

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2023



**MISSION WITHOUT BORDERS**



## INTRODUCTION - FROM STEPHEN YOUNG, CEO



**Every day, our local staff meet people who have very few opportunities in life.**

We see Roma families living in remote villages, struggling to find enough work to put food on the table, their children dropping out of school early to help at home.

We see elderly people who are lonely and struggling to get by on very little money, feeling that their lives have already ended.

We see refugees fleeing conflict, having left behind everything – jobs and communities and homes and all their hopes for the future, both big and small.

We see children being told not to bother dreaming they will achieve anything in life; would-be students knowing they can't afford further study. We see talented men and women unable to fulfil their potential because their lives are all about survival and nothing more.

That is why creating opportunities is something we are passionate about. It's a combination of things – creating ongoing opportunities such as our after school clubs that help children with their studies – or one-off opportunities like providing tools for a 'would be' mechanic.

Some opportunities are like seeds planted, that we trust will bear fruit in time – the opportunity to hear the gospel, the opportunity of a safe space to grow in, the opportunity of a trusted friend to turn to, the opportunity of a local church to offer community and discipleship.



Others are more like a door miraculously opening, a once-in-a-lifetime chance: the means to earn a living and support your family, a week away from the challenges of life at summer camp, a scholarship. Those are the life-changers, the ones no one ever forgets.

And of course, at Mission Without Borders, we have wonderful opportunities to see God at work as we seek to share his love with others. All over the world, our supporters take the opportunity to partner with us – to share what they have to bless people living in poverty in eastern Europe.

**“The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few,” Jesus told his followers in Matthew 9:37.**

The opportunities are there to be taken, if only our eyes are open to see them. Thank you for joining us in our vision of all that is possible – and for labouring with us in Christ to open new doors and provide new ways forward to families, children, and elderly people in eastern Europe.





## RESPONSE TO UKRAINE CRISIS



**84,340 FAMILIES**

HELPED WITH DONATED GOODS,  
FOOD AND HYGIENE ITEMS



**34,910 FAMILIES**

HELPED WITH ACCOMMODATION



**345 CHURCHES**

INVOLVED AND 1,056 VOLUNTEERS  
HELPING WITH RELIEF EFFORTS



**22,842 LITERATURE**

COPIES DISTRIBUTED (GOSPELS OF  
JOHN, BIBLES, AND CHILDREN'S  
BIBLES)



**155,989 MEALS**

SERVED TO REFUGEES AND OTHERS  
AFFECTED BY THE WAR

END OF FEBRUARY 2023 ESTIMATES



Yulia with her daughter

## PEACE FOR YULIA

Yulia, 34, grew up in a children's home in Ukraine. Years later, she found herself homeless and a single mother of three.

Whenever possible, Yulia worked two jobs, often doing night shifts, but the family lived in very poor conditions and had to move frequently because they couldn't afford the rent.

Then – in February 2022 – there was a rocket attack on the airport close to where Yulia and her children lived. The children were very frightened, and a sense of pressure and fear settled in their minds and hearts.

Yulia said, "Although I tried to encourage the children to have peace and confidence in their hearts, I couldn't do it in the end. They started asking me what happens to us after we die."

In January 2023, Yulia's life began to change. Her family was enrolled on Mission Without Borders' family sponsorship programme. MWB staff and volunteers had regularly visited the children's home she grew up in, doing Bible lessons and fun activities, and best of all, inviting them to summer camps each year.



Now, years later, once again Yulia experienced the kindness of MWB. She said, "We've received so much from the Mission and from the local church that it's hard to put it into words!"

"The war brought so many problems into our lives. But now, with the support of so many people, we feel so much better. The children have become calmer and happier. We have our own home and we don't have to worry about having to leave it."

**Out of the 464 families enrolled on MWB's family sponsorship programme, 92 per cent of them (427) have remained in Ukraine – and MWB continues to provide them with regular material, emotional and spiritual support.**

## VISITING AREAS DEVASTATED BY WAR

"Two drunk soldiers broke into our house and pressed an automatic gun to the forehead of our ten-year-old son. They said, 'Give us jewellery and the keys for the car, or he will be dead right now.'"

