

Rotary Provides Rapid Relief for Ukrainian Refugees

Story by Ed Kolybaba on Mar 15, 2022

(How can you support this vital relief effort?)

Rotary and Rotaract clubs in Europe and around the world have taken swift action and are working with members nearby to provide food, water, medical equipment, and shelter for refugees brought about by the horrific Russian invasion of Ukraine. According to a March 14th report from the United Nations, more than 3 million people, most of them women and children, have sought refuge in neighboring countries, across Europe, and in North America, including Canada, to escape the indiscriminant constant bombardment and destruction of Ukrainian cities and their hospitals, schools and homes. Millions have also been displaced within Ukraine. Efforts by Rotary clubs are ongoing, according to Rotary International.



In response to the deepening humanitarian crisis in Ukraine The Rotary Foundation has created a channel to enable Rotarians from around the world and others to provide relief. Commencing immediately, Rotarians and others can allocate financial contributions to the Disaster Response Fund of the Foundation. Rotary Districts can also through their unallocated District Designated Funds allocate funds to the Disaster Response Fund for this relief.

The Trustees of the Foundation have decided to prioritize contributions, including unallocated District Designated Funds, made to the Disaster Response Fund until 30

April. Districts can also apply for disaster response grants to support the Ukrainian relief efforts.

In addition to the Disaster Response Fund, Rotarians, other individuals and families, and Rotary clubs can also contribute to the relief through ShelterBox Canada (<https://www.shelterboxcanada.org/the-ukraine-crisis-explained/>). ShelterBox Canada is affiliated with ShelterBox International, an official Project Partner with Rotary International which has now sent a team to the area.