

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

Caritas UA

Caritas Ukraine network continues been providing the far-reaching response to the current humanitarian crisis in Ukraine through a network of local Caritas centers and parish hubs. Over the last five months Caritas has expanded the number of centers working on response from 20 to 42 and activated an extensive network of parish hubs to assist. The Caritas Ukraine methodology has focused on practical localization, in both urban and rural areas, integrating our programs and assistance deeply into local communities and covering most regions of the country.

As a result, Caritas Ukraine is currently responding to the humanitarian crisis through:

- **42** Caritas centers
- **448** hubs in the parishes of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church
- **136** shelters for people affected by the war.
- **1200+** employees working in local centers and the national office.

A renewed list of local Caritas Ukraine network organizations which provide assistance to IDPs with contact info and list of services can be found here: <https://caritas.ua/news/merezha-karitasu-dopomagaye-lyudyam-yaki-postrazhdaly-vid-rosijskoyi-agresiyi/>

ACHIEVEMENTS

CARITAS UKRAINE

At Caritas centers, people in need find answers not only to their basic needs, but also a community of warmth and kindness that provides the first steps in humanitarian aid, stabilization, recovery and healing. The main target groups of the humanitarian response are IDPs and those living in isolation due to continued fighting, with lack of access to essential goods and services. Particular attention is given to people from vulnerable categories: large families, pregnant women, the elderly, people with disabilities and people with limited mobility.

According to consolidated data, ***since the beginning of the conflict, the Caritas Ukraine network has provided no less than 2 163 617 services for no less than 1 450 000 people.*** The focus of assistance continues to be on basic needs such as food kits (55%), hygiene kits (20%), services for IDPs in shelters (8%), water supply (7%).

Most of the humanitarian work of Caritas Ukraine is concentrated around the **Emergency Appeal (67%** of all humanitarian activities of organization). The first months of the war all activities were aimed at **emergency measures** to respond to the humanitarian crisis, but currently there is further transfer into **stabilizing humanitarian aid**: monthly food and hygiene assistance, case management and advocacy, permanent housing solutions etc. Also, Caritas is responding to the urgent need or quickly changing situation.

This assistance has been made possible by the generosity of local and international donors. To date, Caritas Ukraine has received and implemented **19 019 057 Euro** in aid through the Emergency Appeal thanks for all the Caritas member organizations and other donors who have donated through this streamlined mechanism. An additional **16 014 502 Euro** in humanitarian services has been implemented through institutional and private donations. Caritas Ukraine continues to mobilize local resources and has solicited **3 459 890 Euro** in the form of in-kind donations from local corporate donors, and **389 780 Euro** as monetary donations from corporate and individual donors. The traditional all-Ukrainian charity campaign "**School Bag**" this year has been aimed to help families, affected by war, to prepare their children for school. During the first day of campaign individual donors donated **330 000 UAH** (8 250 EUR) through CUA website and the collection is still in progress.

Success stories

- **Cooperation with the local power authorities**

Caritas Kramatorsk and Chervonohrad City Council united to provide social services for victims of the conflict in Ukraine. On August 18, the round table was held in the Chervonohrad City Council with the participation of representatives of local authorities, heads of social services and representatives of Caritas Kramatorsk on the specifics of providing social services in the territorial community for victims of the conflict in Ukraine. The day before, Caritas Kramatorsk signed the Memorandum of Cooperation with the Chervonohrad City Territorial Community, where it has been working for several months after being evacuated from its hometown, which is in the war zone. Assistance is provided both to IDPs and to local socially vulnerable groups of the population.

- **Cooperation with business**

In all branded stores of the mobile communications operator Kyivstar, visitors can hand over smartphones not in use to help Ukrainians affected by the war. Caritas Ukraine will make sure that they will be delivered to the IDPs, who have lost their phones to be able contact with their relatives. Kyivstar customers who join the charity initiative will receive some benefits from the company. Employees of the mobile operator are also involved in the campaign.

