

ADRA UKRAINE

NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2024





Interview

“In the south and east of Ukraine, every mayor and governor knows us because ADRA Ukraine is leading the way in providing humanitarian aid”

In 2024, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency in Ukraine was ranked first in the [People's Charity Givers](#) competition and 12th in the annual [TOP 100 Charities of Ukraine](#) rating, having provided assistance to more than three million individual beneficiaries since the beginning of the full-scale invasion. In this activity, the charity could not be effective without coordination with the authorities. Oleksandr Alyshev, GR Director of ADRA Ukraine, talks in this article about the importance of such interaction at all levels, from local to national.

— Oleksandr, please tell us what the responsibilities of the GR Director are?

— This is a huge amount of work in terms of constant contact with the government, the Cabinet of Ministers and the heads of various ministries whose activities relate to the scope of our charity, i.e. the provision of humanitarian aid to Ukrainians. It also involves signing agreements with municipalities, governors, city and town councils.

— What does this interaction look like?

— We work with communities at different levels to organise humanitarian aid. We started by contacting town and village councils and their administrations to help people who needed to be evacuated. The support of community leaders, city and regional councils was important to us because they could facilitate the movement of our vehicles and volunteers. We have been doing this since '22, when the full-scale invasion began. At that time, many people were begging for help, there was panic everywhere, and local leaders did not always understand what to do and how to do it. And we had concrete proposals. First we provided vehicles to evacuate people, then we delivered food and hygiene kits and gave financial support to those in need. And after a while, our organisation reached the level of cooperation with the state authorities. Today we have signed memoranda with the Ombudsman, the State Agency for Water Resources of Ukraine and the Kyiv City Employment Centre.

— When ADRA Ukraine approached them with a request to organise something, how did the heads of the local administrations react?

— They have responded very positively, willingly meeting our needs, because they could do almost nothing on their own, especially at the beginning of the war. They often have no money, no vehicles, no staff, or even if they have volunteers, they are not always there on a regular basis. And when an organisation like ADRA Ukraine enters the community and starts working, it means stability, decency and honesty. We have proven to be the best and there have been many positive comments about our work and cooperation with the authorities. In the south and east of Ukraine, every mayor, governor and head of administration knows us. This is because we are one of the leading providers of humanitarian aid. It is a huge amount of work, but people are grateful. It has helped us establish contacts with the authorities at higher levels.

— One of these levels is [the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner](#) of the Ukrainian Parliament. How can a charitable organisation and the Office be useful to each other?

— A Memorandum of Cooperation with the Office of the Ombudsman [was signed](#) in February this year. It provides for the consolidation of efforts to protect the rights and freedoms of citizens and to provide humanitarian assistance to Ukrainians affected by the war. ADRA Ukraine has joined the Advisory Board of the Human Rights Commissioner of the Ukrainian Parliament. The Office of the Ombudsman invites us to various events that take place every month or every two months. They review reports and plans, discuss what needs attention. For our part, we advise the Office's staff.



Cooperations with the Human Rights Commissioner of the Ukrainian Parliament

As a charity, we work with many people. One of the vulnerable groups we help is the internally displaced. So, for example, when the Office of the Ombudsman presents an analysis of the implementation of the State Policy Strategy on Internally Displaced Persons for the period up to 2025, we also take part in the discussion. Our opinion is important to them because we work 'on the ground' and have the most up-to-date information about people's needs and problems. In addition, ADRA Ukraine psychologists provide psychological rehabilitation to the staff of the Ombudsman's Office. After all, the Office's staff deal with people who have been injured, with prisoners of war, or with people whose relatives have died. This is a very heavy psychological burden, they are confronted with negativity every day. And although the Ombudsman's Office has a large team, they are also exhausted from almost three years of war and need psychological support.

— In May, ADRA Ukraine **signed a Memorandum** with **the Kyiv City Employment Centre**. Please tell us about it.

— As part of our cooperation with the Employment Centre, we inform people who call our call centre where they can get help with employment. Or where they can be helped to retrain, to take some courses, because a lot of people who leave the occupied territories cannot find a job in the profession they used to work in. That is why the Employment Centre can send them to courses to learn a new profession free of charge. The Employment Centre also develops grants to support small businesses. And our call centre provides information to citizens. They get in touch with representatives of the Employment Centre and these issues are resolved with them. It is a very happy job. Because Kyiv is overcrowded with IDPs, people's movements are often not tracked, employers do not know about potential employees and vice versa, and we help in this regard. By informing people about job opportunities, we can keep people in our country, because if they find a job, they stay here. They study, communicate, meet and settle where there are vacancies and jobs. So our cooperation with the Employment Centre helps people to stay in Ukraine in a certain way.

