

Rotary
eClub of Ukraine



District 2232

Rotary
eClub of Ukraine



May 10, 2024

Children Don't Have a Stop Button: Early Intervention Project

Assisting Displaced Families with Preschool Children
at Risk of Developmental Delays in Restoring Their
Physical and Mental Development

- On 24 February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine in an escalation of the Russo-Ukrainian War which began in 2014.
- Children have been enormously affected in Ukraine as a result of the Russian full-scale armed aggression.

“The war has caused one of the fastest large-scale displacements of children since World War II,” said UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell. “This is a grim milestone that could have lasting consequences for generations to come. Children’s safety, wellbeing and access to essential services are all under threat from non-stop violence.”



Activity FEBRUARY 2022-APRIL 2024

- ✓ Temporary shelter for IDP families with special needs kids
- ✓ Collecting and distribution of rare diseases meal-formulas
- ✓ Collecting and distributing OTC medication, blankets, pillows, pampers, etc.
- ✓ Child. Family. Community. 2023 "Support for Internally Displaced Persons with Children". 2023-2024 Supported by the British Embassy in Kyiv Grant.



Problems of IDP families raising children with special needs and the risk of developmental delay

- ✓ Loss of property, means of livelihood, and housing. Limited financial resources due to the need to rent housing.
- ✓ Loss of family connections and support, including childcare and family circle.
- ✓ Extreme mental and physical exhaustion of families, both adults and children.
- ✓ The crisis has forced one of the parents to be unable to work, as the operation of kindergartens was suspended during martial law in the red zone. This has significantly impacted the family's financial stability and ability to recover.
- ✓ There is a high demand for rehabilitation specialists and the restoration of children's physical condition due to evacuation and increased cost of consultations.
- ✓ Institutions providing rehabilitation services do not operate during air raid alarms; patients must be outside the institutions. The average duration of an air raid alarm in Zaporizhzhia is 14 hours daily.

“Needs of families with children with developmental peculiarities or at risk of developmental delay”

Assessment research October 2023

- ✓ No adult family members have sought psychological support because of a lack of finances and trust in specialists.
- ✓ 80% of families did not receive humanitarian aid for children and did not participate in projects because they were unaware of such opportunities or had no one to leave the children with to receive help.
- ✓ Approximately 20% of families reported not having a regular doctor or pediatrician.
- ✓ The primary challenges in children's access to healthcare were financial constraints and the unavailability of necessary specialists due to evacuation.
- ✓ 90% of families needed information about organizations that assisted individuals with special needs.



- ✓ **The first non-occupied city in Southeast Ukraine, ZAPORIZHZHIA, hosted 240,000 internally displaced people (IDPs), including 80,000 children.**
- ✓ **Downtown Zaporizhzhia, located only 35 miles from the fight zone and badly struggling from airstrikes, averages 14 air a day.**



Inclusive Transformation – FUTURE **Child. Family. Community**

Operating since 2018

Our primary focus is on rural villages and small towns in Southeast Ukraine.

- ✓ Early intervention
- ✓ Neurodiversity
- ✓ Mental Health of parents and caregivers of children with special needs

Advocacy, Workshops, Informational support, Specialist professional development, early intervention center development, and parents and caregivers of children with special needs support groups.



Project "Child. Family. Community. 2023 "Support for Internally Displaced Persons with Children"

- ✓ Forty families participated in the pilot model of the Early Intervention service under Martial Law conditions.
- ✓ An initial assessment of family needs and challenges established goals to be assisted by specialists.
- ✓ Through the supervision assessment of the family and child, with a collaborative effort of the Early Intervention team, the family received a consultation plan that should help them achieve their goals.
- ✓ Appointments were scheduled weekly, with additional consultations (both online and offline).
- ✓ Over 14 weeks of counseling, the Project conducted 745 consultations for 40 families and 80 supervisions.
- ✓ In parallel, once a week, parents joined moderated support groups.
- ✓ Additional in-depth seminars and consultations on physical and mental health restoration and child rights advocacy were conducted for parents.
- ✓ A concluding assessment was carried out at the final stage, and the family was provided with a further action plan.
- ✓ The project went beyond counseling, providing families with equipment for online consultations, support groups, and other events, ensuring comprehensive support.

20 specialist consultation team all of them use an early intervention approach.



- ✓ Child Psychologists
- ✓ Psychologists for Adults
- ✓ Physical Rehabilitation Therapist
- ✓ Speech Therapists
- ✓ Occupational Therapists
- ✓ Sensory Therapists
- ✓ Self-Support Group Facilitators
- ✓ Doctors

Children Don't Have a Stop Button: Early Intervention Services

GG2464705

TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT for 40 Families \$100,000 which is 2500 for each family

- ✓ Up to 40 families will participate (20-25 from the previous project and 15-20 new families).
- ✓ The total duration of the project is nine months.
- ✓ After six weeks of preparation, six months of consultative activity, and one month for reporting and final events
- ✓ The total number of consultations provided to families is up to 2100.
- ✓ During the active consultation period, families will attend support groups.
- ✓ During the active phase, five workshops will be conducted for families.
- ✓ Newly participating families will be provided with communication equipment.

