

A PAINFUL, TRAGIC REALITY

The tragedy of the war in Ukraine has already brought hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian citizens into exile and may have exceeded one million when you read this material ... 20-30 km of car queues at Siret, Sighet or Giurgiuveni

(Romanian-Ukrainian border towns) of pregnant women, single mothers with scared children in the cold. They left their bombed cities like Kiev, Kharkov or Odessa and many lesser known names. The need and the suffering of these people mobilized us. Some have no money, no credit cards and others have fled with Ukrainian hryvnia

on them, the Ukrainian national currency that is not exchanged at the bank in Romania at the moment. The Romanian and international press abounds in reports of the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe. The tragedy is even greater by the fact that men - husbands, parents - are stopped on the border and retained in the country due to Martial Law while women and children are



allowed to cross the border. This separation is heartbreaking to anyone who observes it. Reports from the scene show that many refugees are middle-class and some upper-middle-class, with contacts in Western Europe and some money on them, and now those without money from the lower classes with greater needs are appearing. After the first week of war and the exodus of refugees,

we expect a substantial increase in the latter.

WHO ARE WE?

The mission of Good Samaritan began in 1993 in Romania and since 1997 has registered as a charity. It assisted young people from orphanages during the major crisis of the 1990's when they were forced to leave the institution, many remaining on the streets or under bridges and who had similar needs to today's refugees: food, shelter, transit to a larger city in hope for a job, clothing or transportation services.

HOW DO WE WORK?

Good Samaritan and its partners verify on the ground the situation and will work to provide direct assistance to the refugees according to the needs be-





GOOD SAMARITAN

1993-2023—celebrating 30 years of service to the orphans and needy in Romania

low, to fund partners that care for the refugees or to donate needed humanitarian aid and logistics materials to implementing partners, as case be. It co-operates with state authorities and customs officials from Romania and Ukraine, as need be and, according to the situation, donates to recognized organizations in Ukraine that operate orphanages, hospitals, aid projects.

THE BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROGRAM are two categories of refugees:

- ♦ On the territory of Romania - whether they just cross the country to their final destination or stay here in the medium and long term until their situation is resolved.

- ♦ On the territory of Ukraine (internal refugees) who sought refuge at the Bănceni Monastery, 20 km from the Ukrainian border with Romania or elsewhere.

WHAT NEEDS HAVE WE IDENTIFIED?

Beneficiaries' donations are allocated to the refugee assistance program that meets the following needs, respectively logistical and administrative aspects:

- ♦ **Essential items** (food, clothes, personal care products, etc.) but also beds, mattresses, linen

- ♦ **Medicines**, dressings and disinfectants

- ♦ **Transportation** - costs for transportation of refugees from customs or from an accommodation center in Romania to the final destination (usually to their relatives) from Western Europe (Italy, Germany, Switzerland, etc.) or another option. Train, bus or, where appropriate, plane tickets will be paid for people who do not have financial means or insufficient funds.

- ♦ **Transit accommodation** for refugees who do not have free accommodation or do not have the money to cover the cost of accommodation from Romania to their final destination in other countries.

- ♦ **Rent payments** when refugees need it for a longer period of time. In this category of people are people who want to return to their country after the end of the war or simply lost everything they had in Ukraine, have nowhere to go and need support until they find a job and I can resume life again.

- ♦ **Translation costs and notary fees** for obtaining the necessary documents, translation in relation to the authorities, transport service providers,

RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR

Where are people fleeing to?

At least three million people have fled Ukraine since Russia launched its invasion, according to the UN refugee agency's data portal. Many have sought refuge in Poland and other neighbouring states.



accommodation, etc.

- ♦ Fuel expenses, donation storage, information leaflets, consumables, management, office supplies, etc.

- ♦ **Construction, repair and extension of long-term housing** when refugees settle in Romania having nothing in Ukraine.

- ♦ **Preventing human trafficking** given the vulnerability of refugees, mostly women and children.

- ♦ A more special need is at **Bănceni Monastery, Ukraine**, where before the war, more than **400 people in need** were cared for, **especially orphans, children with loco motor disabilities, children with AIDS, the elderly**. To cover all their needs, an entire complex of buildings was created: canteen, orphanages, churches, nursing home for children and children with AIDS, medical clinic, etc. Now **more than 1,000 refugees** have been added to these children and the elderly, with a total of around 2,000 people being fed and cared for daily. Part of their needs are covered by the monastery from their work and the rest is donated by benefactors. At the monastery, for the care of all the needy and the refugees, there is a great and urgent need: from food to personal hygiene products and disinfectants, medicines and dressings, etc.

- ♦ **Other needs** identified during the ongoing events in Ukraine.

HOW CAN YOU DONATE?

- ♦ Via **PayPal**, online. Please visit: goodsamaritan.ro/donate

- ♦ **Bank transfer**, please use the bank details below:

Name of the beneficiary: Good Samaritan Association Beius

Name of the bank: Banca Comercială Română (Romanian Commercial Bank), Beiuș Branch **Swift code:** RNCBROBU

For donations in US Dollars: RO29RNCB0034021802850003

For donations in Euro: RO56RNCB0034021802850002

For donations in Lei: RO83RNCB0034021802850001

- ♦ **Tax deductible donations from USA.** If you are a tax payer in the USA and would like to make a tax deductible donation please make your check payable to our partner church '**Incarnation United Church of Christ**' whilst ensuring that you write '**Good Samaritan Association, Romania**' in the memo line. Please send your check to: Incarnation United Church of Christ, P. O. Box 68, Newport, PA 17074. For questions and more information please contact us at: **email:** nikki.ciorna@goodsamaritan.ro or **mobile** 0040 720 642238.

