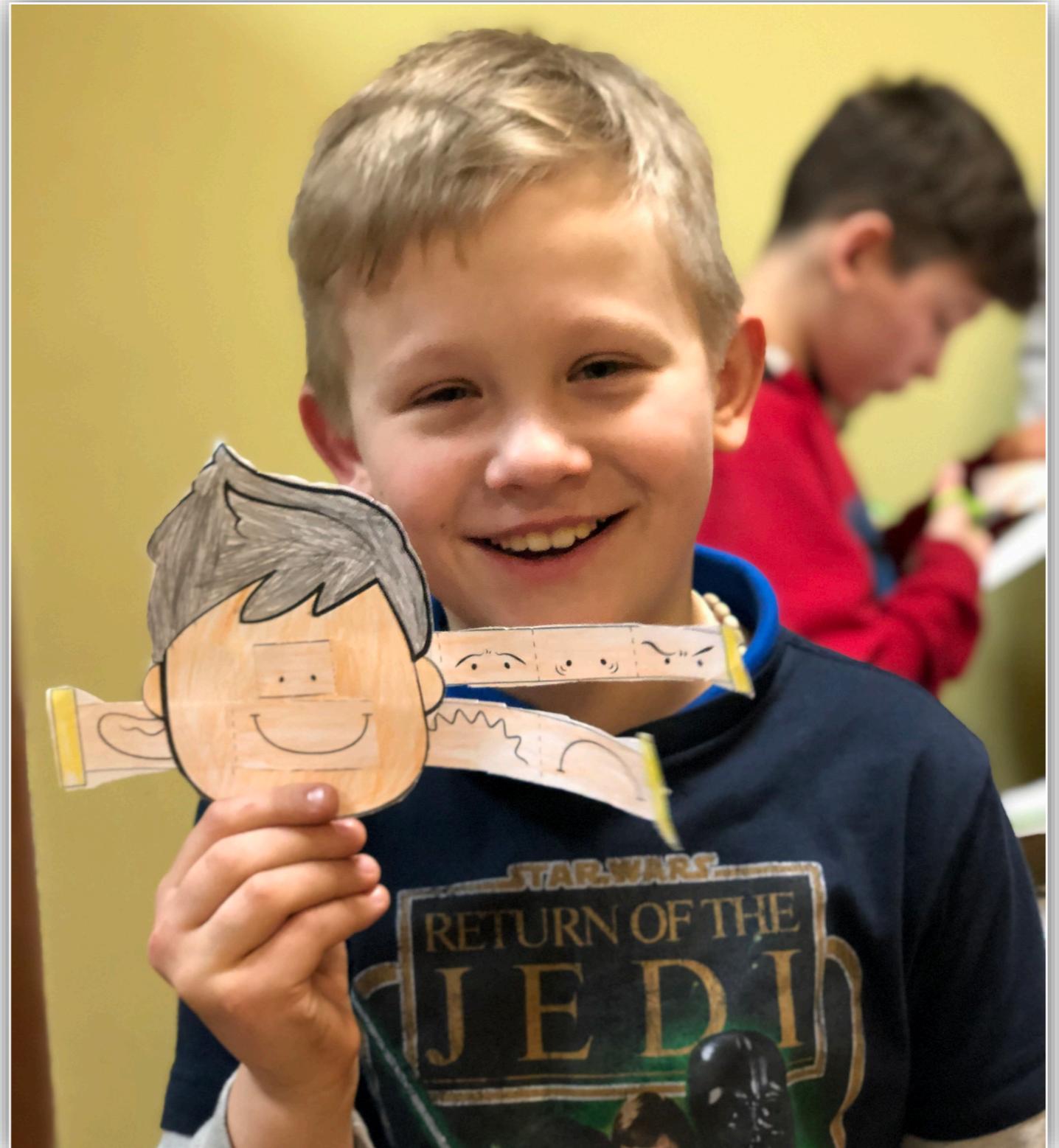




# OHU Newsletter

**Mayak** orphanage with orphans that need of love and support.





# Common Ukrainian Child at Risk Story

- Liza four years old





We met Lisa and her mother Valentina in September 2016 at the Nick Wuychich event “Be grateful, dream big, never give up!” in Kyiv. We invited about 50 families at risk with their kids at that event, including Valentina and Lisa. That evening Valentina accepted Christ and began visiting our Vineyard church and Families-at-risk club Obolon. We helped her with food and clothes, medicines, diapers and other much needed things. Lisa was 2 years old. They lived at a very poor conditions and there was a real risk of Lisa being sent to an orphanage.

Valentina didn't have any relatives or a husband to help. (Her mom and sister rejected her when she was young, so she grew up at Orphanage # 26 in Kyiv for kids with mental disabilities.) Lisa's father left Valentina as soon as she became pregnant. She could hardly take care of herself and her daughter, had difficulties with communication, was very slow and unqualified at work. One day in the summer of 2017 real trouble came. Valentina left Lisa at kindergarten and went to the river side to have some rest. The day was very hot and she was tired so she fall asleep for couple hours and her whole body was burnt in the sun. The sunburn was so dangerous, that Valentina had to go to the hospital. She wasn't able to pick up Lisa from the kindergarten so social services came and took Lisa to an orphanage near Kyiv.

