



Babushka Adoption Foundation

BABUSHKA ADOPTION FOUNDATION YEARLY REPORT

01.01.2012- 31.12.2012



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BABUSHKA ADOPTION FOUNDATION ACTIVITY 01.01.2012-31.12.2012

Babushka Adoption continues to change and improve the lives of the elderly and help them to live more dignified and happy lives.

The Babushka Adoption Foundation’s **mission** is to assist/help improve the lives of the elderly via provision of social-financial support and promotion of their interests. The following goals and activities were designed and implemented to achieve the ultimate objectives of the organisation.

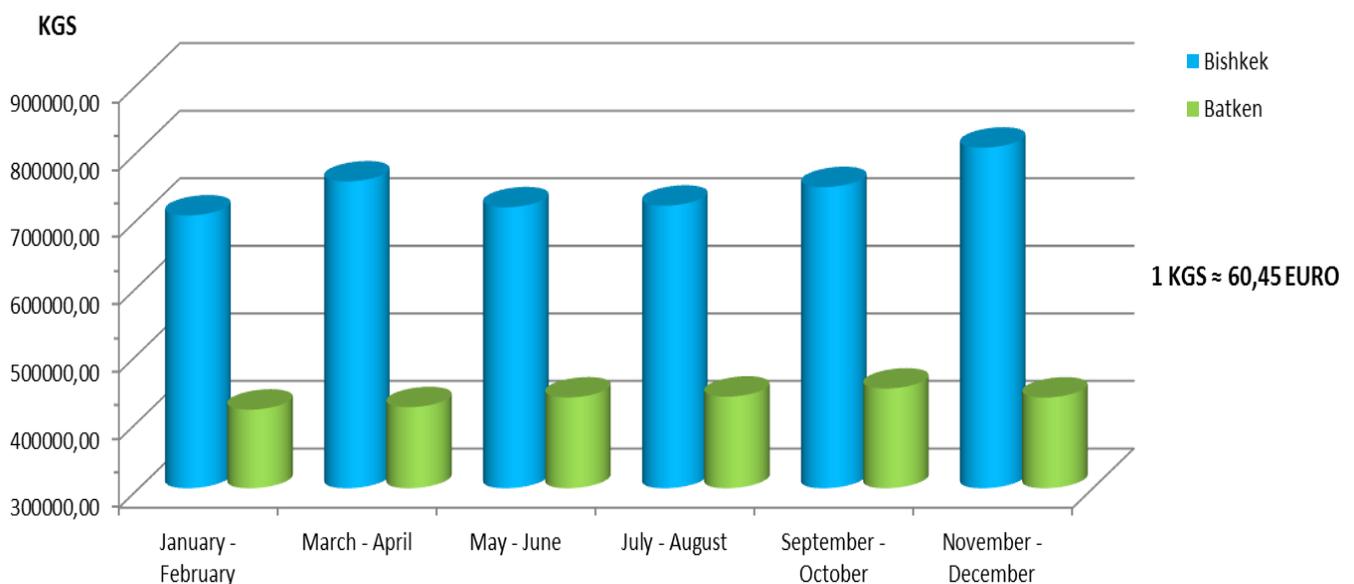
Goal 1: Social-financial support of the elderly

Financial support

Babushka Adoption Foundation has operated a sponsor programme providing monthly welfare cash transfers from sponsors around the world (Switzerland, Denmark, The Netherlands, Germany, Malta, Kyrgyz Republic and others) to the most vulnerable older people in Bishkek and the rural areas of Batken Oblast. The financial support provided through Babushka Adoption Foundation makes a significant difference to the lives of older people. The majority of older people supported by Babushka Adoption Foundation have no family network to support them financially and socially. Our beneficiaries receive EURO10 per month from their individual sponsors. The sponsors’ funds are delivered to the beneficiaries on a bimonthly basis.

