

Request for support for Ukraine

We are reaching out to you with a request to support the “Help the Children of Zaporizhzhia” initiative. The goal of this initiative is to provide humanitarian aid to a children’s hospital located in the Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia. The particular hospital we have under our care has been designated as a place of treatment for all of the ill and injured children who have been rescued from the besieged city of Mariupol

Zaporizhzhia is a front-line city where all of the injured from the entire war-stricken regions of Luhansk and Donetsk are being transferred to. Because of the location of Zaporizhzhia, not many humanitarian transports manage to make it there and the healthcare facilities face a lack of even the most basic supplies.

We are striving to provide the hospital with medical supplies, bedding, children’s underwear, toys, food as well as items for the medical personnel: medical equipment, personal gear, food, work clothing etc.

As the *Gdansk Zaporizhzhia Solidarity Committee* founded by the *Independent Coalition of Students (Niezależne Zrzeszenie Studentów)*, established in 1980, we cooperate with the *Students for Ukraine* initiative established by students from the University of Gdansk along with Rotary Club Sopot International. The first of these initiatives has already sent over a thousand humanitarian aid transports to Ukraine while the second has been intensely involved in activities supporting Ukrainian refugees in Poland and outside its borders.

Stefan Migus, the head of the Ukrainian Association in Olsztyn, in cooperation with the founder of our initiative Jarosław Słoma, have already organised transports for Cossacks to the city of Zaporizhzhia so the aid routes have already been tested. We have also secured logistical support from the *Zaporizhzhia Cossacks Organization* lead by the Cossack leader Ataman Oleksandr Prituła. We have continuous contact with his wife, who is currently sheltering with their child in Poland. Our actions are known to and supported by the Ukrainian Consul in Gdansk – Mr. Oleksandr Plodystyi.

One shipment is not enough to fulfil the needs of the constant stream of children reaching the Zaporizhzhia children’s hospital, hence we intend this to be a regularly repeated venture. Having said

that, the first shipment, scheduled for the end of next week, will have a special significance as it will provide the hospital staff and patients with much needed hope that help can get through to them.

As of this time, Zaporizhzhia – under the protection of the Ukrainian army and the Cossack territorial guard – is not a war zone. However if the talk of widening the eastern corridor linking the so-called Donetsk and Luhansk republics with Crimea prove to be true, the war will soon reach Zaporizhzhia as well. This is why it is so crucial to get aid to the hospital as soon as possible, as at any time it could be cut-off completely from any supply routes.

We would be grateful for any donations towards helping the children of Zaporizhzhia, both material (food, medical supplies, clothes etc.) as well as financial.

If you would like to make a material contribution please contact us at:

marek.h.kotlarz@gmail.com

For financial donations you can support the cause via money transfer to:

Rotary Club Sopot International

ul. Powstańców Warszawy 12/14

87-217 Sopot

Bank PKO BP SA

BIC/SWIFT: **BPKOPLPW**

Numery kont bankowych:

PLN: 92 1440 1026 0000 0000 0289 1198

EUR: PL 40 1440 1026 0000 0000 1410 1454

USD: PL 90 1440 1026 0000 0000 1075 1338

With **Statutory goals – Zaporozie**, in the title.

Yours Sincerely:

Marek H. Kotlarz

Coordinator

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Loading a humanitarian truck for Zaporizhia Ukraine)



Easter gifts for refugees and their children.