- **International cooperation**

*The head of the Humanitarian Department of Caritas of Ukraine Hryhoriy Seleschuk and the staff of the humanitarian department met with the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands Liesje Schreinemacher, who arrived with the working visit to Ukraine and visited the city of Irpin. They discussed Caritas' humanitarian aid activities and joint plans for further cooperation in the field of support for war victims. As part of the visit, she visited the Church of the Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos, UGCC, where **Caritas-Kyiv** social workers are providing assistance to war-affected residents of the city and IDPs.*



SHELTER

*The housing was provided to **72 746** people through the network of Caritas collective shelters. Family sets for everyday life (bedding, clothes, dishes, blankets, etc.) were provided to **94 841** IDPs.*

- **1 492** beneficiaries received cash grants for rent and small repairs of housing.
- **649** people benefited from the renovation of premises for housing and heating
- **14 198** people received clothes and other everyday things thanks to humanitarian convoys.

Evacuation of Ukrainians from temporarily occupied territories is one of the key issues Caritas is putting on the top of interests on the eve of a difficult winter. Caritas Zaporizhzhia, Kryvyi Rih, and Dnipro are important transit and first stop safe points for many IDPs. In continuation of close cooperation with Caritas Ukraine, Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine Iryna Vereshchuk visited Caritas Donetsk in Dnipro. She emphasized the importance of cooperation with the Caritas network.

Shelters of UGCC parishes are actively involved in the work of expanding the network of shelters for IDPs. At Funded by the EA project, parishes are arranging places for a small groups of IDPs (15-20 people) in small towns and villages and providing them with all the necessary household items. Currently, **136** such shelters are operating.

Other projects on shelter and housing:

- Caritas Ukraine provides IDPs with temporary accommodation in 9 shelters of the project "Dignified assistance to internally displaced persons in the western part of Ukraine", supported by the Ukrainian Humanitarian Fund. Since April 2022, these shelters have already accommodated 700 people.
- **Caritas Kyiv** and **Caritas Poltava** started the implementation of the project "Housing and financial assistance for vulnerable households in Ukraine" in the partnership with Caritas Ukraine and CRS, with the financial support of Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, USAID. The aim of the project is to provide critical support to vulnerable households during the winter period to meet their basic needs through cash assistance, housing subsidies and small repairs.

Success stories:

- *20 displaced persons living in Kolomyja took advantage of housing grants provided by **Caritas Kolomyja**. All people who joined the grant program have already managed to find housing. For three months Caritas provides IDPs with money to pay for housing. The largest amount is UAH 7,000 for one family, people find the desired housing by themselves.*
- ***Caritas Ivano-Frankivsk** set up a free laundry for displaced persons and people of vulnerable categories. The laundry is mostly brought by forced migrants. In a day, the laundry can accept clothes and bed linen from five to six people, each person can bring 5 kg of things at one time. Three washing machines and three dryers can wash up to 30 kg per day.*



WINTERIZATION

Caritas Ukraine started pilot activities in winterization sector in the context of preparing for winter and taking into account the damaged infrastructure for heating and electricity supply. Local offices located near the zone of active hostilities, are actively starting to distribute fuel for heating private homes in winter. **Caritas Zaporizhzhia** and **Caritas Kamyanske** provided fuel for **88** people.



FOOD

*Since the beginning of the conflict, **1 205 959** food distributions were provided:*

- **276 696** people received standard food kits (13 -15 kg) for 1 month
- **3 801** people received small food kits (for 2 weeks)
- **331 508** emergency food packages were provided,
- **438 536** charitable lunches were served,
- **153 586** people received food packages from the humanitarian cargos with food,
- **1 832** food kits for people with diabetes.

In terms of the weight of food aid provided, standard food kits prevail (**4 242 tons** total), emergency food kits have a total weight of **1 912 tons**, the weight of charity lunches provided is **396 tons**.

Success Story:

Volunteers of Caritas Kamyanske launched soup kitchen activities. Oleg is known in the city as an avid fisherman who knows the best "fishing" places in the region. Having learned that the resettled volunteer Oleksandr, who had previously prepared hot lunches at Caritas, also likes fishing, the men united, caught fish and, together with two other volunteers - Kostyantyn and Ivan, prepared a real fragrant soup. The cauldron was enough to feed 179 people. Among them there were 161 IDPs and 18 local residents.





