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“HELPING HAND FOR UKRAINE” LAUNCHED TRAINING IN CHERKASY

Kyiv, November 19, 2015 – “HOPE *worldwide* Ukraine” implemented a 3-day “[Children and War. Teaching Recovery Techniques](#)” training in Cherkasy from November 11 to 13, 2015. A total of 17 social workers, leaders of regional social service centers, practicing psychologists and representatives of the state emergency services participated in the training within Phase II of the “Helping Hand for Ukraine” International Relief Project.

Ms. **Iryna Sukhova** (coordinator-psychologist), Ms. **Olena Bozhor** (art-therapist) and Ms. **Nataliya Podolyak** (psychologist and psychotherapist) taught participants how to use the techniques and program to work with children traumatized by the war in the Eastern Ukraine.

Phase II in Cherkasy was made possible through a grant from “HOPE *worldwide*” in Philadelphia, USA. The Cherkasy Regional Contact Center generously provided the training venue and accommodations for the trainers.

Larysa Khodakovska, Executive Director, Cherkasy Regional Contact Center: *“As of today 13,443 IDPs (internally displaced persons) live in the Cherkasy region and 2,026 of them are children. Children and their parents desperately need psychological assistance. The new knowledge and techniques to work with IDP children are extremely important and urgent for the social workers, psychologists, educators of Cherkasy region. On behalf of Cherkasy Regional Contact Center I express our gratitude to the training team of the “Helping Hand for Ukraine” project for this informative educational work and cooperation”.*

Iryna Vysotska, training participant, practicing psychologist at Cherkasy City Children’s Hospital: *“The training was clearly structured. I acquired skills and techniques and got a chance to master them during practice modules. I am thankful for the new tools, visual materials and the manual. Since I work with children and parents, I will be able to use these tools and techniques in my work as well as in communication with my own child. All my expectations came true”.*

About the “Helping Hand for Ukraine” Project

The “Helping Hand for Ukraine” project will train 300 psychologists, social workers and teachers to work with traumatized children using the “Children and War. Teaching Recovery Techniques” program and manual. Therapy sessions will help children and parents acquire skills, techniques and ability to deal with their traumatic experience. The project will also deliver humanitarian aid to IDPs who live in camps in Cherkasy, Korostyshiv, Kurakhove, Komsomolsk, and Kremenchuk.

The “Children and War. Teaching Recovery Techniques” program was developed by the Center for Crisis Psychology (Bergen, Norway) and the Institute of Psychiatry (London, Great Britain). In Ukraine, the manual was translated and adapted by the experts from the Ukrainian Institute of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (Lviv, Ukraine).

Phase I of the project included training the Recovery Team in Kyiv and a therapy course for children and parents at the IDP camp in Korostyshiv in May-June 2015.

The partners of the project are: “HOPE *worldwide* of Canada”, HOPE *worldwide*, and Ukrainian Institute of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (Lviv, Ukraine).

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

About “HOPE *worldwide* Ukraine”

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

The main activities of the Foundation include providing humanitarian aid to the IDPs and psychological assistance to children traumatized by war in the Eastern Ukraine; fostering social adaptation of orphans with disabilities who live in orphanages and boarding schools in the city of Kyiv and within the Kyiv oblast; assisting state elderly care institutions in sustaining physical and emotional needs of the elderly; promoting healthy lifestyles among adolescents and youth; and promoting voluntary blood donation and recruiting blood donors.

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

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About “HOPE *worldwide* of Canada”

HOPE *worldwide* of Canada – is a registered charity, headquartered in Toronto, Ontario and is affiliated with HOPE *worldwide* Ltd, a non-profit charity, headquartered in Philadelphia, USA. We share HOPE *worldwide*'s mission, which is as simple as its name: “To bring hope to a hurting world”. HOPE *worldwide* was founded in 1991 with just three simple programs. Now it serves the poor in 75 nations on all six inhabited continents. With over 100,000 committed volunteers, HOPE *worldwide* annually serves more than 2 million needy people worldwide.

HOPE *worldwide* is a recognized NGO with special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. HOPE *worldwide* of Canada has been recognized by municipal, provincial and federal governments for its programs and committed volunteer base.

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