

ADRA UKRAINE

SUMMER 2025





"People need us, and this motivates us to continue our mission"

Maryna Ilnytska helps residents of the Beryslav district of the Kherson region receive food kits as part of a project of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), implemented by ADRA Ukraine with the support of ADRA Switzerland. We spoke with Maryna about her journey, work, and challenges.

— **Maryna, tell us about yourself and how you got involved in the project.**

— I come from the city of Beryslav. By education, I am a kindergarten teacher, before the war I worked in the city of Kherson. With the beginning of the full-scale invasion, I returned home, where I had to live the entire period of occupation. Those were terrible times, sometimes it seemed like I was saying goodbye to life. But God protected me.

On November 11, 2022, Beryslav was liberated from occupation, and on November 14, the first buses with humanitarian aid arrived. I was asked to help with the distribution of food kits. At that time, I didn't know that it was WFP and ADRA, I just saw the logos on the boxes. First, I connected my husband, then my parents, and later I myself received an official offer to work. I agreed without even thinking. Since 2023, I have been in the team. The feeling that people need you has become a huge moral support for me.

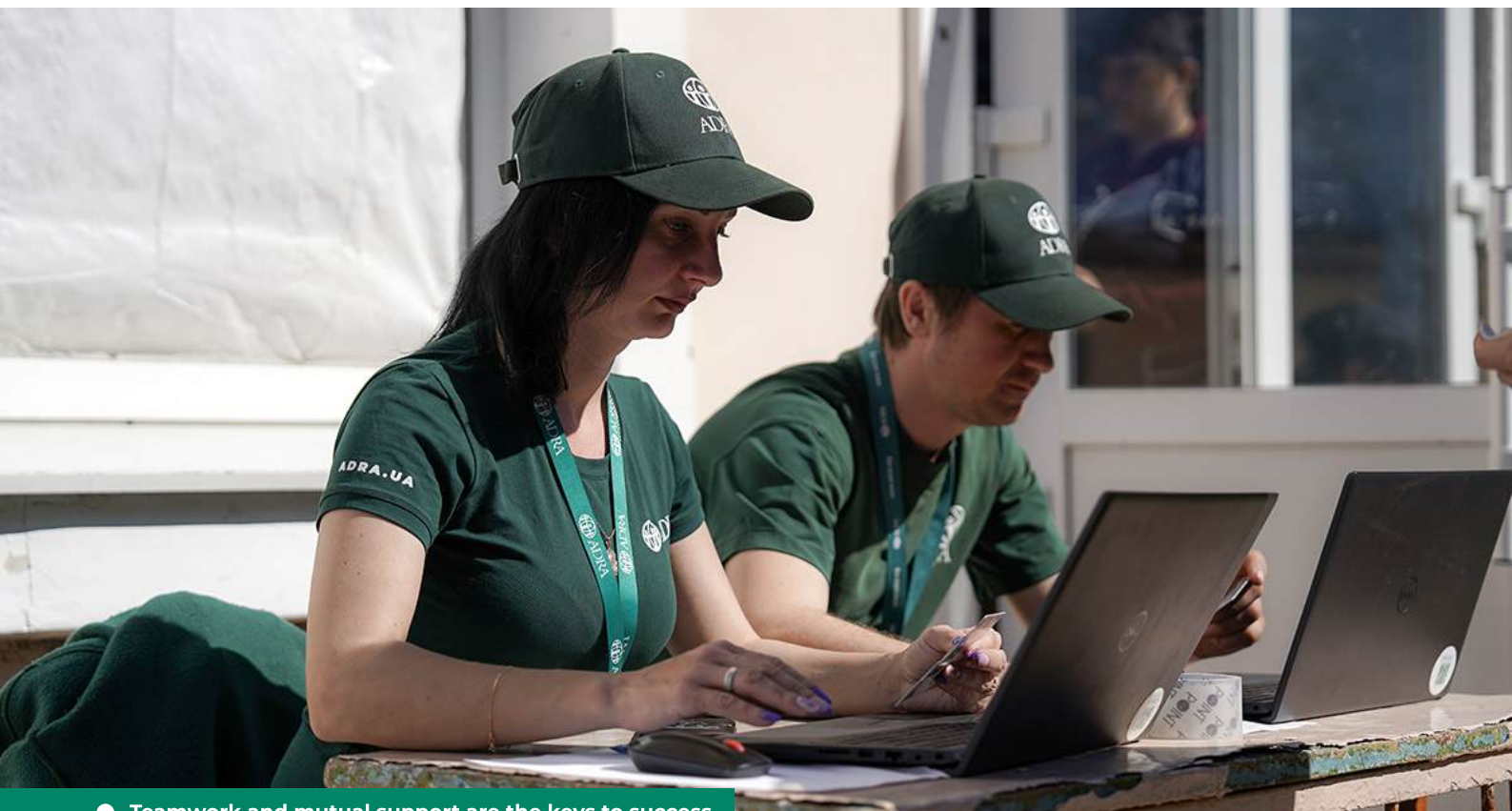
— **You work in dangerous conditions. What motivates you the most?**

— The fact that I live in the Berislav district, next to these people. I see and hear the shelling, I experienced it all. I remember the drones hunting our car when we were delivering humanitarian aid. In the surrounding settlements, there is no electricity, no gas, no water, shops are not working. That is, the infrastructure is completely cut off. When you bring even a small grocery set, you understand: it can save a person.



