



**Three-Year Report:
November 2022 - November 2025**

Dignity Aid International



Introduction

December 2025

Dear Friends, Donors, and Partners,

Looking back on three years of work, it really is extraordinary what we have accomplished together. The numbers you'll read below are exciting, of course: more than 25,000 people helped, more than \$300,000 of humanitarian goods and services delivered, only 10.4% of donations spent on administrative expenses.



But beyond the numbers, you'll also read about the human side of what we do: about Vitalii surviving Russian occupation in Chornobaivka *hromada*, about Oleksandr driving through Russian checkpoints during the fall of Mariupol, about our collaborations with local partners on mental health and language learning and more.

This is the heart of Dignity Aid International. Our growing revenue and logistical capacity are important, but we are not just another international humanitarian organization. Community, choice, and personal responsibility are central to every planning process and conversation. A remote village wants an art festival for their seventy children living a few dozen miles from war? A hospital needs to connect with a local partner and arrange the delivery of donated wheelchairs from Germany? We have overcome these and many more challenges, not by throwing money at the problem (we have little capacity for that anyway), but by sitting together, learning from each other, and finding a solution which works for everyone.

Time, then, is one of the great gifts we give. Hundreds of hours of work and attention given by volunteers from around the world (Ireland, Finland, the United Kingdom, France, and the United States so far). Thousands of hours of conversation, both about work and about life, forging new bonds and creating new connections.

And yet—the pasta, the shampoo, the well dug after a broken dam, these emergency support measures are the basis of all of that. Our donors and partners and volunteers all come together to work on filling these basic needs, and through that process, fostering growth in all of us.

I am deeply honored to be a part of this adventure with all of you.



Sincerely,

Abe Collier
International Coordinator
Dignity Aid International

Table of Contents

Section	Page No.
Executive Summary	4
Dignity Aid Philosophy	5
The Dignity Aid Team	6
Overview of the Humanitarian Situation in Ukraine	7
Overview of the Security Situation in Ukraine	8
Map of Operations	9
Financial Report	10
Active Projects	11-12
Success Stories	13
Volunteer Spotlights	14
Future Objectives	15
Appendix (Links, Donors, Partners, Feedback)	16



Executive Summary

In three years of operation, Dignity Aid volunteers have directly distributed or indirectly facilitated the delivery of humanitarian aid worth more than \$300,000 USD on a budget of less than \$60,000 (quintupling the value of every dollar donated). Estimates for the value of goods and services provided by our team are as follows:

- **Dignity Aid Villages: ~\$97,000** - More than twenty direct distributions by Dignity Aid International volunteers over three years, delivering products ranging from rice to toilet paper and executing larger projects such as an art festival and a new well.
- **Odesa Psychiatric Hospital: ~\$82,000** - More than one hundred visits over three years to deliver food, medicines, wheelchairs, and more, providing nutrition and care for those most overlooked in society and building relationships with staff.
- **Kozhen Mental Health Group: ~\$18,000** - Dozens of mental health discussion groups co-sponsored for more than two years with trained therapist staff (ongoing).
- **Onovlena English Club: ~\$7,000** - More than one year of regular English speaking practice provided to groups of 5-10 individuals (ongoing).
- **Manifest Mira Partner Support: ~\$20,000** - Support with programming and project reporting for a local partner, spanning more than a year in 2023-2024.
- **HumanFrontAid/Plich-o-plich Cash Support: ~\$50,000** - Coordination and project support in 2024 for emergency cash distributions by HFA in the Odesa region.
- **International Medical Corps Collaboration: ~\$50,000** - Beneficiary identification and project planning support for distributions in Kherson-region villages in 2023.
- **Odesa People's Church Collaboration: ~\$5,000** - Support with purchasing, packaging, and delivering holiday humanitarian support in 2022..



Dignity Aid By the Numbers: More Than...

25,000 individuals helped

115,000 lbs.
of aid delivered

10 local organisations partnered
or supported

The Dignity Aid Philosophy

Dignity Aid International was founded on a long-standing tradition of volunteers stepping beyond borders and the comfort of their own homes to support communities affected by war and natural disasters. At the heart of our mission is a belief that dignity is not something to be given—it is inherent in every individual. Our role is to help restore the conditions in which that dignity can thrive.