Below is a diagram with indication of cash payments to babushkas during 2012. The amounts are in Kyrgyz Currency Som. Exchange rate for 1 EURO is 60,45 Soms.

Diagram №1. Cash payments to the babushkas during 2012



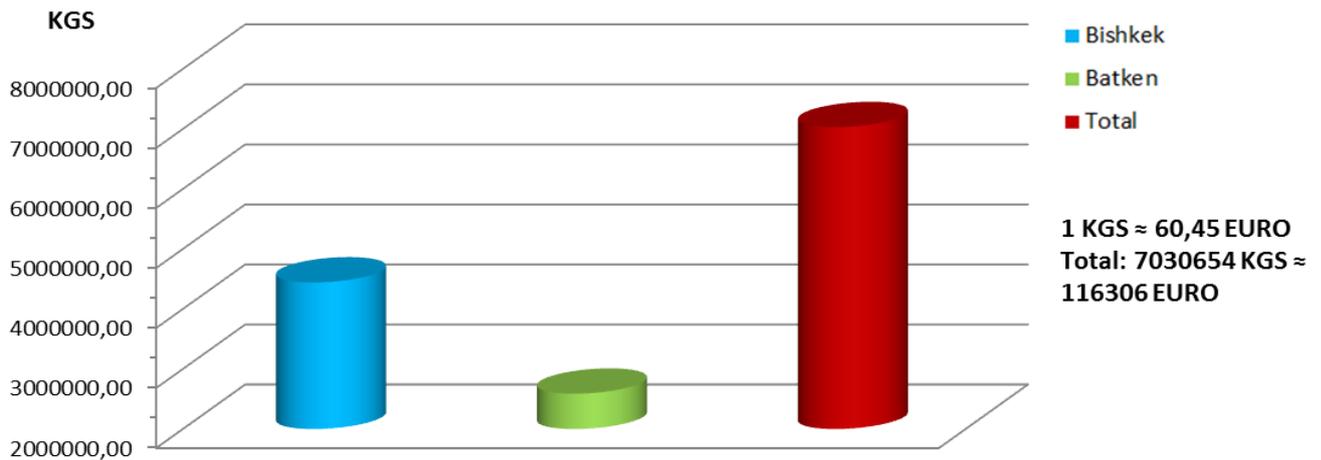


Diagram 2. Total cashes payments to babushkas in 2012.

In order to organize the sponsorship support (scheme) to beneficiaries and retain/increase the number of sponsors and their beneficiaries, the staff of BA implement the following activities.

During the reporting period Babushka Adoption received 202 applications (incl. Batken and Bishkek head office) for financial support from needy older people and assessed the living conditions/needs of 164 “candidates for adoption” (incl. Batken and Bishkek). 130 elderly people became our beneficiaries, 125 beneficiaries left our sponsorship programme. 29 people became new sponsors, 50 sponsors left our sponsorship programme. At the end of 2012 BA supported 946 beneficiaries. The Staff of Babushka Adoption delivered the money to the recipients personally. Housebound elderly received the sponsors money at home. Others, able to walk, came to special meeting points, the so called money distribution places. BA distributed money at **23** such points. (*In Bishkek there are 11 meeting points, in Batken region 12).

To maintain a strong relationship with our sponsors we communicated news about their own adopted babushka(s), provided financial reports about sponsors’ funds available/unavailable for continuation of support of the babushkas, their wellbeing and other matters throughout the year. At the end of 2012 we sent all our **580** sponsors New Year letters with their individual financial “sponsorship” report.

As an important part of the sponsorship program, Babushka Adoption Foundation also works to establish close personal relationships between sponsors and their adopted babushkas, to ease the



*Sponsor from Switzerland
with his babushka*

feelings of loneliness and social isolation among the elderly. The Babushka Adoption team translates letters, helps the beneficiaries to send letters to their sponsors, delivers gifts and additional money from sponsors, and organizes meetings between sponsors and their adopted babushkas. It is truly wonderful when our elderly people have an opportunity to meet their sponsors and speak with them about their life stories. In 2012 we organized 15 such meetings between sponsors and their beneficiaries. Below there is a diagram of our

sponsors by countries.

