



Ukrainian Cultural and Humanitarian Institute

Ukrainian Humanitarian Relief Fund (UHRF) Year-End 2022 Report

History: The Ukrainian Humanitarian Relief Fund was established in March 2022 by the Ukrainian Cultural and Humanitarian Institute to accept donations to fund humanitarian aid necessitated by the 2022 Russian Federation military invasion of the sovereign nation of Ukraine. UHRF's purpose is to provide humanitarian aid, immigration, and relocation assistance to further the safety and wellbeing of Ukrainian affected persons, both within and without Ukraine and the United States, including all related and incidental purposes. This work was done in collaboration with the Pittsburgh Ukrainian Relief Coalition (PURC). The Ukrainian Cultural and Humanitarian Institute (UCHI) is the fiduciary for this fund.

1) Every penny of all donations to the UHRF go to assist those affected by the war.

UHRF Contributions: \$124,002.40

Grant Disbursements: \$101,969.17 [\$30,000 to International Orthodox Christian Charities 4/29/22; \$14,100 to Velox International on 7/12/22; \$13,100 to Pyaternya on 8/5/22; \$15,339.94 on 10/7/22 to Pyaternya; and \$29,411 to Pyaternya on 12/14/22]

UHRF Cash Balance 12/31/22: \$22,032.73

In-Kind Donations:

SS John and Paul Roman Catholic Church/Janet Roberto – Coordination of five fundraising events March – May 2022

Pittsburgh Symphony – Musical accompaniment at the five fundraising events

Church of the Epiphany in Pittsburgh; Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, Carnegie; SS John & Paul Roman Catholic Church, Wexford; St. Louise de Merrillac Roman Catholic Church, Upper Saint Clair; and St. Bernadette, Monroeville – Hosts for information sessions/fundraisers

UCHI - Mailing costs, bank fees, check order

Dollar Bank - Wire fees

2) Every penny shows a specific, transparent story reported back to donors.

Public Relations/Reporting: E-Newletters [one in July and one in December]; Hard copy newsletter sent in December; Facebook posts; Website; Instagram

Acknowledgement Letters: Letters of acknowledgement were sent to all donors documenting contributions received in 2022.

3) Every penny goes to a fully-vetted and trustworthy recipient

Transparency/Reporting: IOCC Photos and text; Firefighter equipment detailed invoice and photos; Art Therapy Psychologist's reports; Oblast [administrative region similar to a province] government support letter; photos, text, videos.

Disbursement #1 – International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) - \$30,000

[Underwritten by SS Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Carnegie PA] – Provision of two transport vehicles to evacuate stranded civilians from the Donetsk, Luhansk and Kharkiv regions to safe accommodation in Dnipro and Dnipropetrovsk. With these two vehicles, IOCC and its local partner, Slavic Heart are transporting 640 people per month to safe accommodation.

Disbursement #2 - Transportation of Firefighter Supplies to Izium, Ukraine - \$14,100

Financed the shipment of urgently needed equipment for the fire department of the city of Izium, Ukraine – a city in the Kharkiv Oblast under relentless attack by Russian forces. Members of the Pittsburgh-area Ukrainian-American community alerted UCHI to the efforts of the Chicago Association of Veterans of World War II and Velox International Shipping, Inc. in collecting items from the Amboy Fire Department valued at \$256,868.23. Items included firefighter coats, pants, gloves, boots, disposable gloves, wildland yellow pants and coats, overall suits, fire face shields combat emergency bandages, EMS helmets, MII hoses, 80W LED temporary construction lights, EMT backboard medical plastic, pike poles, vapor face masks, scuba bottle holders, non-woven isolation gowns, nozzle turbo jets, STORZ GATED WYE, Ansul Ansulate foam 5 and 55-gallon, and foam induction kits.

Disbursements #3, #4, and #5 – Pyaternya, NGO in Ukraine - \$13,100, \$15,339.94, and \$29,411

Underwriting of four art therapy camps for orphans and underprivileged youth displaced from regions in eastern and southern Ukraine as a result of the Russian invasion. The funded encampments were held August 15 – 25; October 21 - 30, 2022; January 2 – 12, 2023; and January 16-26, 2023.

Program Director Tetyana Myalkovska runs the program along with a staff of ten trainers - a medical doctor, three psychologists, an art therapist, three volunteer team leaders, and two teachers. An additional four master artists join the program for two-day stays training the children. Children come from orphanages and shelters - 90 percent of whom were evacuated from areas of southern and eastern Ukraine under Russian attack or occupation. The intensive ten-day encampments use the most popular methods and techniques of practical classes in art therapy, as well as spiritual support, rehabilitation using natural resources, contact with animals, hippotherapy (horseback riding), and sports. The children actively work with coaches, master artists, a psychologist, and volunteer assistants.

The Zamlynnna Center is located in the Volyn Oblast, which is located in the northwest region of Ukraine, bordering Poland. UCHI was sent an official letter of support and cooperation by the Volyn' Oblast State Administration for the Protection of Children with the NGO "Pyaternya," which runs the program.

The Director of the State Administration states that there are 23,000 children in the oblast who need psychological and physical care due to displacement and loss of parental care due to the war. The children are mostly from the Donetsk, Kherson, Odesa, Mykolaiv, and Zaporizhzhya Oblasts, and others from local orphanages in Volyn.

The head psychologist from the art therapy programs provided a report to UCHI as well on the great psychological progress made by the children during their participation in the program.

The Program Director provides full anecdotal and photographic reporting of these programs, which UCHI shares on its website and via social media. The children of Warm Palms participated in Christmas caroling via Facebook Messenger on January 7, 2023 with members of the choir of SS Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Carnegie and with the children of the Ridna Shkola School of Ukrainian Studies of Pittsburgh on January 21, 2023.

Fundraising continues with board commitment to fund six art therapy rehabilitation programs with the first to take place March 24 – April 2, 2023 with available funds. Funding of five additional programs in 2023 are dependent upon additional fundraising efforts of which UCHI hopes donors will be supportive.

Stephen Haluszczak, President