



July/August/September 2025

The fourth summer of war and it is getting harder to survive in Ukraine. Kyiv and other major cities are being pummelled by bombs. The sirens go off constantly. The sound of explosions is everywhere. Many have never seen things this bad since the war started.

Our partners are exhausted, but determined to serve.



Please pray unceasingly for Ukraine

<https://www.dniprohopemission.org/>

Uzhhorod: Equilibrium Project



Incredibly, 533 children had completed this project by the end of May 2025. This summer, a further 75 children will benefit from the 14-day programme of equine therapy, massage, therapeutic play, craft, movement, music therapy and more. Some of the children have disabilities and more complex needs. They include a special group of 20 orphans from Lviv who will be able to live on-site. There will also be a party of children from Poltava.

One mother wrote: *I also wanted to express my immense gratitude for this project. For Bohdan, horseback riding and massage are the minimum of mandatory rehabilitation for his diagnosis. Participation in the project gave my son a lot. He became more resilient, began to walk more evenly. He has a desire to walk! Now he can walk in a walker without help. Undoubtedly, we still have a long way to go, but I am very grateful for the help and attention to my child. This project also gave me great psychological support. Communication with other parents, care from the project volunteers, organization of everything down to the smallest details - inspired me and gave me motivation to move forward. Special thanks to Margo, who spared neither energy nor time for my son.* DHM and Equilibrium are hugely grateful to everyone who gave grants, donations and/or raised money over the past year which has enabled Equilibrium to build their own stables and move to a new site with residential accommodation.

DHM trustee Helen Evans and her daughter Hannah are returning to Equilibrium in July with special gifts for the orphaned children. (See poster right). All funds raised through our 'teddy bear appeal' will go to those most in need.

Please pray for:

- ◆ Project leader **Margarita (Margo)** - Equilibrium is expanding fast and there is a huge need as the situation continues to deteriorate in the East and newly displaced people arrive. She asks for wisdom as the project grows.
- ◆ The children participating in the project over the summer, for physical, social, emotional and spiritual well-being.
- ◆ There is a great need for a larger minibus. Meanwhile, the current minibus is going in for a service and needs repairs.
- ◆ Paulina who has been in hospital following a fall from a horse.
- ◆ Helen and Hannah would be grateful for prayers for wisdom, for safety and that they are able to make all their connections as they travel.

Will you sponsor a teddy bear for a Ukrainian orphan?

Sponsor a bear
Send a hug



These teddy bears are going to Ukraine in July. They will be given to Ukrainian orphans attending the Equilibrium Project. Each child will participate in a full programme of holistic activities including horseriding, art, music, exercise, free play and massage for two fun-packed weeks.

Visit dniprohopemission.org/donate to donate. Please put reference: Teddy bear. Suggested donation £10.



'...your kindness has so often refreshed the hearts of God's people.' Philemon 7

Our Summer camps have started!

These photographs are from **Oleksandr** in **Tsarichanka** who ran a camp for 60-70 children aged 5-10 from June 9-15. There will be similar camps in July for 12-18 year olds and in August for 9-15 year olds. Funding for these camps has been provided by DHM and Oleksandr is 'over the moon' with the grant we were able to give him recently. Many families in Ukraine are struggling to put food on the table so all the camps include plenty of meals and snacks.



Finding faith in Dnipro



Our partner **Mykhailo** also has good plans for the summer and has been training young people to work with children and adolescents in summer camps and holiday activities planned for June, July, and August. They include a talent show, a sports camp, day camps, camps in tents and cabins and a trip to the Carpathian mountains. Most of the children have been internally displaced and some are children of 'fallen heroes.'

All of our partners are planning summer camps and are sending in requests for funding. If you can help, please go to www.dniprohopemission.org/donate ref: Summer camps.

Mykhailo told us that 14 people were baptised in the River Dnipro. They publicly confirmed their faith and joined the local church. 'Among them is my daughter, Sofiyka.' You can watch the video on our Facebook page [Facebook](#) (posted June 5th)

Many people in Ukraine are finding faith. They go to church because they are hungry and churches are distributing food packages and free meals. They stay after receiving a warm welcome. They begin to read the Bible, receive a message of hope, pray and spend time with those who serve them with love and kindness.