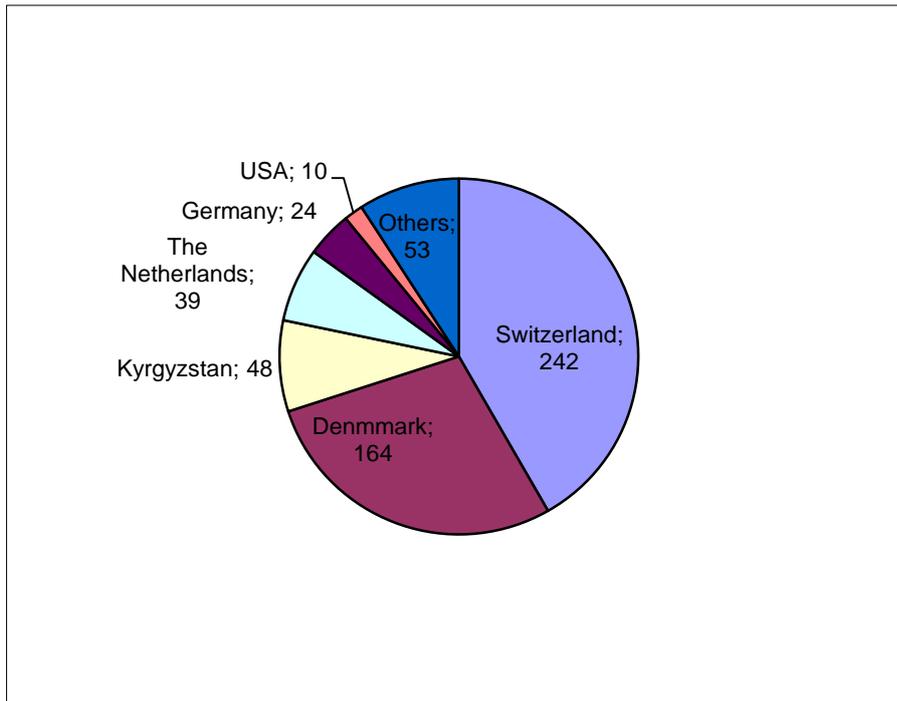


Diagram 3. Our sponsors by countries

Summary of Sponsorship Scheme Activity

ACTIVITY			
	Applied for support from Babushka Adoption	202	BABUSHKAS
	Living conditions assessed by Social Workers	164	
	Inserted into database, translated profiles	137	
	Newly "adopted"	130	
	Left the sponsorship programme	125	
	Translated letters for sponsors from	179	
	Received & delivered parcels from sponsors to	39	
	Received and passed additional monetary gifts for Christmas, birthdays for	130	
	Total number of supported babushkas as of 31.12.2012	946	
	Attracted new sponsors	29	
	Left the sponsorship programme/scheme	50	
	Informed about change of beneficiaries	111	
	Sent confirmation about receipt of money to	409	
	Sent request for renewal of sponsorship to	392	
	Translated letters for babushkas from	76	
	Arranged meetings with babushkas	15	
	Exchanged e-mails with sponsors	2060	
	Total number of sponsors, supporting the babushkas	580	

Social aid

In addition to financial support, Babushka Adoption Foundation provides home care help. Our social workers assist the most vulnerable elderly people through practical services such as grocery shopping, paying bills, assisting with personal hygiene, cleaning their house, etc.

During the year our social workers have regularly provided social support and services to 21 of our beneficiaries.

Some of our babushkas are also involved in our social care activities. We have 10 babushkas that assist us in distributing money to beneficiaries, who are unable to come to the money collection points. This activity also promotes social interaction among the elderly.