Bread during war is sacred. A can of stew or a liter of oil is an opportunity to fry something, cook food even on a fire.

For example: about 850 people lived in the village of Zmiivka a year or a year with a half ago, now there are only six persons left. When we bring them assistance, they write: "Thank you for supporting our lives, thanks to you we can survive." These are the words, this gratitude from people, it motivates. It gives us strength and the desire to continue.



● Teamwork and mutual support are the keys to success

— Did most of the people there evacuate?

— Who left, who, unfortunately, was killed, who was wounded and they were forced to leave due to their injuries or were evacuated. There are many such settlements, villages that we visited. Not so long ago, I was handing out food kits in one of them. It was even a little scary, because reconnaissance drones were hanging out in the air. And then they were shelling.

— Why did those six people still stay in Zmiivka?

— There are several reasons. Some have nowhere to go, some have no loved ones. And some have already left, but have encountered negativity in the cities: "The IDPs have arrived, no one needs you here." And these people who were displaced, unfortunately, return, and they say: "It's better for us to live here, to survive, than to experience this boorish attitude." I would say that this is perhaps one of the main reasons why people returned to those empty villages near the front line. There are also elderly people, grandparents, who say: "Who needs us? We will live out our lives here. In case they kill us, bury us in our own yard. We will stay here, because we have nowhere to go." There are a lot of such stories. And only we, because we communicate with them, know certain nuances.

— How does the issuance process work?

— We plan everything in advance: we agree when the truck with food aid will arrive, we analyze what time is safer for arrival. Sometimes we have to start at four or five in the morning. At a certain time, on a certain day, I arrive at the place of aid distribution, if possible we inform people. We..arrive,



unload, organize people. People come with all the documents, we check them. For each person, for each family member, we give out a food kit weighing approximately 11.5 kg, these are basic necessities - beans, oil, salt, sugar, pasta, spaghetti, oatmeal, cereal and flour. But the most important thing is safety. If an air raid alert is announced (where there is no siren, we look for information in online chats), we close the point and take people to shelter. We always work in helmets and bulletproof vests (although there are situations when you don't know whether it will help or not). As soon as we receive a message that the air raid alert is over, we continue the distribution. People return in the queue, we work quickly, distribute, communicate with people. We have a box called "Wishes, suggestions, complaints". People write their wishes, what they want. We then reread it, and pass it on to our team. So, the main task is safety and assistance to people during the distribution.

— **How do you communicate with people in villages without communication and electricity?**

— Very simple: "word of mouth." Someone got it, told a neighbor, who passed it on. And it works even better than online chats.





● The consequences of shelling of volunteer vehicles

— Have there been any attacks on your team?

— Yes. The first time it happened was in the Tyahyn community. We were driving to the village of Odradokamyanka. And I realized later that someone must have betrayed us. Why do I say that? Because we brought aid to the settlement in two cars and were supposed to go to reload. When we were approaching the village for the second time, artillery from the left bank started working on us. We had flights over the fields — the road ran between fields on both sides. We were already sitting and thinking: should we go home and return in the morning, or stay and give aid now, because we knew that people were waiting for us.

I was wearing a bulletproof vest. Back then, aid didn't come in boxes, but needed to be packed. The flour was brought separately — we packed everything on the spot. The premises were agreed upon. We returned to Odradokamyanka, and then artillery shells started flying over us. I didn't even feel the weight of the bulletproof vest: I threw out four 20-kg packs of flour and handed them to the guys as if it were an A4 sheet.

It was the first time this happened. Then I came home, sat down. Mom asks what happened. I say, "Wait, I'll try to understand what I was doing at that moment," because that was exactly the state of affect. We acted very quickly then.

When I told my mom, she said, "You're not going anymore." And I said, "Mom, people need help." She said, "Okay, I'm going with you."

And then there was another incident — it was already written about on the ADRA Ukraine website, on Facebook, and on Instagram. It happened in Beryslav, when we were loading food kits to take them to the village of Novoberyslav. There were three cars in which we planned to deliver aid, and just then two drones dropped three charges on us. It was August 11, 2023. I remember this date well — now I celebrate it as my second birthday. Thank God, no one was hurt.

The men who were loading the kits into the cars managed to hear the sound of the drone and hide. And I was sitting right in front of the warehouse door. The drone flew up and dropped a charge on the cars so that the sound wave went straight in my direction. The guys even said then: "You're like a tigress." Like, as I was sitting calmly, I got up and said: "Guys, let's go!" — and went to hide. This was also a state of affect — when you're not worried about yourself, but about people.

