

GBV PROGRAMME NEWSLETTER



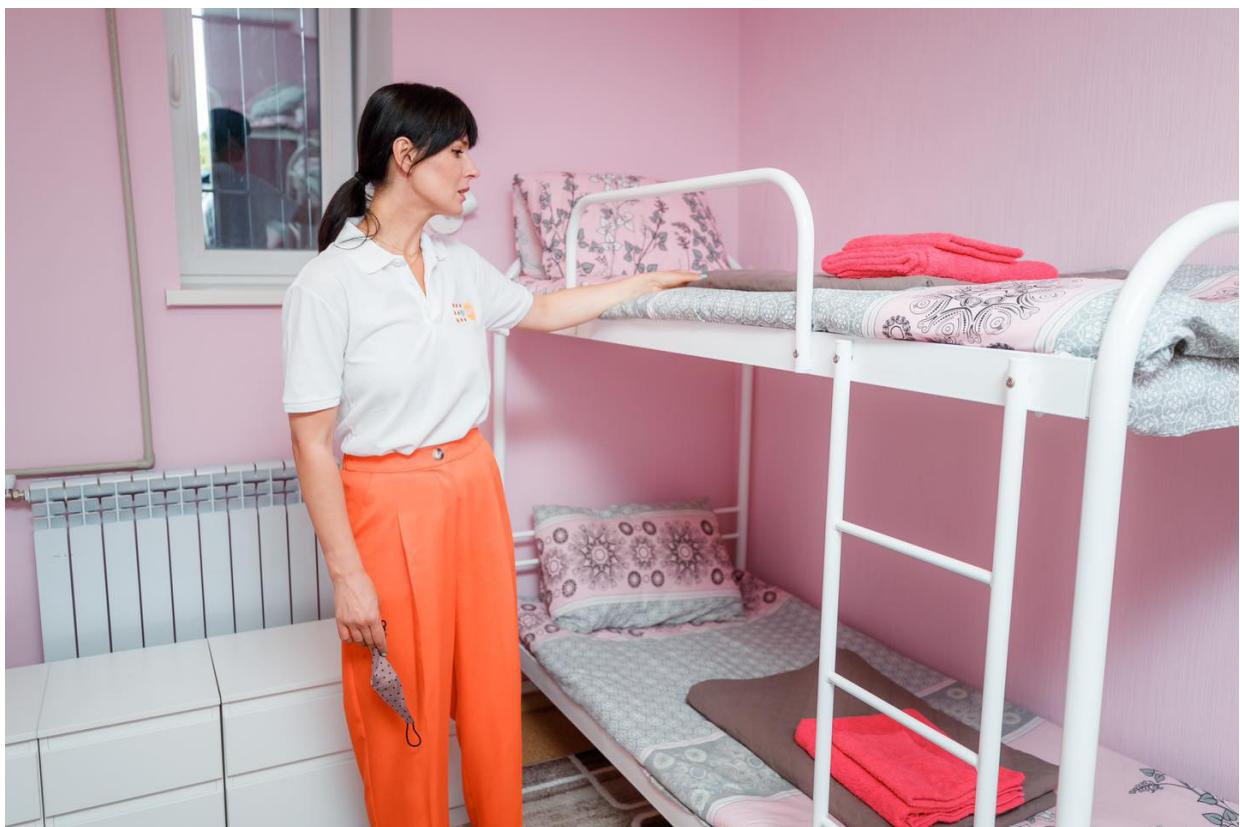
August 2021

MASHA EFROGININA VISITS SERVICES FOR GBV SURVIVORS IN DNIPRO

In August 2021, UNFPA Ukraine Honorary Ambassador Masha Efrosinina visited specialised services for GBV survivors and people at risk in Dnipro. She explored the operation of a shelter for adult survivors, a shelter for women with children, social services centre and crisis rooms. Honorary Ambassador met with municipal authorities, police, specialised service providers and civil society organisations to discuss the city's approach to a systemic response to GBV.

