

SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS

Eurasia at a Crossroads



Train to lead. Equip to serve.

2018 2019

ANNUAL REPORT





SERGEY RAKHUBA | PRESIDENT

School Without Walls

IS PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS
FOR KINGDOM WORK

“And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, ‘This is the way, walk in it’ when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.”

— Isaiah 30:21, ESV

Dear Friend,

Today the countries of the former Soviet Union, now known as Eurasia, are at a crossroads—politically, economically, morally, and in almost every other way. The church, which for so long was forced to keep its ministry and influence within its own four walls, now needs a Next Generation of leaders who can take a step of faith at this critical time in history and lead the way to greater Kingdom impact, despite any obstacles they face.

That’s what Mission Eurasia’s **School Without Walls (SWW)** program is all about. Through SWW, we first encourage young people to make the right choice and commit their lives to Christ, and then we provide the strategic training and tools they need to grow in their faith, gain practical ministry experience, and serve as agents of spiritual change in their communities and countries. I think you’ll agree, there is no more important work in this world.

Through a variety of strategic outreach ministries, young SWW leaders point the way to faith in Jesus for others standing at a crossroads in their lives, including needy, at-risk children and youth, young professionals, and victims of persecution and war. That’s why SWW leaders are trained to organize and lead **summer Bible camps** where neglected and hurting children can receive the love of Jesus and experience the blessing of Christian nurture. During the Christmas season, SWW leaders help mobilize and partner with local churches to reach children often living in unreached, remote, and Muslim-dominated areas of Eurasia, through **Gifts of Hope**—colorful boxes filled with toys, sweets, and most importantly, a copy of the Word of God.

When these young leaders enter the professional world, our **Next Generation Professional Leaders Initiative (NGPLI)** provides the training they need to share Christ effectively with others in their spheres of influence, including colleagues, students, patients, and clients.

The countries of Eurasia are standing at a crossroads. That’s why Mission Eurasia is committed to training and equipping a Next Generation of Christian leaders through SWW who can serve as a moral compass for everyone around them, leading the way to faith in Jesus Christ and greater Kingdom impact.

Your prayers and generous gifts make this possible. So, let me say, from the bottom of my heart—*thank you and may God bless you!*

Gratefully,

Sergey Rakhuba | President

“I love studying at School Without Walls (SWW), where I am learning more about God’s calling and the importance of serving those in need. It doesn’t matter if you are healthy or sick, poor or rich, modest or proud; God loves everyone. And SWW helps us grow spiritually so that we can serve others as effectively as possible. SWW is teaching me how to live the Christian life, and it is equipping me to continue pursuing growth and self-improvement.”

— Rail, Russia



Dr. Michael Cherenkov,
Executive Director, Mission Eurasia
Field Ministries



Alexandr Belev,
International Director, School
Without Walls (SWW)



Denis Gorenkov, Director,
Next Generation Professional
Leaders Initiative (NGPLI)

SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS LEADERS ARE POINTING THE WAY TO CHRIST THROUGHOUT EURASIA

God is moving mightily in Eurasia! And He is raising up young leaders to carry on His work. With your support, Mission Eurasia's **School Without Walls (SWW)** program is training these courageous believers to take His gospel to the people who need it most.

SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS AT-A-GLANCE							
Country	Students	Graduates	Locations	Country	Students	Graduates	Locations
Armenia	57	22	2	Moldova	166	48	6
Azerbaijan	45	0	5	Mongolia	60	0	4
Belarus	100	37	4	Russia	300	112	12
Georgia	180	37	6	Tajikistan	60	0	3
Israel	40	0	2	Turkmenistan	20	20	1
Kazakhstan	223	190	8	Ukraine	415	200	12
Kyrgyzstan	103	103	4	Uzbekistan	101	98	7
Totals	748	389	31	Totals	1,122	478	45

SWW LEADERS INTERSECT WITH THOSE IN NEED THROUGH A VARIETY OF MINISTRY OUTREACHES

SWW leaders are reaching people in Eurasia on all crossroads of life

Children's Ministry (0 to 17 years):

Bible camps for children (under 12)
Bible camps for teenagers (12-17)
Gift of Hope children's Christmas outreach
Ministry to street children
Work with orphans and social orphans

Youth Ministry (17 years and older):

Bible camps for young people (17 years and older)
Sports ministry
Christian youth meetings and clubs
Extreme camps for youth

Family Ministry:

Marriage ministry
Ministry to foster parents
Family mentoring and counseling
Ministry to women who have had abortions
Ministry to single mothers