We work in direct consultation and collaboration with local communities and volunteers, recognizing that sustainable aid begins at the grassroots. For the local communities who we support, the presence of these volunteers can be empowering, letting them know that they are not forgotten. Our focus is on listening first, building relationships of trust, and supporting local leadership in shaping recovery efforts.

As an organization, we aim to provide a safe and empowering environment for volunteers, accountability and transparency for donors, and—most importantly—respectful, consistent partnership with the people we serve. We collaborate with both local and international groups that share our values, placing special emphasis on supporting community-based organizations in navigating and coordinating with the broader humanitarian system. Additionally, we strive to balance the principles of that larger network—such as impartiality and neutrality—with the practical needs of local individuals and groups.

Our projects begin with life-saving aid, but we are equally committed to the long-term resilience and dignity of affected communities. From emergency response to sustainable rebuilding, we remain grounded in the belief that meaningful, lasting change begins with those most impacted—and that our responsibility is to stand beside them, not in front of them.



The Dignity Aid Team

Board of Directors

Abe Collier, Director and Ukraine Response Coordinator

- Humanitarian volunteer in five countries; master's degree in international management

Diana Brown, Director

- Associate director at Utah NGO, civil society entrepreneur, podcaster and researcher

Sean "Angus" MacKinnon, Director

- Twenty years of humanitarian work in 10+ countries including Moldova, Iraq, and Myanmar

Volunteers (non-exhaustive)

Maksim Levakin, Kozhen Partner

- Licensed psychologist with more than three years running mental health groups

Oleksandra Pavlenko, Hospital Partner

- Teacher, translator, head of NGO 'Include UA' focused on psychiatric hospitals

Oleksandr Bezimov, Driver and Logistics

- Long-time logistics manager and driver, displaced by war from Mariupol, Ukraine

Nika Kiyanitsa, Logistics Support and Project Officer

- Humanitarian with extensive experience in civil society projects and logistics management

Matteo Katamadze, Village Project Officer

- Artist, project manager, humanitarian volunteer in de-occupied territories for 2+ years

Anttoni Virpi, Reports and Villages

- Student from Finland specializing in languages and cultural exchange

Benjamin Schmidt, Acting Treasurer

- Non-governmental organization project manager, researcher, and father of one

Maddy Collier, Social Media Manager

- Licensed medical professional, graphic designer, and outdoors-loving California resident

Finn Sawyer, Reports and Villages

- Emerging journalist and researcher working with Dignity Aid on reports and deliveries

Alina Gonchan, Office Support

- Human resources manager and former consultant with 10+ years in staff coordination roles

Overview of the Humanitarian Situation in Ukraine



*A drone strikes a building in Kyiv -
June 2025 - photo from [CNN.com](https://www.cnn.com)*

The humanitarian response in Ukraine has changed significantly since 2022. In those first months and years, funds for international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) like the Red Cross or World Food Program were largely provided by governments in Europe and the United States, while smaller NGOs like Dignity Aid were able to reach individual donors around the world who were following the war. Now, aid from governments has significantly decreased, partly because of the cuts to USAID and partly because of the need to re-focus on defense spending in Europe, leading to budget cuts and program contraction inside of most INGOs. Smaller organizations have suffered less, but war weariness has still affected many private donors around the world and made it more difficult for everyone in the non-profit space in Ukraine to continue regular operations.

Meanwhile, the need for help continues to grow. As of 2025, more than 12,000 civilians [have been killed](#), over 6 million have been displaced, and 12.7 million—36% of the population—require humanitarian assistance, with the cost of helping them approaching \$8 billion USD [according to the UN](#) in 2025, almost 10% of Ukraine's forecasted budget for the entire year.

Despite the difficult situation, the country remains resilient. Even close to the front line, cities and villages are usually supplied with food and medical supplies, thanks to the efforts of international and local humanitarian organizations. More generally, daily life continues; restaurants and shops remain open in most cities and families stroll the streets in the afternoons, preserving a sense of normality in the country. And at the national level, Ukraine has managed to keep its [GDP growth](#) above 3%, an extraordinary accomplishment for a country at war. Consequently, support among Ukrainians for continuing the war against Russia—even if the United States withdraws all support—appears to be [the majority opinion](#) still.

