

Roundtable on Healthy Families Held in Petrozavodsk, Russia

June 24, 2019

By Alexey Savelyev



A blessed member living in Petrozavodsk, the capital of the Russian Republic of Karelia, was the initiator of a roundtable held in the city administration building on Monday, June 24.

The program, "Universal Values and Healthy Families as the Basis of Peace and Development," was initiated by Mr. Artyom Mamaev, who created the public organization Fathers of Karelia. Because of the activism of Artyom and his family, his organization has become well-known and respected in the city, and he could receive permission from the mayor to conduct the program in the administration building.

The public organization Mother's Heart, which has been operating in Karelia for 10 years, co-organized the program. Representatives of the Public Chamber of Karelia, the ombudsman for children, officials from the city administration, representatives of the Muslim community, Catholics, and leaders of public organizations attended the event.

Artyom Mamaev was the moderator of the program. The director of the Civil Registry Office, Mrs. Elina Schelina, made a presentation on the main social problems of the family. A representative of the mufti of the Republic of Karelia spoke about domestic violence and its prevention.



Then Mr. Alexey Savelyev, vice president of FFWPU for the Eastern Europe region, introduced the concept of the Family Festival as a program to strengthen the family, and he invited the local leaders to work together to solve the republic's social problems.

Representing the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP), Mrs. Zarina Gomozova introduced programs for the moral education of young people and preparing them to build strong families.

Artyom Mamaev related an experience of the family club, which began working in Petrozavodsk together with the Mother's Heart organization, and his colleague spoke about a game store project as a platform for family communication.

In the second part of the program, specific proposals were discussed for a program of action for 2019 for all the roundtable participants. The final document will be drafted within two weeks.

The next step is the participation of the Family Federation and Fathers of Karelia in the city parade of families, which will be held on July 8. As part of this program, a Family Festival will be held in which couples can take part in a marriage rededication.

Artyom Mamaev, with the support of the director of Mother's Heart, Mrs. Galina Vlasova, will contact the heads of the communities of Karelia to hold roundtables and will suggest a program for the joint solution of social problems.

