UPF

Ukraine Partnership Foundation



2025 Ministry Report

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This report was created by our media team in Ukraine, *with love and gratitude.*

Dear Friends,

From the first day of Russia's invasion, our team in Ukraine has demonstrated what it means to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Despite four terrible years of war, the Ukrainian Baptist Theological Seminary continues preparing students to serve local churches; twenty-one WeCare Centers are providing humanitarian aid, trauma counseling, and Gospel hope; and the Institute for Leadership & Coaching is equipping leaders to shape Ukraine with biblical values.

These ministries are only possible because of your prayers and generosity. Your support provides scholarships, vital aid for displaced families, and ongoing encouragement and hope, reminding Ukrainians they are not forgotten. This Ministry Report shares just a glimpse of the tens of thousands of lives touched in 2025. We trust you will be encouraged and join us in praising God for the faithful servants and fruitful ministries expanding His Kingdom in Ukraine.

With gratitude,



Joe Privot, PhD
UPF Founder and Board Chair



Greetings from Lviv, Ukraine.

Through four years of war, we have lived Paul's words: "We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed."

We strive to obey Paul's instruction: "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." And there is another verse from Paul that also has special meaning for us: "I thank God every time I remember you."

During these difficult years of war, your faithful support has made it possible for us to fulfill the unique calling God has given us at this time in Ukraine's history. It is not a calling we sought or expected, but it is one we obediently fulfill. Through all this, you have regarded us as your brothers and sisters, not foreigners living far away. And we are very grateful for that. We know that God's presence is always revealed through His people. You are His presence for us.



Yaroslav Pyzh, PhD
President, UBTS, ILC, and WeCare Centers



2025 Kingdom Impact Snapshot

65 Church Planting Students

20 Future Missionaries

14 Church Planting Trained Teams

69 Churches Planted *since 2022*

320 Professions of Faith

102 Discipleship Groups Started

Ukraine has long been known for its fertile black soil filled with fields of wheat and rows of sunflowers. But even amidst Russia's war on Ukraine, there's something else Ukraine's soil has proven fertile for: new churches.

That's why when Carmel Baptist Church in Matthews, North Carolina had a dream to plant 25 churches in the next decade — and a long-term, trusted partnership with UBTS — they knew Ukraine could be a good place to start.

"So many Ukrainians are living in fear, trauma, and depression today," says Sergiy Vorona, director of the Church Planting Department at UBTS. "**The war doesn't cancel the Great Commission.** Instead, it calls the Church to become more active, to draw closer to people, and to reach more communities."

Today, this partnership fuels churches like Frontline which formed after Christians in Kharkiv, Ukraine gave a neighborhood bomb shelter new life — and then planted a church from the community that formed.

"They're ministering to people in a very difficult situation where there's constant Russian attacks," shares Tim Wishon, who leads Carmel's church planting partnership with UBTS. "And yet, churches are not only getting started, they're bringing new people in, making disciples, and baptizing people.

"It reminds us that God is still working, even in the hardest places."



UKRAINIAN BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



For 25 years, **Ukrainian Baptist Theological Seminary** has been forming a generation of ministers and lay leaders who love God and influence both church and society for the good. And because believers like you choose to invest in this mission, more students are stepping into their callings, launching creative ministries, and planting new churches with confidence.

This year, another long-held dream was fulfilled through your faithful support: the opening of a campus dormitory that will allow students to form even deeper Christian community.

1,196
Students

33
Programs

651
New Students

400+
Churches Represented

589
Graduates

Because of your generosity, 100% of UBTS students receive vital financial aid.





“There is a war in our country. And sometimes I would sit and worry about what will happen to my country.

But when I came to the seminary for the first time, we were standing in the big auditorium with many people. Everyone was singing and praising God. I saw the number of my peers who came here to develop and seek God, and just thought, ‘wow.’

Scholarships are an open door for our country to have a generation of mature leaders. Thank you for being a part of this.”

-Nadia, *Young Leaders Program Student*



“I tell everyone that God led me here. He must have seen my state and decided to help me through this center.”