Olga and Roman live in Izium, a small town in Kharkiv region, among the first taken by Russian forces in February 2022. Izium spent six months under occupation, enduring heavy shelling and airstrikes, until it was liberated by Ukrainian troops on September 10.

Olga and Roman – whose son survived his ordeal – describe how they tried their best to remain invisible to soldiers during the occupation.

Roman said, "It was a matter of survival, avoiding being noticed by any soldiers. In the meantime, electricity, water supply and gas were all cut off, one after the other. I would never have believed that such hell would happen to us."



**"We ate tiny portions of food we had saved up, to try and make it last, but we soon ran out," Olga said.**

MWB staff and volunteers visited Izium in September to distribute food parcels, blankets, warm clothing, footwear, and hygiene items to people in need.

Misha, MWB writer and photographer, said, "Looking around, it is so hard to believe that this was once a flourishing, comfortable town. People here are exhausted, emotionally wounded and hurt. A lot of people died or disappeared without trace. There is so much pain and sorrow here."

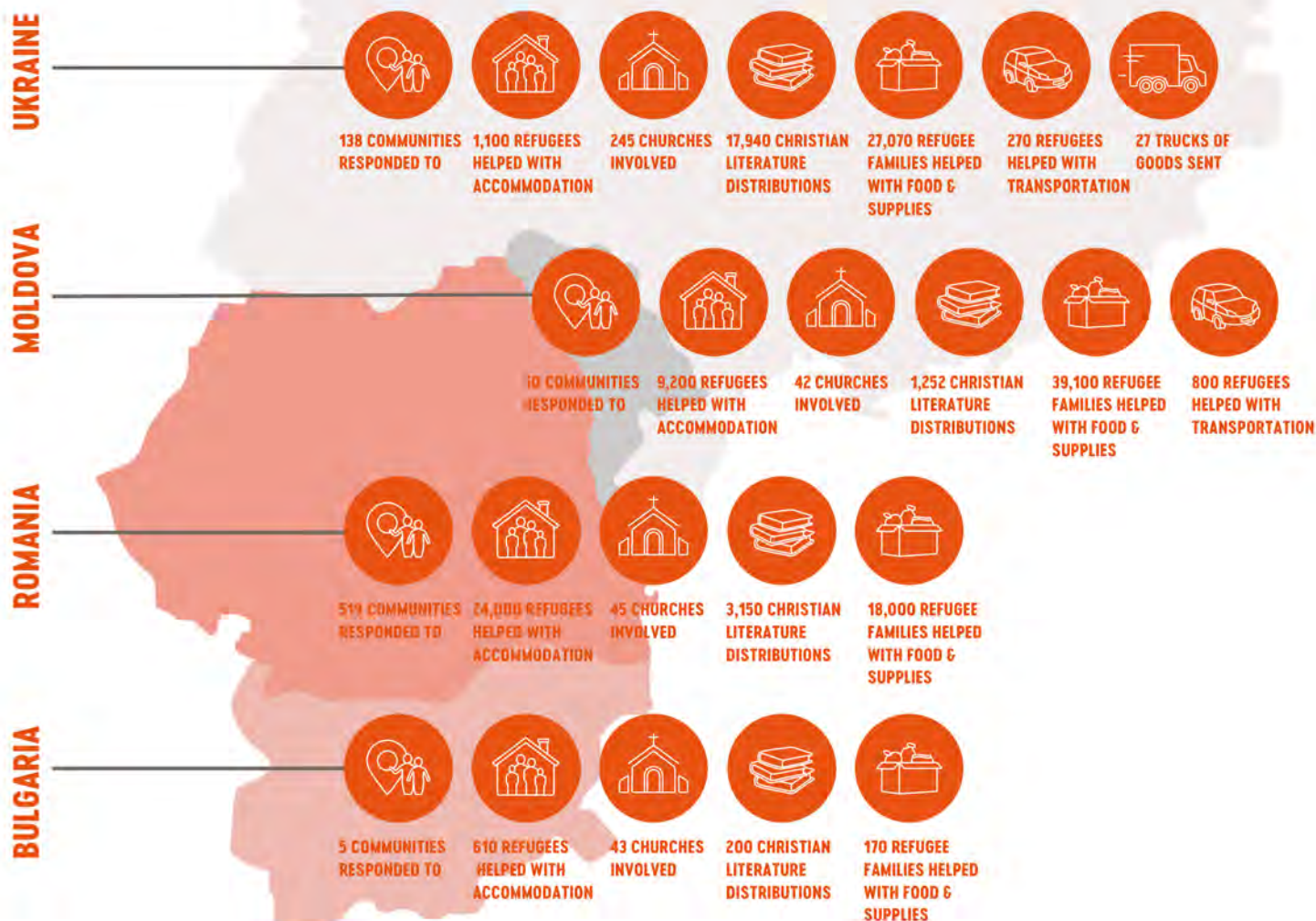


# UKRAINE REFUGEE CRISIS

Over a year after the full-scale war began in February 2022, displaced Ukrainians continue to need support as they build new lives far from home, and people in many parts of Ukraine have been left with nothing after their homes and communities were destroyed. The families we support in western Ukraine have had

new challenges to face in the form of power outages, the rising cost of living, disrupted education for their children, and the fear of Russian attack.

Our local staff and volunteers are as committed as ever to supporting vulnerable families, children and elderly people in Ukraine, as well as Ukrainian refugees in neighbouring countries. Thanks to our generous donors and effective church partnerships, we are reaching out with Christ's love to more people than ever.



END OF FEBRUARY 2023 ESTIMATES



## CHURCH PARTNERSHIP IN UKRAINE

When the full-scale war broke out in February 2022, Volodymyr Brychka, pastor of a church in Karpylivka, a village in western Ukraine, led the way in his passion to rescue people trapped in conflict zones, provide food to families suffering from shortages, and help on their way groups of disoriented and displaced mothers and children.

Volodymyr said, "I will always remember the first weeks of this full-scale war, when thousands and thousands of people needed to be evacuated.

