

**PROGRAMME LOCATION: Ukraine**

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**SUBMITTED BY: Caritas Ukraine and Caritas-Spes Ukraine**

## **YEAR IN REVIEW**

One year ago, in the early morning hours, the lives of millions of Ukrainians changed forever. This past year has been a difficult one. It was a year that was filled with suffering and challenges, with pain and loss, with difficult situations. At the same time, it was also filled with a great solidarity, with a great expression of hope, of faith, of love and assistance to one another. This faith, this hope, this assistance, this ability to see our neighbor in need and to respond has been the fabric that has kept this Ukrainian society together. I believe that it's also the fabric that has kept the world society together.

We are very grateful for all the support that's been offered to Ukrainians through the Caritas Ukraine network. Since February 24th, we have scaled our response. We have expanded our services to include 42 centers throughout the country, to include also 448 parishes who are aiding in the humanitarian response. Through that, we've been able to offer close to 4 million services to people in need throughout the country.

The constant shelling happening across the frontline and across the border into Ukraine, the constant missile strikes, the repeated missile strikes that happen throughout the country and are harming Ukraine's electrical infrastructure, energy infrastructure are affecting the way that Ukrainians are able to survive the winter. As an organization, we've been working on responding to those needs. We continue to respond to basic needs such as food, water, hygiene, shelter needs. We're also starting to work on slight recovery activities, which would include crisis counselling, case management, working with psychosocial support both for adults and also for children.

We are your hearts, your hands offering aid, offering that first opportunity to embrace somebody who's come out of a traumatic situation. And we are your hands and hearts on the ground.

Tetiana Stawnychy, President of Caritas of Ukraine

This terrible year has left many pictures in my memory. When the director of the local center plays dominoes with grandmother in the basement, and they sing songs while hiding from the explosions... When a volunteer calls from a bomb shelter saying "I don't know how to deliver a baby" and a young pregnant woman goes into labor... When you run from the explosions to the bus stop at the edge of the road and hear the voice of a colleague asking you to help find one sneaker when the noise stops...

How many of these stories did the war bring to our world? Among the black-and-white photos, there are color ones that give hope, an expression of support from our partners. Thanks to this, the hard work of Caritas-Spes Ukraine staff brings hope.

Father Vyacheslav Grynevich SAC CEO of Caritas-Spes Ukraine

# HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE: CARITAS-SPES UKRAINE AND CARITAS UKRAINE



Caritas-Spes Ukraine covers 23 regions of Ukraine, more than 15,000 settlements, including frontline zones. Today, the activities of Caritas-Spes Ukraine is supported by 80 partners.

Over 3 million services have been provided since the start of the war.



Caritas Ukraine is responding to the crisis through 42 Caritas Centers, 448 parishes, and 198 Shelters.

Almost 4 million services have been provided to more than 2.3 million people since the start of the war.



## A YEAR IN PHOTOS: CARITAS UKRAINE



A Year in Photos





## A YEAR IN PHOTOS: CARITAS-SPES UKRAINE



# A Year in Photos



## VOICES OF HOPE IN A YEAR OF WAR

### voices of hope in a year of war

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CARITAS-SPES

*"I don't believe the war will end just by concluding a peace treaty. The war will only end when we are able to forgive all those terrible things we've witnessed; when we rebuild not only our homes but also restore our souls and memories. What's most difficult is that the pictures of war will be flashing through our minds all our life.*

*However, I realise that Church, love and hope are remedies. We can share these remedies with people who are close to us'."*

Father Vyacheslav, Director Caritas-Spes Ukraine  
April 2022

### voices of hope in a year of war

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КАРІТАС  
УКРАЇНИ  
CARITAS  
UKRAINE

*"Our response is related to our core: on the one hand, we are the community that cares about the safety of everyone who belongs to it, and on the other hand, we are the community that is united around the mission of helping those in need.*

*For me, every visit to our local centers is like a breath of fresh air. Their sense of community, mission and perseverance in fulfilling our mission and doing good is very noticeable. They really appreciate this opportunity to serve others and, to some extent, it is also a healing moment, not only for those we help, but also for ourselves. So, overall, I think this passion to help people in need continues, it's just a matter of discerning in each circumstance how best to do it."*

Tetiana Stawnychy, President of Caritas Ukraine



## voices of hope in a year of war

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*"The work of Caritas Ukraine and Caritas Zaporizhzhia is a unique tool that connects millions of good people around the world with specific needy people who became victims of this war. Without you, the one who wants to help cannot do it.*

*There is such an old rule from the first centuries of Christianity: "Good must be done well." It is not enough to want to do good, the one must also be able to do it well. That's why we need professionals so much today! And Caritas is a team of professionals who know how to implement large-scale humanitarian projects. And these are you whom I want to thank.*

Head of the UGCC His Beatitude Svyatoslav, during a visit to Caritas Zaporizhzhia

## voices of hope in a year of war

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CARITAS-SPES

*"In this war, I see God very clearly. I see Jesus in our people, in volunteers who put themselves in danger to deliver food. I see the face of God in the tears of grandmothers telling their stories of how they cooked outside in the cold. I saw God in Bucha, on a mass grave."*

*"Every day I fall in love with a Human, witnessing what our people are capable of. As for me, our volunteers are real heroes."*

Father Vitalii Uminskyi  
June 2022, Zhytomyr

voices of hope in a  
year of war

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CARITAS-SPES

*"The world has to understand that even after six months of war, people still have nowhere to return."*

Erik Heinonen (CRS) on a visit to Caritas-Spes Ukraine centers  
September 2022

voices of hope in a  
year of war

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KAPITAC  
УКРАЇНИ  
CARITAS  
UKRAINE

*I see so much light! I see incredible unity, mutual support, willingness to share even the last!*

*Our parish is a force! Thank you for praying and working! In these extremely difficult physical and emotional conditions you do not give up, accepting hundreds of people from burning cities, passing through their pain, because now it is impossible otherwise. "*

Maria Pagulych, Administrator, Caritas Kamyanske  
March 2022, Kamyanske

## voices of hope in a year of war

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*"Like thousands, I and my children were forced to leave our hometown Chernihiv, which became the epicenter of active hostilities from the first days of the war. To save the children's lives, I took them to Volyn, to the city of Novovolynsk. Frightened, horrified, we got acquainted with Caritas. Its people welcomed us as relatives, accepted us into their family, warmed and listened to, shared pain and presented with happiness.*

*Caritas found an approach to everyone, words of support, warm hugs, and the opportunity to smile sincerely. Every day of our stay here gave us hope and confidence in a happy future for us and our children, for life in a peaceful Ukraine under a calm sky!"*

Iryna, an IDP from Chernihiv, now lives in Novovolynsk

## voices of hope in a year of war

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**CARITAS-SPES**

*"Everything is as usual, constant shelling. In the evening and then at night. There are houses destroyed, where no one lives anymore. They have only recently been given electricity, and you have to walk a kilometer to the source for water.*

*The people we visit are mostly bedridden. They have nowhere to go. They say: "Let someone try to evict us!" When we come to them, their emotions are difficult to convey in words. For many, we are the only ones who come to them at all. Of course, we continue to drive. We cannot leave people in need."*

Yulia, Caritas Spes Ukraine volunteer in Kharkiv  
August 2022