

FARMS Update



FARMS International, Inc. • P.O. Box 270 • Knife River, MN 55609

Thanksgiving - Moldova Update - November 2005

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Warm greetings in the name of Jesus, *who became poor for us!*

It is the season of Thanksgiving, although everyday is a day of thanksgiving for us who believe. The scripture is clear when it says, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." The ministry of FARMS International helps Christians in such a practical way that we find giving thanks very natu-

ral. The smiles and testimonies of those helped tell the story so well.

The world is filled with bad news, but where sin abounds, grace much more abounds. We receive the sad news along with the good, *but in everything, (we) give thanks!* For example, in one of our program countries in South East Asia, another young evangelist, working with those we help, was martyred! He left behind a wife and two small children. I cannot speak much about the details. Certainly, this news

greatly saddens us. Yet we are thankful this young mother is not alone in her suffering. The local FARMS program immediately went to her aid and established a poultry project for them besides other help. Your help has strengthened this community of believers so that they can respond quickly and prudently with their own resources. Pray for this family, cover them with your love. Grace certainly will abound. Oh, how much we can learn from those who suffer for the cause of Christ.

Moldova Program Update:

We rejoice over the start of one of our newest programs in Moldova. Moldova has the distinction of being the poorest country in Europe! Yet, Moldova has a strong and growing evangelical church. The local volunteer committee gave its first loans to Christians in a very impoverished province of Moldova. These Christian families were all recommended by their local church and have received the essential technical and managerial skills to run

their projects. In addition, they are disciplined and taught the biblical necessity of tithing and generous giving. As always, our goal is to strengthen the local church without the downside of dependency. The loans have ranged from \$100 to \$850, and repayment ranges from 18 to 24 months.

Moldova's people are skilled and hard working; therefore, we have great confidence in the success of this program. We have included a photo progress report on three of those projects. Please pray for these believers as they work and give their way out of poverty.



Bychenko Vasilevich used his loan to develop his business of manufacturing monuments. He used the loan to bring electricity to his shop and to make major repairs on his building. The rest of the funds were used to buy material and tools. Bychenko thanks God for our help to him. We thank God for this opportunity!



The Zdrobau family is very thankful for the loan to do a piggery. They report, "We already purchased two male pigs and one female. In a year we will slaughter the males and in eight months we will breed the female and in four months she will bear her first litter of six to seven piglets. Subsequent litters should reach up to twelve piglets."



You can tell by their faces, the Ribca family loves their new poultry project. Pray that they succeed and grow the business as God blesses their faithfulness.

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Distinguished Alumni Award

Pat Richter, Office Manager for FARMS International, recently received the **Distinguished Alumni Award**. The award is given by the Alumni Association to graduates of her high school, D.C. Everest - Schofield, Wisconsin, *"who have excelled in their profession or provided valuable services to the communities in which they live."* Pat was recognized for her service in the U.S. Peace Corps (1971-1973), her service as a missionary to the Igorot tribes of the Philippines (1984 -1991), and for her present work as Office Manager with FARMS International. Congratulations Pat on your life of service to those who are poor around the globe!



Pat Richter, Sarah Kamke (Alumni President), Charles Geurink (other distinguished alumnus)