Going forward, the primary humanitarian needs which Dignity Aid volunteers see in their work include mental health support and support for veterans, two inter-connected issues which are already raising their head despite the continuing war and will be even more crucial following any ceasefire. While the fighting continues, food, medicine, and hygiene supplies are also likely to remain a crucial need; for rural communities, for displaced families, and for many struggling households in cities. During this time and after, mobilizing communities to direct the relief which is sent to them and to create sustainable recovery paths for themselves will be vital. And after the fighting ends, especially in rural communities close to the current front lines but across the country as well, there will be an enormous need for reconstruction of buildings, both homes and workplaces. Continued support for Ukraine will therefore be very much needed.

Overview of the Security Situation in Ukraine

As we approach the four-year anniversary of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the war has seen many twists and turns. From 2014, when a ragtag mobilization of volunteers stopped Russian advances in Eastern Ukraine and along the Crimean front, to 2022, when a highly motivated and well-equipped Ukrainian military lay astonishing defeats on a poorly organised and disoriented Russian force, the war has now ground to a stalemate. The Ukrainian military is currently suffering from a serious manpower crisis, with most brigades operating at less than full strength. Through mobilisation and recruitment bonuses, the Russian military now commands a serious advantage in manpower, which has led to slow but steady gains on the ground.

Drones now play a central role in this war, with both sides investing heavily in the technology. The Ukrainian Armed Forces recently created the Unmanned Systems Forces, a branch specialising entirely in drone warfare. With 70% of Russian casualties in 2025 being attributed to them, it is safe to now classify this conflict as a 'drone war'.

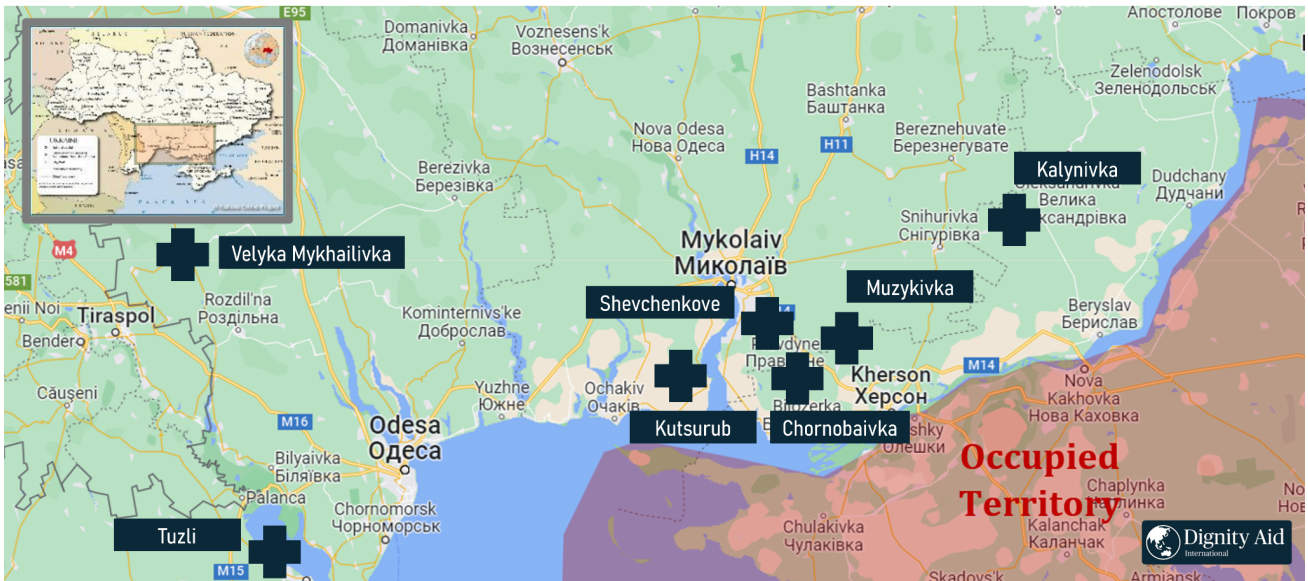
As of August 2025, Russia is engaged in a summer offensive, primarily concentrated on the city of Pokrovsk in Donetsk Oblast, with over one hundred thousand Russian soldiers supposedly now stationed around the city. Russia continues to make gains on this front but at an astonishingly high cost, with over 100,000 casualties reported across the eastern front since January 2025. Elsewhere, Russian forces launched an offensive in Sumy Oblast in northern Ukraine. This offensive has stalled, however, with Ukrainian forces reportedly pushing Russian forces back in some sectors.

