

SUBVENTION BOOSTS SERVICES NETWORK FOR GBV SURVIVORS

On 30 June 2021, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved the allocation of 274.2 million UAH in state subvention to expand the network of specialised services for GBV survivors. Out of 200 applications, 124 cities and communities were selected to receive funding from the state budget. Using these funds, local authorities will establish 28 shelters, 39 daycare centres, 58 primary psycho-

social counselling services, and purchase 40 cars for mobile teams of psychosocial support by December 2021. Also, 12% of the state subvention will be used to enhance the operation of 16 existing shelters. This marks an unprecedented mobilisation of state resources to create support services for GBV survivors across the country.

Cities and Communities Free from Domestic Violence

274 mln UAH

Amount of the state subvention

12%	88%
consumption expenditures	development expenditures

13 / 124

13 cities-participants of UNFPA project received subvention

37,6 mln UAH

Amount of the state subvention received by project-supported cities

18%	82%
consumption expenditures	development expenditures



Among cities and communities receiving the subvention, 13 participate in the UNFPA project “Cities and Communities Free from Domestic Violence”: Dnipro, Kalush (Ivano-Frankivsk region), Kharkiv, Kherson, Khoroshiv (Zhytomyr region), Khotyn (Chernivtsi region), Kropyvnytskyi, Kyiv, Mariupol, Melitopol, Mykolaiv, Odesa and Ternopil. The funding will enable the communities to renovate premises for prospective specialised services, while UNFPA will procure the necessary equipment and furniture, as well as develop capacity of specialists working to combat GBV.

The provision of the subvention expedites communities to significantly expand the network

of services for comprehensive protection of survivors. UNFPA technical assistance helps communities ensure the effectiveness of such services as the central element of the system for combating and preventing violence. Their experience and models of forming a support network can serve as guidelines for Ukrainian communities in building robust systems of service provision to GBV survivors.

Ready to share its expertise, UNFPA expressed support to the Ministry of Social Policy initiative to train 124 communities-recipients of subvention to establish and run effective specialised services.



BUILDING SOLID FOUNDATION FOR MUNICIPAL SYSTEMS

By working together, we have gained a valuable resource – well-functioning communication! We learned from each other and became even more motivated to make every effort to overcome such a negative phenomenon in our society as domestic violence.

Capacity building is one of the four pillars on which systems of GBV response and prevention are being built in target communities under the UNFPA project

“Cities and Communities Free from Domestic Violence”. Serving as glue to all efforts on system development, it ensures quality and sustainability of work under three other pillars – design of system architecture, services development and prevention of GBV. Tailored capacity building interventions target key decision-makers, coordinators of GBV response, duty bearers and service providers. It helps create a community of professionals equipped with expertise and skills to deploy effective mechanisms of GBV response and prevention.

Committed to becoming free from domestic violence, cities and communities go through an extensive capacity development process. For the 2021 cohort, which is comprised of 10 AMBER communities (with Canada support) and 5 EMBRACE cities (with UK support), this process is particularly intensive as they have recently started work on systems deployment. In their first year in the project, the target communities will have:

- **Training on multisectoral coordination of GBV response and prevention**

Instructing duty bearers to effectively coordinate actions and provide referral, the training is designed to strengthen multisectoral coordination of GBV response so survivors receive needed complex support.

In July, Avanhard, Cherkasy, Kropyvnytskyi and Zaporizhzhia received the training.

- **Comprehensive capacity building course for municipal focal points on development of effective municipal GBV response and prevention system**

The 4-module course develops competencies and skills of municipal GBV focal points (representatives of city authorities, service providers and civil society) to create robust local expertise for sustainable development of municipal system of GBV response and prevention.

In early August, three nominated focal points from each target city and community will take part in the first module dedicated to strategies and principles of GBV response.

- **Training for service providers on inclusive, quality service provision to GBV survivors**

Educating service providers on international standards of inclusive, survivor-centred, gender-sensitive service provision, the training aims to improve the quality and inclusiveness of treatment of GBV survivors.

- **Domestic study visits for municipal decision-makers to cities with effective practice**



City mayors and community heads will take a study tour to cities with effective GBV response and prevention mechanisms, deployed with UNFPA support. Decision-makers will meet with their peers and practitioners to discuss good practices on systemic solutions to GBV. Enriched with insights and emboldened by the success of their peers, participants of the study visit will bring home inspiration and vision on the development of GBV response and prevention system.

