

Ukraine Emergency Fund: Donor Impact Report October 2022

We are deeply grateful for your incredible support of Federation's Ukraine Emergency Response Fund, and for the trust that you have placed in us with this gift. Your gift has directly saved, changed, and transformed lives across Ukraine, its neighboring countries, in Israel, and beyond. We are pleased to share the update below on the impact of your gift.

Thank you for allowing us to serve as your partners in philanthropy.

Gil Preuss
CEO
The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington

BACKGROUND

Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022, endangering the lives of Ukraine's more than 44 million citizens, including approximately 200,000 Jewish Ukrainians. As of the middle of September, it is estimated that more than eleven million people have left Ukraine since the war began, although close to five million have since returned.

North American Jewry, including more than 3,400 members of the Greater Washington Jewish community, mobilized immediately to support Ukraine's Jewish community and others in peril. The Jewish response was spurred by the sacred beliefs that every Jew is responsible for one another and that saving a human life is equivalent to saving the world – and by our learnings from the past two millennia that zealous action is imperative in the face of attacks on the innocent and vulnerable.

As always, The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, thanks to your support and partnership, is playing a central role in the North American Jewish response to this international emergency. Federation's unique position is critical in responding expeditiously and effectively to provide direct and immediate assistance to those in peril.

Our ability to do this work in times of crisis is only possible because of our decades-long presence on the ground in Ukraine and surrounding countries. Each year, Jewish Federations across North America invest more than \$100 million in core, unrestricted funding in the work of our international partners, The Jewish Agency for Israel, JDC and World ORT. These ongoing core funds ensure that these organizations have the infrastructure to support vibrant Jewish communities wherever Jews live around the world and the capacity to respond to emergencies whenever they may arise.

With these partnerships in place, Federations were on the ground in Ukraine and surrounding countries before the crisis and had the necessary knowledge about the countries and expertise in crisis response. Acting as a collective with other Jewish communities across North America, the Federation system immediately began to assess needs, raise funds, and allocate dollars for those in crisis in Ukraine. In addition, Jewish Federations advocated for expanding federal government humanitarian support and refugee assistance in the United States.

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT: MEETING EVOLVING NEEDS



Close to seven million people in Ukraine have been displaced from their homes but remain in the country. The Jewish Federation and our partners on the ground continue to work together to ensure that urgent relief reaches those most in need, including both those who have fled and who have remained.

Over the summer of 2022, The Jewish Federations of North America unveiled a thorough analysis of emergency needs of the dozens of relief organizations we are supporting,

projecting a total of \$99 million in necessary support through the end of December. The needs are broken down into humanitarian relief in Ukraine, rescue and *Aliyah* (Israel immigration) operations, refugee assistance, and strengthening the regional Jewish community. **Your gift has been utilized to meet the needs outlined below.**

Urgent Relief in Ukraine	\$44,094,566
Urgent Relief in Other former Soviet Union Countries (FSU)	\$11,818,629
Ukraine Rescue & <i>Aliyah</i>	\$24,417,016
Resettlement and Integration of Refugees	\$16,989,346
Strengthening the Regional Jewish Community (FSU)	\$2,643,333

While the needs continue to grow, to date, Federations' National Emergency Campaign has raised \$73.5 million, **including nearly \$2.5 million from 3,400 donors in the Greater Washington region.** The funds raised, including your generous gift to this effort, have been directed to more than 50 NGOs providing humanitarian aid and relief to Ukrainian refugees in Ukraine and neighboring countries, as well as to new immigrants in Israel. Those organizations include: The Jewish Agency for Israel, JDC, World ORT, Hadassah Medical Organization, HIAS, Hillel International, Israel Trauma Coalition, JCC Krakow, Chabad, Magen David Adom, Nefesh B'Nefesh, United Hatzalah, and more. A list of all allocations made, along with descriptions of each organization, is attached.