Although I understood that the drone could have flown inside the warehouse. They already had a practice at that time: to fly into the premises and drop explosives right there. We went behind two walls, closed the door and stood there, waiting for everything to end.





● Marina in the hospital under an IV drip

I realized what had happened only after an hour with a half or two. When I felt that something was wrong with me, I called my husband — he also works with us. I said, “We were fired upon, we need to take the cars away. Look for the wheels to pull them away.” And he asked, “How are you feeling?” I replied, “I’m fine, we need to take the cars and the guys away.” That is, I wasn’t thinking about myself first. Although, as they say, you should think about yourself first, and only then about others. Even the photo from that incident is still there somewhere.

Then we went to Novoberslav three days later. Although I had a second-degree concussion. This was officially confirmed: I was in the hospital, receiving treatment under IVs and taking pills. After treatment, we decided to go anyway. On the very first day after discharge, I sat down and brought help to people.

— How do people react when aid is distributed?

— It happens differently. I will even say about Novoberslav — when cars were shelled. Then three damaged cars returned to the village, which local activists provided to transport aid from Berslav. They didn’t even arrive — they were towed away, because after that drone attack they were so damaged that they couldn’t start. The cars returned to Novoberslav, and people stand and ask: “Why didn’t you bring aid?” They answer: “You see what happened to the cars.” And they answer: “It’s okay, you should have brought aid anyway.” Such a reaction of people shocked me a little. When I arrived later, I talked to people, explained what and how it happened. This is the situation. Some understand, but, unfortunately, not everyone. Some even told me personally: “You have to bring aid to my yard. You are a volunteer, you work in an organization, therefore, you are obliged to bring aid right to the gate.” It was a little unpleasant, but I still helped people and continue to do so.

— So, there are people who even demand it, not wanting to understand the situation?

— No matter what, they demand it. “You have to,” they say. Fortunately, there are not many of them. There are other people in those settlements who try to explain to them: “What are you talking about, why? You know the situation, what is happening and why.” And they come up to me and say: “Everything is fine, thank you for coming. Come more often, we will be glad to see you.”

People wrote me wishes, left reviews. And you know, when I no longer go to this or that settlement, because they issued assistance there, I reread those wishes. It’s so nice, it warms my soul. Because not only the elders wrote them, but also ordinary people who wanted to get involved — and wrote. And when you read this, you know: you will get there — and they will be waiting for you.

— How do you recover after hard, exhausting days?

— I still work as a teacher in a kindergarten in Kherson, I conduct online classes. These children are scattered all over Ukraine and the world — Poland, the USA, Germany, Finland, the cities of Odesa and Kryvyi Rih. You know, when in the morning you come under fire, for example, or something “arrives” somewhere nearby, everything — you are afraid, your hands just drop, you don’t want to do anything. And in the evening you go to an online meeting, conduct classes for children in a kindergarten — and you see these little eyes, these sincere smiles... And that fear, which was paralyzed not so long ago, disappears. Because in their eyes you see hope, peace. And it seems to completely reboot you.

You forget about everything and realize: here it is — a small generation for which you must hold on, work, and never, under any circumstances, show them fear in your eyes.



And they say: "Maryna, let's still work! And when will we see you again? And tomorrow we will do something, right?"

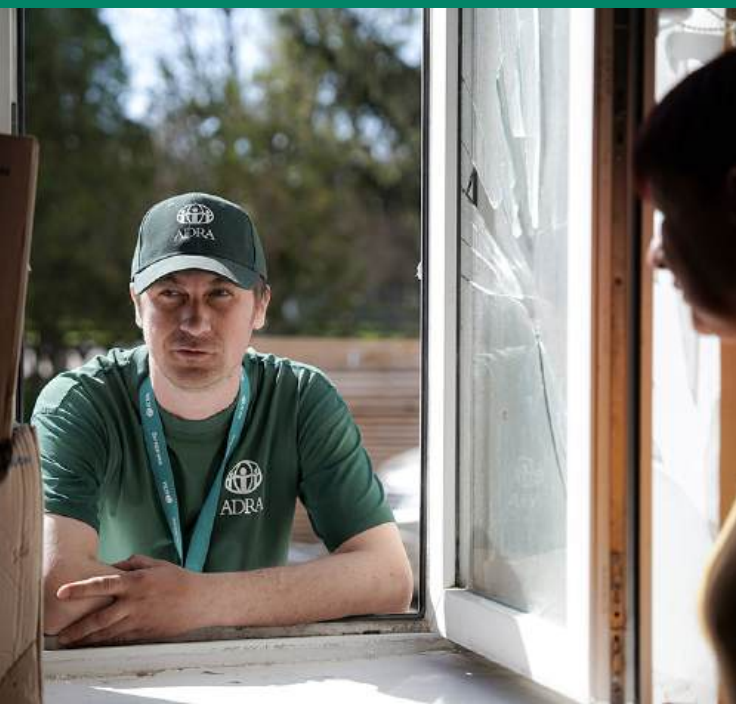
I don't know what will happen to me tomorrow. But I say, "Yes." And I prepare exercises for them for the next day. And in the morning, I go to the danger zone, give help, knowing that the children are waiting for me in the evening.



