

Update 2022-03-03

Things are moving very rapidly but I wanted to provide you all with a brief update/a few highlights from the humanitarian aid stand point of the National Office that I have been working on and coordinating.

UCCA's Council on Aid to Ukrainians opened up a fundraising campaign on mighty cause around February 22nd - this platform will remain open after consultations with UUARC as the link has been spread far and wide (even by several politicians' tweets and news stories) so we are receiving most of our donations from outside the community. I am proud to say that we have collected over \$300,000 in a little over a week.

I have also made zoom presentations to several businesses these last few days, which have been very effective to inform them of what is happening on the ground and how UCCA/UUARC can assist. This has generated additional significant support for our humanitarian work.

As you know we are working with AICM (headed by a former UCCA Election Observer) to deliver the much needed medical, pharmaceutical supplies throughout Ukraine. I spoke to the director of AICM yesterday and they continue to deliver aid to hospitals (over 100 have received supplies), they have delivered food rations and water to soldiers and isolated villages. The biggest need now he told me is trauma care for both the soldiers and civilians. He emailed me with an update this morning writing - "We are managing to access Kherson tomorrow with the occupants to reach the hospitals. We hope to have more support from donors because it is a great humanitarian disaster and we are very little on the ground, because the UN and many others have deserted the scene."

UCCA will be wiring him another installment today.

AICM is also coordinating trauma doctors - they have 9 doctors arriving from France this week. If you know of a doctor who would like to volunteer (they do need to have experience of trauma care in a conflict zone) please let me know. I forwarded this information to the board of UMANA yesterday evening as well.

Please note that UCCA is not working exclusively with AICM, we have identified a few other NGOs (including one of the recommendations of Dr. Ulana Suprun, former Health Minister of Ukraine) that are providing assistance directly to the military and civilian territorial defense units - IFAK (military first aid kits) and other needed supplies.

Another former UCCA Election Observer has made a great introduction for me to the CEO of LOT Polish airlines, Pan Milczarski. They are willing to help with the transportation of medical supplies, bulletproof vests, helmets, etc. They will not transport charitable clothes, toys, or food. LOT flies out of many major cities across the United States, thus if your community is gathering any of the supplies LOT is willing to transport - please let me know and I will see if I can help with the coordination. I also have a list of storage facilities that CKY has made arrangements with in Poland.

I know there have been a lot of questions regarding body armour and helmets for the military and territorial defense units. I am trying to sort this question out - I have contacted USAID's Response Management Team and the State Department's Task Force - my member of Congress who sits on the House Armed Services Committee. From everything that I understand (still needs confirmation) is that used body armour/helmets do not need an export license, new equipment does - we are trying to see if we can expedite a license - I will keep you posted on this. If someone else has additional information in this regard or can help, please let me know.

Please know that I am in constant daily contact with UUARC - we are coordinating our work to provide the most efficient humanitarian aid to our brethren in Ukraine!

I will continue periodically updating you on our progress!

Thank you for your continued support!

До Перемоги!

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