

## Monitoring visits to grassroots projects and initiatives supported by Ukrainian Charitable Platform and its partner organization, Ukrainian Education Platform. August-September 2024. Kyiv Region.

Ukrainian Charitable Platform (UCP) working through UCP's partner, Ukrainian Educational Platform (UEP), works closely with frontline Ukrainian organizations on a range of projects and initiatives, including providing emergency assistance and support services for children and families affected by Russia's war on Ukraine.



Social Taxi Program, Brovary, Aug.21.24

Recently, assisted by UEP, UCP conducted monitoring visits to see firsthand how these joint projects are operating and to gain a more profound understanding of their impact on the lives of those they serve.

During the months of August and September 2024, Tania Vitvitsky, President of the Ukrainian Charitable Platform visited five organizations in Brovary, Kyiv and Fastiv to better understand their impactful work.

The first visit was to Brovary, a city near Kyiv, for a meeting with the board members of Social Taxi, a service offering transportation services for people with disabilities, including wounded soldiers, using specially equipped vehicles.

The journey continued with a visit to Caritas Kyiv, where key social programs designed to support needy individuals were studied. The personalized care each person receives is especially moving and leaves a lasting impression. The next visit was to Kyiv Institute for Strategic Analysis and Reforms (KISAR), where it was possible to witness firsthand how their team helps individuals with Down's Syndrome and their parents with crucial and ongoing support.



Charitable Foundation "Caritas-Kyiv", Fr. Roman Syrotych director of Caritas Kyiv, Aug.22.24

One of the highlights of the visits was a heartwarming and event-filled day in the city of Fastiv, to Caritas Fastiv, where time was spent at the Dolonky children's space. This place has become a sanctuary for children facing difficult life circumstances, offering them comfort, warmth, and essential support.

These visits helped us gain a profound appreciation for the importance of supporting such local initiatives. Their work is effective and opens new doors of opportunities for both individuals and their communities.

## Lviv Region

The visits continued with visits to several important social initiatives across four towns and villages in the Lviv region. These projects, led by the Ukrainian Educational Platform with support from UCP, were the focus of Tania Vitvitsky's visits with the goal of getting a closer look at their activities and evaluate how effectively these projects contribute to the well-being of individuals and communities.

The first visit was to the city of Stryi, where a presentation by the "Charity Kitchen" at the local Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The social nutrition program, which provides daily hot meals to those in need and a laundry service to shut-ins was particularly impressive. The unwavering devotion of the team to this important work for the community was remarkable.

The following day, a visit was made to the village of Lopatyn, to meet with representatives of the local social kitchen. "Charity Kitchen", where the energetic volunteers prepare meals not only for the most vulnerable groups but also provide energy bars, sausage and delicious instant soups for soldiers on the front line.



The two new washing machines have arrived at the charitable organization in Stryi! Father Andriy Binas, Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Stryi. Aug. 22, 2024.

A visit to a catechetical youth center followed, where young individuals actively engage in community development and social projects. Such centers play a crucial role in small towns, providing a space for youth development and various activities.

The next destination was the town of Radekhiv, where the operations of the local Caritas office were observed. It was particularly heartwarming to witness the joy on children's faces as they learn, grow, and spend time together in this space.



Lopatyn, the local 'Charity Kitchen' Zabolottsivska, Lviv region, Sept. 3, 2024.

The final stop was in Obroshyno, to the Resilience Center. This institution offers support to individuals facing challenging life circumstances, particularly veterans undergoing rehabilitation. During the visit, meetings were held with specialists at the center who provide psychological support and guidance to those in need.

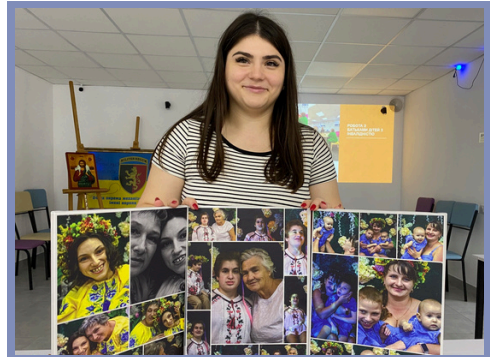


"Radekhiv, interview on the local radio station, Sept. 3, 2024.

After the visits, UCP purchased power stations and power banks for the Ukrainian Educational Platform in anticipation of a difficult winter ahead due to the destruction of energy infrastructure by Russia.



UCP purchased power stations and power banks for the Ukrainians Educational Platform, Sept. 5, 2024



Obroshyno, Resilience Center, Portrait Sessions for Mothers and their handicapped children. Sept. 5, 2024

Each of these encounters has provided us with a more profound understanding of the significance of supporting such genuine grassroots local initiatives.



Caritas Radekhiv, Sept. 3, 2024



Radekhiv visit to the local Caritas, Sept. 5, 2024

