

College of Education and Human Services

Department of Family Science and Human Development

FSHD Statement on Russian Invasion of Ukraine: Spring 2022

The Department of Family Science and Human Development at Montclair State University stands in solidarity with the Ukrainian people, families, and communities as they defend themselves from the unprovoked military invasion by Russia and endure ongoing war. Our primary concern is the profound impact a catastrophe like this has on families and children. As a scientific community dedicated to the study of family science and human development, there is overwhelming evidence of the many adverse short- and long-term, direct and indirect impacts on the health and well-being of those who experience such humanitarian crises and war, including forced migrations, family separations, and death. This evidence weighs heavily on our collective minds.

Accordingly, we call attention to several needed actions.

- First, we support an immediate end to this invasion of a sovereign nation.
- Second, we endorse all humanitarian efforts that provide both immediate and long-term aid to the Ukrainian people, families, and communities.
- Third, we call attention to and voice our support for the global community experiencing secondary trauma because of this war, particularly Ukrainian people all around the globe and those with loved ones currently in or fleeing Ukraine.
- Fourth, we call upon countries working with those fleeing Ukraine to ensure treatment of all individuals with the utmost dignity and respect.

Resources

Links below include both tangible ways we can help, as well as resources for how adults can engage in conversations with and help support children during this time.

Tips for Conversations with Children

<https://www.unicef.org/parenting/how-talk-your-children-about-conflict-and-war>

<https://www.today.com/parents/how-talk-children-about-war-age-age-guide-t171381>

<https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources/fact-sheet/talking-to-children-about-war.pdf>

<https://www.apa.org/topics/journalism-facts/talking-children>

<https://www.npr.org/2019/04/24/716704917/when-the-news-is-scary-what-to-say-to-kids>

Local Organizations and Supports

The Ukrainian Orthodox Holy Ascension Church (Clifton, NJ)

is holding a collection drive. Everything will be flown to Poland and brought to the border with Ukraine, where the items will be given out.

<https://ukrcoc.org/9658>

Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (Whippany, NJ)

Support Ukraine (aid and donate resources on their website and social media)

<https://uaccnj.org/>

Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Maplewood, NJ)

We are issuing this urgent appeal for contributions, which will be delivered in person to the proper individuals, for the medical care of the thousands of people who have been injured, some very severely, during these difficult days.

https://www.uocofusa.org/news_220224_1

The Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA)

HQ in NY, 10 chapters in NJ, is asking all to join our efforts for humanitarian aid being directed at civilians inside Ukraine who have been displaced or injured, as well as to four military hospitals caring for injured soldiers.

<https://unwla.org/top-news/call-for-humanitarian-aid/>

National and International Supports and Resources

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

Ukrainian officials estimate between [3 to 5 million Ukrainians could become refugees](#), with many children caught in the middle of an armed conflict. UCCA has already partnered with NGO's in planning for the provision of vital humanitarian aid to this population, as well as to the front-line defenders.

<https://ucca.org/>

#StandWithUkraine Save Ukraine. Restore Peace. Save Democracy.

Comprehensive, well-organized space with links to: medical supplies, supplies for the military, helping children affected by war, petitions, help for refugees, posting on social media, joining protests in your city, official sources of info, etc.

<https://www.standwithukraine.how/>

Ways you can help Ukraine.

Comprehensive list: Official funds, requests, materials (doc updated live, hourly). <https://how-to-help-ukraine-now.super.site/>

- [International Rescue Committee](#)
is in Poland working to aid displaced families.
- [UNICEF](#)

is working to scale up life-saving support for children and their families including efforts to meet critical and escalating needs for safe water, healthcare, education and protection.

- [National Bank of Ukraine](#)

has opened an account that will directly support the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

- [Return Alive Foundation](#)

is gathering funds that will go directly to the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

- [Support Hospitals in Ukraine](#)

is taking donations to support Ukrainian hospitals. Donations will help pay for staff, supplies and various pro bono initiatives.

- [Revived Soldiers Ukraine](#)

is a 501(c)(3) organization that supports injured soldiers in Ukraine.

- [Razom for Ukraine](#)

is a grass-roots organization created during Euro-Maidan in 2014. Their site provides a list of resources for people who want to help Ukraine and it includes different places where people can donate.

- [Voices of Children](#)

is helping to provide psychological and psychosocial support to children affected by the Ukrainian conflict.

- [Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders](#)

is working with local volunteers, organizations, health care professionals and authorities to help people travel to health care facilities and access prescribed medications.

- [International Medical Corps](#)

has been delivering primary health care and mental health services in eastern Ukraine since 2014 and is raising funds to expand those services for people affected by the latest conflict.

- [CARE](#)

is raising money for its [Ukraine Crisis Fund](#), which will provide immediate aid including food, water, hygiene kits, support services and direct cash assistance. The humanitarian organization aims to raise \$20 million and help at least 4 million Ukrainians. It says it will prioritize women and girls, families and the elderly.

- [Save the Children](#)

Based in London, helps to deliver lifesaving aid to vulnerable children in Ukraine and around the world.

- [United Nations Refugee Agency](#)

“is working with the authorities, UN and other partners in Ukraine and is ready to provide humanitarian assistance wherever necessary and possible. To that effect, security and access for humanitarian efforts must be guaranteed,” the organization [said](#) in a statement.