



TOWARZYSTWO OPIEKI NAD OCIEMNIAŁYMI

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Laski, 12th June, 2006
L.dz. 9149/of/06

American Polish Assistance Association
Mr Michael V. Ostrowski
P.O. Box 116
Eastpointe, MI, 48021
U S A

Dear Friends,

We thank you very much for your gift of 45 parcels containing clothes, equipment for handicapped and toys for the children. All the gift you sent for our blind are very useful for them and we are very grateful for your help. Thanks to our donors we can run our Institute for 293 blind students in Laski.

This quotation from one of our graduates illustrates the problems we face (she lost her sight at the age of 15):

“Following the final, failed attempt to save my vision I came to the Laski School for the Blind, where I received professional help that allowed me to return to a normal life. Through intensive, comprehensive therapy I soon learned all the techniques necessary for a blind person to function in the world of the sighted. In my spatial orientation lessons I discovered how to independently move around even in unfamiliar places. This class helped me enormously when I was trained in school to work with a seeing eye dog. In the afternoons in our boarding house we learned other skills such as cooking, housework, and even how to take care of small children. The four-year high school, during which I specialised in English and computers, allowed me to go on to the Catholic University of Lublin, where I study English literature and psychology.

What I most value about my extraordinary time at Laski is that it helped me to learn the techniques I needed to get by without seeing, but even more importantly – it helped me fully come to terms with my new situation. It was at Laski that I developed my interests in the humanities which are now my passion. On the map of my life, Laski will always be the place where after losing my sight I came to understand that blindness is not an insurmountable barrier but a handicap that one can learn to live with. The life of a blind person does not have to be inferior, it is simply different.”

Once again we thank you heartily for your help and keep you in our prayers. May good God bless you all abundantly. With prayers and love.

/-/ Zofia Morawska