— What does your team need most right now?

— There is one important need. This is, again, a security issue. When you go to a settlement where there is no stable connection, you don't know if a drone is flying, in which direction, and what to do. Because it flies by in a second and discharges its charge in a second. There are no radars that we could use to detect a threat in advance.

● Every day, there is risk and danger to life



For example, I have a town where drones fly every minute — not just one, but several. And I don't even know how to get there right now, what time it is, how to safely deliver food aid there, what to do.

That's why we really need radars - means for monitoring and controlling airspace. At least for the team, because it's a matter of safety - both ours and people's. If we know that, something is flying, we will be able to complete the provision of aid in time, evacuate people to a safe place, and hide ourselves too. Because a helmet or bulletproof vest can't always save. A fragment is a treacherous thing: even the smallest, millimeter-sized one can cut an artery - and then no one will be able to help.

And on the coastal strip where we work, including the team from Kryvyi Rih, which also often travels to villages near the city of Dnipro, drones also fly there. And in our zone they fly even closer - to the very shores. And this is already about a 30-kilometer zone. It's scary.

But people need to be helped. So you go. You get up in the morning — “Lord, help!” — and go. You don't go anymore, you fly in a car. You fly into a settlement, provide aid, and at the same time you are constantly on the lookout for potential danger. That's why we really need radar.

— Does faith help you?

— Yes. Every time I get to the right place, I say: “Thank you, God, for sending a guardian angel.” I woke up — I thank God for what he gave me today. And tomorrow — there will be tomorrow. Without this, I wouldn't have survived.

— Your experience is inspiring! I wish you that the Lord blesses your efforts and protects you from danger!



Children's hearts radiate joy when their home is filled with the smell of food and a sense of comfort

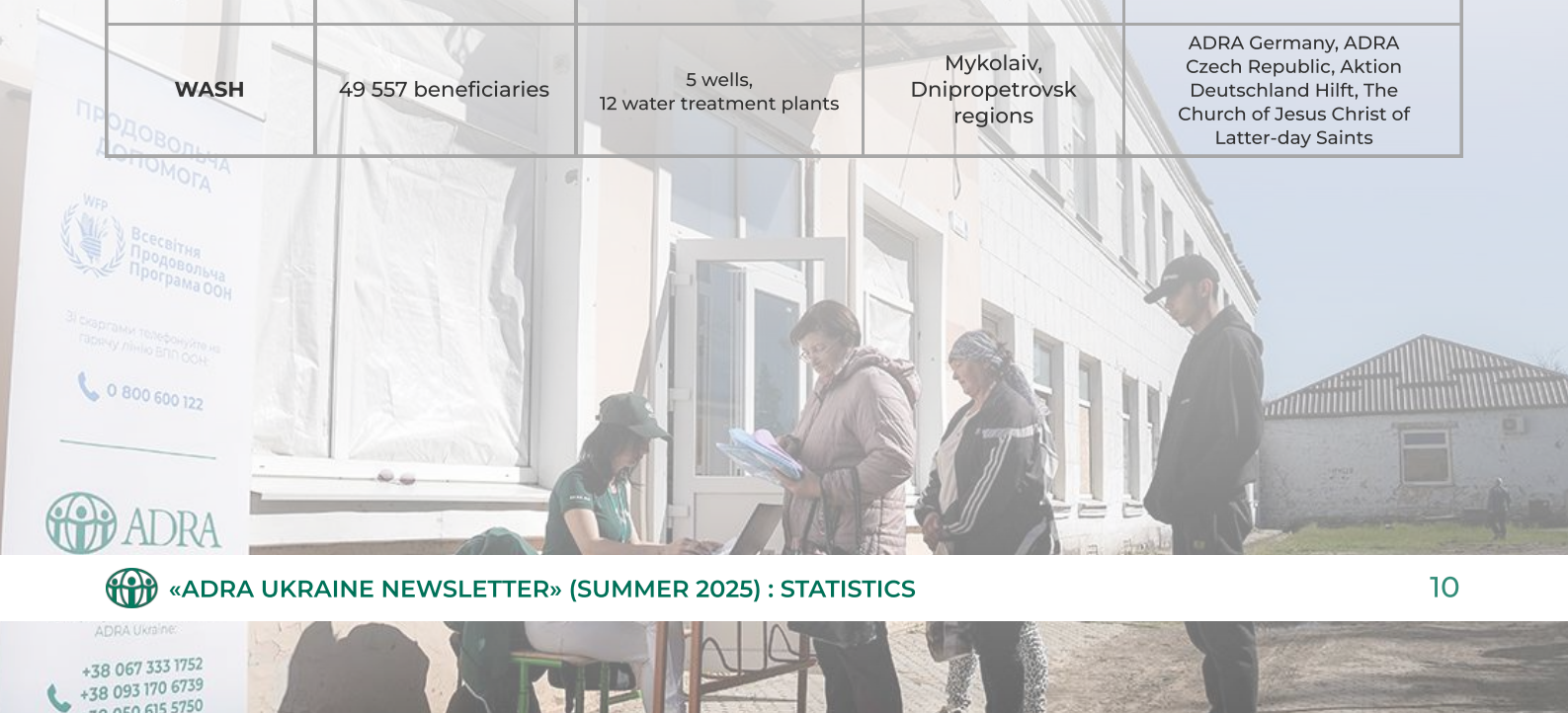
Statistics of assistance provided for June 2025