In the southern regions of Ukraine, where Dignity Aid International primarily operates, the front lines have been stable since October 2022, when Russian Armed Forces retreated across the Dnipro River. Since that time, Ukrainian and Russian forces have tried to cross the river and establish bridgeheads, but there are no known successes at this time (Aug. 2025). Towns, villages, roads, and people within 20-40 kilometres of Russian positions are under constant threat of FPV drones, grenade-dropping drones, and other forms of aerial or artillery bombardment. In recent months, drone attacks against Ukrainian cities have increased drastically. No area of the country has been spared, with impacts recorded in the western cities of Lutsk and Lviv (80km from the Polish border).

Going forward, a ceasefire remains a hope for many in the international community. Peace talks are currently ongoing, but the possible results we could see from those remain questionable, especially in the face of continued Russian gains in the east and resilience in the Russian economy, which is beginning to show signs of strain but is estimated to be a few years from collapse still. However, progress can already be seen, as both sides have given up on some of their red lines regarding a possible deal. Ukraine will likely continue to lose small sections of territory until a meaningful ceasefire is reached, but support from Europe and even from further abroad appears to be sufficient to maintain the general current status quo.

For Dignity Aid, the safety and security of our volunteers remains the number one priority. We continue to regularly liaison with security officials to ensure we can make accurate risk assessments of the present environment and avoid putting our volunteers in unnecessary danger.

Map of Operations



Based in the port city of Odesa, Dignity Aid International has maintained operations throughout the three southwestern oblasts (regions) of Ukraine: Odesa, Mykolaiv, and Kherson. On the right of the map, Russian forces occupy Ukrainian territory west to the Dnipro River, which runs just east of the city of Kherson and north from there.

Dignity Aid Villages (map), 2023-2025:

Odesa Oblast: hromadas

Velyka Mykhailivka: food & hygiene product deliveries (Feb 2024, Dec 2024)

Tuzly: food & hygiene product deliveries (Apr 2024, Sep 2024, Feb 2025, Nov 2025)

Mykolaiv Oblast: hromadas

Shevchenkove: food & hygiene product deliveries (Dec 2023, Jan 2025, May 2025)

Kutsurub: food & hygiene product deliveries (Apr 2025, Aug 2025)

Kherson Oblast: hromadas

Chornobaivka: food, hygiene, construction products (May 2023, Mar 2025, Apr 2025)

Kalynivske: food, hygiene products; art; borehole (Feb 2024, Mar 2024, Jun 2025, Oct 2025)

Muzykivka: food, hygiene, construction products (Feb 2023, Mar 2023, Apr 2023, Jun 2023)

Kherson City: food, hygiene products (Apr 2025, May 2025)

Other Projects, 2022-2025:

Odesa City

Charity Hospitals: bi-weekly supplemental nutrition assistance at Odesa hospital

Kozhen Mental Groups: weekly men's mental health meetings

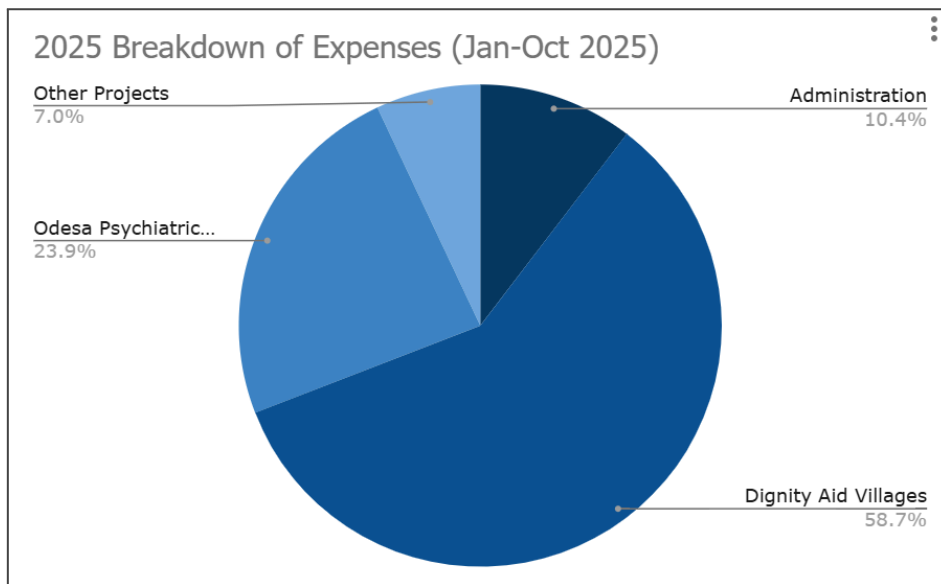
Financial Report

Dignity Aid International Financial Summary Nov. 2022 - Nov. 2025

	2022	2023	2024	2025 (to Oct)
REVENUE	\$2,239.00	\$10,955.46	\$12,347.19	\$30,570.50
Monthly Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,260.04
One-time Donations	\$2,239.00	\$10,955.46	\$12,347.19	\$22,310.46
EXPENSES	\$1,202.12	\$11,957.35	\$12,312.21	\$24,378.21
Administration	\$0.00	\$1,048.23	\$2,026.06	\$2,530.88
Dignity Aid Villages	\$582.97	\$3,625.71	\$1,841.76	\$14,317.69
Odesa Psychiatric Hospitals	\$619.15	\$7,269.51	\$7,837.35	\$5,821.00
Other Projects	\$0.00	\$13.90	\$606.05	\$1,708.64
NET INCOME	\$1,036.88	\$ (1,001.89)	\$34.98	\$6,192.29

Dignity Aid International was registered as a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible organization late in 2024 and began receiving and spending donations as a formal organization late that year. The difference was immediate. US donors could get tax deductions for their donations, set up monthly donations, and receive tax receipts directly from our partner platform (GiveLively). As a result, average donation amounts have increased from around \$1,000 per month in 2022-2024 to well over \$2,000 per month in 2025, with more than 15 committed monthly donors as of November 2025..

Every dollar we receive from around the world is important to us; our average donation amount is less than \$120, so our average donor makes a real sacrifice to support our work in Ukraine. We do our best to use those funds wisely, with almost 90% of each donation going directly to provide humanitarian goods or services to individuals in need:



These figures are approved by the Board of Directors of Dignity Aid International and are updated regularly and published yearly. We also publish regular financial updates throughout the year on our newsletter, which you can sign up for [here](#). Further financial information is available upon request.

Active Projects



Residents of Luch, Mykolaiv Oblast fill out forms for first DAI village delivery in Nov 2023

Dignity Aid Villages

Total Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries: **20,000+** across southern region of Ukraine

The Dignity Aid Villages project aims to assist difficult-to-reach villages in frontline and de-occupied regions (see page 6 for map of operations). The needs of these villages are great, as economic activities have been hindered by the war and infrastructure is often destroyed. The project assists the villages by delivering food and hygiene products. In addition, other needs are met after consultation with village representatives; these can include items such as clothing or construction materials.

During the 2022-2024 period, Dignity Aid worked to establish a network of contacts throughout villages based in the Odesa, Mykolaiv, and Kherson Oblasts. This period also involved building the organization's logistics capabilities needed for purchasing and transporting the humanitarian products. Visits and deliveries to villages took place approximately every 2-3 months during this period.

For the 2025 period, Dignity Aid is carrying out deliveries of aid to villages about once per month, whilst continuing to establish contact with new ones. Simultaneously, Dignity Aid is working with village representatives to select a community where our efforts will be more focused. The impact of Dignity Aid efforts in this prospective "adopted" village will be maximised through regular collaboration with donors and local partners.





