# The Need

The need is overwhelming. For over 70 years, the truth of Christ and His Word was silenced as Communism brought disillusionment and despair to the former Soviet Union. An aimless generation abandoned the traditional family, leaving many children neglected and left to fend for themselves. Many of the children living in orphanages, on the street, refugee camps or in war torn cities have never heard of God's love in sending Jesus for them.

### The History

Since 2005 SOAR has shared Baskets of Hope with at-risk children in Russia during the Easter season. This project began in Beslan, North Ossetia as an outreach to minister to those children who survived the 2004 school terrorist tragedy.

100% of funds raised for the Baskets of Hope project are sent to SOAR's ministry partners. This gives the pastors the opportunity to purchase items that they personally know are needed by the children that will be receiving them. Each basket is filled with personal care items, sweets, gifts, a children's Bible in their own language (and age group), and a personal letter.

### The Impact

Since its inception, Baskets of Hope has now expanded into Abkhazia, Moldova & Ukraine. Baskets of Hope has been a powerful tool of evangelism to reach thousands of precious children in need throughout these countries. The project has also touched government officials, social department workers, and orphanage directors with the love of Christ and the truth of the Gospel message. It's exciting to partner with local pastors who work with SOAR in the basket distributions. Long-standing relationships and friendships have developed over the years. After Baskets of Hope the pastors often continue to visit the children in the orphanages and villages, providing ongoing discipleship with the children. Praise the Lord!

## **Get Involved!**

#### www.soarinternational.org/BOH

Sponsor a Basket while encouraging your church, school, small group, friends, etc. to support this exciting & meaningful project as well.

Write a personal letter to the child who will receive your sponsored basket.

Volunteer to go on a short-term mission Baskets of Hope distribution trip to help distribute baskets and love on children each spring during the Orthodox Easter season.

Pray for the children who will hear the Gospel message & for the SOAR team as we travel to Moldova to minister in April.

