

## The Situation

Russian local clinics or hospitals reluctantly accepted the sick elderly people. Many of the elderly are needy pensioners without families who are unable to pay for medical treatment.

The Hospice Department of Dalzavod Hospital opened in 1997 and provides medical care to indigent aged people, needy pensioners, and those poor who are suffering from terminal diseases.

The Hospice Department with a total capacity of 45 beds is located in an old building built in 1960. This building has never been repaired since it was first erected.

**The need for funds to provide medical care to the elder population remains urgent in Vladivostok.** The city budget has not envisioned financial resources for these expenses and frequently funds have been cut for social programs, so the expenses of local clinics and hospitals are not covered by taxes. Low-income sick elderly find themselves in a particularly difficult position. *Your financial assistance helps to bring comfort and hope.*

The Dalzavod Hospital is unable to provide a balanced diet for patients, and families are expected to bring food from home. **Therefore, hospice patients without families get only oatmeal and broth and a slice of bread to eat.**

## Our Response

Lily Silina, the Leader of our Parish Charitable Program, worked out the idea of a Hospice Relief Program for the Hospital. This volunteer program began in 2000. In order to improve medical treatment and to give care for these sick aged people, and to give help to the Hospital staff, we provide additional nutrition for the sick elderly as well as medical equipment and personal volunteer support. We try to support these sick aged patients at the Hospital with vitamin, protein and fat foods such as butter, vegetable oil, juices, pastry, canned fruit and meat, sausages, fresh fruit, milk products, bread, cheese, and eggs, as far as possible.



*Delivering of medical equipment to the Hospice*

Thanks to **CARITAS Japan**, we have equipped the Hospice with needed medical supplies, so that **sick patients suffering from bedsores now have pneumatic orthopedic mattresses.** We

have also given personal hygiene products, medicines, mechanical massage equipment, walkers and crutches. Thanks to our work, the ward of the Hospice has been equipped with new furniture because most of the beds, chairs, and bedside tables were broken and worn out. **We have also provided special appliances for anti-infectious cleansing, and distilling apparatus, an irradiator, an anti-bactericidal lamp, and other equipment including dollies, refrigerators, and hot water heaters throughout the hospice ward. (There was no hot water before our work.)**

Our volunteers are now involved in painting and reconstructing parts of the ancient building.

Especially important are the volunteers who work directly with the patients and with the Hospice personnel, especially Nina Peretruchina, Sister Eugenia, and Maria Churusova. **They regularly visit patients, feeding and taking care of their personal needs, supporting them spiritually as most of the sick aged people (about 70 %) are bed-ridden. During their visits to the Hospice the volunteers talk to everyone, read the Holy Bible, distribute prayer books and pray with patients.**

The city of Vladivostok currently owes back wages to the medical workers for several months, the Parish assists the Hospice's staff providing food packs, footwear or clothing for them, so they may continue working.



*Volunteers participating in the Program visit sick patients*

## How you can help

We are seeking help from benefactors to continue our volunteer work. In addition to ongoing expenses for food and medicine, we need to buy a new washing machine and dryer for the Hospice. We need to replace the rotten wooden floor throughout the Hospice, as people are now falling through nearly 50 year-old floor built just above the exposed soil.

**Your help is much needed and greatly appreciated!**



*Our parishioner Nelia Artyomovna spent her last time on earth in the hospice.*

## How to contact us and where to send donations:

### Mission Coordinator

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### Coordinator of this Program in Russia:

Mrs. Lily Silina  
Director of Parish Charitable Programs

### Volunteers in Russia:

Mrs. Nina Sergeievna Peretrakhina  
Sister Eugenia, S.C.S.A.  
Ms Maria Churusova

For more stories of the Hospice Care and other programs, we invite you to visit our website:

[www.vladmission.org](http://www.vladmission.org)

**Thank you!  
God bless you!**

## Mary Mother of God Mission Society

*“Reviving the Catholic Church In Eastern Russia”*

## HOSPICE CARE PROGRAM



### Catholic Parish of the Most Holy Mother of God Vladivostok, Russia

*“His frame spread to all of Syria, and they brought to Him all who were sick with various diseases and racked with pain, those who were possessed, lunatics, and paralytics and He cured them”.*  
*(Mt 4:24)*