



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

PRIEST *to* PRIEST

VOLUME 2, NO. 3 FALL 2001

2002 Internship Applications

"Day in and day out, it is sad to see the elderly, women, children and the disabled begging and sleeping in the streets because of the dire conditions," writes Maria-Cristina Sinzianu, who recently completed an internship with IOCC in the Republic of Georgia. "Sometimes they starve for days. Yet with the help of generous people working through IOCC, we can try to help some and offer hope for the future."

Sinzianu joins a growing number of young people who have participated in the IOCC Honors internship program. Three former interns, including Sinzianu, now serve in staff positions with IOCC in Russia, Georgia and the Middle East.

The deadline for applications for 2002 is November 30, 2001. Applications will be reviewed during December and January, with final selections and notifications to be completed by the end of February 2002. Short-term (three month) and long-term (twelve month) internships normally begin at the end of the school year.

Intended for college and graduate school students as well as recent college graduates, the Honors Internship Program provides educational and practical exposure to the areas of nonprofit management and humanitarian aid in an Orthodox setting. Interns learn first hand of demoralizing human conditions and play an important part in the effort to restore hope in the lives of victims of war, natural disasters and depressed economies. Internships in IOCC's Baltimore Headquarters are also available.

An immediate goal of the Program is to have colleges and universities give academic credit to students who complete an IOCC internship.

Information about the IOCC Honors Internship Program is available on our website at www.iocc.org, or by contacting IOCC toll free at 877-803-4622. Additional copies of the brochure sent to you with the previous issue of *Priest to Priest* are available upon request.

Your assistance in identifying interested applicants for IOCC's Honors Internship Program is valuable and appreciated.

Fr. Jim Kyriakakis, Director of Development

A Coordinated Effort

As a fellow priest, I am aware of the many dynamics that go into the preparation of your parish's monthly newsletters and Sunday bulletins. Accompanying this issue of *Priest to Priest* are the following items you might consider including in your Sunday bulletins and parish newsletter in the coming months:

- **SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER:**

Camera-ready inserts about the *Combined Federal Campaign* and *United Way* workplace giving programs. Our Orthodox people can be encouraged to designate IOCC when they contribute through either of these programs in their workplaces.

- **NOVEMBER:**

Camera-ready inserts about our annual Thanksgiving *Lunchless Lunch* program. Keep in mind that IOCC Sunday — designated by the SCOBA Hierarchs — is November 18, 2001.

- **NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER:**

Camera-ready inserts about our annual *Christmas Gift of Love* program.

- **JANUARY:**

The "Souper Bowl of Caring" has become a popular and fun way of getting the youth involved in helping those who are less fortunate. Camera-ready inserts about the 2002 *Souper Bowl* program — which takes place on Super Bowl Sunday, January 27, 2002 — are included.

Experience has taught us that the local parish priest is our most ready help in getting the word out to the people about IOCC and its worldwide ministry. The materials itemized above are sent in an effort to coordinate our request for your assistance with your busy schedules and the need for timely information. It is hoped that you will include as many of these items in your publications as possible.

If you have questions or wish further information, please contact me at relief@iocc.org, or call IOCC at 877-803-4622 (toll free). Thank you, Fathers, for your continued support.

Riding into IOCC's 10th Anniversary

Next year, 2002, marks the 10th Anniversary of IOCC's founding by the Hierarchs of the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas. In 1992, IOCC was established as a Pan-Orthodox relief and development agency. As a registered private non-profit organization, IOCC is eligible to receive government grants for humanitarian work. Since its first food distribution program in Russia ten years ago, the ministry of IOCC has been supported by the U.S. and other governments, international Church bodies and private individuals and has been reaching out to people who are suffering in more than 20 countries.

The backbone of IOCC's work has been the faithful people of our Orthodox parishes in America. Under the guidance and encouragement of you, the spiritual leaders at the local level, the support from our people continues to grow. We thank you for all you do!

Among the events being planned to celebrate this milestone is a cross-country bicycle trek. The IOCC 2002 "Race to Respond" will kick off in New Jersey on Saturday, August 3, 2002, and finish in San Francisco 21 days later. The 3,500-mile cycling event will traverse 12 states. A team effort by the five cyclists will aim to raise awareness for IOCC's international programs. Information will soon be available at www.racetorespond.org.

We ask your prayers and continued support as IOCC approaches its second decade of service to those in need.

"This and That"

- IOCC's Office of Quality Assurance was established recently, for which I will serve as its first Director. Our first project will be the design and implementation of an evaluation system that seeks to measure the outcomes of IOCC's ministry. Basically, this is a move from the traditional measurement of program outputs (quantitative measurements) to the measurement of program outcomes (qualitative measurements). Although data will continue to be maintained relative to outputs, the new system will allow us to better illustrate the short and long-term impacts we are having on peoples' lives and to improve the way we do things. Measuring program outcomes is considered state of the art assurance of quality today by government agencies, grant-making foundations, and others. A five-member Work Group will guide the IOCC project.

- The second annual national meeting of IOCC Metropolitan Committee Chairpersons was held in Baltimore September 7-9. IOCC Metropolitan Committees now exist in approximately 20 metropolitan areas where there is a presence of Orthodox parishes of the various jurisdictions. These committees, set up and strengthened with the help of the local priests, are a major force in the effort to bring awareness to our Orthodox people about IOCC. If you wish information about establishing an IOCC Metropolitan Committee in your area, contact our US Program Director, Robert Pianka, at rpianka@iocc.org, or toll free at 877-803-4622.

*"God will have us profitable not to ourselves alone,
but to all our neighbors as well." (St. Ambrose)*

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