Odesa psychiatric hospital patients enjoying fruit delivered by DAI

Odesa Psychiatric Hospitals

Total Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries: **5,000+** in city of Odesa

For the past five years, a group of volunteers have been visiting psychiatric hospitals in Odesa to distribute fruit and biscuits to the patients. Dignity Aid joined these volunteers in 2022 to support their regular activities and help make the project sustainable in the long-term. During the 2022-2024 period, Dignity Aid took part in these visits weekly, later transitioning to bi-weekly visits in order to focus more on the village distribution project.

Over the last two and a half years Dignity Aid has helped distribute food to more than 1,000 patients across various departments in the hospitals. Over the course of this project, Dignity Aid has also built relationships with hospital administrators and local partners and seen small but meaningful progress in those areas.



Kozhen Mental Health Groups

Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries: **500+**

In 2023, Dignity Aid co-launched a regular discussion group “Kozhen” for men to discuss mental health. The group is led by Odesa-based psychologist Maksim Levakin. From the beginning, Dignity Aid International has supported and helped the group to grow and continue its important work.

The group gathers regularly, switching between informal coffee discussions and structured mental health discussions every other week. There has been slow but consistent progress in both the structure and attendance of the groups over the past two years.

Success Stories

Chornobaivka Hromada, Kherson Oblast



One area of particular impact has been in the *hromada* (rural municipality) of Chornobaivka in Kherson Oblast – it’s an area that was under occupation for nine months, situated only 10 miles from the frontline along the Dnipro River. Life under occupation was difficult: the residents experienced daily house raids and beatings by occupying soldiers, were unable to work, and rarely went outside.

Speaking about the assistance provided by Dignity Aid, Vitalii – the village head – highlighted an area of particular usefulness to their community. This was the construction materials provided, used to repair the windows of the community centre that had been damaged by recent bombing. With many buildings destroyed and infrastructure lacking, the centre is a crucial hub for the community: it is where food and clothes are distributed from and is one of the few locations in the community left with regular internet access.

Tuzly Hromada, Odesa Oblast



Tuzly, a coastal village in Odesa Oblast, is another area of success for Dignity Aid. Access to Tuzly is limited due to bombings of major transport routes in the area, which has raised the cost of goods and made it difficult to find work, and the village is regularly under threat from Russian drone attacks due to its proximity to the Black Sea. In addition, assistance to this area from other organizations is limited as they are often focused on regions closer to the fighting. This has impacted the operations of the area: Roksana – the Tuzly village representative – is required to run everything herself, from the local air alert system to the allocation of the little

local government resources they have.

Acting alongside the Tuzly village council, Dignity Aid has three times assisted the residents by delivering food and hygiene products to families and IDPs (internally displaced people). Many of the families have lost loved ones to the war, missing or dead, or moved to the *hromada* after the beginning of the full-scale invasion, and are rebuilding their support systems. Our deliveries have helped relieve the economic burden of the war on the Tuzly community.

Volunteer Spotlights

Maksim, Kozhen Mental Health Groups



Maksim, a qualified psychotherapist from Nova Kakhovka, Kherson Oblast, started the Kozhen mental health group in July 2023. He moved to Odesa to study at university, and since the beginning of the full-scale war, Maksim has spent his time volunteering with various humanitarian organisations. The beginning of the full-scale war had a significant impact on Maksim's own mental health, and his own experiences with counselling to deal with these issues motivated him to establish Kozhen. The group was founded on the principles of confidentiality, aiming to provide a safe space for men to speak about their emotions without fear of judgement. In Ukraine such spaces for men are rare, mental health is a rising issue, and there is a culture of men not wanting to speak about their issues. It was small, with only a few attendees; utilising social media and word-of-mouth, Maksim has grown the group to twenty-five members and counting.

The space Maksim has created has helped remove the stigma of mental health in the minds of those attending. Additionally, the network around the group has created a social space for attendees to engage with one another. The importance of such a social space in the context of the war cannot be understated. Maksim himself has found the war to be incredibly isolating – many of his friends have left the country, leaving him with feelings of loneliness. By providing this social outlet, Maksim has not only helped his own isolation but helped the other attendees, many of whom also share the same experience.