Babushka Adoption’s sponsor from Switzerland made special donation to provide massage therapy for elderly people at home. 10 beneficiaries of BA got massage to improve their health condition. More news about our social activities can be found in the News section of our website.

Humanitarian aid

Babushka Adoption Foundation regularly works with different partner charity organizations to organize humanitarian aid and delivery of it to senior citizens in Kyrgyzstan.

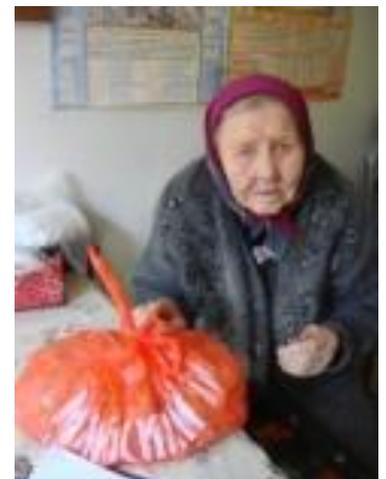


Humanitarian aid

During 2012 Babushka Adoption continued to receive donations of clothes, bedding, and food from the International Women’s Club (Bishkek), the Tien Shan Foundation (Bishkek); foodstuffs from “Komunarka” Ltd once a quarter, food packets from private persons. In summer 2012 BA was given 20 sacks of the humanitarian aid including used clothes from the Japanese Embassy and UNHCR mission in Kyrgyzstan. The clothes were passed over to the beneficiaries of BA and its partner organizations, supporting vulnerable parts of population. In December of 2013 the capital city in Bishkek suffered -20 degrees of frost. Under such extreme weather conditions, the municipal electricity systems were unable to keep up with

overload of the electricity circuits and so a critical situation took place when some citizens of Bishkek, including some of our beneficiaries, stayed without electricity and heating. The most readable local newspaper “Vechernij Bishkek” organized an action to collect any possible humanitarian aid for vulnerable elderly citizens, to support them in the above mentioned extreme conditions. Journalists from “Vechernij Bishkek” applied to BA,

asking for lists of the vulnerable elderly in order to provide them the aid items, collected during the action. So, the neediest



Babushka gets a package with food

beneficiaries of BA were provided such useful things as: thermos flasks, candles, matches, lanterns. We also assisted the newspaper “Vechernij Bishkek” to organize delivery of hot meals to the

beneficiaries of BA in order to help them withstand the extreme situation.

Throughout the year BA distributed the humanitarian aid and clothes to its beneficiaries as well as other vulnerable parts of our society.

BA distributed these donations to its elderly as well as to other needy beneficiaries of our partners.

In 2012 we negotiated with Kumtor Gold Mining Company the transfer of the humanitarian aid (a 40 foot container) from Kumtor to Babushka Adoption and later on organized all the necessary logistics to receive the aid: prepared a package of the documents for customs clearance, found storagespace for the aid in Bishkek and found loaders. In December we received the container and started sorting the aid and delivering it by hand to our beneficiaries, partners and other needy persons. Babushka Adoption distributed the aid to 25 social organizations from Kyrgyzstan. The list of the organizations was provided by the Ministry of Social Protection of Kyrgyzstan.

As a member of AgeNet Central Asia without Borders, at winter time Babushka Adoption Foundation received a portion of the public donations that were collected in AgeNet charity boxes. With these funds, BA provided the most necessary foodstuffs for its beneficiaries.

Goal 2: Mobilization and strengthening of opportunities for older people

Support for Self Help Group

Babushka Adoption continues to support the most active Self Help Groups from various rural areas: 4 SHG's in Belovodskoe village of Chui Oblast and 15 SHG's in the Leilek district of Batken Oblast. These groups consist of 10-15 elderly people who meet regularly to discuss old people's needs, address the problems of social re-integration and participate in community development activities at local level.

