

A Report to Friends December

2022 has been eventful to say the least with Putin's full-blown attack on neighboring Ukraine resulting in horrors not seen in Europe since World War II. Moldova World Children's Fund (MWCF) has been sounding the alarm of the eventuality of this invasion for the past eight years. Correspondingly, we broadened the scope of our capacity for a focused and rapid response...maximizing preparations to the extent limited financial and personnel resources allowed.

When the Russian onslaught began in earnest on February 24th, MWCF volunteer Vice President for Moldova Operations John Maxemchuk and in-country manager and chief implementor Irina Rusanovschi immediately increased their work mode to 16 hours per day, 7 days a week. We quickly found our niche between big, deep pocketed, humanitarian aid organizations and governments, large and small, on one hand, and the humbling hospitality of relatively poor Moldova on the other...as more than 3 out of 4 Ukraine refugees were welcomed into private homes across the country. Due to its size, Moldova began taking in per capita approximately three times as many refugees as any other country.

We chose a route of first recognizing essential needs, and then providing functional models for both immediate and longer term response.

This year's Report to Friends is (1) a heartfelt thank you to our growing number of donors and logistical partners for their outpouring of sacrificial gifts, (2) a grateful tribute to our productive, hardworking team 'in harms way' on the

ground in and around Moldova, and (3) a recap of resulting projects which have dominated MWCF's 2022...implementing timely solutions, realistic within our capabilities, while providing actualized blueprints in helping ongoing efforts of others. Urgent crisis response and intuitively practical projects continue to keep us busy.



Be safe...
I love you!





Imagine working and saving to afford an apartment or build a house, only to have it destroyed by ruthless invaders. These homes were pounded unjustly at point blank range by Russian tanks.

A father saying goodbye at the border before heading back to Ukraine to defend their home and country

MWCF helping cope with the crisis...providing thousands of folding beds, mattresses, linens, blankets and pillows



John Maxemchuk
..main idea man, initiator and partner recruiter



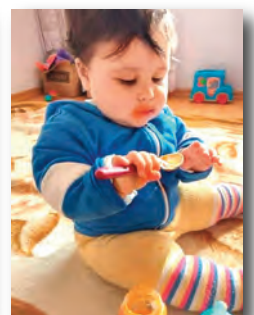
New personnel added as the work load intensified



Irina Rusanovschi
...chief implementor making things happen

First up, MWCF's storage facilities of humanitarian aid were emptied by the end of February.

Next, a ready and willing Global Empowerment Mission (GEM) provided us with desperately needed funds within the first six weeks of the crisis.



Essential bedding accompanied by vitally needed baby food and formula, juice, diapers for infants and adults



Moldova NGO A.O. North Carolina-Moldova
 CIDC PHOENIX Partnership leaders
 MWCF Board Chair Albert Gooch President Irina Rusanovschi NC Secretary of State Elaine Marshall and NCSOS International Liaison Lora Sinigur



Analogous to the young lad who saved the day by plugging the dike with his finger, MWCF and partners helped hold the fort until larger international players organized their calvaries to arrive.

Transatlantic seaborne container transport funded by U.S. Department of State through their embassy in Moldova



Lions Clubs in Chisinau (Moldova) and Hendersonville (NC) through colleague Vlad Pusca joined efforts with Rotary Clubs Wilmington East (NC) and Guilford (NC) in providing assistance



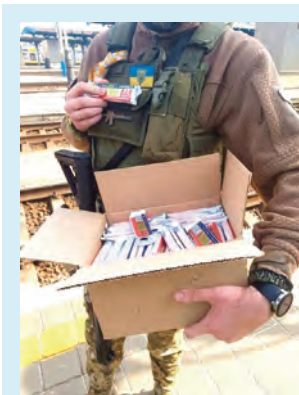
An existing good relationship with the Ukraine Embassy in Moldova quickly grew into a multi-faceted, and thoroughly trusting, partnership. Ukraine Ambassador Marko Shevchenko, his ever-present wife Olesia, and their embassy's First Secretary Ihor Melnychuk have been working at a blistering



pace around the clock...rolling up their sleeves, getting down in the trenches, and enabling us to maximize our combined efforts.