-Lida, *Kryvi Rih WeCare Center Volunteer*



“The church leaders always look forward to my return from studies at UBTS, hoping that I will bring new ideas, proposals, and spiritual practices. Thank you for joining in the ministry of our local church. May God bless you abundantly!”

– Roman Shlyahtuch, *Pastoral Ministry Student*



“The people who visit our center aren’t just looking for humanitarian aid. They’re people who need support, hope, and a way forward. Each person carries their own pain. Our mission gives us the strength to keep going — and it’s to help people and to tell them about Christ, so they can find a path to hope.”

-Natalia Mezentseva, *Nikopol WeCare Center Director*



“Children are among the most vulnerable suffering from the war. That is why many of our WeCare Centers focus on supporting children and their parents – opening day centers, schools, and programs in frontline communities. We must continue showing the love of Christ to this next generation of our country.”

-Igor Tkachenko, *Network Director of WeCare Centers*

WeCare centers

Since the first day of Russia's full-scale invasion, the UBTS community mobilized to meet urgent needs. Today, that response has grown into a vibrant network of **21 WeCare Centers** across Ukraine, including four new locations added this year. These centers operate as independent NGOs, while our network helps train and support their directors.

265
Local Staff

929
Tons of Aid Distributed

1,269
People Counseled Monthly

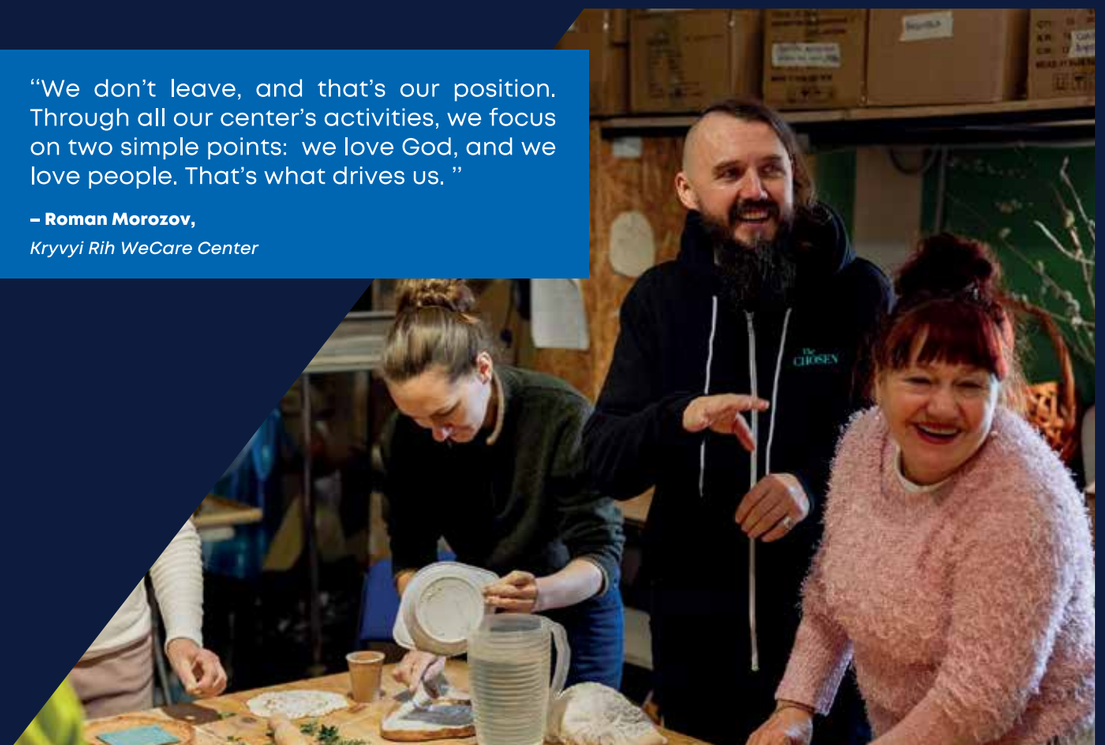
636
Volunteers

64
Local Partner Churches

17,736
People Served Monthly

"We don't leave, and that's our position. Through all our center's activities, we focus on two simple points: we love God, and we love people. That's what drives us. "

– Roman Morozov,
Kryvyi Rih WeCare Center







"We were there," says Katya, who serves with the WeCare Center in Kryvyi Rih. "We saw how they pulled out the bodies. We saw how in a single moment a person who was carefree, young… suddenly their whole life just collapses."