"One time, we were evacuating small children from one of the orphanages in the east. The route was dangerous due to constant shelling. There wasn't enough space in the bus for everyone, so each sitting person had a terrified child or infant on his lap, trying to calm and comfort them. For me, that was a metaphor of our whole country – our future that we are desperately trying to save from the hellfire.

"During this time in particular, the faith of each Christian must be backed up by good deeds. We are witnessing a huge need for such deeds – and a huge need for God's light to be poured out on people: on the families who are losing their loved ones, on people who no longer have a place to live, on those people who have become injured by the war and disabled, on those who are suffering from the traumatic experiences they've endured ... the list is long indeed. It is a big challenge but also a great opportunity for all the people who can help."

Mykola Bohdanets, MWB Ukraine director, said, "The Mission's partnership with the church of Karpylivka village has already brought a lot of good fruit. We have always worked to reach people for Christ, and now, during the war, we do our best to help in the most effective way in the places where it's needed the most."

**Stephen Young, CEO of Mission Borders, said, "The refugee crisis has led to Mission Without Borders working with more church partners in Ukraine than ever before. These partnerships are central in helping us provide refugee families and others affected by the war with much-needed emergency aid, accommodation, transport and more. Our hope is to strengthen these partnerships so that when the war is over, we can establish new sponsorship communities where these churches are based, and support families in rebuilding their lives."**



Volodymyr Brychka



**MOLDOVA**

## **FAMILY SPONSORSHIP**

**"I PRAY THAT I  
WILL CONTINUE  
TO SPREAD GOD'S  
LOVE TO THOSE  
WHO REALLY NEED  
TO HEAR HOW  
IMPORTANT THEY  
ARE TO HIM"**

Stela and family in Moldova

### **A BETTER FUTURE FOR A WIDOW AND HER CHILDREN**

"My whole world was crushed when my husband died. I was alone with five children to look after, and I had no help, no support from anyone."

Stela, 46, who lives in Moldova, lost her husband to a heart attack about six years ago. "I found a place to rent and started to work hard anywhere I could find a job. I was under so much pressure, and felt a great deal of stress and exhaustion," she said.

For widows and single mothers in Eastern Europe, there is little support – and with wages low and the cost of living high, there seems to be little opportunity to rise above the daily struggle of mere survival, let alone break out of poverty.

Everything changed for Stela, however, when she met Ion from Mission Without Borders, and her family was enrolled on our sponsorship programme.

