

*The Second
Russian-American
Child Welfare Forum*



SUMMARY

APSAC



ABOUT THE FORUM

The Second Russian-American Child Welfare Forum (RAF) was held in Chicago, Illinois on the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan June 27-30, 2012 in conjunction with 25th Anniversary celebration of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children. During APSAC's 20th Annual Colloquium, several events were held to honor the continued collaboration between Russian and American Child Welfare officials and NGO's. The Forum was a joint effort between APSAC, the National Foundation for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, the United States Department of Justice, and the Children's Rights Commissioner for the President of the Russian Federation.

The Second RAF was designed to follow-up on the working relationship established August 1-6, 2011 at the ***First Russian-American Child Welfare Forum*** held at Lake Baikal in the beautiful Republic of Buryatia, Russia. This Forum was initiated by Russian specialists working as part of the Child Protection Sub-Group under Presidents Obama and Medvedev's Bilateral Presidential Commission's Civil Society Working Group. APSAC's President Emeritus Ron Hughes participated with the Civil Society Working Group, which began in 2010.



ABOUT THE FORUM

Every moment of every day children are being harmed. The Administration for Children and Families (www.acf.hhs.gov) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov), both within the Department of Health and Human Services, estimate in the United States:

“More than 740,000 children and youth are treated in hospital emergency departments as a result of violence each year—that’s more than 84 every hour.”

“The total lifetime cost of child maltreatment is \$124 billion each year.”

“More than 3 million reports of child maltreatment are received by state and local agencies each year—that’s nearly 6 reports every minute.”

The Forum is our collaborative agreement to improve conditions in both our countries via our rich exchange of ideas and commitment to best practice. It is a true multidisciplinary partnership.



SCOPE OF THE FORUM

- *Child Protection Law and Public Policy*
- *Prevention of Child Maltreatment & Child Placement*
- *Supporting & Sustaining Families*
- *Child Pornography, Trafficking, Crimes Against Children*
- *Internet & Mass Media Raising Awareness*
- *Multidisciplinary Professional Training & Development*
- *Child Advocacy, Identifying & Responding to Child Trauma*
- *Innovative Service Programs*



AMERICAN ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



Chair

Ronald Hughes

President Emeritus of the American Professional Society
on the Abuse of Children

Director, Institute for Human Services



Co-Chair

Viola Vaughan-Eden

President of the American Professional Society on the
Abuse of Children



Co-Chair

Judith Rycus

Director of International Activities

Program Director, Institute for Human Services



RUSSIAN ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



Chair

Pavel Astakhov

Children's Rights Commissioner
for the President of the Russian Federation



Co-Chair

Marina Egorova

President of the National Foundation
for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

AMERICAN CO-ORGANIZERS



American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children



Institute for Human Services



United States Department of Justice



United States Agency for International Development

RUSSIAN CO-ORGANIZERS



Office of the Children's Rights Commissioner
for the President of the Russian Federation



National Foundation for the Prevention of Cruelty
to Children

PROCEEDINGS

<input type="checkbox"/> Forum Plenary Sessions	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Forum Workshops with Facilitated Discussion	18
▪ 58 Speakers & 12 Facilitators	
<input type="checkbox"/> Forum Lunchtime Lecture	1
<input type="checkbox"/> 20 th Annual APSAC Colloquium	
▪ Institutes and Workshops	95
▪ Plenary Sessions (simultaneous translation)	2
▪ Workshops (simultaneous translation)	11

PARTICIPANTS

<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Annual APSAC Colloquium	500
<input type="checkbox"/> Forum	195
▪ U.S. States	42
▪ U.S. Territories	2
▪ Other Countries	7



RUSSIAN PARTICIPANTS REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION

❑ Number of federal districts represented - 6

Federal district	Participants
❑ Central Federal District	21
❑ Northwestern Federal District	3
❑ Siberian Federal District	5
❑ Southern Federal District	7
❑ Urals Federal District	1
❑ Volga Federal District	6



REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION

NUMBER OF FEDERAL SUBJECTS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION	
Altai Krai	1
Irkutsk Region	2
Krasnodar Krai	4
Krasnoyarsk Krai	8
Moscow	20
Moscow Region	1
Orenburg Region	1
St. Petersburg	3
Sverdlovsk Region	1
The Republic of Bashkortostan	1
The Republic of Buryatia	1
The Republic of Tatarstan	2
Volgograd Region	1



SPECIAL EVENTS

<input type="checkbox"/> Special events:	7
❖ Bilateral Presidential Commission Subgroup Meeting	1
❖ Meeting with United States Commissioner of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families	1
❖ Child Welfare Policy Awards Ceremony	1
❖ APSAC Friedrich Luncheon and Lecture with Awards and the Past Presidents' Panel	1
❖ APSAC Architectural Cruise, Dinner & Fireworks	1
❖ APSAC Reception and Poster Presentations	1
❖ APSAC President's Ball	1





Bilateral Presidential Commission Civil Society Child Protection Sub-Group Meeting – June 26, 2012

The new co-chairs of the Civil Society Working Group of the U.S.-Russia Bilateral Presidential Commission, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor **Thomas O. Melia** and Commissioner for Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law Ambassador **Konstantin Dolgov**, met in Chicago on June 26 with the co-chairs of the Child Protection Sub-Group, **Andrew Oosterbaan**, Chief of the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice and **Pavel Astakhov**, Children Rights Commissioner for the President of the Russian Federation, to facilitate contacts and cooperation among additional NGO's.

American and Russian NGO executives offered a variety of presentations on how both countries can work more effectively with law enforcement agencies in the area of child protection, use of web-based technology to enhance medical diagnostic accuracy of child abuse, the importance of awareness campaigns in prevention, and how court appointed special advocates can assist abused or neglected children in providing safe and healthy environments as well as other related topics.



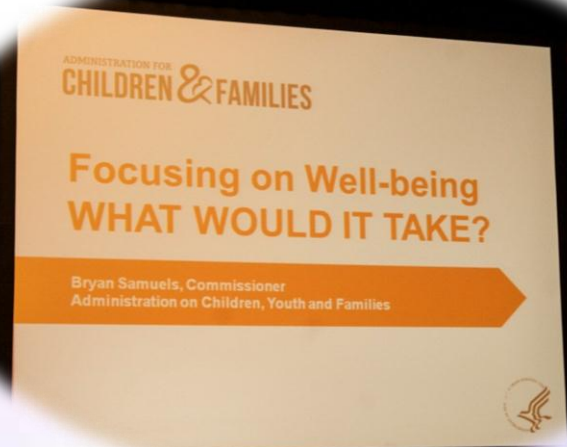
Center for Child Welfare Policy Awards

Distinguished Service in Public Child Welfare Administration and Pro Humanitatae Medal



Vyacheslav Nagovitsyn
President of the Republic
of Buryatia, Russia







OUTCOME

❑ ***COLLABORATIVE INTERDISCIPLINARY DISCUSSION***

The Forum proved to be an effective platform for government and non-government professionals to address best practices in child protection from a multidisciplinary perspective.

❑ ***EDUCATION TOUR***

As established at the 1st Forum, the American Embassy in Moscow identified a delegation of Russian child welfare administrators from government and non-government organizations to participate in an education study tour of child protection agencies in the United States.

❑ ***THE FORUM IS AN ANNUAL BILATERAL EVENT***

Several regions of Russia have offered to host the Third Russian-American Child Welfare Forum in Russia 2013



“Interaction between Russian and American child protection efforts has never been stronger, in large part because of events like the Forum.”

“APSAC's leadership and initiative have been a tremendous contribution to Russian-American expert exchange on child protection issues. This week's events in Chicago would not have occurred without APSAC's support, and we are grateful for this commitment to the wellbeing of children everywhere.”

Luke Dembosky, JD
Resident Legal Advisor, United States Department of Justice
Embassy of the United States, Moscow





American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children

Thank You!

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