Social ministry and ministry to at-risk groups:

Ministry to the homeless
Ministry to refugees
Ministry to victims of human trafficking
Ministry to those addicted to alcohol or drugs
Ministry to people with disabilities
Ministry to people with HIV/AIDS and their children
Ministry to the elderly
Ministry to Holocaust victims (Israel)
Prison ministry (men, women, and youth)

Evangelism and missions:

Personal evangelism
Short-term missions
Long-term missions (missionaries)
Gospel/Christian literature distribution
Chaplain ministry (army, police, medical institutions)

Education and spiritual formation:

Home Bible study groups
Prayer ministry
Church planting
Spiritual development and counseling
Mentoring/leadership training
Promotion of healthy lifestyles/Christian values in schools

Creative Outreach:

Outreach through secular and Christian media (audio and video broadcasting on the internet, websites, blogs, etc.)
Music ministry
Outreach through other art forms (painting, dance, drama)



The Ministry Scope Of Mission Eurasia 2018-2019





ANALYZING THE IMPACT OF SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS (SWW)

“And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.”

— Philippians 1:9-10

Mission Eurasia recognizes the importance of evaluating the effectiveness of SWW so that we can continue to improve the program and increase its impact. That’s why we have been working with an experienced research firm to measure the growth and impact of our SWW students and graduates in four important areas:

- Personal devotion
- Discipleship and evangelism
- Leadership
- Community transformation

Overall, the research shows that SWW graduates who have completed the program have achieved a higher level of effectiveness in these four areas than current students, who have not completed the program, proving that the SWW training program has been fruitful. They’re spending more time in prayer and devotions, sharing the gospel, leading teams, and—most importantly—mentoring new disciples who can train others. That’s how God causes His church to grow.

For a complete impact report, please contact Mission Eurasia at: info@missioneurasia.org or **630-462-1739**.

“SWW has opened up a whole new world for me. Each session inspires me and gives me a new appreciation for life.”

— Aziza, School Without Walls student, Uzbekistan

NGPLI: CHRISTIAN PROFESSIONAL LEADERS AT A CROSSROADS

God wants His people to influence society for good, and young Christian professionals in Eurasia are doing just that. Our **Next Generation Professional Leaders Initiative (NGPLI)** prepares them to share their faith effectively in the workplace—with clients, colleagues, patients, students, and everyone else they meet. As they help others through their skills and talents, they're also shining the light of Christ. Your prayers and support make this all possible.



“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

—Colossians 3:17

NGPLI OUTREACH AT-A-GLANCE

Young Professionals Who Received NGPLI Training	11,800
Partnering Churches	600
Training Events	60
Conferences	15
Forums	3
Roundtables	4

PROFESSIONAL AREAS REPRESENTED

Medical/Healthcare	3,000
Education	2,800
Law	1,100
Business	2,500
Science and Technology	1,000
The Arts (music, visual arts, etc.)	800
Media	600

- ◀ Andrei is a great example of Christian leadership in an important part of the world. After graduating from SWW and completing his training as a lawyer, Andrei joined the Association of Christian Lawyers, which was founded by SWW graduates in 2015. Now, Andrei has been awarded a post on Ukraine's Central Election Commission—a position that enables him to shine the light of Christ where it's so urgently needed in post-Soviet society.

PLANTING NEW CHURCHES WHERE DARKNESS REIGNED

Just as the apostle Paul traveled the world establishing new churches, leaders trained by Mission Eurasia are bringing the light of Christ to places where war, chaos, and misery have long been entrenched. Mission Eurasia is training young leaders to present a strong Christian witness in these desperate areas and helping them gather believers together as local expressions of the body of Christ. Your support is also providing them with Bibles and other vital resources. Thanks to you, the churches are thriving!

During the past year, we've put special emphasis on church-planting activities, focusing on three areas:

- Organizing and conducting special church-planting roundtables, seminars, and conferences
- Developing additional courses on church planting that are now part of the SWW curriculum
- Directly involving SWW students/graduates in planting new churches.

Here are some of the church-planting events we held last year:

- 30 training seminars on church planting
- 3 church-planting roundtables
- Church-planting conference in Russia

As a result of these efforts, **52** new churches were planted!



“...and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else’s foundation.”

— Romans 15:20

BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES THROUGH CHRIST

One of the tragic results of communist rule in Eurasia was the destruction of the family unit. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, families have been further eroded by drug and alcohol addiction, abuse, abandonment, and suicide.