— What kind of agreements does ADRA Ukraine have with the State Agency for Water Resources of Ukraine?

— We are just starting to work with them, we have just signed a memorandum. It opens up a huge area of cooperation. It has to do with water metering, flood control, irrigation canals, many of which are now destroyed. There is also the problem of the pollution of the rivers by garbage. What do you mean by that? Yes, our organisation's projects provide people with access to clean drinking water - by installing treatment plants or drilling wells. But this humanitarian issue is to some extent local, it concerns Ukrainians affected by the war. But there are also more global issues, because we live in a world where there are other countries. And, for example, the rubbish that some Ukrainians are used to throwing into the rivers in the Carpathians ends up in EU countries. And there they try to deal with it, because it accumulates. And that should not be the case. What can ADRA Ukraine do to help? It can either organise volunteers to help clear certain areas of rubbish or finance equipment. We will discuss how to do this in practice at the meetings. This is a matter for the future. In other words, we are starting to work on a prospect that will be very positive for both our organisation and Ukraine, given its European integration.



Cooperation with Kyiv City Employment Centre



Meeting with the Head of the Damages Register

Assistance activity statistics for August 2024

Component	Number of beneficiaries	Amount of assistance	Region of assistance	Donor Name
Food Security	260 448 people	126 730 food kits 504 530 loaves of bread	Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Kherson regions	The UN World Food Programme and ADRA Switzerland
Food and Non-food Items	2 200 people	1 780 food & hygiene kits 525 woman hygiene kits	Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions	Japan Platform and ADRA Japan
Psychological Assistance	2 802 people	-	All of Ukraine	Japan Platform, ADRA Japan, ADRA Australia, ADRA Sweden (RadioAid), ADRA Denmark, Danish International Development Agency, Ministry of Justice of Government of the Faroe Islands
Protection Centres for IPDs	638 people	5 collective centres	Zhytomyr, Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Khmelnytskyi regions	ADRA Sweden (RadioAid)
Winterization Non-food Items	-	10 thermopots for 10 educational institutions	Mykolayiv region	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Community Initiative Support (SCLR)	18 civil society organizations	5 263 199 UAH (127 462 \$)	Mykolayiv region	ADRA Denmark, Danish Church Aid, Danish International Development Agency



HIGHLIGHT

Forbes magazine ranked ADRA Ukraine 13th among charitable foundations of Ukraine

Forbes Ukraine magazine in the August-September published the [top 50 charitable foundations](#) rating of Ukraine. Adventist Development and Relief Agency in Ukraine (ADRA Ukraine) takes 13th place in terms of provided assistance .

The authoritative magazine invited about 200 charitable foundations registered in Ukraine to participate in the list, of which was choosed the 50 largest in terms of raised funds. In general, 31,122 charitable organizations are registered in Ukraine as of July 1, 2024.

As the magazine notes, Ukrainians donate the most during the tragedies and on the rise of the spirit. The top Ukrainian fundraisers collected 63% of contributions for humanitarian aid. In 2023, the joint collection of charitable foundations of Ukraine amounted to \$1 billion. "Ukrainian charity is growing up and becoming systematic. It's time to look at it attentively." concludes Forbes Ukraine.

05/09/2024

See on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/forbes-magazine-ranked-adra-ukraine-13th-among-charitable-foundations-of-ukraine>



HIGHLIGHT

ADRA Ukraine joined the financing of the camp for children of servicemen in Bucha

On the territory of the [Ukrainian Humanitarian Institute \(UGI\)](#) in the city of Bucha, Kyiv region, from August 5 to 9, a teenage camp for children of military personnel was held. The event, which was attended by 42 children aged 9 to 14 years, whose parents serve in the army, died or went missing, organized by the [charitable foundation "My Vdoma"](#) (Hostomel city) in partnership with the UGI and the social department of Hostomel. The charitable organization ADRA Ukraine joined the financing of the camp, transferring 40.000 UAH for the needs of food, accommodation and logistics.

The camp program contained psychological assistance, master classes of various kinds (cooking, art therapy, sports, choreography, cynology) and camp games. As well as a meeting with employees of the State Emergency Service, who conducted training on fire safety.

