

## Ways You Can Help

### “Adopt a Birth”

A \$20 donation provides a medication packet for mother and baby at the hospital. This includes cleansing agents, sutures, antibiotics and pain medicines. **In March of 2011, we reached a blessed milestone and celebrated the births over 1100 babies saved from abortion through “Adopt a Birth” program!**

### “Adopt a Mother”

A \$100 donation covers the costs of care during pregnancy and help after the baby is born. This includes nutritional supplements, vitamins, and start-up supplies for the new baby and mother.

Currently, each of our 5 Women’s Support and Pro-Life Centers require a minimum of \$400 per month per facility to operate (pennies by American standards) and an additional \$350 per month per facility for materials for the mothers and babies we help. Of course, the amount needed rises as our centers’ case loads increase. For the time being, it is your prayers and generosity that will keep our doors open. We have had to close 3 WSC facilities recently due to lack of funds. The WSC staff and volunteers are creating ways to become more financially independent. The going is slow as the people of this former atheistic Communist country increase and develop their concern for neighbor.

### **Sister Parish or Pro-Life Group**

Your parish or Pro-Life team can become a sister parish or committee to one of the 5 Women’s Support Centers. Share



*Our WSC not only help babies and mothers, but also entire families.*

development and fundraising ideas and receive progress reports.

## Contact Information

### United States National Office

### Mary Mother of God Mission Society

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For on-line donations by credit card or automatic bank withdrawals, please see our website: [www.vladmission.org](http://www.vladmission.org).

Your tax-deductible donations enable us to strengthen the faith in Russia. No matter how great or small, your help is urgently needed and will make a difference!

Thank you! God bless you!

Mary Mother of God Mission Society  
is a 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization

## Women’s Support Centers



*Twins saved from abortion.*



## Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

## The Abortion Crisis in Russia

In 1920, Russia became the first nation in the world to legalize abortion. After many decades, the official statistics tell of the devastation brought by this travesty:

- Today, a woman in Russia has an average of 6-8 abortions in her lifetime.
- 57% of pregnancies end in abortion.
- 20% of abortions are done on women younger than 18 years of age.
- 12.5% of abortions result in medical complications
- Abortion is the main cause of maternal death.
- In 2008, there were 1.2 million abortions, not including secret or late-term procedures. While this is slightly lower than the annual number in the United States, it must be remembered that Russia has about half the population of the US.

## Our Women's Support Centers

In October 1998, to counter the abortion culture, Caritas Primorye hosted a training seminar for Catholic parishioners in Vladivostok, Russia, to learn how to operate a crisis pregnancy center. Specialists and employees from a center in Ohio conducted the seminar. Soon afterwards, the Russian Catholics established the first Women's Support Center (WSC) in Eastern Russia.

In 1999 Caritas Primorye expanded its work by starting its own training program for WSC counselors. Staff also made plans to open additional WSCs. Today, there are three WSCs in Vladivostok, and one each in the cities of Lesozavodsk, Nakhodka, Arseniev, Artyom and Ussurisk.



## How the WSCs Help

The Centers offer a wide variety of services to women in crisis pregnancy situations, to teens and college students, and to post-abortive women. Among our services, we offer:

- Counseling and information on the harm and problems associated with abortion and contraceptives
- Education to single women on the need to be chaste

*Our Womens Support Centers teach young mothers how to be good mothers and assist them with food, clothing and medical care in the first months of their babies lives.*

- Programs to teach married couples the method of Natural Family Planning
- Spiritual and emotional support
- Assistance with costs associated with pre- and post-natal care
- Free ultrasounds
- The newsletter **To Accept Life**, and other advisory material and booklets about

crisis pregnancies, family help, and contraception in keeping with Catholic teachings of marriage and chastity

- Rachel's Vineyard Retreats
- Education on Pro-Life, Fetal Development, Post Abortion Syndrome, Chastity, and more. Our representatives have spoken to over 12,000 women and men at our centers and 2500 University and public school students.

## Future Plans

It is not uncommon for a woman to be abandoned by the baby's father or her own family when she decides not to have an abortion. Therefore, we have developed plans for a "shepherd house" for women who are left to their own fate and need shelter and a safe place to live.

We would like to cooperate with other organizations and people locally and internationally who wish to participate with our program. **There are many people, especially the poor, who would greatly benefit from efforts aimed not simply at "delivering services" but at transforming lives.**

For people in need, we strive to present Christian love and mercy. From this, we accept and welcome all people and lead them through love to repentance and to know how precious each and every human life is.



*Volunteers for our Womens Support Center receive training on NFP.*