"Ion spoke to me about a Mission that wants to be close to my family and offer me help because God loves me and my children," Stela said. "I started thinking, 'Could there really be someone who would care about us?'"

As Stela began receiving all kinds of help – including briquettes and warm clothing to keep her family warm in winter – she said, "The Mission provided warmth not only to our home but also to our souls!"

Ion added, "Three years ago, this family's situation was desperate. The mother and children were sleeping on some rugs on a broken bed."

**Now that the family have the opportunity to make positive changes to their lives and to work hard towards a better future, their lives are changing for the better every day.**

"I pray that I will continue to spread God's love to those who really need to hear how important they are to Him," Ion said.



## AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY FOR A RURAL FAMILY

“They were a family living in poverty with four children and they couldn’t see a way forwards.”

Serhiy Kryvchuk, 42, and his family are hard workers who own a farm in western Ukraine – but they were struggling to make ends meet, even before the war broke out.

They’d had their share of hardships – from a fire that destroyed their sheds to a drought that ruined their harvest. After being enrolled on Mission Without Borders’ family sponsorship programme, they began receiving regular support from Pavlo, staff member in Rivne.

Pavlo said, “We’ve walked shoulder to shoulder through the difficulties they’ve had to overcome, and through joyful moments, too.”

With MWB’s support, the family made positive changes and began to see their lives transform. Something that holds many families back, however, is the lack of tools or means to pursue the opportunities they dream of – and this was true of the Kryvchuks.

Serhiy said, “To work our three hectares of the land, we were using horsepower, our own hands and a rented tractor service mostly. It was so hard, very expensive – and exhausting.

“Recently the Mission provided us with a brand new, powerful tractor. This was more than we have ever hoped for. The tractor brought so much more efficiency to our work and made a huge difference.”

Now the family are doing so well that they have been withdrawn from the family sponsorship programme.

UKRAINE



Photo caption description

**“ONE OF THE LORD’S AMAZING WAYS OF HELPING US IS MWB’S SUPPORT OVER THESE LAST YEARS”**

**Pavlo said, “They are a family that used every opportunity they were given, in the best possible way. I’m excited to see such wonderful results from our work supporting them.”**

Serhiy added, “One of the Lord’s amazing ways of helping us is MWB’s support over these last years. We are so thankful!”





## AN OPPORTUNITY TO MINISTER TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN A DEPRIVED AREA

As well as working for MWB, Boris Garconita, 44, is also a pastor at Holy Trinity Church in Cantemir, where he has lived for 22 years.

He said, "Out of the 490 children from Cantemir enrolled on the Mission programme, 70 per cent of them have one parent who has alcohol issues. About 30 per cent of the children have two parents who are alcoholics.

"It's amazing that together we can contribute to a better environment for these children, improving their lives and their future. Most of all, we can help them to find a better home that is in Jesus. In Him they will always belong and be safe, and his love and compassion will never fail or disappoint them.

"As a coordinator, I understand it's important to work with the parents as well. We do what we can to help the atmosphere change in the family, through home visits, special programmes for parents by which they hear that Jesus can restore their lives no matter what their problems are, and give them hope for a better life."

## THE CHANCE TO BE TRANSFORMED

Cantemir, Moldova, where Mission Without Borders runs an after school club for vulnerable children, is one of the poorest parts of the country. Many people have terrible living conditions – and alcoholism and other social problems are rife.

Ilona (not her real name), 11, had been going along to MWB's community centre regularly, getting hot meals and help with her homework, when suddenly she found herself opening up about a trauma that she had never talked about before.

"During a Bible lesson on healing, we shared how the Lord can heal any wound from the past – and Ilona burst out crying," said Boris, who supports sponsored children in Cantemir.

"At the end, Ilona opened her heart to the volunteer and said that a few years ago she was sexually abused."

The volunteer went on to notify MWB staff, who, with Ilona's permission, informed Ilona's mother, the family's social worker and the police.