Please pray for:

- ◆ All those who were baptised and for the churches in Ukraine – may they continue to serve a suffering people with hope, faith, and love as the war drags on and everyone is exhausted.
- ◆ All the children and young people participating in our summer camps for wisdom, protection and that they would know God's blessings. 'We pray that our children's hearts remain filled with peace, no matter what' (Oleksii)
- ◆ All those who are hungry (more than half of the people in the Kherson region in the south face severe hunger, and, two out of every five individuals face hunger in Zaporizhzhia as well as the Donetsk region in the east).

<https://www.wfp.org/news/three-years-war-ukraine-one-third-population-frontlines-regions-struggle-find-enough-eat>

'For I was hungry, and you fed me.' Matt 25:35

Every Mile Counts

Vehicles (and the funds to maintain them) are needed in Ukraine more than ever and so we have launched our 'Every Mile Counts' fundraising campaign. We have just provided a vehicle for **Sasha in Vasilkivka** (with thanks to **Epsom Baptist Church** who provided the funding and **Roman Rakhuka** who was able to source the van in Germany). We now want to buy vehicles for our partners, Sergey and Vasily (see p.6).

HELP US DELIVER HOPE

DHM Frontline Aid Transport Appeal 2025






As war in Ukraine enters its 4th year, humanitarian needs remain acute. The active combat zone now extends for roughly 1,200 kilometres, making access to frontline settlements extraordinarily difficult.

EVERY MILE COUNTS!

DHM partners use rugged vehicles to reach those in the hardest-hit areas of eastern Ukraine, taking food, medicines, & essentials to those who could not leave.

We are raising £25,000 to keep these lifelines moving.

WHY YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

-  Repair and replacement of field vehicles
-  Delivery of food, medicine, and urgent supplies
-  Sustaining human dignity under fire

Every journey delivers more than supplies—it restores hope, resilience, and survival.

JOIN US

Your gift to DHM's Frontline Aid Transport Appeal this summer will keep our cars, pick-ups, and vans moving — turning every litre of fuel into tangible hope for thousands living under fire.



REAL LIVES, REAL IMPACT

Meet Sasha, who regularly drives to frontline villages with bread and medicines. In March, his vehicle was pursued and bombed by a drone (he miraculously escaped). A reliable vehicle for our partners is literally a matter of life and death.

Visit dniprohopemission.org/donate/ to donate. Please put reference: miles



'The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and you go, both now and forever.' Psalm 121: 8

Our humanitarian relief programmes are non-stop

Every week, **Sasha (right)** delivers aid to two villages in the 'grey zone' (the area on the frontlines) At the beginning of June, he delivered water (and 75 water containers as the people there had no way to store it). It is very difficult to live there because of the frequent bombing, shelling and drone attacks and minefields. There are no basic services. All the residents are elderly. They have already been evacuated but many returned because they had no-where else to live. They live in fear – will they remain on the Ukrainian side, or will they be occupied?



Sergey and Valentina (left) have been distributing food packages to internally displaced people in the city of **Samar**. They say: 'As long as there is a need, we will try to be there to support.'



Salvation Evangelical Church, Poltava are giving out food boxes (above and right) . Olena's story is the experience of many older people who have lost everything. Olena is 70 years old and a widow from Pokrovsk, Donetsk region. She was forced to leave her home in September 2024 as the front line kept getting closer. "I worked at a factory that was hit eight times. Explosions, stress, sleepless nights... After my children and grandchildren were evacuated, I was left alone. It was very hard. Especially at night, when the darkness and shelling would bring the worst thoughts." But today, she shares with gratitude: "Now I feel at peace. Kind people in Poltava took me in, and I attend the 'Salvation' church, where I find comfort. I'm truly thankful for the humanitarian and hygiene aid — it's so valuable to me. Heartfelt thanks to the church and sponsors for their care and kindness!"

Our partner, **Oleksii**, an army chaplain, delivers regularly to the needy in **Zaporizhzhia** and **Kherson**. On the right, social services are delivering food kits and toys to the families in difficult life circumstances. Far right: Delivering a large batch of frozen pizza from Germany to the military, civilians, children and the elderly. He says: 'It's not just food - it's a sign of love and caring, a piece of normal life where it has been gone a long time.' Use the QR code to watch a video of Oleksii on our Facebook page (Posted June 11th).