Component of assistance	Number of beneficiaries	Amount of assistance	Region of assistance	Name of Donor
Food Security	225 781 beneficiaries	120 033 food kits, 607 canned food kits, 408 192 loaves of bread, food for 2 protection centers, 3 000 ATB vouchers	Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Kherson, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Lviv, Chernivtsi, Khmelnytskyi, Cherkasy regions	The UN World Food Programme & ADRA Switzerland, AWW Deutschland & ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter- day Saints & ADRA France & ADRA Ukraine
Legal Assistance	113 beneficiaries	-	Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Zhytomyr, Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Sumy regions	ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)
MHPSS	2 583 beneficiaries	1,780 individual sessions, 457 group sessions, 346 trainings	All of Ukraine	Radiohjälpen & ADRA Sweden, ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, (GAC) IHA Canada & ADRA Canada, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)
Protection & support centers	1 119 beneficiaries	11 protection centers	Zhytomyr, Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Khmelnytskyi, Chernihiv, Sumy, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv regions	Radiohjälpen & ADRA Sweden, (GAC) IHA Canada & ADRA Canada
Social Transportation	2 782 beneficiaries	119 trips	Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zaporizhia, Kherson regions	ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft
Education	54 beneficiaries	Co-finance of education for 14 students, 13 students participating in the career guidance radio lab program, 27 teachers participating in retreat sessions	Lviv region	Schulzentrum Marienhöhe & ADRA Germany
Education: MHPSS	384 beneficiaries	172 individual sessions, 51 psychotherapy sessions, group sessions	Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Khmelnytskyi, Poltava, Vinnytsia regions	ADRA Australia
CASH	47 households (150 beneficiaries)	1 620 800 ₴ / 39 781 \$	Kharkiv region	Japan Platform & ADRA Japan



Statistics of assistance provided for July 2025

Component of assistance	Number of assistance	Amount of assistance	Region of assistance	Name of Donor
Food Security	169 774 beneficiaries	71 563 food kits, 959 canned food kits, 352 634 loaves of bread, food for 2 protection centers, 9 000 ATB-vouchers	Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Kherson, Odessa, Dnipropetrovsk, Lviv, Kyiv, Chernivtsi, Cherkasy regions	The UN World Food Programme & ADRA Switzerland, ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter- day Saints, ADRA France & ADRA Ukraine
Legal Assistance	315 beneficiaries	-	Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Sumy, Khmelnytskyi, Poltava regions	ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), ADRA Japan
MHPSS	4 363 beneficiaries	3 317 individual sessions, 609 group sessions, 437 trainings	All of Ukraine	Radiohjälpen & ADRA Sweden, ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, (GAC) IHA Canada & ADRA Canada, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), OCHA & Ukrainian Deminers Association, ADRA Japan
Protection & support centers	1 499 beneficiaries	11 protection centers	Zhytomyr, Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Khmelnytskyi, Chernihiv, Sumy, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv regions	Radiohjälpen & ADRA Sweden, (GAC) IHA Canada & ADRA Canada
Social Transportation	251 beneficiaries	13 trips	Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhia, Kherson regions	ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft
Education: MHPSS	493 beneficiaries	156 individual sessions, 140 psychotherapy sessions, group sessions	Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Khmelnytskyi, Volyn, Kherson, Vinnytsia regions	ADRA Australia
Education: educational kits	-	169 educational kits for children	Dnipropetrovsk region	ADRA Australia
CASH	55 households (112 beneficiaries)	1 209 600 € / 28 948 \$	Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odessa, Mykolaiv regions	ADRA Japan
WASH	49 557 beneficiaries	5 wells, 12 water treatment plants	Mykolaiv, Dnipropetrovsk regions	ADRA Germany, ADRA Czech Republic, Aktion Deutschland Hilft, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



