



Helping people. Saving lives

[UnitedHelpUkraine.org](https://UnitedHelpUkraine.org)

## 6-Months Impact Report

Dear Friend of Ukraine,

Thank you for your unwavering support of the Ukrainian people.

Six months into the third year of Russia's attempt to destroy Ukraine, conditions are dire. Making limited progress on the battlefield, Russia has intensified attacks on Ukrainian cities and civilian infrastructure, causing blackouts and widespread energy shortages. Ukraine's two largest cities—Kyiv and Kharkiv—along with frontline towns and cities in the East and South, have suffered severe damage and many civilian casualties.

Such war crimes increase our determination and sense of urgency. We responded to the relentless attacks on Kharkiv in May by delivering medical aid and fire and rescue equipment with the help of our partners in Düsseldorf, Germany. In July, after Russia targeted Okhmatdyt, Ukraine's largest children's hospital and oncology center in Kyiv, we were on the ground delivering aid within hours.

During the first half of 2024, we expanded our efforts in several areas, especially emphasizing sustainability. UHU enhanced its ongoing tactical medicine training for soldiers and combat medics. We facilitated greater cooperation between Ukrainian medical professionals and U.S. experts while also greatly expanding mental health programming through our SMUHA Family Resiliency Project. In Washington, D.C., our advocacy efforts helped ensure continued U.S. support for Ukraine.

Our responsiveness and efficiency set us apart. By working hand-in-hand with local communities of all sizes, we can identify and address urgent needs immediately, ensuring that help arrives when it is needed most.

After 10 years of helping people and saving lives, UHU's promise to you still stands: Like the courageous people of Ukraine, we will never surrender or cease our efforts.

On behalf of our entire team in the United States, Germany, and Ukraine, thank you for being an integral part of our mission!

Maryna Baydyuk,

President and Executive Director



## HUMANITARIAN AID PROGRAM

**2024 TOTAL \$1,232,298**  
**(\$11,787,377 in 10 years)**

United Help Ukraine's Humanitarian Aid Program provides vital assistance to Ukraine's most vulnerable populations. In this update, we'd like to highlight our postal initiative.

Despite the Russian devastation of infrastructure, mail deliveries must go on, especially the delivery of pension payments and medicines to the elderly. Yet roads are potholed, fuel is expensive, and vehicles near the front lines are often targeted by the Russian invaders.

**"It's a horrible situation,"** says Natalia Saidoglu, Humanitarian Aid Project Manager. **"It's much easier to have bicycles and go between the villages and within the villages to deliver small things."**



This year, **United Help Ukraine**, and our partners, **German nonprofit AVP**, and the city of **Düsseldorf, Germany**, continue responding to a call for help from **Ukrposhta**, the Ukrainian postal service.

**The goal:** Deliver more mail by bicycle. The Mayor of Düsseldorf, Stephan Keller, decided to donate hundreds of bicycles from the city's lost and found facilities. Nearly **200 bicycles** have been trucked to Ukraine with UHU's help already this year, with at least **50 more to come**.

Destinations include Chernivtsi, Düsseldorf's sister city in southwestern Ukraine, and villages on the front lines in the Donetsk region in the east.

UHU, AVP, and the Düsseldorf government also shipped a significant amount of aid to Chernivtsi this year through a solidarity campaign that solicited donations from citizens of the German city. We sent a truck full of food, refrigerators, washing machines, computer tablets, and items for children to orphanages, foster families, hospitals, and children's rehabilitation centers.



## DEFENDER'S AID PROGRAM

**2024 TOTAL \$869,043**  
**(\$25,859,222 in 10 years)**

In keeping with our Defender's Aid Program mission of preserving the safety, physical health, and overall well-being of Ukraine's defenders, United Help Ukraine delivered nearly **13,000 military-grade individual first-aid kits (IFAKs)** to the front lines in the first half of 2024.

The majority of the funds were raised through last year's North American tour of the Ukrainian band Antytila. The Chicago concert alone raised **\$46,000** as a severely wounded veteran of Ukraine's elite 79th Separate Air Assault Brigade offered his beret at auction. Two bidders each offered **\$10,000** for the powerful symbol of airborne troops' identity.



