

# EMF Ukraine Emergency Appeal



## How are we working to help refugees?

As we see the horrific events in Ukraine unfold, our hearts go out to the millions of refugees who are fleeing to the west of the country and to neighbouring countries, often women and children having to leave their husbands behind, and for some, elderly parents too.

But faced with problems on such a scale and with such devastating effect on the lives of people, what can we do?

Of course, our priority is to pray - pray for the war to end, and for the people of Ukraine, especially the Christians. But we also want to act to support refugees - physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Prompted by the heartwarming response of Christians in UK, giving sacrificially to help, we set up an emergency refugee fund at EMF. And we are working hard to channel that support through our missionaries and partner churches, and their sister evangelical churches, in Ukraine and in neighbouring countries to help refugees.

The following pages outline how we are working to make best use of your donations.



## Where are our missionaries who are most involved in the work?



**Adam & Dagmara Urban**  
[Siedlce, Poland](#)



**Volodia & Oksana Kostyshyn**  
with Zechariah and Oleksii  
[Ternopil, Ukraine](#)



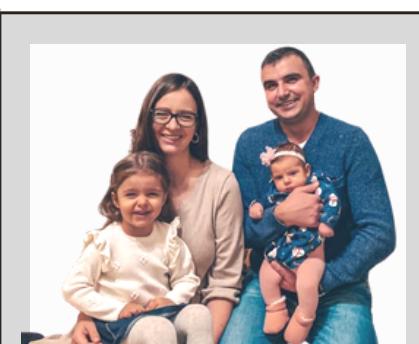
**Vitalii and Liudmyla Mariash**  
with Marianna and Mark  
[Now in Chernivtsi, Ukraine](#)



**Krzysztof and Aneta  
Rutkowscy**  
[Włocławek, Poland](#)



**Pál and Anna Borzási**  
[Pericei, Romania](#)  
Along with 3 other missionary families in the area



**Mihai and Irina Chisari**  
with Delia and Elisa  
[Chișinău, Moldova](#)



## What is our approach?

### Our Priorities

Our immediate priority is to ensure that our partner churches and their sister churches who are on the front line of providing emergency support to refugees get the financial support they need. In most cases, especially outside Ukraine, they can access all the provisions they need locally, but need financial help. Of course, this will change soon, and even now in Ukraine access to provisions is getting hard.

Alongside this, there is a great spiritual need, and evangelical churches on the front line are asking for Bibles and other literature in Ukrainian. Krzysztof Rutkowski, who leads Legatio Publishing is working to provide literature to churches.



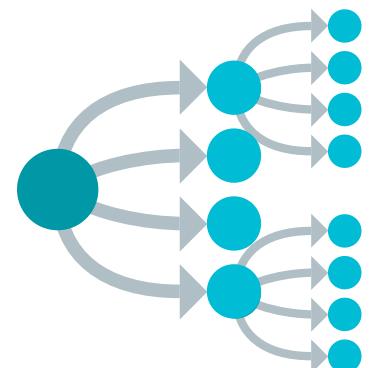
Mihai Chisari taking refugees to the church in Chișinău

### A growing network of churches

Some of our partner churches, such as the Imago Dei church in Chișinău, are right on the front line of refugee support. But even so, there is only so much our partner churches and missionaries can do by themselves, and some are not in the most needy locations.

Our approach is to channel support through our missionaries and partner churches to other sister evangelical churches in need. In some cases having someone on the ground, but not on the front line of refugee support, is exactly what's needed to help coordinate work effectively.

Volodia Kostyshyn, pastor of Grace Church in Ternopil Ukraine, for example, has close links with around 10 other evangelical churches in the area, and collectively they are seeking to help over 600 refugees each day.



Distributing support through our partner churches to sister evangelical churches



## Looking ahead

Even though channeling financial support is the immediate priority, we expect the needs will change quickly. Already we are receiving requests to get aid supplies into Ukraine - and we are working to find ways to do this, working with our partners in Poland.

Even now, the challenge of finding refugee places to go to beyond the places of emergency shelter is a growing part of the challenge, but one in which evangelical churches and Christians have a big part to play.

## Partnering evangelical organisations

For this reason, we are looking to build links to other evangelical Christian organisations working in the area and with local churches, especially where they are equipped to tackle challenges which EMF cannot tackle alone, including:

- The logistics of getting refugee aid into difficult areas.
- Helping refugees find shelter and accommodation beyond the emergency shelters.

We will keep supporters informed as we get these partnerships up and running.



## How are our Missionaries in Ukraine?

**Thank you to everyone who joined in prayer for our missionaries in Ukraine. We're happy to be able to report that both families are well and in places of relative safety.**

Vitalii & Liudmyla Mariash, with their children Marianna and Mark, were in Kyiv until a week before the invasion. Liudmyla and the children then moved down to the city of Chernivtsi in the south-west, where she is from. Vitalii was intending to stay in Kyiv. But having left the city for a night to take shelter in a nearby village, when heavy bombing was expected, Vitalii couldn't then get back into the city, and so decided to join his family in Chernivtsi. They have decided to stay in Ukraine, and are working tirelessly to help other families find shelter from Kyiv.



Volodia & Oksana Kostyshyn are based in the western city of Ternopil, which has thus far been spared from serious attack. But Ternopil is on the main refugee route towards Lviv and Poland, and they are seeing increasing numbers of refugees seeking help in the city.

Their eldest son, Zechariah, is severely disabled, and depends on daily medication, which is a great concern for Volodia & Oksana.

**Please do pray for these two families. While they are in relative safety, they are both exhausted and emotionally drained as they work hard to support Christians under their pastoral care, and refugees seeking support.**



# How can you help?

## Please Pray

Please continue to pray for the people of Ukraine, and in particular:

- That there would be an end to the war, and that the plans and actions of evil men would be thwarted.
- That Christians in Ukraine, and in neighbouring countries, would remain faithful, even in extreme circumstances, and would be faithful witnesses to the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- That, in the midst of such desperate physical and emotional need, the Lord would work powerfully in the lives of men and women to bring them to Christ.
- For Christians involved in helping refugees, that the Lord would sustain them physically, emotionally and spiritually, as they work tirelessly to help people in such need.

## Please Give

Thank you to everyone who has given so generously to the appeal for Ukraine. We expect that the refugee needs will continue to grow and will remain for quite some time, so please do continue to give.

## Please Encourage Others

Please encourage others to pray and to give.

There is more information on the Ukraine crisis on our website [www.europeanmission.org](http://www.europeanmission.org) and on our Facebook page @EuropeanMission, including video interviews with some of our missionaries.

If you would like to receive information on a more frequent basis, please

- Sign up for our weekly news update here:  
[www.europeanmission.org/ukraine-updates](http://www.europeanmission.org/ukraine-updates)
- Join our WhatsApp broadcast group  
[chat.whatsapp.com/BnV8U5INQfMHIhsdKVvO9R](https://chat.whatsapp.com/BnV8U5INQfMHIhsdKVvO9R)

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