

CARE Ukraine Crisis Update

APRIL 11, 2022

For more than 75 years, CARE has delivered emergency services in times of disaster and conflict and has worked with communities over the long term as they strive to overcome poverty. Our historic roots lie in the direct delivery of CARE Packages® of food and other lifesaving supplies, initially to survivors of the devastation of World War II. In February 2022, CARE immediately stepped up to support war-torn families from Ukraine.

The generosity and compassion of our donors is what makes this work possible. The items and services that CARE and its partners provide to people in crisis are a direct result of your support.

Urge U.S. leaders: stand with those in need

The most recent conflict in Ukraine has intensified humanitarian and protection needs, displaced millions, and will deepen the hunger crisis for people around the world. Needs are rapidly outpacing resources, particularly for women and girls.

While CARE is responding in Ukraine with emergency cash support, shelter, food, and more, CARE Action is defending civilians' rights in crisis with those who can make a difference on Capitol Hill.

You can also support this effort by [signing the petition](#) urging U.S. leaders to stand with people caught in crisis worldwide, including in Ukraine, and reaffirm the U.S. as a leader in humanitarian response when it is most needed.



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In Western Ukraine, a resort becomes a refuge

A resort called Garden near Lviv has hosted numerous weddings and other celebrations. Today it hosts up to 70 people displaced by war, with plans to receive even more. The picturesque surroundings contrast sharply with the stories of hardship told by those arriving in search of rest.

On Feb. 24, seeing the tragedy that was to follow, Garden’s owners immediately made modifications to their property to turn it into a center for displaced people. Thanks to Garden’s owners, local volunteers, and the local administration, 70 mattresses – complete with pillows and bedsheets – appeared on-site in just a few days. Meanwhile, the resort’s kitchen began providing three hot meals a day to people staying there.

‘It was scary when the rockets were flying’

Olena, a mother of two from Korosten, about 170 km northwest of Kyiv, is one of the people who have stayed at Garden. When Korosten came under attack, Olena fled with her daughters, Arina, 3, and Karina, 5. Her husband remained in their hometown. “It was horrible and very scary when the rockets were flying,” says Olena. “My children didn’t know before what the war means, but they’ve spent time in the basement, experienced fear and the horrors of the shelling.”

While standing on the terrace where wedding guests would drink champagne in the peaceful past, Olena thinks about her future: “I don’t know what will happen tomorrow, but I know that I want to live and be with my children. And my biggest wish is the end of the war so that I can go back home. I simply want to go home and be there with my family, as before.”



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Making plans to welcome even more

Garden’s owners are now increasing capacity to accommodate more displaced people. They have another wedding hall next to the current displacement center, which they intend to equip with mattresses and heaters to offer 70 additional spaces for people. Other modifications will include showers, washing machines, and toys for children. Currently, a psychologist friend visits once a week to provide counseling to people suffering from the trauma of war, so the team at Garden is considering adding more formal psychological support services.

Through your contributions, CARE partner People in Need is ready to support Garden and other centers for displaced people with essential equipment like bedding, food, and hygiene items.

“My children didn’t know before what the war means, but they’ve spent time in the basement, experienced fear and the horrors of the shelling.”

– Olena, mother of two from Korosten

BY THE NUMBERS



4,547,735

refugees fleeing Ukraine since Feb. 24¹
(Up 7.89% from last week)



7.1 million

internally displaced³
(Up 9.23% from March 16 update)

Neighboring countries receiving refugee influx:¹

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Poland: 2.62M
(Up 6.94% from last week) | 5. Russian Federation: 404K ²
(Up 15.10%) |
| 2. Romania: 693K
(Up 7.78%) | 6. Slovakia: 318K
(Up 5.65%) |
| 3. Moldova: 411K
(Up 4.31%) | 7. Belarus: 21K
(Up 40%) |
| 4. Hungary: 424K
(Up 8.72%) | |

2,439

civilians injured⁴
(Up 19.68% from last week)

108

healthcare facilities damaged or destroyed⁵
(Up 31.71% from last week)

928

education facilities damaged or destroyed⁶
(Up 8.03% from last week)

SOURCES

¹UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), April 10, 2022; ²UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), April 9, 2022, ³International Organization for Migration, April 1; ⁴UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), April 11, ⁵World Health Organization (WHO), April 10, ⁶Multiple Sources, April 8

'Psychological first aid'

Training first responders in mental healthcare

Psychiatrist Florian Koleci is among 500 psychiatrists, social workers, and healthcare workers at Romania-Ukraine border transit who recently received emergency psychosocial support and training in trauma counseling.

The training, a partnership between CARE, the Headington Institute, and the Federation of Child Protection NGOs (FONPC), will be paid forward as Florian and others like him train other frontline workers and provide counseling to many undergoing one of the most stressful events in their lives. Your donations make this vital work possible, bringing relief to people who have witnessed unimaginable events.

Florian's organization, the Estuar Foundation, is one of the largest working with adults with mental health issues in Romania. Here, he shares his experiences with the training and the current refugee crisis.

"I heard about the Headington training on Facebook and was also contacted by FONPC. It was interesting and useful to get the perspective of people with so much global experience in this specific topic of psychological first aid. It really helped broaden my knowledge and develop new skills..."

"I think one of the main issues for those arriving is levels of distress... The need for space is really important to people in this situation."



Small acts of kindness also have a big impact for people when they are arriving.

"For example, volunteers at the border are giving out hot soup and drinks to mothers with young children when they arrive. This is so important when you are arriving in a new place, and unknown country and situation, without speaking the language and with so many emotions."

Protecting children at all costs

"One thing that really impressed me... was the effort of mothers to shield their children from their own grief and worry. I saw one mother, who, in front of her children, was smiling and trying to be happy. Then she went off to talk on the phone and broke down in tears. When she came back, she would be composed again. She made such an effort to keep the pressure to herself and not transfer it to her child."

"In Romania we are not used to emergencies like the current one, so it is really helpful to learn from people who work in these situations a lot... What I liked a lot about the training was the way the trainers dealt with questions. I saw in practice how they handle questions and concerns themselves."

DONATE NOW

CARE partners are on the borders of Ukraine in Poland, Romania, and Moldova to meet families fleeing war with emergency aid.