Oleksandr Bezimov, Driver and Logistics



Oleksandr works as a volunteer for Dignity Aid, helping with the logistics of village distributions and acting as a driver. Originally from Mariupol, Oleksandr worked there as a warehouse manager and taxi driver; after the full-scale invasion began in 2022, he was forced to flee the city, which experienced significant destruction. Leaving with his wife and daughter, he had to drive hundreds of kilometres through Russian checkpoints, under constant threat of being attacked, to get to safety. The family fled first to Lviv before soon settling in Odesa.

After seeing the impact of the full-scale war on himself and others around him – many who had been left with nothing – Oleksandr became motivated to get involved in humanitarian work. For three years he has helped various humanitarian organisations operating in Ukraine, such as Dignity Aid and local organisation Manifest Mira, to deliver aid to civilians living in villages in frontline and de-occupied territories.

Future Objectives

Ukraine

Dignity Aid aims to expand its operations in Ukraine for the foreseeable future. The goal for the village program is to expand from one distribution per month to two. For the hospital program, we hope to expand from a visit every other week to weekly visits. Additionally, we will continue to encourage growth in the mental health groups and English clubs which we co-sponsor..

World

Beyond Ukraine, in the coming years, Dignity Aid plans to execute a second deployment in a country also in need of humanitarian assistance, such as Myanmar or Sudan. More generally, Dignity Aid also hopes to build an international network of volunteers from across the globe, to connect with one another and offer their assistance in zones requiring humanitarian aid.

Other Objectives

In regards to the administrative processes of Dignity Aid, we aim to achieve \$5,000 in average monthly donations by the end of 2026. Additionally, we hope to receive our first grant from a charitable institution and to host at least one international volunteer per month for the coming year.

Call for Donations

<https://secure.givelively.org/donate/92-3537964>

Dignity Aid International is a registered 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization in the United States of America.

Tax receipts are provided upon donation.

Funds are used directly for the support of civilians in areas of the world affected by war and natural disaster.



Appendix

1. DAI Web Links

Website: <https://dignityaidinternational.org>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/dignity.aid.international>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/18EHu63aVx/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Substack Blog: <https://substack.com/@dignityaidintl>

GiveLively Donation Platform: <https://secure.givelively.org/donate/92-3537964>

Pledge Donation Platform:
<https://www.pledge.to/organizations/92-3537964/dignity-aid-international>

US Tax-Exempt Confirmation: <https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/>, search EIN 92-3537964

2. Major Partner Organizations

[Plich-o-plich](#) (Odesa, Ukraine) - Giving/receiving donated goods and support with residency permits of volunteers

[Onovlena Ukraine](#) (Odesa) - Sponsoring English-speaking club and support with program planning

[Include UA](#) (Odesa) - Regular collaboration on Charity Hospitals visits

[Kozhen Group](#) (Odesa) - Regular collaboration on mental health discussion groups

[The Merch Republic](#) (Berlin, Germany) - Support for village and hospital support

3. List of Donors (non-exhaustive)

Dignity Aid International would like to give a special thanks to those who have donated to make our work possible, including: April, Alina, Angela, Ann, Annalen, Barbara, Becky, Ben, Brad, Brandt, Brian, Caleb, Chantelle, Christophe, Cynthia, Clayton, Claudia, Ciaran, Dan, Dave, David, Eric, Evelyn Everett, Gary, Gayle, Georgia, Gretel, Hoi, Hilary, Holly, James, Jane, Jason, Jon, Joann, Jolene, Jonathan, Joseph, Julia, Karsten, Kim, Laura, Lauren, Leanne, Lindsey, Liz, Maddy, Matthew, Marine, Michael, Mike, Morgan, Nathan, Nicholas, Paul K, Paul B, Rachel, Ramona, Robert, Rodney, Sarah, Sergii, Selina, Shelby, Sophie, Steve, Terri, The Crall Amicitia Fund, Theresa, Thomas, Victor, Winona and Yolanda.