Statistics of assistance provided for August 2025

Component of assistance	Number of beneficiaries	Amount of assistance	Region of assistance	Name of Donor
Food Security	193 296 beneficiaries	95 197 food kits, 1 678 canned food kits, 352 056 loaves of bread, food for 2 protection centers 6 000 ATB-vouchers	Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Kherson, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Lviv, Kyiv, Chernivtsi, Cherkasy regions	The UN World Food Programme & ADRA Switzerland, ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, ADRA France & ADRA Ukraine
Legal Assistance	414 beneficiaries	-	Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Sumy, Khmelnytskyi, Poltava regions	ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), ADRA Japan
MHPSS	2 540 beneficiaries	1 566 individual sessions, 623 group sessions, 351 training	All of Ukraine	ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft, (GAC) IHA Canada & ADRA Canada, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), OCHA & Ukrainian Deminers Association, ADRA Japan
Protection & support centers	828 beneficiaries	11 protection centers	Zhytomyr, Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Khmelnytskyi, Chernihiv, Sumy, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv regions	Radiohjälpen & ADRA Sweden, (GAC) IHA Canada & ADRA Canada
Social Transportation	2 274 beneficiaries	100 trips	Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zaporizhia, Kherson regions	ADRA Germany & ADRA Czech Republic & Aktion Deutschland Hilft
Education: MHPSS	103 beneficiaries	64 individual sessions, 9 psychotherapy sessions, group sessions,	Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Vinnytsia regions	ADRA Australia
Education: educational kits	-	434 educational kits for children	Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Zaporizhia regions	ADRA Australia, ADRA Japan
WASH	562 beneficiaries	1 water purification station	Mykolaiv region	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Ukraine
Health	55 wheelchairs for hospitals, 16 wheelchairs for the public organization "Mykolaiv", 23 wheelchairs for beneficiaries	94 wheelchairs	Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk, Zakarpattia, Mykolaiv, Chernivtsi regions	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Ukraine





HIGHLIGHT

ADRA Ukraine handed over mine safety training kits to Ukrainian schools

On May 29, on the eve of the summer holidays, the charitable organization ADRA Ukraine handed over to partner schools the training games “Mine Danger,” which were developed by the NGO “the Ukrainian Deminers Association (UDA)”. A total of 50 games were received by educational institutions in Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Mykolaiv, Kyiv, Lviv and Kherson regions.

Yana Reznikova, ADRA Ukraine Education Specialist, says:

– In May of this year, we started a joint project with the Ukrainian Deminers Association with the support of OCHA. It is entitled “Comprehensive training on mine hazard risks and assistance to victims in communities affected by the conflict in the front-line and de-occupied regions of Ukraine.” This is a comprehensive program that involves several areas. One of them is informing about the risks associated with mines and explosive remnants of war (in English – EORE). The games that we gave to children are part of this direction.

Published on: 06 / 06 / 2025

Full text of the publication on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/adra-ukraine-handed-over-mine-safety-training-kits-to-ukrainian-schools/>





HIGHLIGHT

Third place in "Charitable Ukraine-2024": ADRA Ukraine noted for social activities

Charitable organization ADRA Ukraine won the third place in the nomination "Charity in the Social Sphere" of the National competition "Charitable Ukraine-2024: Charity in defense of Ukraine." The award ceremony took place on June 19 in the city of Kyiv, where the ADRA Ukraine team was awarded an honorary diploma.

This year, 1,790 applications were submitted for the competition, which is annually held by the Association of Charities of Ukraine. In each of the 26 nominations, three winners are identified.

The event was held at a high level and brought together many famous and influential people: government and public figures, media professionals, representatives of business and culture. In particular, the event was attended by the First Lady of Ukraine Olena Zelenska.

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Full text of the publication on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/third-place-in-charitable-ukraine-2024-adra-ukraine-noted-for-social-activities/>





HIGHLIGHT

The danger from the sky did not stop the volunteers: the distribution of kits from the UN WFP in Tomina Balka

On June 29, ADRA Ukraine volunteers handed over food kits from the UN World Food Programme to residents of the village of Tomina Balka, Kherson region. Assistance was provided with the support of ADRA Switzerland. A total of 375 people received humanitarian support.

Due to the limited cargo capacity of the transport, delivery was carried out in three stages. During one of the exits, on 28 June, an enemy drone was seen in the air near the vehicle at the entrance to the village.

Tomina Balka — is one of the most dangerous distribution points of the region. The village is located near the front line, under constant fire, with a high risk of mines, including special power missiles, as well as the threat of drones. All humanitarian aid deliveries are coordinated with the military administration — only with its permission volunteers can enter the territory of the settlement.

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Full text of the publication on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/the-danger-from-the-sky-did-not-stop-the-volunteers-the-distribution-of-kits-from-the-un-wfp-in-tomina-balka/>





HIGHLIGHT

The joint humanitarian mission of the UN WFP and ADRA Ukraine delivered products to two villages of the Kherson region

On July 29, residents of two villages of the Berislav community of the Kherson region — Urozhayne and Rakivka — received humanitarian aid from the UN World Food Programme with the support of ADRA Switzerland. The mission was organized by representatives of the UN WFP in cooperation with ADRA Ukraine and the head of the military administration of the Berislav community.

In Rakivka, 304 food kits were issued for 152 beneficiaries. The issue was carried out by local employees of ADRA Ukraine. 454 kits for 227 people were delivered to Urozhayne —, it only shipped. Issuance is planned as soon as the security situation allows —, it will also be carried out by ADRA Ukraine employees living in the community.

The humanitarian mission included representatives of the Odesa office of the UN WFP in Ukraine: Jalal Shah — head of the office, Shehu Abdul-Karim — head of the program department, Lyudmila Tregubenko — program specialist; as well as Maryna Potekha, head of the UN WFP project from ADRA Ukraine.

