Activities in Ukraine

History

Sant'Egidio has been present in Ukraine for the past 30 years and has an estimated 1,300 members of the Community throughout Ukraine, located primarily in Kyiv, Kharkiv, Lviv, and Ivano-Frankivsk. The Ukrainian community has always been active, especially on appeals for peace and solidarity, support for the homeless, and ecumenical prayer and dialogue. Even before hostilities began in the end of February 2022, Sant'Egidio had been calling for peace and an immediate cessation of all hostilities. Now that the crisis has taken form, the community within Ukraine, those surrounding Ukraine, and those around the world have been engaged to support in this critical time. Support includes a global appeal to declare Kyiv an "open city", manifestations for peace throughout Europe, an emergency donation appeal, an emergency medical donation appeal, direct service in reception centers in the border cities, and continued service to the poor throughout Ukraine.

News

March 28 – The Sant'Egidio community in Padua, Italy continues to welcome in Ukrainians who were on dialysis or other health treatments.

March 28 – A group of 40 Ukrainian mothers and children that were saved from the bombings by Sant'Egidio members in Ukraine arrive in Grottaferrata (a city outside of Rome). The traveled by bus to Rome from Lviv and that same bus then returned to Ukraine with medical supplies that Sant'Egidio is collecting throughout Italy.

March 27 – New Sant'Egidio offices are opened in Ukraine; one in Lviv which serves as the Coordination Center of all Humanitarian Action for Sant'Egidio Ukraine (where the cargoes of aid will arrive and be distributed), and one in Ivano-Frankivsk.

March 24 – Sant'Egidio continues to operate in Kyiv, with Community members serving meals to the poor and homeless on a daily basis as well as providing critical medical goods to elderly residents in the Troeshina district.

March 23 – An additional shipment of aid collected by Sant'Egidio in Rome leaves for Lviv containing 35 pallets with 16 tons of aid (clothing, necessities for young children, medical supplies, etc.). The material was delivered using vehicles from the Lazio Rapid Intervention Regional Corps

March 23 – A shipment of powdered milk and baby food arrives in Kharkiv to the Children's Hospital.

March 19 – The second shipment of aid from Italy to Lviv arrives, containing 12 pallets of food supply for babies to be delivered to the children's hospital in Stry.

March 17 – Sant'Egidio partners with the World Food Programme to distribute vouches for grocery shopping in Lviv to vulnerable peoples

March 16 – Missile strikes the headquarters of "Youth for Peace" in Kyiv which was being used as a place of refuge since the start of the war

March 16 – Sant'Egidio welcomed 47 dialysis patients from Ukraine to Italy. This was organized through the Slovakian Ministry of Health.

March 14 – Founder of the Community, Andrea Riccardi, traveled to the borders of Slovakia-Ukraine and Poland-Ukraine to visit Sant'Egidio communities in those locations which have established reception centers on the border for Ukrainian refugees.

March 14 – Members of the Community in Kyiv continue to distribute food and support to about 400 poor people in Kyiv despite the escalation of violence in the city. They continue to operate the "warm house": a

home for the homeless in Kyiv. Sant'Egidio has also activated a network of volunteers who have helped evacuate the elderly in Čajka.

March 12 – Sant'Egidio began a campaign throughout Italy for necessary medical items and drugs that will be sent to the Communities in Ukraine and on the border of Ukraine.

March 9 – The first shipment of aid from Sant'Egidio to Lviv is sent, including twelve tons of aid (clothings, blankets, food stuffs, etc.)

March 6 – The Community in Slovakia welcomes Ukrainian refugees and meets with the Prime Minister of Slovakia Eduard Heger

March 4 – Launch of a joint campaign with UNHCR, COOP, and MSF to raise more than one million euros for Ukrainian refugees

February 28 – Sant'Egidio communities in Poland, Slovakia, and Hungary begin emergency assistance at their respective borders with Ukraine

February 17 – Demonstrations for peace begin throughout Europe, led by coalitions of Sant'Egidio and Youth for Peace