Romania colleague Razvan Anca has been tireless in scouring the industrial areas in and around Bucharest obtaining provisions and gear in bulk at good prices, coordinating transportation, and lending a helping hand wherever needs have arisen.



High nutrition food bars and canned food with liftoff lids have proven to be ideal...easy to carry, ready to eat, with no need to refrigerate or cook. Purchased by large truckloads outside Bucharest, Romania, then transferred from MWCF storage facilities in Moldova to smaller Ukrainian vehicles for delivery into war-torn Ukraine. Sleeping bags for the poorly equipped have been critically important...especially to avoid frost bite during the cold nights of winter. Beginning in early April while Russian forces were still attempting to encircle the capital city Kyiv, we have been slipping an average of one truck per week into the capital and other locations inside Ukraine.

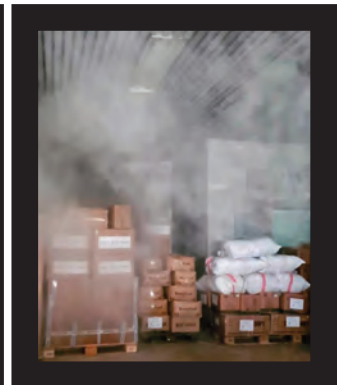
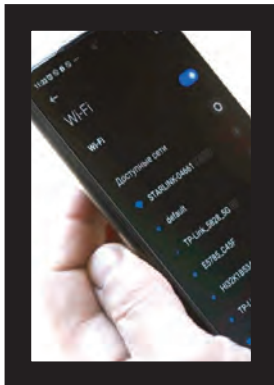
Mobility across the board has been a key ingredient for these MWCF projects... creating the ability to quickly move functional infrastructure in any direction



Portable multi-toilet and multi-shower buildings constructed and positioned ready for use... funding donated by Canada's Momentum Solutions



Mobile solar powered electrical energy systems procured and installed... donated by Footprint Project of Minneapolis, Minnesota in March...becoming more vital with each passing winter day and every new Russian assault on civilian infrastructure. We hope to continue acquiring various types of electrical generators as additional gifts are received.



30 stand alone satellite communication systems donated by SpaceX and widely positioned throughout the country...including one at the Ukraine Embassy to Moldova in Chisinau...all surviving an explosive fire in our main storage facility



Refurbished ambulance and wheelchair donations...truckloads of antibiotics, painkillers, and other pharmaceuticals compliments of Momentum Solutions and Direct Relief mostly trucked directly into Ukraine from The Netherlands



In collaboration with international charity Smart Aid and other supporters, eight classrooms are in the works at Moldovan schools... equipped with notebook computers, headphones, and stable internet connections allowing Ukrainian refugee children to continue their education. Via uploads from the Ukrainian Ministry of Education the children are able to participate in coordinated online classes.

The best thing we can do for the children is help the war end on a relatively positive note as soon as possible.



Stefan

Longtime friends, architect Stefan Homa and his doctor son Andrei led us into battered Ukraine to deliver aid, assess damage and document war crimes.



Andrei



A vehicle driven by a Ukrainian civilian accompanied by his wife and young child, simply trying to race to safety, butchered by Russian troops



(Photo by Anatolii Stepanov/AFP via Getty Images)

Russian use of anti-personnel cluster bomb munitions has been widespread in civilian neighborhoods.



Humanitarian assistance comes in many forms. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) gear for demining and disarming unexploded bombs for the National Police of Ukraine, were provided by members of the Western North Carolina Chapter of Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)...through MWCF...couriered into Kyiv during the summer.

From what we have been able to surmise, 9 out of 10 places targeted by Russian forces continue to be civilian, not military positions.