HEALTH

Hygiene

Since the beginning of the conflict 440 413 hygiene kits have been distributed for IDPs:

- 56 644 people received hygiene packages from the humanitarian cargos with hygiene items,
- 231 713 emergency hygienic sets were distributed,
- 125 889 standard hygienic sets were distributed,
- 7 312 hygienic sets for people with special needs,

Health

39 673 health related services were provided since the beginning of the conflict.

- 571 beneficiaries received medical grants/vouchers (**Caritas Kramatorsk** and **Caritas Zaporizhzhia**),
- 16 738 people received sets of non-prescription drugs from the humanitarian cargos,
- 16 224 first aid kits were distributed,
- 8 medical consultations were within telemedicine services.



provided

PSS services (psychological support/stabilization of psycho-emotional psychotherapeutic services) were provided for **6 120** people.

state,

- *Caritas Kamyanske, thanks to the cooperation with the UNICEF office in Ukraine provides a free appointment with a general practitioner for all IDPs who found shelter in the city. Visitors, pre-registered for an appointment with a doctor, if necessary, underwent an electrocardiogram and blood pressure measurement, after which they received a doctor's consultation and recommendations. In total, 28 migrants consulted a doctor during the day.*
- *Caritas Chernivtsi accepted and processed 11 applications under the project for payment of medical prescriptions to displaced people in need. Medicines are covered for people with various diagnoses - with cancer, nervous disorders, strokes, cerebral palsy.*



WASH

Since the beginning of the conflict 153 984 people received WASH assistance (sets with drinking water)

- 145 666 people received bottled drinking water
- 143 people benefited from the humanitarian convoys with water
- 7 630 people benefited from the water delivered by water carriers
- 545 people benefited from renovation of water supply infrastructure.



MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

31 279 beneficiaries received multi-purpose cash assistance for covering of basic needs.

Success stories:

- 18,285 people have already received cash assistance in the amount of 6,660 hryvnias (2,220 hryvnias/month for three months) within the framework of the project "Multipurpose cash assistance to IDPs in Poltava and Khmelnytskyi regions" supported by the Ukrainian Humanitarian Fund (UHF). Every day, mobile teams of **Caritas Poltava** and **Caritas Khmelnytskyi** cover hundreds of kilometers to provide cash grants to IDPs living in areas far from the regional center, because the target group of the project is the neediest people who do not have access to registration in their area.
- The project "Multisectoral humanitarian assistance in cash, in-kind, services and vouchers to cover the basic needs of food security, physical and mental health and preparation for wintering of people affected by the conflict in the east of Ukraine" with the support of GMFA, intended for residents of settlements in the area carrying out military operations in **Kharkiv, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhya, Kherson, and Mykolaiv** regions (territories controlled by the Government of Ukraine) and providing assistance with multi-purpose grants to residents of the combat zone (2,200 UAH for 3 months). To date, the project has provided 2,848 monetary multi-purpose grants.

PROTECTION



*Within the activities on protection of interests and special services **136 802** services were provided.*

- **17 302** individual psychological consultations were provided (non-specialized)
- **21 701** transport services for transportation of beneficiaries,
- **11 096** crisis consultations (including case management where necessary),
- **11 486** services (visits) for home care and separately **5 560** services for people with disabilities were provided.
- **4 738** legal consultations were provided. The most common issues are labor law, social security and civil law (inheritance in wartime, credit obligations and rental housing).
- **34 666** people (children/parents) received services through Child Friendly Spaces. **53** CFS operate in 30 Caritas centers.
- **8 354** people received information on combating violence and exploitation of vulnerable groups, **631** such cases were detected, and appropriate assistance provided.

Success Stories

- *As part of the project: "Emergency assistance and protection of people affected by the conflict in Ukraine", implemented in **Caritas Zhovkva, Caritas Khmelnytskyi, Caritas Ternopil and Caritas Zaporizhzhia** with the support of Caritas Austria, Caritas Ukraine and Nachbar In Not such activities are implemented:*
 - *Crisis center (case manager, crisis manager, lawyer, psychologist, reception administrator).*
 - *Child-friendly space (social pedagogue, child psychologist, animator, space coordinator).*

In fact, the project combines the format of Cash and Protection, where one element of assistance reinforces another, that is, more complete and multifaceted assistance is provided to the beneficiary and his family.

