

## SUMMARY

More than two years into the conflict in Ukraine, many people around the world are turning their attention toward other issues. However, the children and families who remain, along with those who have sought refuge in surrounding countries, are still in great need. Through your generosity, we are meeting tangible needs, protecting children, and proclaiming hope.

To date, the conflict has displaced over 3.7 million people within Ukraine, and more than 6 million have fled to neighboring European countries (UNHCR, 2024). World Vision is there, where needs are greatest, delivering life-saving assistance and supporting longer term needs. **Since the beginning of our response in March 2022, we've reached more than 1.7 million people—638,027 in the first half of FY24—with food kits, cash assistance, psychosocial support, safe shelter, and more.**

### Child-Friendly Spaces

The well-being of children is our primary goal. We are here to help ensure a better future for all children—particularly the most vulnerable and those whose lives have been disrupted by conflict. Our Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) support children's mental health and help them process the impacts of the war.


In partnership with local organizations, World Vision's CFS programs in Ukraine, Romania, Moldova, and Georgia give kids an opportunity to interact with peers and process their emotions. Through games and activities (such as the art class pictured at right), children can express themselves and find ways to channel their energy positively. Most importantly, CFS provide children with hope and help them realize they are not alone. Response-wide, we've reached 97,655 children with child protection programs like these.





*First Aid Arts, a Child-Friendly Space in Moldova, uses arts-based resources to promote resilience and reduce post-traumatic stress symptoms. "I can sense the change in [children's] well-being before and after attending the classes. Drawing helps children's brains focus and reduces tension. They become calmer," said Anastasia, an art teacher (above).*

## PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES SINCE RESPONSE BEGAN IN MARCH 2022

**1,771,175** PEOPLE, including 823,264 children, have been reached with aid (1,120,109 in Ukraine, 312,771 in Romania, 311,539 in Moldova, and 26,756 in Georgia).

 **572,072** people have been reached with food assistance, and we've distributed more than 12.1 million pounds of food.

 **257,314** children have benefited from educational programming.

 **124,453** people have benefited from mental health and psychosocial activities.

## LOOKING FORWARD

As the conflict enters year three, our main priority is to keep meeting the needs of the most vulnerable children and their families while they adjust to living in new communities—whether they've relocated to safer areas of Ukraine or to neighboring countries. Two areas of focus are livelihood support and education, including catch-up programs.

### Livelihood support

The economic situation for internally displaced Ukrainians and refugees remains precarious, as they face challenges finding stable employment and accessing essential resources. Displaced people are not always able to use their existing skills due to language barriers, differing professional requirements between countries, or legal restrictions for employment. Our skills training programs (such as the cooking class, at right) help provide a pathway to new employment options, instill a sense of optimism for what lies ahead, and help refugees envision a future in their new homes.

Our cash assistance program helps bridge the gap for refugees and displaced people while they resettle and look for work. Cash distribution is considered a best practice in humanitarian response, offering families dignity and agency to determine their most pressing needs and the best use of the money. Providing cash also empowers people to buy food and supports local economies, which in turn encourages host communities to welcome refugees.

### Catch-up education

Displaced children often are unable to access quality education due to a lack of required documents or insufficient educational facilities to accommodate them. Many children are taking classes online, but they miss social interaction and learning alongside other students.

In Ukraine and Moldova, World Vision and our partner organizations operate afterschool activities and camps that provide learning support for children and help them integrate in host community schools. We also are conducting literacy and numeracy skills assessments for displaced children who have fallen behind academically due to the conflict.

## THANK YOU

We are grateful for the prayers and steadfast support of donors like you, who allow us to address children's and families' needs, urgently and consistently. "This is the kind of challenge that we must not give up on, no matter how tough and complex. Our vision for every child to have a life of fullness is a promise we must fulfill," said Chris Palusky, World Vision's Ukraine response director.



*Working with local partners, World Vision launched a culinary skills program in Moldova. The classes have inspired Ukrainian refugees to enhance their cooking skills and encouraged them to think of livelihoods they can pursue as they settle into new communities. Read more about the program [here](#).*

*Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

—Galatians 6:9 (NIV)



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World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.