**"Ilona received full healing from this burden that she carried alone for many years," Boris said. "Many children at our children's club have opened up about the hurts and trauma they've experienced. Here, children's hearts open up to receive the care, love and acceptance they find in God and reflected in the MWB staff and volunteers, and this changes them."**

"I see great changes in Ilona's life," Boris added. "At youth group, Ilona made lots of friends, opened her heart to Jesus, and is now involved in the local church. The loving and caring environment of MWB's community centre has helped Ilona become a friendly, joyful person, improve her school results, and look to the future with hope."





## AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE MENTORED

Denis, 13, lives in Romania – a country where over 90,000 children have parents who are working abroad. His own mother and stepfather frequently take on jobs overseas to make ends meet – and when they're at home, there is often conflict and stress.



Denis is enrolled on Mission Without Borders' child sponsorship programme, and has been taken under the wing of Cosmin, a MWB volunteer, along with Cosmin's family. Cosmin and his parents own a farm and Denis is often found there, feeding chickens, caring for the

calves, and driving the cart. Their home is a safe space where Denis knows he is loved and accepted and can share whatever is on his mind.

Cosmin said, "While my family is small, our door is always open and there is always room at our table for one more child needing material, emotional or spiritual nurture. It brings joy to our hearts to be able to provide this."

Last summer, Denis had the chance to attend MWB's summer camp, where Cosmin was his group leader – and Denis loved having extra time with him. Here he played football, ate plenty of treats, jumped on the trampoline and laughed with friends.

And when summer camp was over, Cosmin continues to help Denis develop his self-confidence by entrusting him with chores and tasks around the farm.

Denis said, "I want to be like Cosmin when I grow up. I want to have a farm and to work the land and care for the animals.

**"Cosmin is the father I always wanted and never had. I love knowing he is there when I need him."**

## THE CHANCE TO HAVE A FUN, CAREFREE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCE

Albana is nine years old and lives in Albania. At her young age, she is like a second mother to her younger siblings, age three and two. Every day after a long walk home from school, Albana feeds them, spends time with them, and puts them both to bed, as well as helping her mother with chores.

Albana's days are packed with responsibility, with little opportunity to play or relax. Even in the summer, she spends her time at home helping out, and rarely ventures beyond her neighbourhood.

Nikolino Kosta, the Mission Without Borders staff member who supports Albana's family, gave Albana the exciting news that she would get to go to summer camp this year.



Albana said happily, "I think summer camp is a place where you laugh and play a lot. I know my mum will get tired when I'm away, but it won't be for too long."

Nikolino added, "We believe that Albana will have an unforgettable time at summer camp and will really enjoy all the activities. The experience will help her grow as a person and learn new skills."



## THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND GROW

Children growing up in poverty in Albania are at a higher risk of dropping out of school. At home, parents are preoccupied with survival and how to find enough money for the next meal – and often don't have the capacity to support struggling children with their schoolwork.

Aldo is seven years old and lives in Durres, Albania, with his family. His mother said, "One day I realised that my son couldn't even read or do simple maths exercises."

The family was thankful to be enrolled on Mission Without Borders' family sponsorship programme – and as a result, Aldo began going along to the after school club, where he received ongoing support with his schoolwork.

"From the moment Aldo started coming along to after school club, I noticed that he had some problems," said Oriola, MWB teacher. "He couldn't read or do basic maths.

"His insecurities at school had also led to problems in his behaviour, making him sensitive, irritable, and impatient. But since then, he has changed a lot in a few months."



**Aldo's face lights up when he is asked about after school club. "I love it," he said with a big smile. "It's not annoying like school is. I go there and learn new things and I understand the lessons. I'm not afraid to ask when I don't understand something. On Monday my schoolteacher said that I'm doing well now."**

Now Aldo feels secure in himself and excited about the future. "When I grow up, I want to be a chef," he said.

## BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGN

Meet Maxim, a seven-year-old boy who started school this September. When he received this backpack full of school supplies from Mission Without Borders, he couldn't contain his excitement.

"No way, this amazing school bag is all mine? And it's also my favourite colour! I'll keep it for all my school years and I promise to be a good student!"

Although education is free in eastern Europe, the cost of required school supplies is tough on many families living in poverty and can be a deterrent to school attendance. Our Back to School campaign provides children with the school supplies they need, giving them the opportunity to begin primary school with a sense of excitement and confidence.