Published on: 31 / 07 / 2025

Full text of the publication on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/the-joint-humanitarian-mission-of-the-un-wfp-and-adra-ukraine-delivered-products-to-two-villages-of-the-kherson-region/>





HIGHLIGHT

Empowerment through education: at a meeting with German colleagues, ADRA Ukraine presented achievements and plans for 2025–2027

In July 2025, educational specialists of ADRA Ukraine held a working meeting with colleagues from ADRA Deutschland. At the center of the discussion were the development of the educational direction of the organization, the results of implemented initiatives and plans for the future.

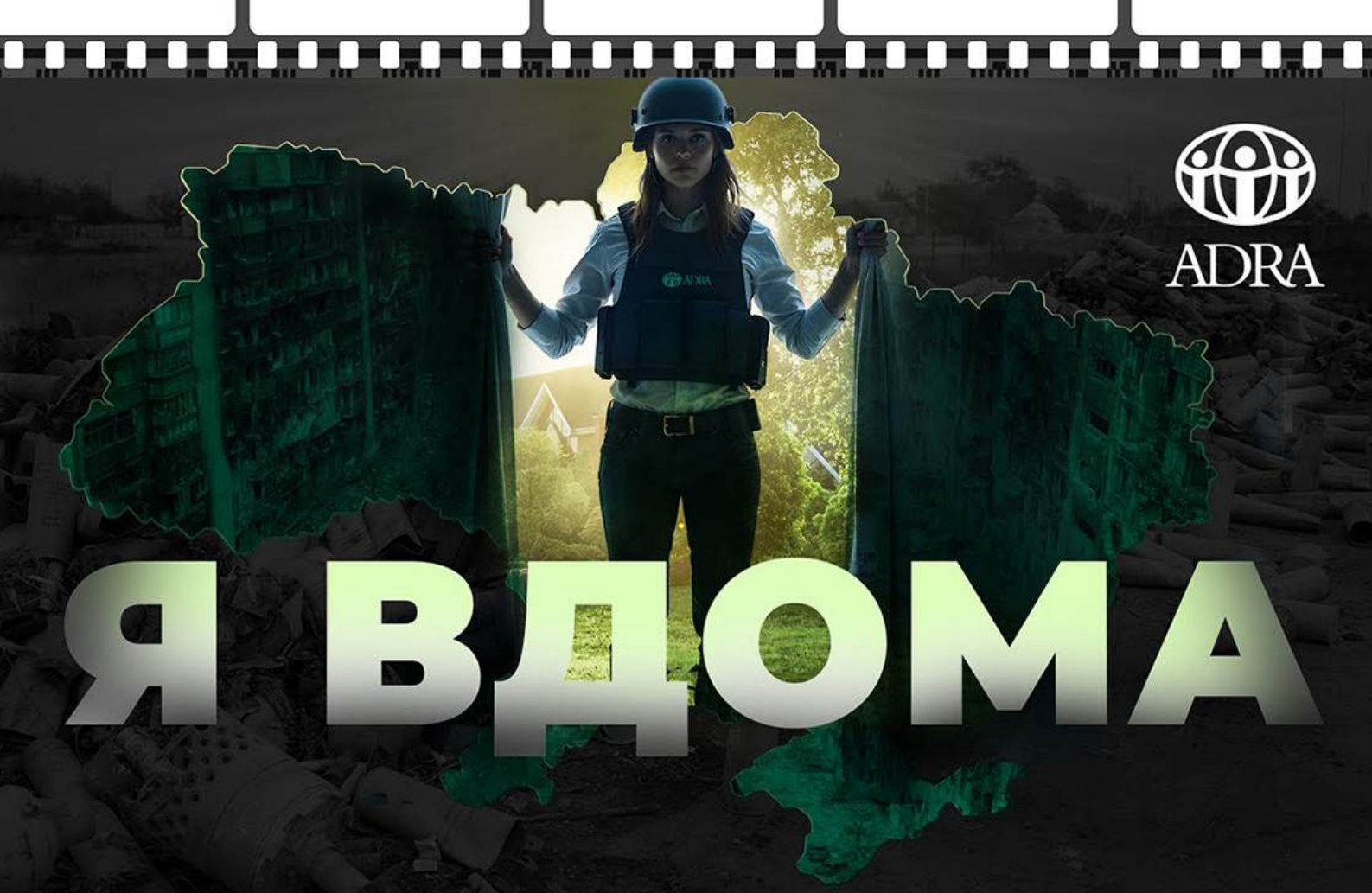
During the meeting, the developments that are already being implemented within the framework of humanitarian activities of ADRA Ukraine were presented. In particular, the participants discussed many years of cooperation with the Lyceum «Zhyve Slovo» (EN: Living Word) and the German school Schulzentrum Marienhöhe. One of the key collaborative projects — «Restore with love» that has covered:

- more than 120 students who received educational support;
- remedial classes and assistance for children with special educational needs;
- tens of after-school and family activities;
- launch of the school's career guidance radio programme;
- psychological support for students, parents and teachers;
- arrangement of sports ground and radio laboratory.