Katya had been mentoring Nastia for several years when the 20-year-old young woman received the call: her fiancé was buried under thirteen feet of rubble after a Russian attack.

Nastia turned to the WeCare Center community for support, and says now that these believers upheld her during the following months of grief.

Despite the daily dangers of ministering in a city 50 miles from the frontline, Katya can't imagine life anywhere else. "There were opportunities to leave, but it wouldn't have felt right. Here, my day, my life, has meaning. I know I'm needed here."

"We want our partners to understand that, yes, it's hard, but nothing can stop us from serving," Katya says. "And of course, **we need support and prayers, because we aren't doing our own work — we are doing God's work.** Sometimes it's just comforting to know you're not alone."

INSTITUTE FOR LEADERSHIP AND COACHING

The Institute for Leadership & Coaching is a training platform that equips mission-driven leaders to transform Ukraine. Since 2022, the number of Ukrainian nonprofits has risen sharply, creating a growing need for practical training and consulting in areas such as nonprofit team management, veteran care, and more.

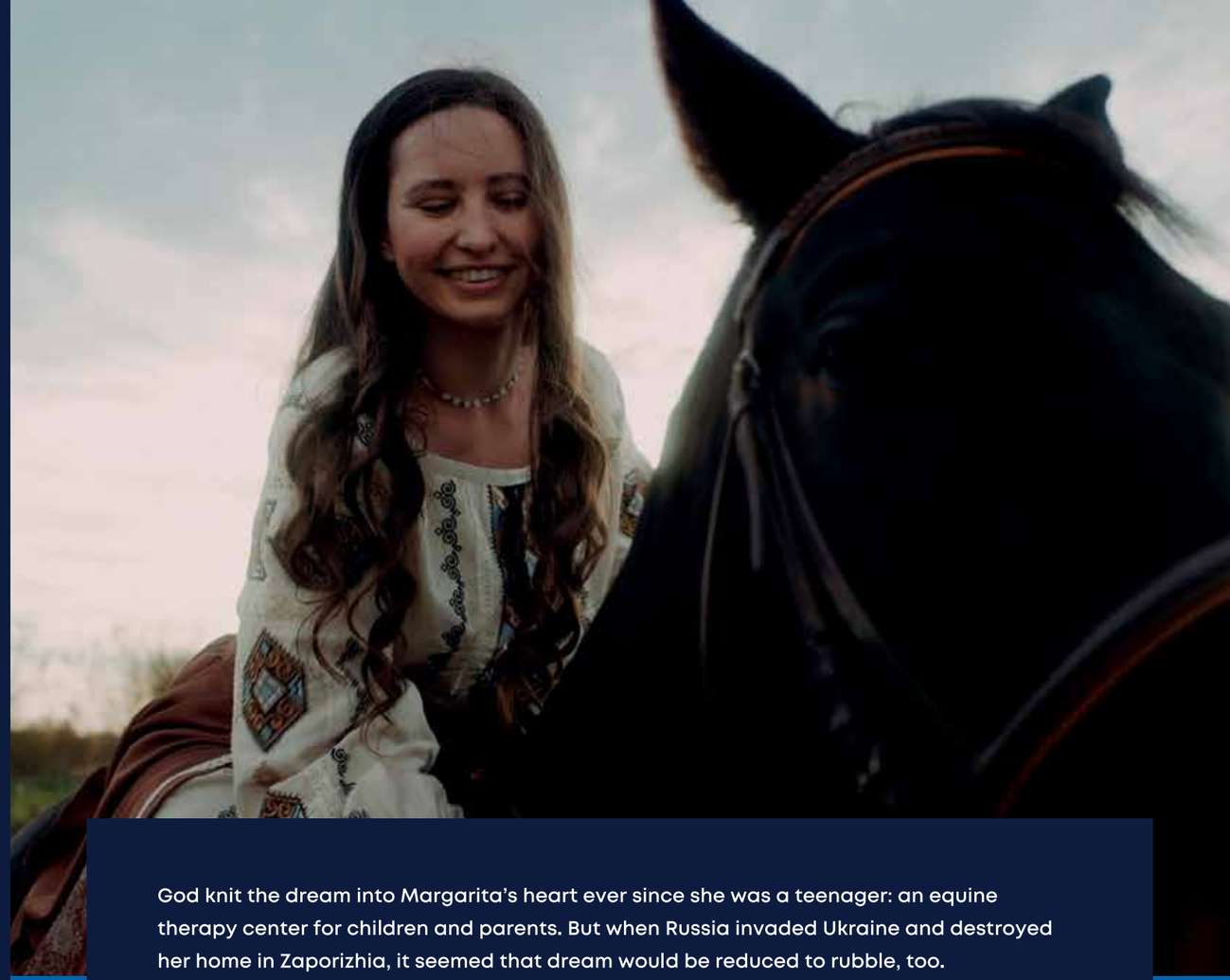
Through your support, nonprofit and lay leaders, including WeCare Center directors, are being equipped to bring Gospel-driven change across Ukraine.