Maxim





## THE OPPORTUNITY OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Jana, 29, is a single mother living in Palanca, Moldova. Like so many girls in her village, she dropped out of school after eighth grade – and went on to start a family.

When Jana and her son Maxim were later enrolled on Mission Without Borders' family sponsorship programme, Jana was given the opportunity of vocational training and went on to complete a manicure course.

Her diploma is now proudly on display in her home.

**"I was so excited when I was given this chance because I could never have afforded to study for a course," she said. "When you have a profession on paper, you already feel different. You matter and you are part of society."**

Now Jana can earn money in her local community – and she doesn't need to leave her son and go abroad to find work.

"In the two months since the course ended, I already managed to grow a small client base," she said proudly. "My son Maxim is a bright boy – and I wish to offer him a better future."

## THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO FAR IN LIFE

Emina Talic, 23, is a bright young woman who was always top of her class at school.

Like so many talented students in Bosnia-Herzegovina, however, her family could not have afforded to send her to university.

When Emina was told that the Mission would enrol her on its scholarship programme – which provides financial support and coaching to young people who want to further their studies – Emina was thrilled.

**She said, "Ever since I heard that MWB would support me in getting my masters degree, my happiness has no limits. There was a time when I thought that I wouldn't even be able to enrol in college, despite all the good grades and awards that I have."**

Emina is now in her fourth year studying Road and City Traffic. Once she's graduated, she can work in infrastructure planning, traffic organisation, project evaluation, logistics, or become a police inspector.

Nermin Begic, MWB staff member, said, "We are particularly proud of Emina. Thinking back to when she was 13 and now – standing by her side through further education, as one of the best students in her class – makes all the hard work worth it."



Emina said, "When I think and daydream about the future, I see myself as an employed person, supporting my family and being there for others – just as the Mission was there for me and my family."



## THE CHANCE TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS - SUPPORT FOR THE ELDERLY

Evgeniya, 73, who lives in Krupnik, Bulgaria, became a widow unexpectedly at the age of 40 and was left to raise three children alone.

"When my husband died, it was so hard. I didn't have a single free minute – I worked all the time. For 20 years I earned our living by growing tobacco – it was an extremely heavy job as everything was done by hand."

The years of heavy labour took their toll on Evgeniya's health. Now she has very reduced mobility and can only take a few steps at a time.

Evgeniya said, "I am alone most of the time. No one visits me. That's why when Mission Without Borders offered to enrol me in their Senior Care programme, I was very happy."

MWB's Senior Care programme reaches out to elderly people who are isolated and living in poverty. In many countries in Eastern Europe, care of the elderly takes place informally in the home. But where adult children and relatives have moved abroad or are unavailable, there is little social protection for people like Evgeniya. The Mission's Senior Care programme provides elderly people with practical help – but also with emotional and spiritual support, too.



Evgeniya is visited regularly by Todor, 30, whose family is enrolled on MWB's family sponsorship programme. He became a Christian as a result of the Mission two years ago and now volunteers to support elderly people.

**"He reads the Bible to me, prays for me, tells me about God's love for me and gives me good advice. He shows real interest in me and my situation," Evgeniya said. "I receive regular food and hygiene items and that's a great help for me. But most importantly, I don't feel alone anymore."**



## COURAGE AND PEACE FOR EACH NEW DAY

"My life is nothing but suffering. I thought I'd become used to loneliness a long time ago, but I didn't know what real loneliness was until I became disabled."

Valentyna, 73, has been a widow for 30 years. She is supported regularly through Mission Without Borders' Soup Kitchen in Sarny, which provides daily hot meals along with emotional and spiritual support to elderly people living in poverty – and has continued to run throughout the war.

"At the same time, I learned what true love and God's blessing looks like. I discovered this when Volodymyr and some young volunteers from Mission Without Borders began visiting me five days a week. Thanks to my friends from the Mission, I find courage and peace to step into each new day and even to feel some joy. Only God knows how much I need this kind of care. I can't even measure what it means to me."



## A NEW BEGINNING FOR THE HOMELESS

Four years ago, Maria, 66, who lives in Sofia, Bulgaria, suddenly found herself homeless after her relationship with her daughter broke down.

Despite being shy and self-conscious, she overcame her shame in digging through rubbish bins to find what she could. "There's no room for shame when you're hungry," she said.