In 2012 Babushka Adoption continued to work on strengthening the marketing capacity of members of Self Help Groups, thus contributing to sustainability of the Self Help Groups and poverty eradication.

From financing of the Embassy of the United States, Public Affairs Section project within the Frames of the Women's Economic Symposium Babushka Adoption organized 2 training sessions for SHG members in Batken region.



SHG at the training, Batken region



SHG at the training, Batken region

- Training “Technology of cutting and sewing clothes”
- Training “Clothes in ethnic style”

Also within the project frames we purchased and delivered the raw materials for Self help Groups in the village of Belovodskoe, Chui Region of the Kyrgyz Republic. The following Self Help Groups with the following profiles got such raw materials as:

- 1) SHG “Pchelka”** – beekeeping suits, medicines for bees, bee breeding material.
- 2) SHG “Igolochka”** – received thin and thick textile, wool for sewing bed clothes, souvenirs, home shoes and others.
- 3) SHG “Pushok”** – received small rabbits. In the future members of the group plan to breed rabbits.
- 4) SHG “Orhideika”** – received different kinds of flowerpots and encyclopedias about house plants.



Rabbits were received by SHG Rushok, Chui region

We were very lucky that the GIZ Programme (German International Cooperation organization) in Kyrgyzstan made their contribution to poverty eradication among elderly members of BA’s Self Help Groups.



SHG Orhideika, Chui region

GIZ provided 9 sewing machines, 5 overstitching machines, 2 ovens to SHGs in Batken and Bishkek.

BA under invitation and with the support of the American Embassy in Kyrgyzstan sent two SHGs’ leaders from Batken Guljan Kudaiberdieva and Gulsunai Abdumomunova, to participate in exchange programme in India. All the expenses related to the trip were covered by the American Embassy in the Kyrgyz Republic.

During the year Self Help Groups from Belovodskoe village took part in several exhibition-fairs which took place at drama Russian theatre, at boulevard Dzerjinskogo in the center of Bishkek. The members were able to sell their products and speak with elderly people from other groups.

Goal 3: Protection and promotion of rights of the older people

Babushka Adoption is a member of AgeNet Central Asia without Borders. Together with partner organizations, BA organized the annual charity activity “From Heart to Heart” on May 20th, as well as activities for Elderly People’s Day on 1st of October. As a member organization of Age Net, Babushka Adoption took part in all events, round table meetings, conferences organized by the Age Net to protect the rights and interests of older people. BA took part in all advocacy events of its partner organizations to protect and promote the rights of the older people on the national level.

Goal 4: Strengthening of institutional capacity of Babushka Adoption

Partner Organizations

Babushka Adoption Foundation has sister organizations in Europe that assist in attracting sponsors and facilitating fundraising activities for BA in Europe: Babushka Adoption Association Switzerland and Babushka Adoption Verein (tr. Association) Deutschland. Both these partnerships enable BA to operate local bank accounts for the convenience of Swiss/German sponsors, to consult the sponsors on sponsorship questions and to raise funds for babushkas and Babushka Adoption Foundation.

Association Babushka Adoption in Switzerland

In Switzerland there exists an officially registered Association ‘Babushka Adoption Switzerland’. The Association was founded in 2002 to help promote its sister organization ‘Babushka Adoption Foundation Kyrgyzstan’. However, the main reason of establishment of BA Association in Switzerland was to open and operate a bank account in Switzerland, which would guarantee safekeeping of the donations and minimizing transfer fee expenses that would occur while sending money from different European banks to the Kyrgyz bank.

Members of BA Association in Switzerland assisted BA Kyrgyzstan to operate a bank account at UBS. They received necessary bank information from the UBS bank and sent it to Kyrgyzstan. When necessary, the members of BAVD transferred the sponsors funds to the Kyrgyz Bank account of BA. Subsequently this money was distributed to the beneficiaries of BA. The members of BA Association Switzerland helped BA to work with the Swiss sponsors, answering their questions or helping to organize transfer. Members of BA Switzerland promoted our Foundation in Switzerland.