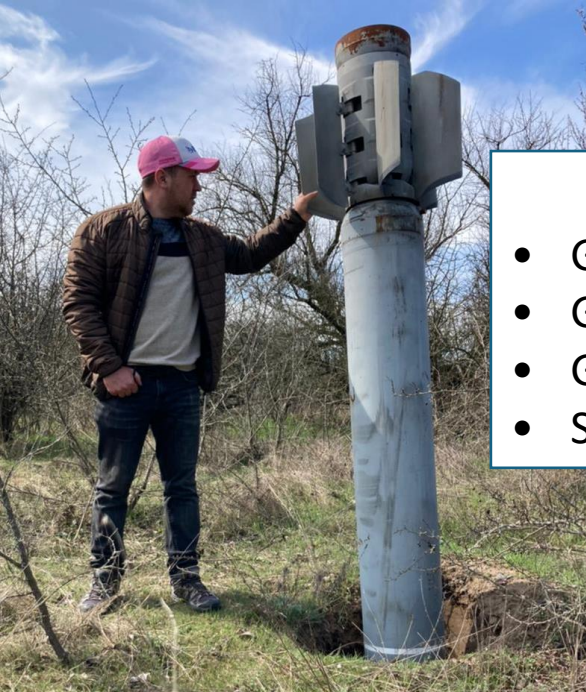
Expected RESULTS

- ✓ The combined counseling and family management model will allow for the involvement of specialists, the lack of whom is felt throughout Ukraine, especially in front-line territories.
- ✓ The absence of 'attachment' to specific specialists or approaches will lead to faster results.
- ✓ Working in combined models will allow families to obtain the most comfortable conditions for the family, increase trust in specialists, and make it possible to achieve goals.
- ✓ Families can comprehensively work through the goals set by the family itself to restore quality of life and rehabilitation and gradually achieve them.
- ✓ Socialization of families and the creation of horizontal connections and lower family social disability.

ReC Ukraine: About Us

Charter in 2015 and members now live in **Ukraine: Kyiv, Cherkasy, Odesa, Lviv, Mykolaiv, Khmelnytskyi** and all over the Word: **Israel, Italy, Turkey, United States (California and Florida), United Kingdom, Japan**





Demining

- GG: Mine Free Ukraine
- GG: Mines to Vines
- GG: Mine Free Ukraine 2
- Sapper's bags

New Rotarian friends

- Visiting clubs abroad
- On-line joint meetings
- Joint projects



Main areas

Medical and humanitarian assistance

- First-aid kits (several mini projects)
- Israeli bandages for military
- Kostiantynivka, Donetsk region (food supply)
- Temporary bakery in Kherson
- Mobile medical clinic in Kherson region

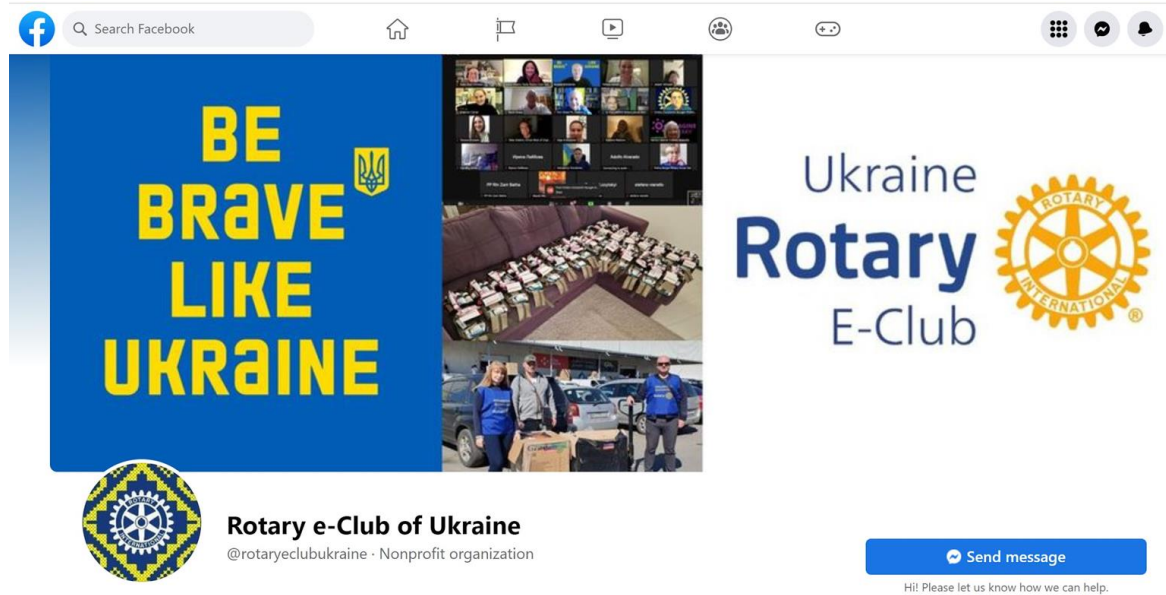


Reconstruction, physical and psychological

- Reconstruction of the school in Buzova village
- GG: Internally Displaced People
- Hearts of Europe: Mental Health Center
- Module medical centre



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