

# UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN IMPACT

OPERATIONAL UPDATE
June 24, 2022





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June 23, 2022

In nearly 4 months GCS and our local partners have purchased and distributed more than 1,000 tonnes of humanitarian aid directly into areas of Ukraine facing acute shortages of food, water, and medical supplies. In the first 3 months of the war our teams helped evacuate over 57,700 refugees to safety, and our border-crossing teams in Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, and Moldova have continued to support untold numbers of refugees fleeing the war.



In the past week GCS response teams were able to safely bring food rations, medical supplies, and water tanks to war-torn hotspots in Ukraine, including the besieged and decimated city of Kharkiv in northeastern Ukraine, which is close to the Russian border. Thanks to our international partners at RRT (Rapid Response Team) for providing over 6000 food boxes, and our Ukrainian church networks on the ground coordinating logistics, these supplies were delivered to the most vulnerable communities as well as hard-to-reach areas.

Our frontline response teams have come alongside countless families whose lives have been torn apart by war and violence, to communicate the hope of the Gospel and to pray for healing. The response has been overwhelming.







Each food box typically consists of the following items:

1 x tinned fruit 400g
1 x tinned sweetcorn 300g
1 x tinned peas 300g
1 x tinned chopped tomatoes 400g
1 x long grain rice 1kg
1 x Pasta 1kg
1 x tinned pasta 400g

1 x tinned meat 400g 2 x tinned Tuna 145g 1 x Cup Soup 4-pk 4 x Chocolate Bars 28g 3 x Bottled water 330ml Bible Gospel Tract

Supplies were delivered to communities in the following areas: Kharkiv, Chernihiv, Dnipro, Zaporizhya, Druzhkivka, Kurakhove, Mykolaiv, New Odesa, Smila, and Zolotonosha.















GCS would like to say thank you to the organisations and individuals who enabled this last GCS Rescue Mission in Ukraine by donating funds to cover the cost of heavy vehicles, fuel water tanks, noncash items, or supporting in a practical way on the ground

#### In alphabetical order:

Aleksey Samoylow
Anatoliy Kushnir
Andriy Kasprov
Bethlehem Church, Dunaivtsi
Dave Higgs
Inessa and Dmytro Melnik
Irina and Bogdan Tereshchenko
Mitch, Estuary Signs

Owen Pomana
Paul and Francey True
Raggy Ram
Rapid Relief Team
Raphael Klein
Ron Mark
Ruslan and Oksana Muts
Tamara Grishchenko









As the security situation allows, GCS and its partners will continue to respond to existing and emerging humanitarian needs.

We would also like to thank the many faithful individuals who have not been mentioned here who have supported the work. Thank you so much for standing with Ukraine.





Over the last 3 months and 4 weeks of serving in Ukraine, we have heard countless heart-breaking stories of loss and survival in the war. One deeply upsetting is that of Anatoliy, a retired Biology professor who we met in Saltivka - a residential area in northeastern Kharkiv inside the war zone. Our team was delivering humanitarian aid to the local community.



We saw Anatoliy sitting on a step outside his burnt and partially collapsed apartment building - the devastation was caused by a Russian missile. He was grief stricken, and it was difficult to speak to him at first. Anatoliy started to tell us about his wife Valentina who he had been married to for over 40 years. He had just gone out to find supplies when Russian shells and missiles began to rain down. He rushed back home to find his apartment had been blown up. Anatoliy tried his best to rescue his wife, but he became unconscious from smoke inhalation. Neighbours were able to drag him out of the apartment that was now engulfed with flames.







Valentina had been killed by the explosion, and her body torn apart. It took days to gather the pieces of his wife, but he wanted Valentina to have a proper burial. He wept uncontrollably.

Anatoliy didn't want to receive any food, and he didn't want to be evacuated, as he felt that he had nothing to live for. Despite professing to be an Atheist, Anatoliy agreed for me to pray for him. We were able to gently minister the Gospel to him through our prayer with the help of our translator, Tamara Grishchenko. Anatoliy was grateful for the Bible that we gave to him. Our team left food with his neighbours in case he changed his mind.

Anatoliy is just one of a multitude of people in Ukraine whose lives have been torn to shreds. Join us in praying for God's comfort on those who have lost loved ones, and for healing and restoration for the injured. Pray also for discernment and protection for GCS response teams as they navigate difficult environments and work to support and minister the Gospel to communities during this difficult time.

May God bring His peace to the people of Ukraine.



We are so thankful to God for all the people who support GCS and everyone who has been praying for us. Please continue to pray for the people of Ukraine who are still dealing with profound hardships and trauma.





GCS is preparing its next major shipment of humanitarian supplies to Ukraine, but the financial needs are great. If you would like to help but not sure how, please donate what you can to help GCS.

There are several ways you can do this:



#### **GCS WEBSITE**

https://www.gcsmissions.com/ukraine-appeal



https://www.paypal.me/gcsuk



Account Name: Great Commission Society

Bank: Lloyds Bank Sort Code: 309890

Account Number: 16270268

IBAN: GB53 LOYD 309890 16270268

SWIFT/BIC: LOYDGB21592











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