2010 Progress Report

2010 has been a year of tremendous growth for SPOON. We are thrilled to share this exciting update with all of you who have been instrumental in making our goals a reality.

In collaboration with our partners at the Kazakh Academy of Nutrition, we have been able to accomplish these significant milestones:

- Completed a comprehensive baseline nutritional assessment of 250 orphaned children ages 6-36 months living in ten of Kazakhstan's Baby Houses. Of the children tested, 27% are undersized and 30% have iron-deficiency anemia. Specifically, their diet is insufficient in calories, fats, proteins, and multiple vitamins and minerals.
- Trained a team of Kazakhstani psychologists to evaluate the psychomotor development of 206 Baby House children. Preliminary results show that 85-90% of these children exhibit developmental delays, which is likely related to insufficient nutrition.
- **Created dietary standards and a new menu for Kazakhstan's Baby Houses,** per the request of the Kazakhstan Ministry of Health.
- **Commenced a pilot project to determine best nutrition practices.** Conditions being evaluated include: 1) current dietary practice (control group), 2) current dietary practice plus vitamin/mineral supplement, 3) implementation of new menu, and 4) implementation of new menu plus vitamin/mineral supplement.







• **Launched "adoptionnutrition.org,"** the first-ever website dedicated to educating adoptive parents and health care practitioners about the unique and important nutritional needs of post-institutionalized children.



Looking Forward: 2011 Plans

With your continued help, 2011 will be a pivotal year at SPOON. The completion of our pilot study this spring will result in proven best practices for preventing nutritional deficiencies in orphaned, institutionalized children. Project outcomes will be the basis of policy change on a national scale, allowing us to reach thousands more children throughout Kazakhstan, day in and day out. We will leverage this important model to lobby for lasting nutrition improvements in Baby Houses and Orphanages around the globe. The New Year will also yield new opportunities to make a difference in the lives of orphaned children who are placed with families in the U.S with the continued development of SPOON's Adoption Nutrition resources

What a gift it is to be able to touch lives in such a meaningful, lasting way. We couldn't do it without you. We look forward to sharing this remarkable journey with you in 2011, bringing health and hope to so many children without families.