School Without Walls is addressing these problems directly through its **Family as Mission** initiative. With your help, we're training, supporting, empowering, and mobilizing families to fulfill God's purpose.

That means:

- Building strong, Christ-centered marriages
- Providing Christian couples with training and parenting skills
- Encouraging Christian families to adopt and become foster parents
- Mobilizing families to reach out to their neighbors with the light of Christ.

During 2018–2019, ten conferences, forums, and seminars designed to strengthen the family were held in the four Eurasian countries of Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, and Russia. These events reached **1,544 parents, pastors, and others involved in family ministry**. A total of **11,000 copies of four specialized resources for families** were printed and distributed.

One such seminar was held in May in the city of Minsk, Belarus. During two days of lectures and seminars, attendees learned about the state of the family in Belarus, premarital counseling, how to raise godly children, and how a family can influence society to accomplish God's mission. Everyone was strengthened and encouraged, as these testimonies show:

“Thank you for hosting such a great conference! We are a young couple, so it is very important that we build a good foundation for our marriage. We are especially grateful to Konstantin Teteryatnikov for his lecture about the importance of each family's unique mission. After hearing him speak, we decided to follow his example and start adopting children in need.”

— Yuri and Inna

“We recently started going to church, and this was our first time attending a Christian conference. We are so thankful that we were able to come, because we are a young couple, and we have two small children. At the conference, we realized that we weren't raising our children to follow God, and it was very helpful to learn about Christian family values.”

—Eugene and Victoria



GOD'S WORD: LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE LOST AND SEARCHING

The people living in Eurasia today are exposed to a wide range of ideas and beliefs, but without the Word of God to light their way, they may never find the truth they are seeking. During the Soviet era, the Word of God was forbidden. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, the Word of God has been in high demand and is now a powerful outreach tool in the hands of SWW leaders, church leaders, and

young professionals who are reaching their communities—and nations—for Christ.

In 2018-19, SWW students and graduates, young professionals, and church partners distributed **1,025,800** scriptural resources to spiritually hungry people throughout Eurasia.



“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

— Hebrews 4:12

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.”

— Matthew 18:10

IMPACTING YOUNG LIVES WITH THE GOSPEL

Gift of Hope

For many children living in the countries of Eurasia, Christmas is just another day—fraught with danger, desperation, and hardship. But through your generous support, our **Gift of Hope** program is changing that. This yearly evangelistic outreach brings much-needed Christmas joy and hope to Eurasia's children. Gifts of Hope serve as powerful outreach tools that open doors and build bridges to difficult places that the gospel can't always reach, including predominantly Muslim communities in unreached regions.

Each Gift of Hope includes *toys, treats, warm mittens or socks, and most importantly*—a children's storybook Bible. Gift of Hope is a powerful, tangible way to show hurting children that God truly cares for them. This past Christmas, your donations reached **81,746 children** with Gifts of Hope and Scripture resources. You also helped reach an estimated **124,070 parents**, family members, caregivers and orphanage workers with the good news. In these efforts, **5,029 SWW workers** and volunteers worked with and mobilized **491 churches** to distribute **105,910 pieces of Scripture**.

Giving Hope Through God's Word

Sometimes God has a plan that takes everyone by surprise. SWW leaders visited Aishat's family to deliver Gifts of Hope for her two children. Aishat shared that she was pregnant with their third child, but her husband was urging her to have an abortion. It was a sad moment.



When the SWW leaders visited again a few weeks later, everything had changed. Aishat had been reading the Scriptures they'd brought. And now, she was filled with joy. Her husband's heart had changed too. Soon after that, Aishat called her friends at SWW to say she had given birth to a daughter. This is how God's message can bring joy in place of pain.

Sharing the Love of Jesus with Children and Youth at Bible Camp

Hurting children in Eurasia need the guidance for their lives that only Christ can provide. That's why Mission Eurasia is committed to training SWW students and graduates, as well as mobilizing local churches, to help organize and lead summer Bible camps every year for children and youth throughout Eurasia, including in difficult, remote, and predominantly Muslim regions. Summer Bible camps are one of our most effective evangelistic outreaches for children and youth. They come in many forms, including sports camps, extreme camps for youth, special camps for disabled children, and many others. Regardless of the type of summer Bible camp, they all have this in common: they teach children and youth about the love of Jesus and provide copies of Scripture to help them grow in their faith.

