

INTO *the* HEARTLAND CAMPAIGN

TOMSK PEDIATRIC SURGICAL MISSION I

APRIL 2006



THE HOUSEHOLD AND THE FAMILY

Marina has two older boys from her first marriage: Ivan, 22, is married; and, Alyosha, 20, was born with cerebral palsy and still lives at home. Yuri and Daria, his 3-year-old sister, are Marina's children with Vladimir. The family rents a three-room apartment: Alyosha and Yuri share one room; Daria has her own room; and, the parents sleep in the all-purpose/living room.

Marina's mother lives nearby in her own cottage, living off her pension and her kitchen garden. She helps the family with food. When Marina is at work, the older children take care of the younger ones.

Marina has a part-time job as a hospital orderly. Vladimir is a small-furniture carpenter. His employer has offered Marina full-time work, and they need the income, but Marina has doubts. Vladivostok, she says, is large and she would have to commute a long distance across the city.

PATIENT PROFILE

Child	Yuri K.
Age	11 years old
DOB	March 6, 1995
Home	Vladivostok
Mother	Marina, 40 years old
Father	Vladimir
Diagnosis	Coarctation of aorta, bicuspid aortic valve
Open-heart surgery	May 8, 2006
Discharged	May 19, 2006

CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT AND CONDITION

Yuri was diagnosed when he was 2 years old by a pediatrician who referred the family to the only cardiac center in Vladivostok, which only recently began treating adults. Marina had difficulty fully understanding the implications of Yuri's condition and delayed seeking further help for a long time. Last year, when Yuri was 10, he was sent to the Bakoulev Scientific Center for Cardiovascular Surgery in Moscow, but they did not operate because federal funding was not available for his open-heart surgery. In the United States, it is likely that Yuri's heart would have been repaired in his first year of life.

Marina still believes that Yuri has developed normally, limited only in that he is unable to participate in sports. He is small for his age and very thin, but he is a handsome, lively, intelligent child with a great sense of humor. He suffers from frequent headaches, nose bleeds, and aching knees.

The director of Vladimir's company helped pay for Yuri and Marina's airfare from Vladivostok to Tomsk, a distance of thousands of miles. Marina expressed great satisfaction that American doctors are involved in Yuri's care, and she is completely optimistic about his full recovery. She was profuse in her gratitude toward Heart to Heart.

Based on an interview conducted in Russian by Heart to Heart volunteer Rose Glickman, PhD in Tomsk.