05/08/2024

See on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/adra-ukraine-joined-the-financing-of-the-camp-for-children-of-servicemen-in-bucha>



HIGHLIGHT

In Kupyansk FPV-drone attacked the point of humanitarian aid: wounded one person

In Kupyansk city of Kharkiv region, on August 14, volunteers from the charitable organization ADRA Ukraine distributed food kits from the [UN World Food Programme](https://www.adra.ua/en/in-kupyansk-fpv-drone-attacked-the-point-of-humanitarian-aid-wounded-one-person). At about 10:45, when one of the recipients of assistance drove up to the point of issue in his own car, an FPV drone hit the trunk of his car. As a result of the explosion, the person who was in the car at that time was injured, the car was also damaged. The injured man was taken by an ambulance. Distribution of food kits was suspended. Due to the incident, this issuing point was temporarily closed.

15/08/2024

See on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/in-kupyansk-fpv-drone-attacked-the-point-of-humanitarian-aid-wounded-one-person>



Story

Victoria Chernesheva
from Snegurivka city of Mykolaiv region

Victoria is director of the Snigurivsky lyceum. This institution is a reference for the whole community. Senior students study at the lyceum.

"On April 16, 2023, it was just Easter night, the Snegurivka community was fired upon, and 12 missiles flew into the city. Two of these missiles, unfortunately, also hit our institution." recalls Victoria.

Lyceum suffered considerable destruction and studying there became simply impossible. High school students remained quality education and places where they could finish school and get a high school diploma. Of course, it might affect their future, because without secondary education they will not be able to continue to enter institutions and get higher education.

One day Victoria got acquainted with ADRA Ukraine through the military administration. Specialists of the charitable organization looked at the room that was damaged by the explosion and promised to help. Although there was a lot of work, the hope arose that the institution would not be closed, but rebuilt, and the children would be able to return to school again.

At the moment, the charitable organization ADRA Ukraine with the support of the [Danish International Development Agency \(DANIDA\)](#) has already helped to draft the premises that will be rebuilt and provides workers with building materials.

"Unfortunately, almost all educational institutions of the community suffered. Therefore, thank God that there are such funds, that there are such people who are ready to provide real assistance." says Victoria.

The woman is very grateful for this contribution to the lives of children and their education.



Story

Larysa Saryi from Kharkiv region

Larysa lives in the Khariv region. Of course, it is quite dangerous to be there, she has no other place to live. Since there is martial law in the country, the financial situation of many residents of Ukraine has worsened, and they cannot afford even simple things for normal life.

Thanks to various charitable organizations, people can receive free food and hygiene items, but there are also other needs. For example, clothes, payment for bus or medication. Therefore, having received cash assistance from the charitable organization ADRA Ukraine and the [UN World Food Programme](#), the woman remained very satisfied.

"So we received cash assistance, and I have the opportunity to buy what I need today. I thank everyone who is involved in this great support." - happily adds Larysa.



Story

Natalia Filipova from Mariupol city now in Dnipro city

Natalia comes from Mariupol city, but for a long time she and her family are living in Dnipro city. Unfortunately, in February 2022 the city where she grew up began to suffer significant destruction. Thus, city residents were forced to seek shelter, where it would be more calm.

It was very scary. Many roadblocks, panic, people everywhere and ruins. However, after going through all this, the family ended up in Dnipro city. They feel safer now. The family rented a house where they live today.

"I saw a video in TikTok where the phone number of ADRA Ukraine call center. I called and asked for help, and they took my application. " Natalia recalls her acquaintance with the charitable organization.

At this moment, Natalia has successfully received funds with the support of [Japan Platform](#) and [ADRA Japan](#). How to spend them, the family has not yet decided, but they have a need for some gadgets for the grandson and Natalia's mother. Also they would like to buy bicycles to move around the city, and there is a need for clothes.

"I thank the Japanese government very much. Thank you for such compassion. I thank people who are very far away, but worry about us like our relatives. " says Natalia.



More news

A family-type orphanage in Lviv region received sports equipment from ADRA Ukraine

02/08/2024

Participants of psychological training in Zhytomyr region fought with emotional burnout, creating a doll "Guardian of the Soul"

05/08/2024

In Mykolaiv region ADRA Ukraine installs water purification equipment with the support of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

05/08/2024

Residents of the Balakliya community will receive cash assistance from the UN World Food Programme

08/08/2024

Wards of Zhytomyr boarding house sang Ukrainian songs - art therapy with ADRA Ukraine

22/08/2024

Educational institutions of Mykolaiv region received thermopots with the support of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

27/08/2024

Residents of four villages in Kharkiv region have received food kits from the UN World Food Programme

30/08/2024

In Lviv, children learned to appreciate friendship at the training from ADRA Ukraine

30/08/2024

Thank you for supporting Ukraine!



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