Please pray for:

- ♦ A just and lasting peace.
- ♦ Protection, safety and wisdom for each of our partners as they deliver aid to the most dangerous areas of Ukraine
- ♦ For marriages and families who are struggling with all the additional stresses of war.

'...continue to show deep love for each other...' 1 Peter: 4:8

Partner updates: Vasily and Sergey

In 2024, **Vasily** and his family had to leave their home and church in **Pokrovsk** because of the Russian advances. However, his work continues and he makes the 14-hour trip back at least once each week, delivering food, clothing and hygiene supplies. In June, he wrote, 'Yesterday, we came back from Pokrovsk direction. Tomorrow we are going again, to a rehab centre for military personnel. We will be delivering some goods, including medical multi-functional beds. Six of them are already inside the lorry – we are still loading. We can do more God bless you.' The vast mileage over rugged terrain in war-torn areas has taken its toll on Vasily's vehicle, and he is in urgent need of a new one. He has calculated that '...in 2.5 years we drove 480,000 km. That's 12 times around the Equator! This is the largest expense item of our mission, about 80,000€!!! This is just the fuel - we also paid for many repairs to our vehicles.'



Our partner, **Sergey** is the senior pastor of "Light of Life" church (affiliated with the Association of Mennonite Brethren Churches of Ukraine) in **Samar** and is also an army chaplain. We have been supporting Sergey regularly since the full-scale war began. He oversees chaplaincy work in a large geographical area and is frequently on the road as he ministers to both soldiers and civilians. Functioning automobiles are an essential tool for an effective chaplaincy ministry. They are vital for delivering aid and evacuating wounded soldiers, but also have a short lifespan, as they are at constant risk of being hit by a missile or running over a mine. Sergey has written, 'The cars save soldiers' lives.' We are looking for Sergey's ideal vehicle - a 4-wheel drive jeep or pickup with automatic transmission.



At least three of our partners (**Sasha, Sergey and Oleksii**) are army chaplains as is **Dennis**, a friend of DHM who recently came to the UK and was warmly welcomed by Guildford Baptist Church. Dennis and his family (his wife and children are refugees in the UK) are pictured with Anna, Inna and Melanie - all volunteers with DHM. It was very moving to meet Dennis who has experienced all the brutality of war and personal loss. **Please pray for:**

- ◆ Dennis and all army chaplains as they are challenged to find meaning in the terrible suffering endured by those who are serving in the armed forces. He asks for prayer as special editions of the Gospel of Mark are distributed to the military, in hospitals and in the trenches, that it will be a comfort and strength to those who receive it.
- ◆ Please pray for all Ukraine's defenders and especially for women in the military.

Please pray for all our partners and especially for:

- ◆ **Serhii and his family** are now refugees in Germany and have an apartment for a few more months. Now they are looking for more permanent housing and processing documents. Please pray that they can get the documents completed quickly so that their son Alexander can be treated for his serious heart condition.
- ◆ For our partner, **Pastor Alexander D** who fled to Sweden for medical treatment at the beginning of the war (he almost died) but is now struggling with documentation and other issues.
- ◆ **Sasha** who needs, 'prayer support for recovery without surgery! God's will for everything'. (His own words)

Support and friendship in difficult times

Many of our partners are now offering safe and supportive environments to support those who are vulnerable and hurting and affected by war-trauma. Our partner Sasha has been running art classes for those who remain in his community. The war has changed the lives of these women – their daughters and grandchildren have been evacuated; their husbands and sons have gone to war; they have lost relatives and friends and have no idea what tomorrow will bring.

Their dreams for the future are simple and very moving. You can watch videos of some of the women expressing their dreams for the future on our blog:

<https://www.dniprohopemission.org/the-moving-voices-of-ukrainian-women/>



Salvation Church recently shared these pictures of a group of women who had lost their sons and said: *'They are in a place where pain does not disappear, but finds quiet comfort ...through creativity, these strong women forget their sorrow for a few hours. Their hands create, and their hearts begin to smile again.'*



Please pray for:

- ♦ Wives and widows and all who have been bereaved by this terrible war.
- ♦ Those who have lost limbs and need a prosthesis. Many military personnel and civilians have been wounded. May they receive the care and rehabilitation needed. May all veterans be supported physically and psychologically.

