



Photo: unsplash.com

**"CLIENTS MORE OFTEN
SUFFER FROM
OVERLAPPING
VULNERABILITIES: MANY OF
THEM LOST THEIR INCOME-
GENERATING OPPORTUNITIES
DUE TO COVID-19
OUTBREAK"**

*Specialist of PSS mobile teams
for ATO/JFO veterans*

GBV RESPONSE TRENDS IN APRIL

In April, National Hotline on Domestic Violence Response (operated by La Strada) received 2048 calls that constitute a 56% increase compared to March. During the month, operators provided over 2,450 consultations, of which 16% were online as 'silent solutions' for GBV survivors. Specialists of daycare centres and mobile teams provided complex psychosocial support and social supervision to GBV survivors and people in need via phone (on average 60% of all modalities of service provision), online (25%) and face-to-face (15%). Shelters specialists, in addition to working with clients in shelters, extended their assistance to all in need via phone and online consultations. Thus, the network of GBV specialised services offers multiple modalities of quality support to meet the needs of GBV survivors in the context of COVID-19.

STRENGTHENING COORDINATION OF GBV RESPONSE IN HUMANITARIAN SETTING

On 10 April 2020, an online ad hoc joint national / sub-national GBV SCs meeting devoted to discussing possible solutions on GBV/DV response with regard to COVID-19 measures was organised. Over 60 representatives of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts state institutions, UN agencies, NGOs and international organisations joined the meeting to discuss existing practices of providing remote and outreach assistance in the humanitarian context, challenges and opportunities for cooperation during COVID-19 pandemic. OCHA and UNFPA representatives emphasized the importance to adhere to core principles of the Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) by all humanitarian actors and shared most recent updates on PSEA activities in Ukraine.

EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE BETWEEN UKRAINE AND BELARUS ON GBV RESPONSE DURING COVID-19

On 23 April, at an online meeting with Belarusian specialists of state institutions and CSOs, organised by UNFPA Belarus, UNFPA Ukraine shared its experience of adjusting GBV service provision as part of COVID-19 response and presented new modalities of operation of mobile teams on outreach work with ATO/JFO veterans and their families, implemented jointly with UFPH. The meeting inspired the launch of a series of online meetings for Ukrainian and Belarusian GBV specialists on effective GBV service provision, including for most vulnerable people, prevention and awareness-raising, work with perpetrators and cooperation with business to strengthen GBV response in the context of COVID-19. Follow UNFPA Ukraine Facebook page for the schedule of online experience exchange meetings.



EVERY 8TH UKRAINIAN RECEIVES DV SAFETY PLAN

UNFPA Ukraine together with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine and the National Police distributed 100,000 posters with an action plan in case of domestic violence in the time of quarantine. Safety plans are placed in specially designated ad venues in the entrances of residential buildings, supermarkets, pharmacies, public transport stops, city and village councils.

Over 5 mln people received life-saving information for DV survivors and witnesses. You can download your security plan here: rozirvykolo.org/materials.



KHERSON SHELTER ENHANCED ITS CAPACITY

Kherson shelter for GBV survivors increased its capacities from 6 to 12 places. The new premises are more inclusive and equipped with safety solutions. As of the end of April, 4 women with 6 children were receiving complex psychosocial support in the shelter. During the quarantine period, the shelter continues to provide support to those at risk and admits new clients.

EXPERIENCE WORTH SHARING

National GBV Sub-Cluster Coordinator in Ukraine joined an online meeting organized by GBV Area of Responsibility Global Coordinator on adapting programming to the COVID-19 pandemic and the revisions to the Humanitarian Response Plan. The Coordinator shared best practices of coordination, cooperation with Ministries of Social Policy and Internal Affairs in response to the pandemic in Ukraine. Ukraine's GBV Sub-Cluster practice was noted as valuable for replication.

MINIMAL STANDARDS FOR GBV IN EMERGENCIES PROGRAMMING

The inter-agency Minimum Standards for Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies Programming were translated into Ukrainian language and shared with GBV Sub-Cluster partners, Ministries of Social Policy and Internal Affairs in order to enhance accountability and establish clarity on a minimum GBV response. The Minimum Standards will help national actors to better understand what needs to be achieved for GBV prevention and response to be of adequate quality.

MUNICIPALITIES EQUIPPED WITH GBV RESPONSE KNOW-HOW

Over 420 copies of a set of 5 manuals on GBV response in Ukraine were delivered to the municipalities in Donetsk, Luhansk, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia, Poltava, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Vinnytsia, Lviv and Kyiv regions. Five thematic publications describe models and best practice of GBV response, algorithms of operation of psychosocial support mobile teams, shelters for GBV survivors and coordination of multisectoral response to GBV (guidance for coordinators and community focal points). They will help local authorities, duty bearers, service providers and representatives of CSOs to strengthen municipal GBV response mechanisms and service provision.