

United Way British Columbia's

United for Ukraine



Through United for Ukraine, United Way British Columbia has worked for over a year alongside partners in supporting displaced Ukrainians arriving in the province to find a safe space they can call home, as they settle into their new communities.

The response from individuals and businesses in British Columbia has demonstrated the sentiment that we are all in this together by:



VOLUNTEERING – connecting volunteers with the needs of community



GOODS & SERVICES – in-kind support of donated goods and services from community and corporate partners



HOUSING – safe housing options for displaced Ukrainians



SETTLEMENT & NON-PROFIT PARTNERS – supporting settlement agencies with access to resources and to increase their capacity to support newcomers



211 – connected newcomers, host families, and British Columbians to social supports available in each of their communities



United Way
British Columbia

Working with communities in BC's Interior, Lower Mainland, Central & Northern Vancouver Island

Goods & Services Statistics/Impact Numbers



UWBC has distributed various goods & services to our agency partners

- 410** Kids Activity Kits
- 53** Baby Hygiene Kits
- 1380** Hygiene Kits
- 400+** Translink Compass Cards
- 250** BC Transit passes distributed throughout the province

450 Telus SIM Cards



Thank you to our corporate partners BCAA, EVO, Gulf & Fraser, Kelson Group, Patagonia, Save On Foods, Soap for Hope, Staples, TD Bank, Translink, and VanCity Credit Union, for their generous support



TransLink



Finding your way in a new place can be a challenge. This is even more true when you move to another country and, in many cases, face a language barrier. For displaced Ukrainians in BC, navigating their new communities has become a little easier thanks to TransLink.

Translink employees have taken around 70 people so far on field trips to help them learn how to use the transportation system. As well, they have provided a limited number of Compass Cards available to agencies supporting displaced Ukrainians.

As one staff member said, "It was absolutely our pleasure to assist them after they went through so much...We are happy we are able to help make their journey a little easier."

Housing

United Way British Columbia's housing program places safety and security as a priority. Applications are vetted and provided to partner settlement agencies to find the most suitable matches for everyone.

350+ families matched with local host accommodations

Volunteers



As displaced Ukrainians arrived in British Columbia our team of dedicated volunteers responded to our weekly calls for help without hesitation. United for Ukraine volunteers throughout the province have not only donated their time, but they have also offered their kindness to those new to their communities. Whether writing welcome letters, delivering meals, making friendly check in calls, providing translation support or packing & distributing welcome kits, our volunteers have inspired us with their ongoing commitment to support to displaced Ukrainians in need.

578 Volunteers supporting United for Ukraine programs and services

2503 Volunteer hours completed

1589 Volunteer shifts completed

Zoltan's Story



Zoltan joined United Way British Columbia's United for Ukraine team as a volunteer eight months ago. During this time, he has packed and delivered many welcome and hygiene kits to displaced Ukrainian families arriving at YVR airport. He also does wellness calls to Ukrainians within their first few weeks in Canada. His experience as a newcomer, his friendly face and welcoming manner make the transition to a new country easier for those arriving from the war-torn nation.

"Personally, this role hit close to home. I wanted to be able to help, support and give back as much as I could to those going through these tough and challenging times. I highly recommend anyone to join United Way's iVolunteer program and reach out to their communities."



Non-Profit Partners

(March 2023 Statistics)



Non-profits across British Columbia convened to provide supports for displaced Ukrainians. Groups include settlement agencies, Neighbourhood Houses, Ukrainian Cultural organizations, religious organizations, and community groups. Working together, our agency partners are able to share resources, knowledge, and information on the availability of supports, and how to best navigate the changing situation and needs.

44 Agencies using iVolunteer.ca resource to build capacity and support programming

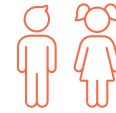
67 Non-profit partners supported by UWBC's United for Ukraine program

United for Ukraine Local Love Micro Grants

United for Ukraine Local Love grants supports events promoting Ukrainian culture. Promoting a sense of identity and celebrating the unique culture is vital for the Ukrainian people today. It also intends to enhance multigenerational interactions among Ukrainians while strengthening connections between Ukrainians and their new neighbours. This fund aims to improve awareness of Ukrainian culture among residents of BC.

- 21 approved microgrants eligible for \$20,000 in funding (max \$1000 per grant). Projects include educational Ukrainian art & craft programs, perogy making classes, and pysanky (Ukrainian egg) decorating demonstrations.
- United for Ukraine Local Love Fund grants became available in December 2022, for individuals that are willing to promote Ukrainian culture in their communities.

Child & Youth Programming



- \$150,000 was allocated to 10 non-profits throughout BC to support an English Language Learning Grant that supported skill building programs to help children and youth through to March 2024.
- UWBC's Schools Out program gives kids access to free or low-cost, quality summer programs that are critical for the emotional and social well-being, academic success, physical health, and overall well-being. United Way has invested \$22,000 to support displaced Ukrainian youth.

211 British Columbia



211 British Columbia provides support for displaced Ukrainians as they navigate this challenging transition to a new community and connect compassionate British Columbians to volunteer and donation opportunities. It offers consolidated information about available supports and services, including resettlement, financial, immigration, legal, employment and housing programs. 24/7 access to interpretation is also available for callers that need additional language support. <https://bc.211.ca/united-for-ukraine>

820 Contacts

(call, text, email, webchats) from Ukrainians needing help, and British Columbians wanting to help.

BC.211.ca Website Views

English – 17047

Ukrainian – 4227

Russian – 3483

6809-0623



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Charitable registration number:
BN 108160185 RR0001



United Way
British Columbia

Working with communities in BC's
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& Northern Vancouver Island

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