Vacancy on our Board of Trustees

We want to thank our dear friend Gill Jowett (pictured in the care home in Tsarichanka in February, 2019), for serving on our Board of Trustees for almost five years. She has been an incredibly supportive member of our team and a brilliant advocate for Dnipro Hope Mission. We wish Gill all the best for the future and know that she will continue to support us in any way she can. Gill has played a key role in 'growing' DHM as we stepped up to meet the huge humanitarian needs following the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

We now have a vacancy for a 'Secretary' - responsible for the smooth and efficient running of meetings of the trustee board and providing assistance and support to the chair of the board of trustees. The secretary is the 'conscience' of the charity, by way of ensuring that the trustees continue to take decisions and act in line with DHM's strategic objectives and constitution. Please contact our Chair of Trustees, Mark (mark@dniprohopemission.org) if this is a role that you would like to fulfil.

We are also in need of volunteers with good social media skills.

Mark would be delighted to chat with anyone who would like to contribute to the life-saving work of DHM and take the charity forward as we support our partners with the monumental task of rebuilding and reconstruction when the war eventually ends.



'Share each other's troubles and problems...' Gal 6:2

Our grateful thanks to all our supporters

We are so grateful to everyone who has donated through regular and occasional giving and standing orders. We especially thank **Wokingham Baptist Church** and **Nixons of Wokingham** for their very generous donations/fundraising. To the **Netherlands Mennonites** - thank you for giving so generously to our 'Every Mile Counts' appeal. We are also grateful to MWC President **Dr Henk Stenvers** who visited Ukraine with Joshua in 2024 and who has been speaking about DHM in the Netherlands.

Thank you to everyone who has given anonymously. We apologise if your donation has not been acknowledged - we do our best but we are all volunteers and very aware that we fall behind at times. Please send us an email if you donate so we can thank you properly!

A special thank you to **Geoff and Joan Boston** who held their annual open garden and charity plant sale and raised much needed funds for us - thank you so very much!

We also want to thank DHM trustee Helen Evans who has been visiting churches in the south-east to talk about our mission, our partners and their life-saving work. She is also available to visit your church or community group. If you would like a visiting speaker, please contact DHM's chair of trustees, Mark (mark@dniprohopemission.org).

Your donations are literally keeping vulnerable people alive. Our partner, **Yevhenii in Dnipro** is using DHM funds to buy medication for the dialysis patient in the photo above.



Website Review

We extend our sincere thanks to Alton Morgan, a user researcher in digital media, who recently conducted a website review session with three of our trustees. His insights were invaluable in helping us assess the accessibility, design, and user experience of our current site. As a result, we plan to implement a number of improvements over the coming months. If you have any comments or suggestions on the DHM website, please contact Mark (mark@dniprohopemission.org).

Every month, on the first Thursday, we pause and pray for peace and justice. Please join us, if you can, on **July 3rd, August 7th and/or September 4th** from **3- 4 pm BST**, as we pray for an end to this illegal war and for a just peace for Ukraine. Please know that we are grateful to you all as we stand with Ukraine.

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blogs: [https://
www.dniproh
opemission.or
g/blog/](https://www.dniprohopemission.org/blog/)

Giving

DHM is an organisation comprised of volunteers and local ministry partners; we don't have any paid staff and almost all of your donations go directly to where they are most needed in Ukraine.

Please donate either through Stewardship or through a direct debit/standing order or one-off payment to the DHM account: Sort

Code: **30-90-91** / Account Number: **68149860**

Account Name: Dnipro Hope Mission; Bank Name: Lloyds Bank

Please download a gift aid form from our website

<https://www.dniprohopemission.org/donate/>



Every penny will help and almost all of your donations will go directly to our trusted local partners who are already working throughout Ukraine.

Account name: Dnipro Hope Mission

Account Number: 68149860

Sort Code: 30-90-91

<https://www.dniprohopemission.org/>

Dnipro Hope Mission has been working throughout Ukraine since 2016 and became a UK-registered charity in 2018 (1177504)