



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PHASE I OF THE "HELPING HAND FOR UKRAINE" PROJECT COMPLETED

Kyiv, June 30, 2015 – Phase I of the “Helping Hand for Ukraine” project, implemented by “HOPE worldwide Ukraine” Charity Foundation in cooperation with “HOPE worldwide of Canada” is complete. Phase I started in May and consisted of a training course which took place on May 22-24, 2015 for the project trainers (practicing psychologists and psychotherapists), and a course of therapy sessions with children, traumatized by war in Eastern Ukraine, and their parents, which lasted from May 30 till June 20, 2015.

The Training Course lasted for three days, during which the participants learned how to use the “Children and War. Teaching Recovery Techniques” manual and program in their work with traumatized children. After the training course, the Recovery Team psychologists fine-tuned the program during seven therapy sessions with children at the temporary camp for internally displaced persons (IDPs) located on the “Teteriv” health resort in Korostyshiv (Zhytomyrska oblast).

Therapy Sessions focused on teaching children to learn how to cope with intrusive memories and nightmares, and how to use different breathing and relaxation techniques. The Recovery Team worked with Recovery Groups consisting of three age groups of children (6-8 years old, 9-11 years old and 12-18 years old with 8-10 kids in each group) and one group of parents (6 adults). The Recovery Groups were equipped with psychological self-assistance skills to help them cope with traumatic experiences and fears.

The Recovery Team received certificates from “HOPE worldwide Ukraine”, HOPE worldwide of Canada and the Ukrainian Institute of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for their participation in the Training Course.

Phase II will start in September 2015. During Phase II, provided adequate funding is available, the Recovery Team will conduct 15 “Children and War. Teaching Recovery Techniques” trainings for psychologists, teachers, social workers and volunteers all over Ukraine. The Recovery Team will also conduct a range of therapy session courses for children, traumatized by the War in Eastern Ukraine, and their parents who temporarily reside in IDPs camps in different regions of Ukraine. If the fundraising campaign in Canada is successful, the “Helping Hand for Ukraine” Project will provide assistance to over 5000 children.

About “Helping Hand for Ukraine” Project

The “Helping Hand for Ukraine” Project was created and launched by “HOPE worldwide of Canada” in cooperation with “HOPE worldwide Ukraine” Charity Foundation to help children deal with the psychological effects of the War in Eastern Ukraine. The Project’s Recovery Team plans to train 300 psychologists, social workers and teachers to work with traumatized children and their parents using the “Children and War. Teaching Recovery Techniques” program and manual. Affected groups are IDPs who live in temporary camps (Cherkasy, Korostyshiv, Kurakhove, Komsomolsk, Kremenchuk).

Canadian donors can donate for the project on Tilt – <http://tilt.tc/xqWa>

About “HOPE *worldwide* Ukraine” Charity Foundation

“HOPE *worldwide* Ukraine” Charity Foundation is a non-governmental charitable organization, performing its activities in Ukraine, which aims at improving the quality of life for children and adults who live in difficult socio-economic conditions. The Foundation has been registered in 1998 (Certificate #0108-98 issued by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine).

<http://hopeww.org.ua/en>

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About “HOPE *worldwide* of Canada” Charity Organization

HOPE *worldwide* of Canada – is a registered non-profit charity, headquartered in Toronto, Ontario and is affiliated with HOPE worldwide Ltd, a non-profit charity, headquartered in Philadelphia. HOPE worldwide is a recognized non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

<http://hopewwc.org>

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