During the two months of the project, the following activities were provided:

- *Psychosocial support for more than 480 families.*
- *Child-friendly spaces - more than 2,700 children (group activities, excursions, master classes, groups, etc.).*



VOLUNTEERS

- **10 084** volunteers were involved for different humanitarian activities from the beginning of war on community level. **#caritasvolunteerchallenge** initiative continues Example: story from Caritas Brody (<https://www.facebook.com/caritasbrody/videos/557276779515841>).

QUOTES

“ This is an organization that has a big heart... It helps the needy who are in dire need of attention, care, God's word, God's care....”

Iryna Vereshchuk, Minister of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine about Caritas of Ukraine during the meeting with the management of Caritas Kryvyi Rih.

STORIES

Caritas UA

The story about staff person - IDP

*Oksana is from the city of Rubizhne, Luhansk region, where she worked in the local Caritas and helped people who remained in the buffer zones since 2014. After a large-scale invasion, she too was forced to leave her city, which was occupied in May. Now she lives in Dnipro and coordinates the "Human Dignity" project at **Caritas Donetsk in Dnipro**. "I did not fully believe that this would happen, that we would also become forced migrants," she says. Until February 24, the dangerous situations were not new to Oksana: in order to visit beneficiaries in the buffer zones, she had to wear the bulletproof vest and the helmet, and sometimes she appeared under fire. But when she heard tanks driving near her house on the night of February 22-23, she still did not want to believe that the war would reach such a scale. Oksana was prompted to leave by her son: at some point, after hearing the shots, he became as pale as a wall and did not stop crying. Then they took a few things and left the house. "I don't even remember how it all happened, but thank God we got out of there," she shares.*

Oksana is very homesick. When her compatriots come to Caritas, they are like family to her. "We hope that everything will end soon, that peace will come and we will return home to rebuild our cities," she adds.

The story about IDP



A story that inspires faith: a couple from Kramatorsk who moved to Ternopil got a chance for a happy future. Darya and Vitaliy moved from Kramatorsk to Ternopil in July - for a long time they could not dare to leave earlier, because Darya has the first group of visual disabilities. The woman has completely lost her sight after falling into a coma during a caesarean section. The death of a child from her first marriage and the loss of sight became difficult tests for her. After all, her mother died, and she was left completely alone.

However, meeting Vitaly, who has now become her husband, his support and love completely changed Daria's life. After evacuation from Kramatorsk, the couple turned to Caritas Ternopil for humanitarian aid. Here they were accompanied by the case manager of the #NIN project. With the support of the city council, the Reed-Tour travel agency and the United for Ukraine charity, Vitaly and Darya were given the opportunity to go to Vienna for three months, where Darya will try to fully or partially restore their sight. As by now the preparatory process continues.

Already in Ternopil, the couple learned that they would soon become parents. "We hope that Daria will be able not only to hold, but also to see her baby," people in Caritas say. - Such stories, among many that we hear here, give great hope. To be able to witness how people overcome difficulties, how they become stronger and strengthen their own faith, despite trials and a seemingly hopeless situation – this gives to everyone the feeling that the ways of the Lord are little known and incomprehensible and only later, when we look back, do we understand for what various tests were given to us and how important are those people who come across our path, supporting, understanding, helping." More on: <https://ternopoliany.te.ua/zhittya/72852-istorii-shcho-vseliaiut-viru-podruzzhzia-z-kramatorska-i-ake-pereikhalo-v-ternopil-otrymalo-shans-na-shchaslyve-maibutnie>

PHOTOS



Photo: Caritas Mariupol is ready for distribution of food kits for IDPs. Source: Caritas Ukraine/Caritas Mariupol



Photo: IDP shows her destroyed house. Source: Caritas Ukraine/Caritas Donetsk in Dnipro