YOUR IMPACT: NOTABLE FIGURES OVER THE PAST SEVEN MONTHS

- 1,212 tons (over 2.7 million pounds) of medical equipment, clothing, food, and hygiene products have been distributed.
- 239,851 individuals have been fed with food purchased and provided by our partners on the ground in Ukraine.
- 80,817 individuals have been urgently evacuated from danger zones, including through the organization of 455 buses to bring individuals to the Romanian, Polish, Hungarian and Moldovan borders.

- 399,902 calls for assistance have been received via special hotlines set up by our partners on the ground in Ukraine, the surrounding region, and in Israel.
- 12,633 new *olim* (immigrants) have arrived in Israel from Ukraine and 21,772 from Russia and Belarus. In total, more than 34,000 *olim* have been welcomed to Israel in the past seven months.
- Nearly 100 Russian and Ukrainian-speaking skilled North American volunteers have been brought to Poland and Hungary to support Ukrainian refugees in those countries.

YOUR DIRECT IMPACT: CARING FOR UKRAINIANS

Federation – and you – continue to play a pivotal role in supporting those most affected by the devastating effects of the war. These efforts continue to be essential as our partners continue to navigate the evolving situation in the region.

Below are personal stories of Ukrainians your gift is helping.

Olga S., 42

Olga is from Kiev, and the mother of two sons, ages 9 and 13. When the war broke out, they got a ride to relatives in the town of Kamianets-Podilskyi in Ukraine. They stayed there one day, and then discovered it was possible to cross the border and reach Israel through Federation partner The Jewish Agency. Olga's husband, Sasha, who retired from the military 15 years ago and runs a logistics business, chose to remain in Ukraine and return to the army, feeling he has a duty to defend the country.

Olga notes, "My husband stayed to fight but he promised everything would be ok; still, it was very hard for us to say goodbye to him. I am in touch with him and he's not in dangerous places yet, but he's on his way there with other men who got their families to safety so that they can fight for the freedom of our country. In the meantime, my sons and I got our visas to go to Israel so we will immigrate shortly and wait with relatives already living in Israel for Sasha to join us there as soon as the war is over."

Natalia F.

Natalia lived in Kyiv with her husband, Andrei, and two children. On the morning the war broke out, the family started hearing bombing at 5 AM. Natalia had the kids get dressed and gathered important documents while Andrei went to refuel their car; there were already 15 vehicles in line for gas in front of him. They drove 20 hours straight from Kyiv to Lviv, sleeping in the car and taking turns driving every few hours, though they did not know where they should continue to from Lviv until The Jewish Agency reached them and told them to get to Warsaw. Even before the war, the family had registered with The Jewish Agency to make *Aliyah* after the children finished school, but with the outbreak of war, they advanced their plans, figuring it is better to be in Israel.

Natalia says, "I am very worried for my parents and brother who are still in the Kyiv region. I talk to them every day and luckily, they are fine for now. My brother is not willing to flee and insists on staying there. Even my father is not ready to leave Kyiv, even though he is afraid. I really want them to come and be with us so that I can support them and help. I do not care that we have nothing here, no clothes and no belongings. All I want is for my entire family to be safe and together in Israel."



Polina P.

Polina, 20, is an only child from Kyiv. Her parents have remained in Kyiv because her father is still of recruitment age for the army. The family's house is on the outskirts of the city, where it is particularly dangerous. Polina's mother is not ready to leave her husband or her elderly parents. Two days after telling her parents she wanted to leave for Israel, Polina left Kyiv. She arrived in Truskavets exhausted, with nothing except a small backpack. She will never forget seeing that whole city ruined and in flames.

Polina says, "In the early days of the war, every loud noise made me scared and stressed. Only now am I slowly starting to recover. I also panic about my parents and my friends. I hear stories every day that give me nightmares and anxieties about the war. I do not have anyone in Israel. At the same time, I feel lucky that I was able to leave Ukraine like this,

and that I have a place to go. I would love to come to a kibbutz at first, to feel safety and community."