This past year, your donations helped to sponsor **199 Bible camps** in **14 countries**, where **12,428 children** received vital care and took home **25,800 copies of God's Word**. *Thank you!*



"I had never heard the story of Jesus before, and along with my gift, the Christians gave me a Bible. I love to read, so tonight I will ask my mom and brothers to read the Bible with me. The gift I received is very beautiful, and there were a lot of delicious things in it. I would like the Christians to visit us for every holiday. Thank you!"

— Nikita, 10 years old, from Mirnoye, Ukraine

Your generous partnership enabled thousands of children to attend summer Bible camps:

Country	Camps	Participants
Armenia	4	410
Azerbaijan	2	70
Belarus	15	1170
Georgia	4	485
Israel	1	48
Kazakhstan	8	476
Kyrgyzstan	21	715
Moldova	21	1,542
Mongolia	5	460
Russia	43	2,450
Tajikistan	39	1,300
Turkmenistan	2	45
Ukraine	31	3,170
Uzbekistan	3	87
TOTAL:	199	12,428

HEALING THE WOUNDS OF WAR IN EASTERN UKRAINE

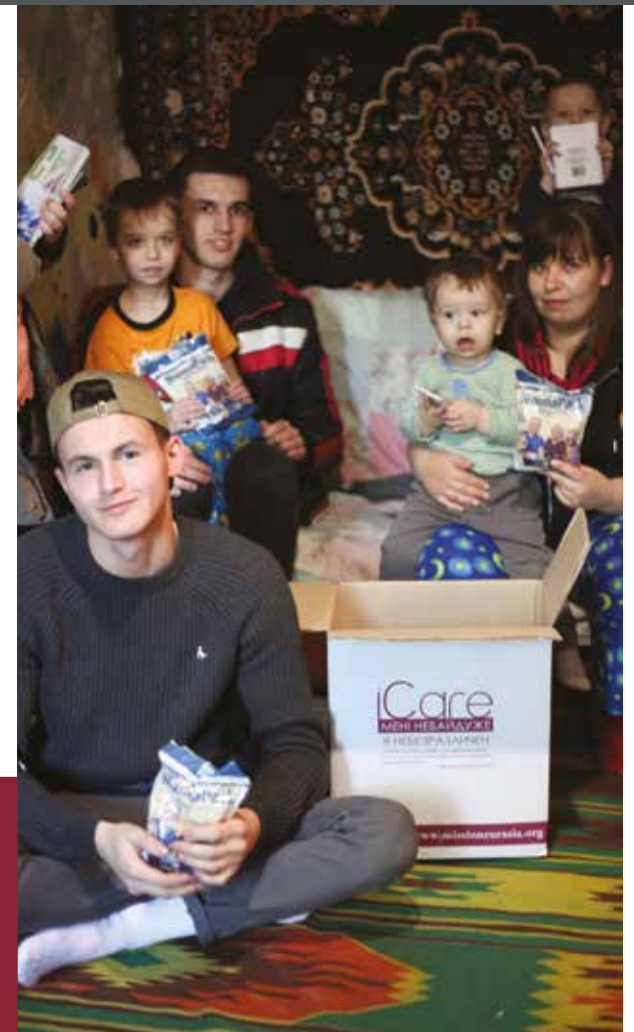
For the people of eastern Ukraine, suffering seems to be a permanent fact of life. The ongoing war between Ukrainian soldiers and pro-Russian separatists has left many desperate, grieving, injured, and sick. Thousands have been uprooted and forced to leave their homes. But thanks to you, SWW is showing them God's healing love through the **I Care** program.

Here's what your generous gifts enabled us to provide during the past year:

- **1,650** wheelchairs
- **8,000** family food packs
- **1,632,980** one-cup rice meals
- **15,000** loaves of bread and bread products
- **150,000** pounds of clothing and other goods
- **15,000** portions of Scripture

And here's the human impact of all that giving:

- **42,120** people served through Bread of Life Bakeries
- **450** pastors who received training through "I Care"
- **1,500** refugees who received counseling
- **915,000** people impacted through humanitarian aid.



"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

— 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

LIFTING UP THE BANNER OF CHRIST IN EURASIA

People in Eurasia today are standing at a crossroads as they face challenges and pressures from every side. That's why Mission Eurasia's SWW is focused on training and equipping Next Generation leaders who can point the way to Christ. As a result of your generous investment in this program, more and more individuals, communities, and nations in Eurasia are being transformed by the power of the gospel.

Thank you for your partnership!