Please note that CI communication team is uploading all the **videos, photos** and **documents** regarding Caritas' work in Ukraine and in the neighbouring countries to this Baobab page:

https://community.caritas.org/pages/crisis_in_ukraine

In order to avoid overwhelming our colleagues in Ukraine, please send to petrosillo@caritas.va and frezza@caritas.va any requests regarding media contacts, interviews and journalists. For colleagues from European Caritas, please copy also Sonia De Voght SDeVoght@caritas.eu

Caritas Ukraine in the media and publications:

- <https://life.pravda.com.ua/columns/2022/08/18/250044/>
- <https://suspilne.media/273865-zitlo-dla-vpo-20-pereselenciv-aki-zivut-u-kolomii-skoristalisa-grantami-na-bezkostovne-pomeskanna/>
- <https://lviv.media/karitas-shcho-tse-za-orhanizatsiia-ta-iak-vona-dopomahaie-bizhentsiam-pid-chas-viyny/>
- <https://www.unian.ua/economics/other/devays-dopomogi-abonenti-kijivstar-razom-z-karitas-ukrajini-mozhut-dopomogti-postrazhdalim-vid-viyni-ukrajincyam-ostanni-novini-11950419.html>
- <https://www.vaticannews.va/uk/church/news/2022-08/karitas-doneck-v-dnipri-povernuty-pereselencyam-gidnist-ta-nadiy.html>
- <http://catholicnews.org.ua/karitas-doneck-v-dnipri-povernuti-pereselencyam-gidnist-ta-nadiyu>
- <https://kurs.if.ua/society/u-kolomyi-karitas-nadaye-pereselencyam-granty-dlya-orendy-zhytla/>
- <https://np.pl.ua/2022/08/u-kobeliatskiy-hromadi-blahodiyyny-fond-karitas-poltava-rozdav-produktovi-nabory-vpo/>
- <https://galinfo.com.ua/news/yak-otrymaty-groshovu-dopomogu-dlya-kompensatsii-vytrat-na-o-rendu-zhytla-vid-karitas-ukraina-388689.html>

- <https://stryiugcc.org.ua/karitas-stryiskoi-ieparkhii-orhanizovuie-forum-sotsialne-sluzhinnia-v-chasi-viiny-razom-robymo-dobri-spravy-ta-peremahaiemo/>
- <https://suspilne.media/272426-20-evro-na-izu-ta-zasobi-gigieni-na-frankivsini-pereselenci-mozut-otrimati-kes-granti-vid-karitasu/>
- <https://ivanychi.rayon.in.ua/news/537280-novovolinskiy-blagodiyniy-fond-karitas-volin-vidvidali-partneri-z-litovskoi-respubliki>
- <https://suspilne.media/271519-za-den-mozemo-viprati-do-30-kg-ak-i-hto-moze-v-ivano-frankivsku-skoristatisa-socialnou-pralneu/>
- <https://firtka.if.ua/blog/view/v-ivano-frankivsku-vidkrili-sotsialnu-pralniu-shcho-pro-tse-vidomo>
- <http://sde.org.ua/home/archive/item/4863-u-staromu-sambori-vymusheno-pereseleni-otrymaly-dopomogu-vid-karitasu-sambirsko-drogobyckoji-jeparkhiji-foto.html>
- <https://promin.cv.ua/2022/08/18/pereselentsiam-na-bukovyni-proponuiut-koshty-na-orendu-zhytla.html>
- <https://suspilne.media/272159-u-poltavi-ponad-200-ditej-pereselenciv-dolucilis-do-proektu-prostir-druznij-do-ditini/>
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- <https://biz.nv.ua/ukr/otvetstvennyy-biznes/tedis-ukrajina-pid-chas-viyni-viruchaye-volonteriv-avtoparkom-reportazh-50261943.html>
- <http://iz.com.ua/zaporoje/kudi-zvertatisya-vimushenim-pereselentsyam-yaki-priyihali-u-zaporizhzhya>
- <https://vsim.ua/dopomahayemo/u-yarmolintsyah-oblashtovuyut-sotsialnu-pralnyu-11646423.html>
- <https://ugcc.ua/data/ya-z-ternopilshchyny-a-sluzhu-na-mykolayvshchyni-bo-tse-moya-druga-batkivshchyna-bo-tse-moe-druge-mistse-zhyttya-o-taras-pavlyus-798/>