



Your gifts since the conflict escalated in February 2022 provided support to 151,108 people.

This includes:

331,976 meals served

131,406 food packages distributed

3,810 people provided with temporary shelter

MCC has shipped 30 containers to Ukraine.

This includes:

63,822 comforters and blankets

72,000 hygiene kits

25,339 relief kits

123,840 pounds of canned meat



Your love in action

UKRAINE

2024 update

For children caught in conflict, mental health is a real concern. The constant sound of shelling causes stress and anxiety. And it gets worse when the children are forced to flee homes they've known all their lives.

That's why art therapy classes at the Blaho Charitable Fund shelter in Uzhhorod are so critical. Twice a week, the children explore their feelings with a trained psychologist.

Take 12-year-old Vitalina, for example. She and her mom, Olya, lived in a basement for 12 days during active fighting in their hometown of Ugledar. When they finally had the opportunity to evacuate, they took only important

documents and a few personal items. After learning their home had been destroyed, they ended up at Blaho.

With the support of MCC and generous donors like you, Blaho provides shelter and food to approximately 150 people—along with critical psychosocial services.

When she arrived at the shelter, Vitalina was frightened and stressed. She kept to herself and wouldn't communicate with anyone else. In fact, she didn't even leave her room to eat with others; her mom had to bring food to her.

Olya was deeply concerned. After talking with the psychologist, Olya learned some helpful ways respond to her daughter. Vitalina started meeting with the psychologist along with her mother. Now she's leaving her room, making friends and attending art therapy classes.

For Vitalina and the other children at Blaho, paint and crayons are helping reduce anxiety in the midst of war.



Photo courtesy of Blaho Charitable Fund

*Full names in this update are withheld for security reasons.



Comforters bring comfort

In the two years since full-scale invasion by the Russian military in February 2022, MCC staff and partners have worked to support internally displaced people (IDPs) who have fled their hometowns to escape fighting and hostilities. New Life Charitable Fund is working to improve people's standard of living as they find their way in a new community. New Life provides a variety of supports, including shelter, social and medical services, legal services and counseling. They also distribute emergency food, clothing, shoes, hygiene products, school kits and comforters. Yana* (pictured on page one), received an MCC comforter

from New Life. Although her husband works, he does not bring in enough income to cover all their expenses. "As long as the frosts aren't too severe, we try to save on heating," Yana says.

"We cover our daughter in [MCC] blankets . . . She really likes them because of their interesting color patterns."

Partnered with MCC, New Life has served more than 12,670 people in the city of Nikopol and the Dnipropetrovsk region and people who are internally displaced in Chervonograd.

Photo courtesy of New Life Charitable Fund



Six-year-old Anastasia* holds the contents of an MCC school kit. She and her mother, who are internally displaced from a village in Ukraine's Kherson region, received emergency support through MCC partner New Life.

MCC is so grateful to people like you who are contributing to these ministries. Together, we are sharing the love of Christ and helping people feel less alone in their suffering.

Hope for families

All Ukrainian Platform for the Improvement of Society (KECB) provides food packages, hygiene products and medicine to people in recovered villages near the front lines in Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk regions. KECB also provides medical assistance to IDPs and residents of the Kharkiv and Kherson regions who are affected by the war.

When the volunteers from KECB arrived at an apartment building, one family came out to greet them. The elderly mother* explained that during the occupation, her son-in-law was captured and because of those difficult circumstances, his health was weakened. There are no jobs in the city and this woman's pension is the only source of money for her family, which includes her daughter, son-in-law and grandson.

When she opened the grocery package, she tearfully said, **"You were sent by God. All we have left in our home is just flour, oil and rice. We've been eating plain pancakes for the last three days."**



Photo courtesy of All Ukrainian Platform for the Improvement of Society (KECB)

For more updates, visit: mcc.org/ukraine or call toll-free **1.888.563.4676**

