



Ukraine Children's Action Project (UCAP)

January Report 2025

*On the ground, hands on,
transparent*

[Visit our Website](#)

Supporting Families, What Matters Most



We are thinking about our December visit to Ukraine, especially recalling the children and families we met with and the in-person meetings with the Ukrainians who make sure that UCAP's projects are sustained and accountable. And after two and a half years of working with these leaders, many of them have also become dear friends, trusted partners who share a vision based on an unwavering commitment to the children and families whose lives have been severely disrupted, and often traumatized, by the consequences of an unjust war.

However, we would be remiss not to share our concerns about when and how the violence of this prolonged war will be brought to an end. Our worries have been exacerbated over the past couple of months for a variety of reasons. Every day of war brings more death and devastation to Ukraine. More trauma. More grieving. More severe discomfort during a harsh winter as Russia's targets energy and heating infrastructure.

Making matters more stressful for Ukraine now is uncertainty about what the U.S. will do in the weeks and months to come. Military support is likely to remain at current levels, but continued support for a multitude of humanitarian programs is far less certain. That's because the millions of dollars that the America government provides to organizations supporting nutrition, education, relocation and relief supplies are "on pause" right now. That is the new executive order directed toward USAID (The United States Agency for International Development) by the White House.

The combination of the impact of continuous war and the consequences of drastically reduced U.S. government humanitarian aid is devastating for Ukraine. Local Ukrainian organization are already letting critical workers go and reducing or even eliminating vital programs.

And this also means that U.S. and international nonprofit organizations, like UCAP, need to maximize our support for programs that are actually helping children and families stay safe and secure during these very difficult days. Needless to say, UCAP's capacity to help depends entirely on the extraordinary generosity of you – and all our supporters.

[Donate](#)

Families Find Joy and Healing at Recovery Camps



Through a Mother's Eyes

Meet Mom - Svitlana, from Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine:

“My child is in need of psychological rehabilitation. Five months under occupation, followed by two years in Zaporizhzhia filled with constant stress and air raid warnings, have left their mark. My son remains fearful of loud noises and struggles to adapt to a new school after an extended period of online education. He often cries.

As for me, it has been difficult to find the resources and support my son needs. Our home is still under occupation, leaving me powerless to change the situation. Life feels as though it is on pause, consumed by constant worry for family members who remain in the occupied territory.”

Recovery Camp Impact

“An incredible six days that we will cherish forever! Recovery Camp has become synonymous with joy, happiness, warmth, and unforgettable emotions for our family. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the donors, mentors, and service personnel for giving us an experience we could only dream of.



I'm incredibly grateful for the happiness this brought my son—since the beginning of the war, I can't recall seeing him smile and laugh so much. A special thanks to the counselors—Ruhanka was everything to us! Our family, once not sporty at all, now can't stop being active. We leave Recovery Camp happy, inspired, and full of hope for a beautiful future and peace in our country. With immense gratitude to Recovery Camp, thank you!”

Since the war started, UCAP has funded 61 Recovery Camps that have provided support and healing for 4900 children and mothers. Thank you for making a difference.

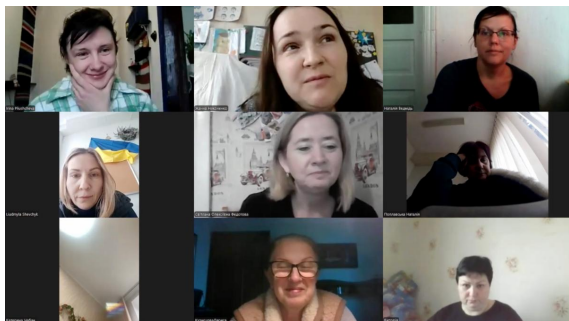
Winter Emergency Response



Our partner in Kherson (frontline region) has successfully distributed **winter supplies to 370 families in need**. Each kit includes power banks, sleeping bags for children, and

small gifts such as sweets and puzzles. The distribution of these kits began on New Year's Eve and continued through January. In Kherson, families have been reached through the psychosocial support center and multiple children's centers across the city. This initiative is about more than just meeting urgent needs—it's also about fostering a sense of hope in challenging times.

Trauma Education Helps Parents and School Psychologists

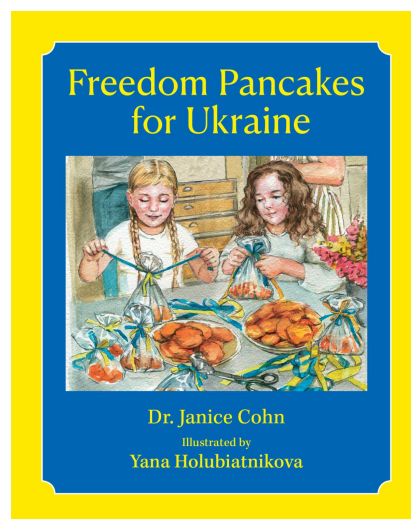


This education program strengthens the ability of parents and school psychologists living near the frontline to support children affected by the ongoing war. Through expert-led training seminars, participants gain **practical tools to address children's emotional and psychological needs**. The initial workshops exceeded attendance expectations, registering 76 parents and 270 school psychologists.

Author to donate 10% proceeds to UCAP

Freedom Pancakes for Ukraine, a picture book for young people, ages 8 and up, is about the power of kindness and compassion in wartime. Set during the war in Ukraine, it tells the story of Artem, a young boy who flees with his mother to safety in neighboring Poland, and Hannah, a girl in the United States, who turns feelings of helplessness about the war into action by making "freedom pancakes" for her own fundraiser to assist Ukrainian children.

Dr. Janice Cohn, the book's author, is generously donating ten percent of the book's proceeds to UCAP to help fund future and ongoing projects. To learn more, and to purchase the book, see the link below



[Freedom Pancakes for Ukraine](#)

UCAP's Recent Winter Briefing - Needs and Future Plans



First Deputy Minister, Dr. Yevhen Kudriavets of the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science joined Irwin, Yuliia and Karen at **UCAP's special emergency on-line briefing** and update that was held on December 17, 2024. We discussed our collaboration with the Ministry, progress we've made with other partners, as well as the work of UCAP to address the devastating winter emergency.

[Watch UCAP Webinar Here](#)

Irwin talks with Chris Jansing on MSNBC



Includes video of our site visit to Lviv, Ukraine

And with our sincere, enduring thanks, we wish you and yours a safe, healthy and positive 2025.

Fondly,
Irwin and Karen,

**Ways to
Give**

***After 30+ months of operation, we want to share that our administrative overhead is just 13%.
The respected Charity Navigator considers anything under 25% worthy of it's highest rating!**



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**Thank
You**



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