Since joining the UNFPA "Cities and Communities Free from Domestic Violence" project in 2020, Dnipro has achieved noticeable progress in

developing the municipal system of GBV response and prevention. With UNFPA technical expertise and UK Government funding, the city established a shelter for adult survivors that can accommodate up to 10 people simultaneously. Shelter personnel is trained to offer tailored assistance to elderly people. The shelter started service provision in April 2021, complementing the capacity of a shelter for women with children operating since 2019. Known as "Mother's Happiness", the shelter for women with children can support up to 40 clients. GBV survivors can stay there for up to 9 months, receiving psychological support and social assistance.



The city also has crisis rooms for GBV survivors, set up by local CSO "Pani Patronesa" as a pilot project. The crisis rooms can accommodate a woman with children for up to 10 days.

GBV survivors and people at risk in Dnipro have access to a range of specialised services able to meet their specific needs.

Masha Efrosinina also met with [Viktoria Fedotova](#), one of the GBV response champions whose contribution to helping GBV survivors was recognised at the International Forum "On the

Way to Zero GBV", organised by UNFPA Ukraine in February 2020. Viktoria transformed her apartment into a shelter for GBV survivors and created a social café that channels its income to help women break the circle of violence.

Impressed by the strong mobilisation of civil society coupled with the commitment of municipal authorities, UNFPA Ukraine Honorary Ambassador noted that she would look forward to returning to Dnipro to see how the municipal system would have grown further.



START OF DOMESTIC STUDY VISITS IN UKRAINE

“For communities that are now just preparing to open daycare centres and shelters for survivors of domestic violence, it was important to see how these institutions work in real life, talk with professionals, duty bearers in the area of combating domestic and gender-based violence”

– Alevtyna Zhyk, Chief Administrative Officer of the Executive Committee in Pokrovsk.

In 2021, 30 decision-makers from cities-participants of the "Cities and Communities Free from Domestic Violence" project take part in four study visits. The visits are to be made to four Ukrainian cities with effective municipal GBV response and prevention systems, developed with UNFPA support. The cities share their insights and best practices with their counterparts.

In August 2021, Odesa hosted the first domestic study visit. The city welcomed mayors and deputy mayors from Bila Tserkva, Kremenchuk, Kropyvnytskyi, Pokrovsk, Poltava, Rokytne and

Uzhhorod. Participants visited specialised services for GBV survivors – a shelter, a daycare centre, and met with mobile teams of psychosocial support. They attended the meeting with municipal authorities and duty bearers to discuss Odesa experience in developing the municipal system of GBV response and prevention.

The study visit gave participants valuable insights about establishing and managing specialised services for GBV survivors, good

practices on introducing systemic solutions to GBV and awareness-raising activities. Enriched with knowledge and inspired by good examples, participants of the study tour noted their increased understanding of how to bring about change in their cities and communities.

By the end of 2021, three more domestic study visits will take place in Kharkiv, Vinnytsia and Kyiv. Stay tuned to hear about the peer-to-peer practice exchange.



NEW COHORT OF MUNICIPAL EXPERTS-CONSULTANTS

Forty-five future drivers of GBV response and prevention from 15 Ukrainian cities and communities completed the initial module of the UNFPA comprehensive capacity building programme. Designed for key municipal duty bearers, the 4-module intensive learning course focuses on the development of a municipal GBV response and prevention system.

The 2021 cohort of municipalities participating in the "Cities and Communities Free from Domestic Violence" project delegated focal points of local councils, providers of specialised services to GBV survivors, and representatives of local CSOs to take part in the course.

During the first module in August 2021, participants refreshed their knowledge of key concepts and legislation in the domain of GBV and domestic violence. They also visited a shelter for GBV survivors, a daycare centre and other specialised services

in Odesa. They met with municipal authorities and duty bearers to discuss Odesa experience in developing the municipal GBV response and prevention system.

