



DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Recovery Camp Academy – SECOND WAVE OF TRAINING November 3 – November 29

Project:

Recovery Camp Academy is an online training program for professionals who work with children and families in war conditions.

Implementation period:

November 3 – November 29

Duration of training:

4 weeks

Quantitative indicators

- Total number of training participants — 108 people
- Most active participants (regular participation in Zoom meetings, completion of assignments) — 20–25 people
- Number of Zoom meetings during the training — 4
- Recordings of all Zoom meetings were available to each participant
- Number of participants who successfully completed the training and received certificates — 53 people

The main method of recruiting participants was through mailings/announcements among partner organizations, Telegram groups, Facebook communities, and announcements on social media.
Recovery Camp

Geography and professional profile

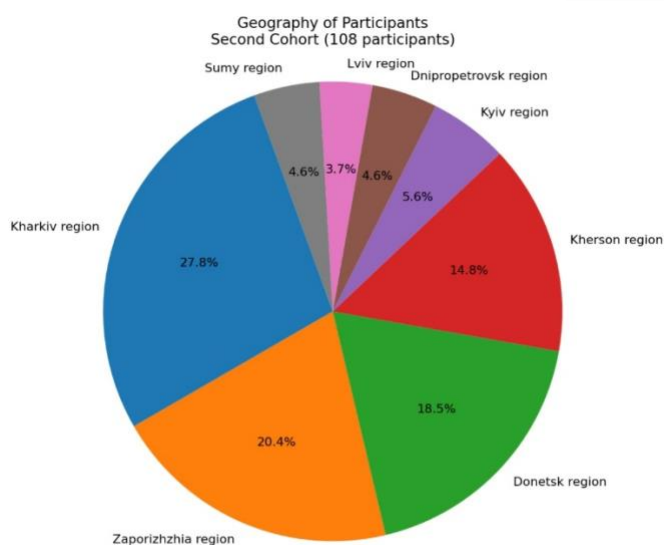
The second wave of training differed from the first in that it was dominated by specialists from frontline territories. Most participants represented the Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, and Kherson regions, which indicates a high demand for practical tools for psycho-emotional support in the most vulnerable communities. Specialists from other regions of Ukraine also joined the program, which contributed to the interregional exchange of experience.



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The course audience consisted of psychologists, social workers, educators, humanitarian project coordinators, representatives of non-governmental organizations, and volunteers. A common feature of most participants was their direct work with children and families affected by the war.

Participants' motivations and expectations

An analysis of the questionnaires completed by participants in the second wave revealed the following key motivations:

- 78% sought to obtain practical tools for working with children;
- 41% indicated a need for structured knowledge to implement programs in communities;
- 33% were looking for a professional community and support;
- 19% viewed training as a tool for personal renewal and prevention of emotional burnout.

Assessment of training effectiveness and quality

Participants in the second wave highly rated the convenience of the learning platform, the flexible course format, the availability of recorded materials, and the quality of administrative support.

According to the feedback results:

- 81% of participants said they were already applying the knowledge and tools they had acquired in their practical work;
- 29% noted emotional support and a sense of professional community as an important component of learning.



Zoom meetings and participant support

Zoom meetings remained an important part of the learning process, providing an opportunity to ask questions, receive feedback from experts, and discuss practical cases. Upon individual requests from participants, the program team organized additional consultations, including with the administrative unit, to support the implementation of camps in communities.

Success stories from the second wave

Story 1.

One of the participants in the second wave, who had previously participated in Recovery Camp, founded a non-governmental organization in the Kherson region after returning home. After completing the second wave of Recovery Camp Academy training, she implemented game-based methods in her work with children, structured administrative processes, and formed a volunteer team. This case demonstrates the full cycle of the program's impact — from participation in the camp to the creation of her own support space.

Story 2.

A separate important case of the second wave was the initiative of one of the training participants who joined the program, combining professional activities with service in the unit and work on psycho-emotional support for the families of his comrades. Recognizing the need for a safe and restorative space for families and children, he initiated the creation of his own camps, which involve taking participants to safer areas for deeper emotional relief.

At his request, the Recovery Camp Academy team organized a separate Zoom consultation with speakers from the administrative unit, during which the organization of the camp, the involvement of volunteers, and the principles of safe work with children were discussed in detail. As a result, it was agreed that 16 volunteers from the Donetsk and Kharkiv regions would join one of the Recovery Camps in January for practical training directly at the camp, where additional practical sessions would be organized for participants.

This volunteer group includes mothers and older teenagers with experience working with children who aspire to take on the role of game practitioners in their own camps in the future. This case demonstrates the living transfer of experience, values, and the Recovery Camp support model — from training to practical implementation in communities.

Feedback from participants

Feedback from participants confirmed the high practical value of the program: 81% of respondents said they were already applying the knowledge and tools they had acquired in their professional activities, while 29% noted emotional support and a sense of community as one of the key values of the training.



"The training gave me a clear understanding of how to work with children in war conditions and many tools that I am already using in my work."

"For me, this course was not only a source of knowledge, but also a source of support. It was very important to feel that you are not alone and that your work matters."

TEAM CONCLUSIONS

1. The second wave of training confirmed the continued interest in the Recovery Camp Academy program, particularly among specialists from frontline territories, which demonstrates the high relevance of practical tools for psycho-emotional support in wartime conditions.
2. A significant number of participants were located in regions with unstable security situations, which made it difficult to participate regularly in live Zoom meetings. At the same time, the format with access to recordings proved to be effective and should be retained in future training waves.
3. There was an increase in the number of requests from participants for individual consultations and practical support on organizational and administrative issues, confirming the readiness of some graduates to move from training to the direct implementation of camps in their communities.
4. Practical cases from the second wave demonstrated that online training is an effective first stage of preparation, but further offline formats, mentoring, and on-site team support are necessary for the sustainable implementation of Recovery Camp programs.
5. During the second wave, volunteer initiatives were formed with the participation of military families and teenagers, opening up the prospect of developing an interregional network and transferring the Recovery Camp model experience to communities.