility of contributions to AUMP remains intact. When the IRS issues its decision we will pass the results along to everyone. Very likely we will have a revised Exemption Letter which we will also upload to our website to replace the temporary Exemption Letter there now.

Subscriptions and Contact Information

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