The next three modules of the comprehensive learning programme will take place in Kherson, Dnipro and Kyiv during autumn. Future specialists will dive into the rigorous study of effective multisectoral coordination of GBV response, GBV specialised services, forming a zero-tolerance attitude to violence at the municipal level.

Last year, under the project "Cities and Communities Free from Violence", alumni of this learning course created an expert community that serves as a platform for exchange of experience and good practice among municipalities across Ukraine. This year's course participants will be the second cohort of experts-consultants and soon join the expert community.

AIDING COMMUNITIES TO SET UP SERVICES FOR GBV SURVIVORS

In August 2021, supporting the Ministry of Social Policy initiative of capacity development of communities-recipients of state subvention for GBV services creation, UNFPA held a webinar on the development of specialised services for GBV survivors. Focal points and officials of 125 communities participated in the event to discuss specifics of establishing services for GBV survivors supported by the state subvention. The webinar

also highlighted procedural aspects regarding the receipt of subvention and its utilisation for the establishment of specialised services and procurement of vehicles.

By the end of 2021, local authorities in 125 cities and communities aim to establish 28 shelters, 39 daycare centres, 58 primary psychosocial counselling services, and purchase 40 cars for mobile teams of psychosocial support.

CAREER HUB LAUNCH: OPEN DOOR TO ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

“Career Hub creates a comfortable environment where women receive professional support for career growth. Career counsellors help clients regain their self-confidence and realise their dream of economic independence in a life free of violence”

– Olesia Kompaniets, UNFPA Ukraine GBV Programme Manager.

In August 2021, UNFPA with the support of the UK government launched an online resource – Break the Circle Career Hub. The platform aims to develop the professional potential and financial capacity of women survivors or at risk of GBV.

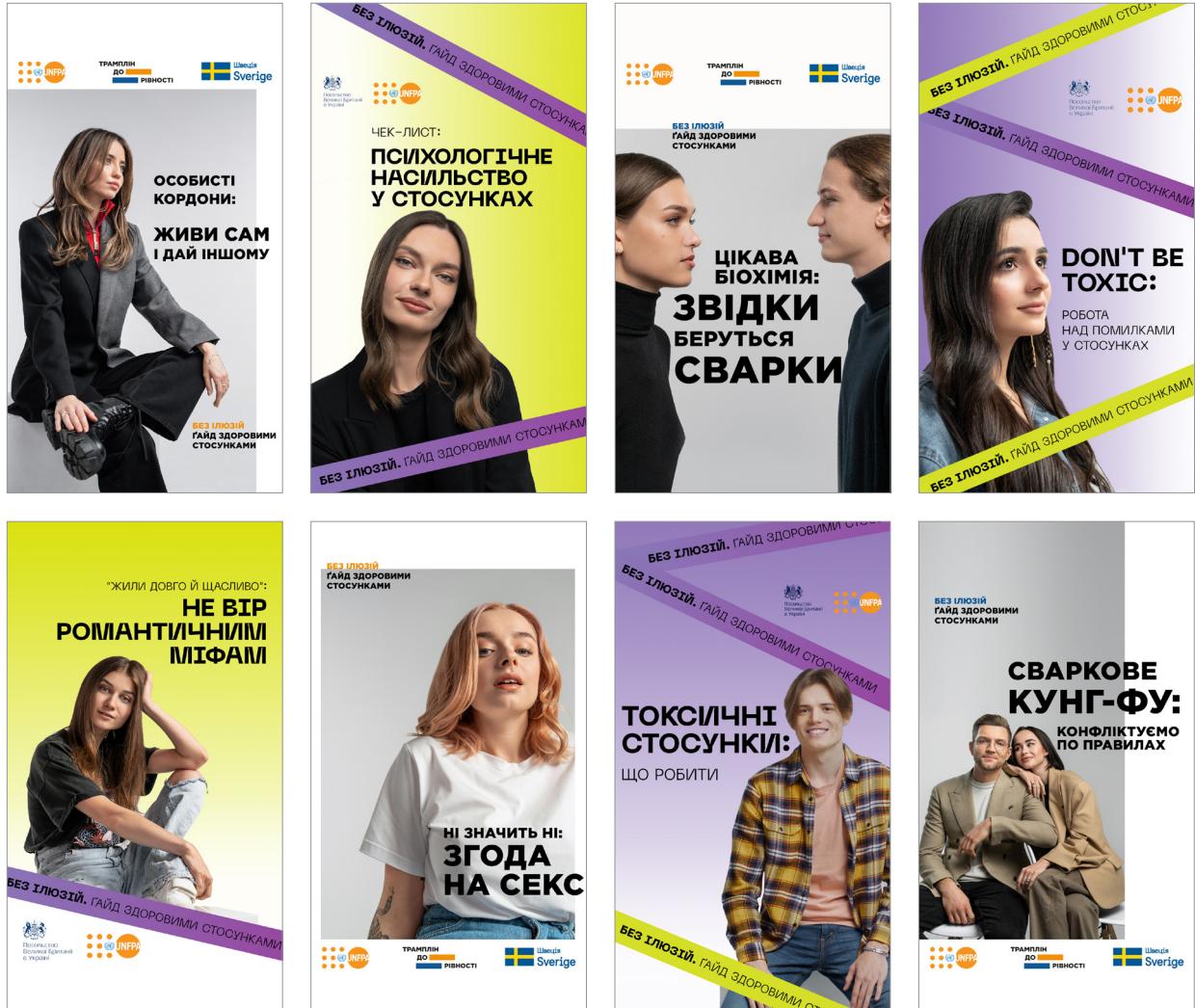
Online career hub enables women to get individual employability support from a career counsellor such as preparing a CV, developing a career plan and determining professional priorities. Career