Association Babushka Adoption Germany



Members of Babushka Adoption Association in Germany, the first to the left Mrs. Gudrun Binder, Chairwoman

In 2008 there was registered an official Association, BA Germany. This organization was opened to pursue the same goals as in case with BA Association in Switzerland, e.g. to help promote its sister organization from Kyrgyzstan and to open and operate a bank account in Germany. The last but the most important point of establishing Babushka Adoption Association in Germany was to add credibility to Babushka Adoption Foundation Kyrgyzstan. Existence of a German Association Babushka Adoption gives more chances for success while we are looking for donors/sponsors. After establishing an Association we opened a Bank account. Members of the Board of BA Association

Germany opened a bank account at Commerz Bank AG. We had to open a bank account in Germany to avoid paying high charges for transferring money from a German/European Bank to a Kyrgyz bank account. It is better for our German sponsors to send their donations to a German bank and therefore pay less on bank charges. However in 2012, Head of BA Association Mrs.

Gudrun Binder had to reopen a bank account at another bank Hypovereinsbank, due to some requirements of the German legislation. The Head of Babushka Adoption Association Mrs. Gudrun Binder implemented a number of activities during the reporting year as well. She operated our bank account, organized transfer of the funds to Kyrgyzstan, kept accounting of our funds and therefore kept constant contact with Babushka Adoption Foundation. In addition to operating our German bank account, Mrs. Gudrun Binder promoted BA in Germany. She organized publishing of an article in a local newspaper in the town of Hammelburg, Germany. During the year she worked as a contact point/person for the German sponsors of Babushka Adoption, clarifying information about how to become a sponsor, how to arrange a transfer etc. But the most important achievement/success of Mrs. Gudrun Binder was registering and installing Pay Pal system on the website of BA. Now our sponsors can pay money for support of the babushkas on-line through our website.

It should be noted that all the work implemented by our partner organizations is done voluntarily to help improve the lives of the elderly people from Kyrgyzstan.

Babushka Adoption Foundation is in a partnership with Elnura Foundation (www.elnura.nl) in the Netherlands. Elnura Foundation helps to attract new BA sponsors from the Netherlands and draw attention to the plight of the elderly in Kyrgyzstan. Some time ago Elnura Foundation offered Babushka Adoption to apply with a project to “MMM” organization in the Netherlands. In 2012 Babushka Adoption assisted Elnura Foundation on preparing the project proposal “MMM” for Dutch Television. To prepare the project BA made a portrait of elderly people, made a budget for renovation of tea houses, building a bathhouse, held negotiations with local government to agree future work together. Members of Elnura Foundation were in Kyrgyzstan in September 2012 to collect necessary data for project proposal for MMM. Mrs. Aleid van der Speak and Mrs. J.A. Boone-Drogt visited our branch office in Batken region and met with our beneficiaries, with representative of the local authorities and others to find necessary information for the proposal.

We are very thankful to friends of BA and our partners for their great contribution in favour of all elderly in Kyrgyzstan.

Babushka Adoption is a member of AgeNet - Central Asia without Borders. This regional network consists of 35 social protection organizations from CIS countries, such as Resource Centre for the Elderly, Help Age International, Public Association of Social Protection of the Population, Adventist Development and Relief Agency Kyrgyzstan.

Public relation

Babushka Adoption continued working on promotion of PR of the Foundation. We had an aim to promote PR in order to make publicity of the Foundation and so involve new sponsors for support of the needy elderly. We promoted the work of BA via social networks (via the local Forum of diesel [élcat.kg](http://diesel.elcat.kg) <http://diesel.elcat.kg/index.php?showtopic=5302216> and Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Babushka-Adoption-Foundation/155957421127038?ref=hl>

There were several media reports during the year about Babushka Adoption Foundation and its

beneficiaries in local media.