Her lowest point came when she fell in the snow and broke her leg while gathering plastic bottles. It was the most difficult period of Maria's life. She was lonely, hungry, unable to move, and utterly desperate.

What kept her alive was her faith in God, a faith she had found thanks to Street Mercy – a homeless project run by Mission Without Borders in Sofia.

Every day Maria would wait for Street Mercy's white bus to arrive, not only so she could receive her warm soup and bread, but also because she looked forward to talking to Anna, the Street Mercy coordinator.

Maria appreciated the hot meals and warm clothing Street Mercy provided for her. "But most of all, my



heart was touched by the care and love you showed me," she said.

After much prayer, Maria managed to get a job as an attendant in the local hospital – and then, God performed another miracle: her relationship with her daughter was restored, and she is no longer homeless.

Maria said, "I'd like to thank Mission Without Borders for the support, love and care you showed me in the darkest years of my life."

**Anna said, "This is what we dream for all the homeless people we work with – to help them with a new beginning in their lives. With God's help and mercy, Maria began a new life full of hopes for the future."**



## THE CHANCE TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH JOY

Mihaela and her partner live in poverty in Romania with four energetic boys – aged 5 to 12. Christmas is a holiday that in the past, the family struggled to find the money to celebrate.

Over the last few years, however, they have been blessed by receiving Operation Christmas Love boxes from Mission Without Borders.

"I know Jesus was born and he is the one we celebrate soon," one of her sons said, as he eagerly opened up some chocolate from one of the boxes.

The boxes are filled with food and treats, and they arrive at just the right time – the heart of winter, when work is harder to find and living costs rise.



# GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES



**85,446**  
DONORS IN **12** FUNDRAISING COUNTRIES





# 12,616

**PEOPLE SUPPORTED THROUGH  
FAMILY SPONSORSHIP**

# 7,044

**CHILDREN SUPPORTED THROUGH  
CHILD SPONSORSHIP**

# 167

**OLDER PEOPLE SUPPORTED  
THROUGH HOME VISITS**

# 567

**SCHOOL CHILDREN SUPPORTED  
THROUGH AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

# 474

**YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTED  
THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION**

