

WORLD OUTREACH

TRAINING LEADERS. TRANSFORMING LIVES. IMPACTING NATIONS.



Daniela instructing others



Keeping refugees safe at the Ukraine border



Gerd and Daniela Hoppe



Raising awareness at the Ukraine border



Providing supplies



Working with the police

REACHING THE UNDERWORLD OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

John 1:5

When we say World Outreach, we mean *all* of the world.

We mean the dirty alleys littered with drug paraphernalia, the homeless camps, the war zones, and the brothels. Wherever darkness has had dominion, **our Charis students bring the light—even to the underworld of human trafficking.**

Which brings us to Gerd and Daniela Hoppe.

After meeting at Charis Lodz in Poland and getting married, the couple felt led to start their ministry, the Light House Foundation, when God gave them a vision. Gerd recalls:

I woke up in the middle of the night and saw a flashlight from a lighthouse, and God told me, “Yes, you see right. Look at this light.” God said, **“You can be this light in the darkness if you open your heart for other people and start to love people like I love people.”**

Reaching the Forgotten

Having learned at Charis how God’s kind of love means leaving the ninety-nine for the one (Matt. 18:11-14 and Luke 15:4-7), Gerd and Daniela set their sights on a category of people often forgotten by society and ignored by the church: the silent victims of human trafficking.

“We get to be connected with those nobody else will preach to because they will not go to church,” Daniela tells us. **“Instead of bringing them to church, we can go to them, to their work environment, to that darkness where the victims are—and then be the light there.”**

“Jesus was a good example,” Gerd says. “He showed His love and compassion for people. And that is what we’re doing with our ministry as well. We want to show them love.”

Targetted Victims in Ukraine

With a problem as systemic and complex as human trafficking, the Light House Foundation shows God's love in ways both practical and spiritual. Their first line of defense is preventive, addressing those most targetted by sex traffickers, which recently have been the refugees from the war in Ukraine.

"We try to raise awareness among refugees who come into Poland, because among them are 80-90 percent women with children," Daniela explains. "I'm doing trainings for Ukrainian people to help them get ready to find work the right way, to be safe in that, and to understand the system in Poland."

And their aid does not end there. In addition to preventive outreach, they offer shelter, safe travel assistance, counselling, and support for victims of trafficking—**all of which present opportunities to share Jesus with those most in need of hope.**

"They open their hearts because they are completely broken," Daniela says. "And this is the space for sharing the Gospel."

Training the Polish Police

While shining the light of Jesus in the darkness, Gerd and Daniela have attracted many others to His light, including the Polish police department, which has invited Light House Foundation into local stations to train officers in identifying and assisting the victims of sex trafficking.

"When they go through police training, they are prepared to be police officers, but they don't know how to work with people with trauma. So this is what we do; **we help them connect with the victims where they are.**" Daniela continues, "And there are many conversations we have outside of training as well, and we get to be the light even for these police officers!"

"Charis changed my life," Gerd shares. "And I am really thankful for Andrew, for all the teachers, and especially that God put it in me to go to Charis."

Daniela adds, "Most people who work with us, who help us in ministry, are Charis graduates or students. So I think **Charis is producing not only good disciples but also good fellow workers!**"

To our friends and partners, we want to say thank you. Through your support of Charis World Outreach, our schools around the world have continued to raise up leaders like Gerd and Daniela Hoppe, disciples who bring light into darkness and hope to the hopeless.

When we say World Outreach, we mean *all* of the world—a mission field we could not send labourers into without your faithful support. Thank you!

Invitation to Join Us in Reaching Far and Deep with the Gospel

AWM and Charis have eighteen offices and thirty campuses internationally in addition to twenty-one stateside campuses beyond our headquarters in Colorado. Our campuses are training nearly eight thousand students worldwide.

If you are not yet a partner with Charis World Outreach, we invite you to go to **awme.net/WorldOutreach** and join us in reaching more people who need to hear the life-changing message of grace and faith!

Quotations have been edited for length and clarity.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Grace & Faith UK 2023
Birmingham, England • June 1-3