The 2020 cohort of 15 EMBRACE cities (with UK support), which have advanced to the second year of project participation, will have a series of tailored training sessions for police, health and legal aid specialists.

Learning in an expert, interactive and supportive environment, all cities and communities will emerge confident and skilled to drive systemic changes for the security and wellbeing of their residents. Stay tuned to hear about their progress on the way to building violence-free communities.



ENHANCING SUPPORT FORCES FOR GBV SURVIVORS

In July, UNFPA conducted twelve training sessions for officers of new police mobile groups of GBV response in Chernihiv, Lviv, Sumy, Volyn, Zaporizhzhia and Zhytomyr regions. Training sessions covered a wide range of topics – communication with GBV survivors and dealing with perpetrators, conducting risk assessment, cases documentation and referral. **120 police officers** acquired knowledge and skills to effectively respond to GBV and offer client-oriented support to GBV survivors in their communities. Police instructors, who passed training of trainers

organised by UNFPA during the previous project cycle, designed and conducted the training sessions.

UNFPA also conducted training of trainers for a new cohort of police instructors in the training centre of the National Police of Ukraine in Vita-Poshtova. **30 police instructors** developed their capacity to train police officers in the area of GBV prevention and response. In their work, the trainers will rely on the standard training programme developed by UNFPA with the National Police of Ukraine.

HELP NEARBY: MOBILE CLINICS OPERATION IN THE EAST

“Operation of mobile medical teams is much needed in times of COVID-19 outbreak and helps respond to the acute shortage of local medical capacities during the times of pandemic”

– Ihor Ierimomin, family doctor of one of the mobile clinics.

In July, with the support of UNFPA and the UK Government, two mobile clinics started operation along the contact line and isolated settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. The assistance will be directed, primarily, to the conflict affected areas – Bakhmutskyi, Yasynuvatskyi districts and Avdiivka of Donetsk region and Popasnianskyi, Stanychno-Luhanskyi, Novoaidarskyi districts of Luhansk



region. The launch of mobile clinics meets the dire need for quality health services caused by limited physical access and financial capabilities of the residents in these territories, further complicated by the pandemic.

While providing examinations and vital medical assistance to the affected population, the clinics' specialists can detect signs of domestic and gender-based violence.

Each mobile clinic consists of a family doctor, a gynaecologist, a nurse and a driver. The clinics are equipped with kits for gynaecological examination, portable electrocardiographs, apparatus for ultrasound examination and other necessary

medical equipment. The mobile clinics conduct free screening, including ultrasound and SRH examination, previously unavailable for the most vulnerable groups in isolated settlements.

To ensure uninterrupted and effective work during the COVID-19 pandemic, each team has the necessary individual protection and adheres to the safety measures.



COMPLEX SERVICE FOR GBV SURVIVORS OPENED IN POKROVSK

“The opening of the daycare centre is an integral part of the protection mechanism for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence. This opening event marks the joint efforts of international organisations and local authorities to build a system of equal access to important social services for the population”

– Luliia Kostiunina, Deputy Head of Donetsk Regional State Administration.

The opening of the daycare centre with a crisis room for GBV survivors in Pokrovsk in early July was a long-awaited event for one of the biggest cities in Donetsk region. The inclusive daycare centre will provide social, psychological and legal assistance to GBV survivors and people at risk, while the crisis room will offer safe space and comprehensive support to GBV survivors staying up to 10 days.

The launch of the daycare centre with a crisis room for GBV survivors is the result of cooperation between the local authorities, UNFPA and UNDP. UNDP supported renovation works under the UN Recovery and Peacebuilding Programme with the financial support of Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland, while UNFPA procured equipment, furniture and conducted capacity development of centre personnel with the financial support of the UK. City authorities and municipal institutions responsible for GBV response in Pokrovsk demonstrated high engagement and motivation during the establishment of specialised service.

UNFPA provides expert support to municipal authorities of Pokrovsk to pilot the mechanism of procuring shelter services from adjacent Myrnohrad, where UNFPA helped establish a shelter for GBV survivors in November 2020. Once the mechanism is launched, Pokrovsk will have a complete set of specialised services for GBV survivors.