Everybody thought that Valentina would not be in the hospital long, however she ended up spending two weeks there. When she got out, she was blamed for being an irresponsible mother. Social services gave her three conditions to get Lisa back. She had to find a good job, to make apartment repairs and regularly visit a psychologist. Our OHU staff helped her with repairing her apartment; Yan, Vova and a volunteer from their church did a lot of work to fix it up. Liliya Malashko helped her as a psychologist. Different other people also helped and encouraged her, praying for her, providing training, giving advice, making documents she needed.

Valentina had difficulties with job searching and she had several hard-emotional crises. She even went into a psychiatric hospital with depression. During all that time in which Lisa was at the orphanage Valentina was fighting for her daughter. She visited her once or twice a week, she got a job in KFC. People from the local churches helped her with the documents in the court. The OHU staff were helping, praying and supporting her during the whole process. Lisa was suffering at the orphanage and wanted very much to go home. Finally, the court allowed Valentina to take Lisa back. She now goes to kindergarten, Valentina works, and they go to church together. It is not easy sometimes as Lisa was fairly traumatized from their separation and her two years in the orphanage. They both came to a Christmas party we held on Jan., the 7<sup>th</sup> 2020. We presented to Lisa beautiful doll, some good toys, and clothes, so she was very happy. Valentina was SO grateful. Such is the story of mother and daughter, who we helped in fighting for their future. It is one less child in an orphanage and one orphan returned to her mother.

Please pray with us for their family and Lisa`s future.

# Pasha's Computer club



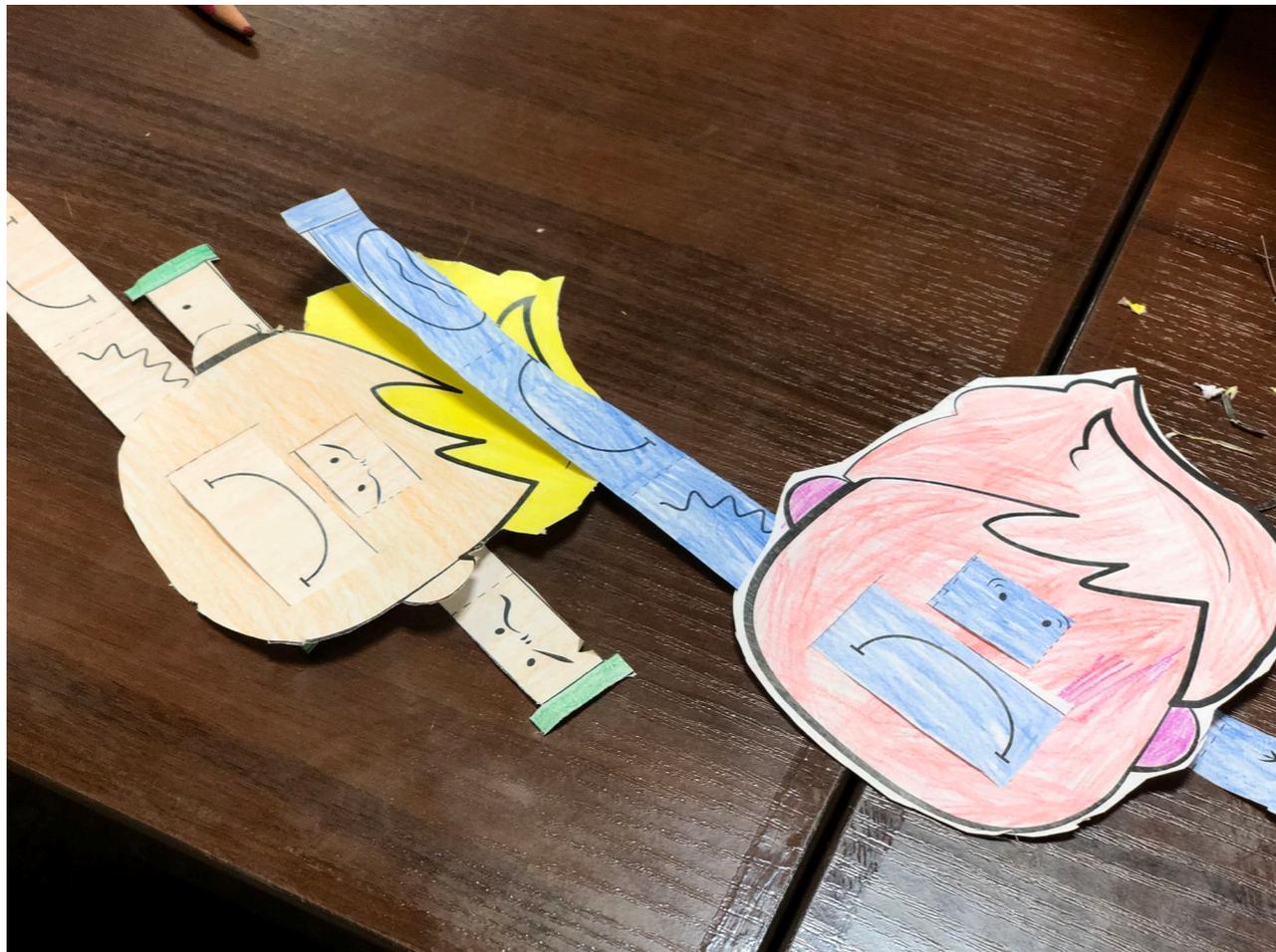
# Mayak Orphanage







# Kids expressing their emotions







Join us in making a difference together  
[www.OrphansHope.org](http://www.OrphansHope.org)