SWW GOSPEL IMPACT IN 2018-2019	
Estimated number of people Impacted	2,600,000
Churches Involved/Impacted	720
Communities Involved/Impacted	550
Copies of Scriptures distributed by SWW students/grads, NGPLI, churches	1,025,800
Bible studies/home groups started	107
Refugees and others impacted by "I Care Refugee Assistance program	915,000
Children/youth reached through Gift of Hope outreach	81,746
Children in need, orphans, and youth reached through Summer Bible Camps	12,428

"A few years ago, I buried my husband. After he was struck by shrapnel from an exploding shell, he lost his mind and would often wander aimlessly around our village. One day, he was found dead on the street." That's Raisa's tragic story, which she shared with SWW students. They've been visiting her village regularly since war broke out in eastern Ukraine. Despite her terrible loss, Raisa is undaunted, and encouraged by the compassionate care she receives from SWW. "Thankfully," she says, "I still love my life, and I enjoy caring for others, so I pray every day that God would let me live a little longer. I find such joy in having guests over and reading my Bible every day. It is the only thing that gives me hope when the bombs fall. Thank you for not forgetting about our village! I am so grateful for the fresh bread and food you bring me, because now I don't have to worry about what I'll eat."

OUR MISSION

To train, equip, and mobilize Christian leadership throughout Eurasia, who will engage in indigenous evangelism, church planting, holistic ministries, and church growth by developing creative and strategic ministries and by facilitating partnerships between nationals and Western Christians.

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STORY OF SUBKHAN: STANDING AT A CROSSROADS OF FAITH

I was born into a Muslim family in Azerbaijan. My father was very devout, and my mother would meet with other women to discuss the Koran. Ever since I was a young boy, my father wanted me to be just like him, so he forced me to memorize passages from the Koran. One time, he didn't let me eat for a week, because I hadn't completed my memorization. He also beat me many times, and the fear I suffered from this abuse left me with a stutter when I spoke.

When I was 15, my aunt told me about Jesus and invited me to church. Even though I told her that Christianity was not our way, I still went with her, because I was curious. I loved the worship music, and it was so soothing that it brought me to tears. Even though I didn't understand the sermon, I still knew that I had finally found what I had always been looking for. The church gave me a CD with the sermon on it, so I went home and listened to it again. It was about the demon-possessed man who lived in the cemetery and beat people because of his anger. I identified with this story, because I too was always angry and often got into fights. My father had raised me to use violence in every argument, so that was what I believed was right.

As I thought more about these things, I found myself on my knees with tears in my eyes. I cried out to Jesus, and asked him to help me and free me from my anger and hurt. At that moment, I felt a burden lift from my soul. I didn't understand what was happening, but all of a sudden, I was filled with complete peace. When I woke up the next morning, I was a completely new person. My mother noticed the change right away, and she couldn't believe how different I was. I started reading the New Testament and going to church every week, because I wanted to learn more about Jesus.

One day, a friend invited me to School Without Walls (SWW), so I joined the program. At first, I didn't know what to expect, but very quickly I realized that this program would teach me everything I wanted to know about Christianity. My favorite thing about SWW is that the sessions are not just typical lectures, but are more discussion-based, and I love that we all get to talk together and express our thoughts.

Before SWW, I didn't know how to share the gospel or explain the Scriptures to others, but now I feel confident when I share my faith. Thanks to SWW, I am delving into some of the most important Scripture passages, and I have even written a few sermons. The recent "Leadership in Ministry" SWW session also taught me about effective leadership and the importance of following God's call for my life. This session prompted me to change some of my opinions about non-believers, and now I want to share the gospel with as many people as I can so they may come to know Jesus.

After completing his studies at SWW, Subkhan was ordained as a deacon by his church. There are very few young leaders who are trained, equipped, and motivated to lead the church in Azerbaijan, so this was a very significant event. Today, as a result of his special training through SWW, Subkhan is involved in the key ministry of church planting. He has already planted a church in the city of Bala Qusar, his wife's hometown, which he started by inviting her relatives to meet, read the Bible together, and pray for one another. Today, the congregation is growing rapidly as new people continue to join and Subkhan continues to minister to them.

Subkhan has seen God work in other miraculous ways as well. First, the Holy Spirit has touched the heart of Subkhan's father, who now treats Subkhan with more kindness. Also, the stutter that Subkhan developed after years of abuse by his father miraculously disappears whenever he preaches or teaches. Now Subkhan is involved in training other young leaders in his country through SWW!

Subkhan's journey of faith has come full circle. God has completely transformed Subkhan's life through SWW, and He is now using him to transform others in his family, church, community, and nation for Christ.