10
Partner Organizations

275
Students

Trainings Led in
3
Cities





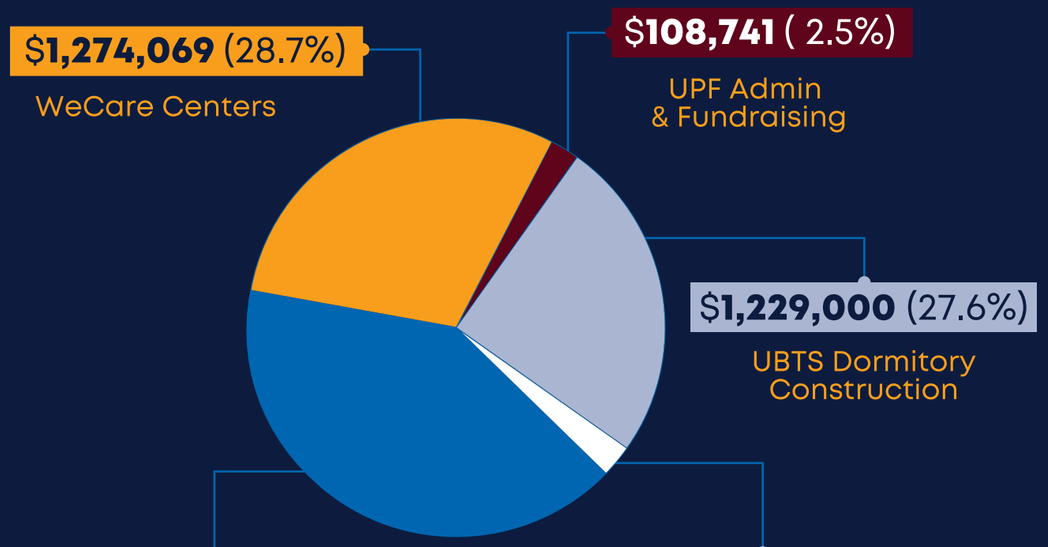
God knit the dream into Margarita's heart ever since she was a teenager: an equine therapy center for children and parents. But when Russia invaded Ukraine and destroyed her home in Zaporizhia, it seemed that dream would be reduced to rubble, too.

Then she started studying at the Institute for Leadership & Coaching and found a place, and people, who believed in her God-sized dream.

"I would come home filled with ideas, with hope, and with the certainty that, yes, it will work," says Margarita.

From her new home in Zakarpattia, Margarita now sees people leave her center differently than they came, and it's not just because of the horses or the people who meet them there. "It's because God is here." Margarita says. "Through our work, through our care, and through love, we can help rebuild lives and **even share the Gospel through it all."**

How Your Gifts Were Used



Enhancing Trust

Platinum Transparency 2025

Candid.

WeCare Centers and UPF are independently audited to uphold the highest standards of financial transparency and accountability.

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**Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.
Be devoted to one another in love.
Honor one another above yourselves.**

- Romans 12:9-10 NIV

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Foundation

upfmissions.org

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PO Box 671
Chesterfield, MO 63006-0671