counsellors can also guide through initial steps with the new job and steer to a stable employment path while in the role. Hub clients are offered vocational and professional courses, training sessions and webinars to develop professional and communication skills. The platform contains career advice and will soon feature the list of vacancies and events announcements. Women can discover the wealth of opportunities at careerhub.rozirvykolo.org.

Everyone can also reach the platform through the link placed at rozirvykolo.org, the website of the Break the Circle campaign that informs about GBV specialised services, safety plans and guidance for survivors and witnesses of GBV.

The launch of the online women Career Hub opens up opportunities for women from all over Ukraine to break the circle of violence by boosting self-esteem and obtaining economic independence.

AUGUST 2021



LAUNCH OF NEW VIDEO CAMPAIGN ON HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

“Extremely timely campaign, thank you for attention to such urgent problems as abuse and psychological violence”

– @th_listik on Instagram.

“Very inspiring and brave”

– user @infannet on Instagram.

In August 2021, a series of eight videos "Without Illusions. Guide to a Healthy Relationship" captured the attention of young Ukrainians willing to explore their romantic attachments. Developed by UNFPA with the support of the UK and Sweden, the video guide explained how to identify signs of toxic relationships, peacefully resolve conflicts and build a sound trust-based partnership.

Top Ukrainian youth influencers joined the campaign to help young people build happy and healthy relationships. Singers Jerry Heil and Nadia Dorofeeva, actors Daniel Vegas and Anna Trincher, model Tetyana Bryk, video blogger Jan Gordienko and social media influencer Asya Say shared invaluable beads of practical advice to youth. They delivered insights in a fresh and playful format, appealing to youth language and presentation style to ensure that young Ukrainians would learn how to have harmonious relationships. The videos received over 1 million views in a month after release. The complete video-guide to healthy relationships is under the [link](#).

UNFPA Programme on GBV Response and Prevention is implemented with the support of the governments of the United Kingdom, Canada and Estonia.

