

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Ganna Milostanova
60 Palmetto Parkway,
Hilton Head Island, SC
29926

January 2, 2015

Dear Gov. Haley,

I am writing to ask for your help. I am a South Carolina resident and business owner currently residing in Hilton Head. I am originally from Ukraine, where I worked as a physician for 30 years, before relocating to our great state in 2003.

The reason that I am seeking your help is that this past November I found out that a brain tumor had been discovered in my 33-year-old daughter, Kateryna Pashchuk. Kateryna is a dentist in Ukraine. After some testing, doctors told my daughter that the only way that her tumor could be removed is through an open-skull surgery. I was both thankful and saddened by this news. Thankful that my daughter's tumor is operable, and saddened by the fact that this surgery could cost \$100,000 or more, the type of funds which my family simply does not have. Kateryna has a visa to come to the U.S. to do the surgery, however, my family and I have not been successful in finding a neurosurgeon who would be willing to do the surgery pro-bono. Fundraising has also been a challenge, as we were only able to raise over \$4,000.

As you are well-aware, Ukraine is currently a war-torn country. In the last year there has been a revolution in the nation which resulted in the ousting of the president. What followed was an interim president and administration being put in his place, the loss of Crimea-- a major Black Sea region, and civil war. The civil war has occurred in the country's southeast regions of Donetsk and Lugansk, which has left thousands dead, caused millions to flee, and cities in these regions to be destroyed.

Thankfully my family lives north of these particular regions, however, my daughter as many Ukrainians, have been heavily impacted. The country's economy as a whole has suffered tremendously. Tens of thousands have lost their jobs, retirees have seen major cuts in their pension plans, and prices on essential goods have skyrocketed. My family saw this firsthand, as my daughter's husband lost his small business in Ukraine. This has left Kateryna, who is a dentist, as the sole provider for her husband and their 11-year-old son.

After receiving an initial diagnosis in Ukraine, Kateryna underwent more thorough testing in another country, where doctors determined that an open-skull surgery was the only viable solution for her.

Unfortunately, the medical care in Ukraine is inadequate to perform such a surgery. Furthermore, Kateryna has no medical insurance, as the system of insurance in Ukraine is so poor that it basically does not exist.

My family and I have determined that the U.S. is the most safest and reliable country for Kateryna to have her surgery. My family and I have been unsuccessful in our attempt to find a neurosurgeon or program that will do her surgery pro-bono or to find a charity who would pay for the operation. We have also done multiple fundraisers, but so far have not been successful in our efforts, raising just over \$4,000 for a surgery that would cost at least \$100,000.

My husband and I are owners of a small furniture store in Hilton Head. We have always been supporters of you and your desire and gallant efforts to help our state thrive. We applaud your love, passion and generosity that you have shown to our great state and its people as governor.

In these hard times for our family, all we ask is for your help, in whichever way that you may see fit. Thank you in advance.

Fondly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ganna Milostanova', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ganna Milostanova