- In January 2012 on the “5 Channel” there was a film about Babushka Adoption, made by the 5th Channel. The film tells of the Foundation’s activities, general situation of the older people and explains how NGOs settle the issues of the older generations. The film is available on our page at Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=606644712697799>
- In June there was an article about Babushka Adoption in a Russian newspaper reprinted in Bishkek http://www.aif.kg/editor/news.php?item_id=137

There was a report about BA on NBT, Kyrgyz TV channel in Bishkek.

There was a reportage about Babushka Adoption on the Central Kyrgyz Television in July 2012.

Fundraising

During the year Babushka Adoption developed and submitted a project proposal and applied to GIZ Regional Bureau with a project proposal on peace building. The project aims to support peace building initiatives of representatives of Self Help Groups of Babushka Adoption. The peace building initiatives include: 1. Gaining learning on studies of Conflict and Mediation. 2. Organising questionnaire in focus groups to find out from four different categories of people with regard to what should be done by the state, local authorities and publicists to keep interethnic peace in Kyrgyzstan. 3. Encouraging peace building initiatives of the representatives of local authorities in partnership with the local authorities. It will be a pilot project of BA financed by GIZ in the Southern region, covering the Leilek district of Batken. The financing for the project will be available as of April 2013.

A couple of other projects were submitted to different donors, which unfortunately, did not get through on this occasion.

On December 7th Babushka Adoption held a Charity Christmas Ball of Babushka Adoption which took place in Hyatt Regency Hotel. To organize the event Babushka Adoption Staff worked very hard to prepare everything within 2 months: looked for sponsoring of the event, organized meetings, prepared programme of the event, held negotiations with producers of singers to perform at the event free of charge, met with management of the Hotel to discuss the menu, room facilities and other organizational questions, worked on the design and printing entrance tickets, banners, sold tickets and other associated work. As a result of the event BA made a broad PR of the Foundation. A link to the video clip of the event can be found at webpage of Babushka Adoption in Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=565372096825061>



Guests at the fundraising party of Babushka Adoption on 7.12.2012



At our fundraising party at Hyatt on 7.12.2012, performance by Group "Marteeny"



At our fundraising party at Hyatt on 7.12.2012, our guests members of the Kyrgyz Parilament

THE SUPERVISORY BOARD

The Supervisory Board is the managing and supervising body of Babushka Adoption Foundation established in order to carry out internal supervision of BA activities. The Supervisory Board, comprised of members from the international development community and Kyrgyz citizens, continued to oversee Babushka Adoption Foundation's activities and bolster the credibility of the organization. In 2012 the Board met quarterly.

In addition to Board meetings the Chairman held regular management meetings with Babushka Adoption Foundation Director, Mrs. Aidai Kadyrova, to exchange information and provide advice and consultations.

Members:

Mr Jonathon Hornbrook (Chair)

Mrs Djamilya Tchukurova

Mr Markus Müller

Mrs. Nurjamal Bokoeva

Mrs. Elena Yun

Mr. Christian Steiner

Mrs. Nurjamal Bokoeva

Mrs. Sabine Machl

FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Babushka Adoption accounts and keeps its financial management according to the International Standards of Accounting, in accounting programme I S. Babushka Adoption and its employees regularly report to and make payments to the social fund and tax inspection. In the beginning of each year BA holds an annual financial audit which is available at our website.

The Board of Babushka Adoption approves the annual budget and tracks budget execution.

Babushka Adoption Foundation makes information about its financial activity available to our donors and sponsors, and for those who are interested in BA activities. Auditor report, including our financial report for 2012 can be found on our website on the following link:

<http://babushkaadoption.org/ru/activities/reports#.UdZYOPmng1J>

CONCLUSION

Thank you very much for taking time to read our report and for paying attention to our activities!

We look forward that BA will continue developing further in favor of all the seniors who need our support and attention. We also hope that more people will join our charity activity.