Published on: 07 / 08 / 2025

Full text of the publication on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/empowerment-through-education-at-a-meeting-with-german-colleagues-adra-ukraine-presented-achievements-and-plans-for-2025-2027/>



Я вдома

HIGHLIGHT

The documentary «HOME» — real stories of ADRA Ukraine volunteers working in the front-line territories has been released

The charity organization ADRA Ukraine presented a new documentary called «HOME», which reveals the real stories of volunteers who deliver humanitarian aid to the hottest spots of Ukraine every day.

The film shows how in the most dangerous conditions — under fire, in destroyed cities and villages, people do not lose hope, and volunteers become a symbol of support, care and faith in the best for them.

«It's not just a film about help. This is a film about how love for one's neighbor turns into actions that save lives» —, the authors of the project note.

The documentary «HOME» — is a sincere, emotional story about the power of humanity, sacrifice and the invisible front of goodness in action next to us every day.

Published on: 14 / 08 / 2025

The publication on the website:

<https://www.adra.ua/en/the-documentary-home-real-stories-of-adra-ukraine-volunteers-working-in-the-front-line-territories-has-been-released/>



STORY

Alina from the city of Dnipro

Alina — is a representative of the Charitable Foundation «Rokada», which recently started cooperation with ADRA Ukraine. Through joint efforts, it has been possible to present stationery kits to children who are involuntarily living in temporary shelters. These kits include all the necessary school supplies and backpacks. It would seem that ordinary things, but children need them very much, because not every family today has the opportunity to provide its schoolchildren with everything they need. And for every child, it is important to feel like all — with their own backpack and colored handles, which you want to show your friends.

These children, together with their families, were forced to leave their native homes not at all because of whims or thirst for adventure and a new city. They fled from danger and constant tension, which only grew every day. There are still regions in Ukraine where the situation is not improving, but on the contrary — is becoming more and more difficult. It is difficult even for adults to live there, and for children it is — and ready. It is at such moments that any care and support restore their sense of security and warmth, reminding them that they are not alone.

After signing a memorandum between ADRA Ukraine and the Charitable Foundation «Rokada», their cooperation reached a new level — and they began to help those who need it most together. The issuance of the educational kits is currently still ongoing. Many children have already become a little happier — smiles from these gifts have appeared on their faces. Every schoolboy felt that he was remembered and was not overlooked.

Now children will have more opportunities to acquire knowledge and turn their dreams into reality!

June 2025





STORY

Oleksandr Ivanenko Vertiivka village, Chernihiv region

Oleksandr — is a pensioner. He lives with his wife in a private house in the village of Vertiivka in Chernihiv region. They met the beginning of the full-scale war at home. It was difficult and disturbing: the electricity were turned off often, there was no stability, there was no peace. Now it has become a little easier, but some needs remain relevant. One of them is — heating. A private house cannot do without fuel, and firewood is expensive. It is not easy for the family to financially survive the winter.

Oleksandr learned about the possibility of receiving help from one of the organizations cooperating with ADRA Ukraine. He was told that it was possible to apply for funds to purchase fuel briquettes. The man belongs to a vulnerable category of the population, because in the past he was a liquidator of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and also worked in the police.

Olexander happily agreed. After processing the documents, the funds soon arrived on the card, and very soon — and the fuel itself.

«Briquettes burn longer, keep warm longer», — says man.

The registration was easy — the employees were attentive and polite, helped with everything they needed. Oleksandr had only good impressions from this help. He is sincerely grateful to ADRA Ukraine and ADRA Canada for their support and concern.

«Thank you for helping with fuel!» — man shares.

July 2025





STORY

Mariia Lysytsyna from Molodetske village, Kherson region

For eleven months, the home village of Mariia was separated from the rest of the country. It was very difficult to survive: communication was almost non-functional, explosions and sirens were heard, people witnessed active hostilities every day.

«However, the village was almost not affected: somewhere the window flew out, somewhere the summer kitchen, the fence,» the woman shares.

People's houses miraculously remained intact, because usually after such events you can see only ruins and memories. For some time, life in the village was still recovering: there were no shops nearby, and the residents did not know where to buy food. There were also problems with funds — they simply did not exist. Food supplies quickly ran out, and only the vegetable garden with self-grown vegetables saved them from starvation.

«Immediately after deoccupation, ADRA came to us. And they support us every month», — tells the woman.

The charitable organization became a real salvation for the locals. Thanks to ADRA Ukraine, the UN World Food Programme and ADRA Switzerland, people had the opportunity, in addition to vegetables from the garden, to prepare cereals, soups, and pastries. Residents are sincerely grateful for their support, because there was no one else to turn to. Now ADRA Ukraine and partners regularly support local people. They know that they are not left alone with their problems — there are those who will lend a helping hand when difficult.

«Thanks again for this monthly help!» — says Mariia.

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