Ray West paying tribute at a 2022 war memorial...left in place after a heroic stance by a tank crew who helped save the capital in March



The residential complex of the police sergeant who escorted us through areas surrounding Kyiv...he, his wife, daughter and home victims of Russian brutality. Rebuilding Ukraine is going to be a huge undertaking.



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MWCF has added Three New Members to its Board of Directors



Bruce Ashe
Financial Advisor

C. Bruce Ashe - Born in Asheville, North Carolina, Bruce is currently First Vice President-Investments and a Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor with Wells Fargo Advisors in Hendersonville, NC. He has been an Advisor since 1994, first with J. C. Bradford of Nashville, Tennessee...afterward upon its acquisition by Paine Webber, and subsequently by UBS. Bruce joined Wells Fargo Advisors in 2008. Actively involved at First Baptist Church – Hendersonville, NC as a Deacon and currently chairman of the mission's committee which is a major portion of the church's annual budget. A 1975 graduate of the University of North Carolina-Asheville with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science he spent the first part of his working career in management with K-Mart corporation until he began his career as an Investment Advisor. A member of the Lion's Club of Hendersonville, NC since 1999, he has served as a board member and as President in the past. Bruce and his wife Sharon have been active donors to the Moldova World Children's Fund since 2011.



Jim Olson
Secretary Elect

James R. Olson - A native of Chicago, Illinois, Jim grew up in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and has resided in Flat Rock, North Carolina since 1985. He did his undergraduate studies at the University of Florida, and received his D.D.S. degree from Northwestern University in 1974. Jim practiced general dentistry for 11 years in Ft. Lauderdale before moving to North Carolina, and practiced in Hendersonville for almost 29 years until his retirement in 2014. He is active in his church, St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church, Flat Rock, NC, having served in many leadership roles. He is currently in charge of maintenance of the Historic Churchyard cemetery. Jim volunteers helping maintain the trails in Pisgah National Forest with the Carolina Mountain Club. He is Secretary of the Flat Rock Park and Recreation Foundation board of directors. Generous donors to MWCF's general fund since 2012, Jim and his wife Kitty are experienced international travelers and are looking forward to making their first working trip to Moldova in 2023.



Sergio Porres
Treasurer Elect

Sergio A. Porres - A native of Guatemala City, Guatemala, Sergio moved to the United States in 1984. He enlisted in the US Navy and deployed on board the USS Enterprise and USS Abraham Lincoln. From there, he attended San Francisco State University, graduating with a BA in International Relations and receiving an officer commission in the Air Force. He holds an MA in National Security from the Naval Post Graduate School and MA in Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma. Sergio served in the United States, Africa, and Europe, including three years in Moldova as Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation. While there, he was instrumental in initiating and helping MWCF direct the renovation and expansion of the Steaua Calauza Center for handicapped children in Gratiesti. He has helped manage multibillion dollar defense programs and to provide civilian communities with medical, sanitation and education infrastructure. Sergio retired from the military in August 2022 and is transitioning into the international development sector. Sergio and wife Alejandra support a nursing home in Guatemala and have been generous donors to MWCF's general fund since 2013.

The 2022 MWCF annual board weekend was held in November at the Washington, DC home of former U.S. Ambassador to Moldova Michael Kirby and his wife Sara. The business session included the election of members and officers. 2021 financials reported 98% of expenses to program, with only 2% for salaries, benefits, administration, and fundraising combined. Evening events were devoted to expressing appreciation to donors...led by Moldova's new Ambassador to the United States Viorel Ursu.

If you are interested in donating to MWCF's purpose of relieving suffering and improving lives in the world, then you are encouraged to visit our website www.moldovawcf.org or postal mail checks to our address below.

Please designate your gift to one or more of these categories:

- (1) Duvall Fund for education and medical care
- (2) Ukraine Relief and Restoration
- (3) Unrestricted to be used where needed.

Thank you,
Ray West
Founder, MWCF

This Report to Friends edition is dedicated to Mike Covell, a beloved board officer who passed away suddenly on June 8th.