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**Former Orphan Now Living in Michigan Responds to the Cries of the World's
130 Million Orphans**

Cry of the Orphan Salutes 10-Year-Old Misha Roeters of Grand Rapids
for Helping to Make Life Better for Kids at His Former Orphanage in Ukraine

The United Nations reports the number of orphans around the world waiting for help is
130 million - more than the populations of Ukraine and Germany combined.

GRAND RAPIDS, MI (October 21, 2008)— Misha Roeters' life changed dramatically when
he was adopted by a loving family in Grand Rapids, Mich. In spite of his new life in America,
the 10-year-old has not forgotten his past - in fact, he has embraced it by working to raise money
to help kids still living in his former orphanage in Kivertsi, Ukraine.

*"The people at the orphanage are really nice but the building is old. The bathrooms were
terrible and needed work,"* said Misha. *"So I decided to help them get new ones."*

To do that, Misha launched a fundraising website. Word about Misha's efforts began to spread
and the donations grew to the point that the 10-year-old philanthropist was able to send enough
money to his former orphanage to not only improve the bathrooms but also renovate the
orphanage's playroom.

"They made a good choice to fix them up," said Misha, who visited the orphanage this past
summer during a trip to Ukraine with his family. *"The kids were really excited."*

Leaders of the **Cry of the Orphan** campaign share that excitement as they continue to witness
new examples of how people are responding to the orphan crisis.

*"Misha offers a great example of how every Christian - regardless of their background or age -
can make a difference in the lives of orphans who have no voice and no idea what the future
holds,"* said FamilyLife's Paul Pennington, one of the leaders of the Cry of the Orphan effort.

Recognizing that the severity of today's orphan crisis is bigger than any one organization,
FamilyLife, Focus on the Family and Shaohannah's Hope (founded by award-winning musician
Steven Curtis Chapman) launched the *Cry of the Orphan* campaign two years ago to help raise
awareness and encourage Christians and churches to get actively involved in caring for the
world's orphans.

Nov. 17-21: Popular radio hosts **Dennis Rainey of FamilyLife Today** and **Dr. James Dobson
of Focus on the Family** plan to devote their daily broadcasts and combine their organizations'
resources to show people how they can respond to the orphan crisis. For more information visit
CryoftheOrphan.org.



Sharing the message with the Christian community that “You are God’s Plan for the Orphan,” the *Cry of the Orphan* campaign this year is again broadcasting across the country with a full week of radio programming devoted to raising awareness of the orphan crisis and sharing with millions of people the wide variety of ways they can help. *Cry of the Orphan* will also utilize the combined efforts of the Christian Alliance for Orphans and other leading Christian media ministries and advocates.

CryoftheOrphan.org offers additional information about the wide variety of rewarding and inspiring opportunities for people to make a difference in the lives of orphans.