But the bidders decided to collaborate: They each donated \$10,000, and returned the beret to the veteran, Serhiy Raylyan.

Serhiy summed up the value of these IFAKs best, since his life had been saved by one that was also donated by volunteers: **"Because of first aid kits like these, my mother still has a son, my sisters still have a brother, and my wife still has a husband,"** he told the crowd.

Through our **Tactical Medicine Program** - the largest within the Defender's Aid Program - UHU has provided more than **60,000 IFAKs** to Ukrainian defenders and first responders in our 10-year history.



# MEDICAL AID PROGRAM

2024 TOTAL \$1,686,452  
(\$31,800,073 in 10 years)

United Help Ukraine’s Medical Aid Program—our largest—supports healthcare infrastructure and the well-being of wounded individuals and their families. The most sustainable way to help is to share expertise to improve the capabilities of Ukrainian doctors and combat medics.

**“We cannot personally help every patient on the ground,”** says United Help Ukraine Medical Aid Program Director Anna Yabluchanska. **“The only way we can support as many people as possible is to train medical professionals.”**



We have put those words into action in the first six months of 2024 through webinars, seminars, and conferences. We hosted a webinar in February on traumatic brain injury, led by a University of Florida neurocritical care specialist, which was attended by 130 Ukrainian neurosurgeons and combat medics. They asked many pertinent questions. We know that lives were saved immediately as a result of the presentation because we heard from a medic on the front lines the next day. He asked us to provide the webinar materials as quickly as possible and used the information to treat a soldier with a severe head wound that otherwise would have been fatal.

To observe Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month in June, we held two conferences in Kyiv, one for psychologists and one for psychiatrists. In addition, UHU hosted an art exhibit in Kyiv featuring works by artist Alla Ronikier that express the psychological toll of PTSD.



37

shipping containers full of medical aid in 10 years



180+

hospitals provided with medical supplies and equipment in 10 years



# RAISING AWARENESS

The capstone of our Raising Awareness Program—which is to inform and engage the public about Ukraine’s fight for independence—came in April with our participation in the **Ukraine Action Summit in Washington, D.C.**

The American Coalition for Ukraine (ACU), of which United Help Ukraine is a founding member, brought more than 500 delegates from 47 states to Capitol Hill and conducted more than 350 visits with policymakers, lawmakers, and their staffs. It was the largest and most consequential ACU Summit in its brief history.



Shortly afterward, all that hard work paid off as Congress—after eight months’ delay—passed an aid package for Ukraine that was quickly signed by President Joe Biden.

**“Seeing so many Americans join our Ukrainian community speaks volumes about the outreach efforts of the American Coalition for Ukraine and how much we’ve grown over the last four Ukraine Action Summits,”** said UHU President and Executive Director Maryna Baydyuk, a board director and committee chair of ACU.





## UHU Opens Kyiv Office

United Help Ukraine's close relationship with our partners and affiliated organizations inside Ukraine has been one of our strengths in ensuring that donor support goes where it is needed when it is needed.

But we took a major step forward in March by opening a subsidiary office in Kyiv with professional staff led by Executive Director Iryna Turchak, formerly of Come Back Alive, Ukraine's largest nonprofit organization.

**"We want to have more presence in Ukraine and develop our programs and projects further,"** UHU President Maryna Baydyuk says. **"This is the time when we need to expand them and scale them up, and we absolutely had to have representation in Ukraine."**

Among the priorities of the new office are our mental health initiatives, including the training of psychologists and expanding our efforts in treating post-traumatic stress disorder, training soldiers and medics in tactical medicine to save lives, and helping veterans with rehabilitation, education, and job placement.

**"The knowledge from the ground that's coming from those professionals is absolutely essential,"** Baydyuk says. **"We have changed direction in some of the projects because our staff physically travel to various locations, evaluate the situation, talk to people and our partners, and use the networks of their own."**

*Helping people.  Saving lives*



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