*Sent to all Members*

April 13, 2025

Dear {%FName%},

The need for Rotary International’s relief efforts in Ukraine, especially those impacting children, is at an historic high.

District 6220’s recent Ukraine Relief Summit highlighted the increasing impact on children.

Previous reports from Rotarians in Ukraine of students being taught in subway stations touched many in District 6220. The generosity making possible the shipment of medical supplies, generators and funding for mental health counseling has been impressive and appreciated.

During the Ukraine Relief Summit, Rotarians shared stories about recent bombing of schools, orphanages and hospitals. The last two weeks have seen Russian drones targeting ambulances transporting victims of war to hospitals.

The committee members were asked to continue sending medical supplies.  However, a special immediate need is mental health counseling for not only emergency service personnel but also children.

Past Rotary International Vice President Patricia Merryweather Arges cited the visible wounds in need of treatment and also the invisible. According to Patricia, it will take generations to address the psychological damage done to students who have had three years of their childhood stolen from them.

District 6220 is responding with plans in progress to send another shipping container of supplies. Funds are also requested to provide counseling services.

Fire trucks, ambulances and heavy equipment to use in rescue operations and to remove debris are also needed.

All donations can be sent to “Rotary District 6220” in care of our treasurer, Scott Knaffla, 1901 W Ridge St., Marquette, MI 49855.  And the committee is cooperating with other Rotarians to arrange shipping in addition to the containers.

All of us can be proud that Rotary International is continuing an impressive record of speaking out and engaging in critical action on such an important public policy issue as aid to Ukraine.

Thank you.

ROGER UTNEHMER
Rotary District 6220
District Governor 2024-25
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