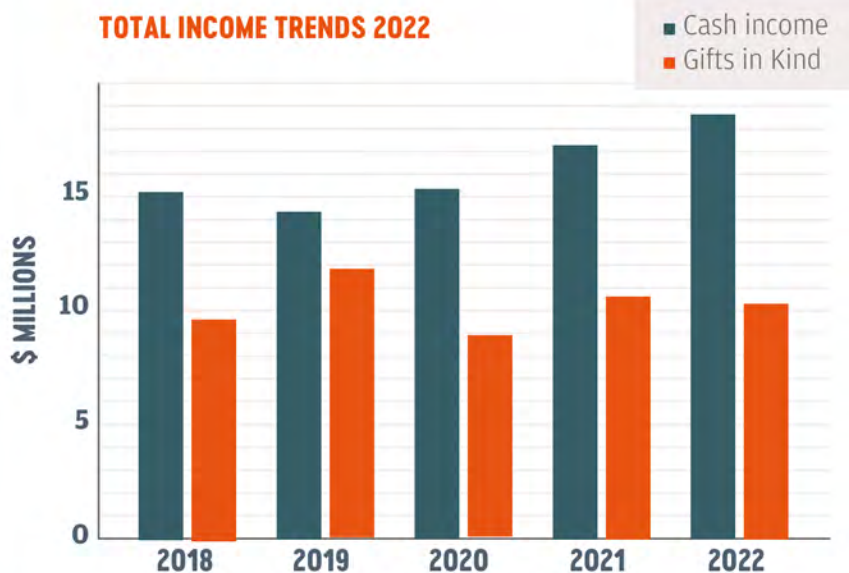






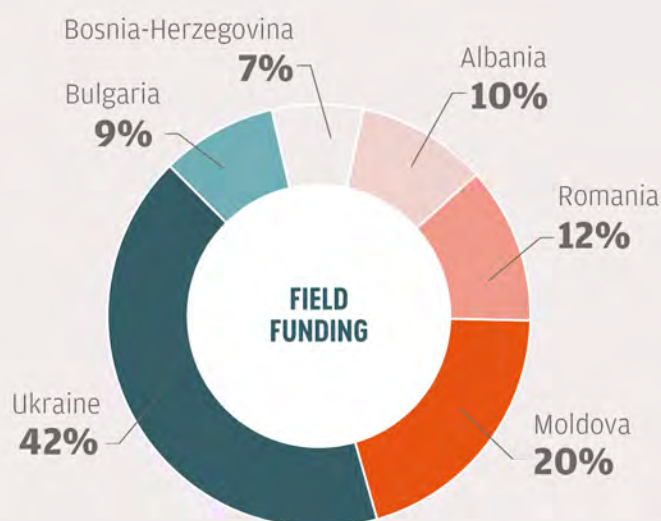
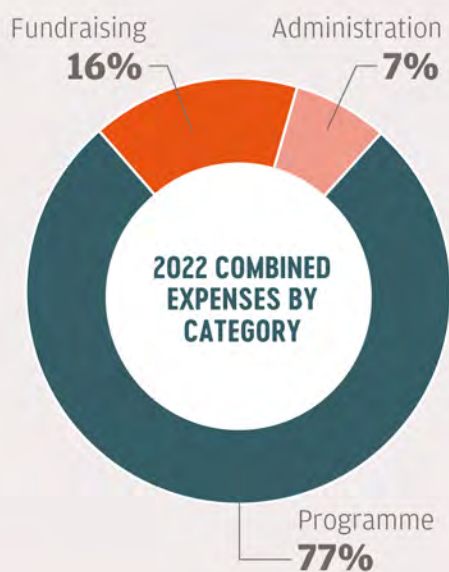
## FINANCIAL REPORT

TOTAL INCOME TRENDS 2022



**TOTAL VALUE OF  
DONATED GOODS**  
**\$10.2m**

**TOTAL CASH  
INCOME**  
**\$18.6m**



Figures are all pre audit 2022 figures  
cash and donated goods



## **MICHAEL THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD**



**"I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth." Psalm 34:1**

While 2022 was not the year we expected, there has been so much for which we praise the Lord. Plans and expectations were changed and new opportunities opened up. Thousands of people across Eastern Europe were given practical help and hundreds found a new spiritual direction.

The developments in Ukraine were not only testing for the staff in the country and for the Moldova and Romania teams, but they also led to many changed plans because of so many refugees needing practical help and support. We have heard many stories of gratitude from the displaced people we served. Praise God for the flexibility and sacrificial hard work of each member of the MWB team. Ministry in Ukraine has continued throughout the year, sometimes in a revised format, and with fruitful outcomes.

Across the six countries in which we minister and throughout the many supporting countries, there has been an increase. Your generous regular gifts and large additional gifts to the people of these nations, and particularly for the people of Ukraine, have been well used. We have continued to provide practical assistance and spiritual support, caring for and advising families, running activities for children and elderly people, and sharing copies of the Gospel. Working together with over 350 local churches plays a significant role in all we do.

To see the joy and gratitude of so many has been a blessing. As I have visited people in their humble homes and seen the difference your support has made, seen first-hand their personal struggles eased, I have seen the Lord at work.

Looking forward, we see many opportunities for meeting practical and spiritual needs. Our international team have been tasked with evaluating future needs and possibilities across Eastern Europe. Thank you for praying for the people of these precious countries.

**Your brother in the task,  
Michael Thomas**





Misha, Ukraine

Misha Vavylyuk, 43, is a photographer and writer for Mission Without Borders in Ukraine. He is married to Anna, 33, and they have two children.

"I enjoy capturing the moment. When you stop a moment in time, the beauty, meaning and uniqueness of that moment is revealed," Misha said. "I humbly believe that my passion for photography has become a tool for telling the truth about this war. In every place I visited, my purpose was to document and express the things I saw in such a way that the spectator could truly feel and come to realise what is going on in Ukraine."

**TO VIEW AN ONLINE  
GALLERY OF SOME OF  
MISHA'S WORK, VISIT  
OUR ONE YEAR AT WAR  
EXHIBITION.**

**[WWW.MWBI.ORG](http://WWW.MWBI.ORG)**