



# Annual Report 2024

Foundation  
“Ukraine Support and Renovation”

## Foundation Overview

The **Ukraine Support and Renovation Foundation** (hereinafter “the Foundation”) is a non-profit legal entity working for the public good, registered under the Non-Profit Legal Entities Act in the Registry Agency with UIC 206865340 in March 2022.

**Headquarters:** Plovdiv, 59 Iztochen Street

### **Founders and Management:**

Natalia Ellis – Founder and Director

### **Board of Directors:**

Natalia Ellis

Manol Kostadinov Peykov

Oleksandr Kovalov

# Mission and Objectives

The Foundation works to help people and to create a better society for everyone. Special attention is given to supporting refugees and asylum seekers who need assistance in adapting to a new environment.

Its main goals are:

- To support refugees, children, people with disabilities, and all those in difficult situations or at risk of social exclusion;
- To encourage active participation of people in public life and promote good governance;
- To contribute to the development of education, health, culture, science, and sports.
- Through various activities and initiatives, the Foundation strives to make people's lives easier, safer, and full of opportunities – regardless of their nationality, status, or life story.

**Our priority is the inclusion of refugees and people at risk into Bulgarian society.**

# Vision

- ✓ We strive for a society where every individual feels safe, accepted, and capable of realizing their potential.
- ✓ We believe in a future where **solidarity, dignity, and equal access to opportunities** are the foundation for life restoration, community development, and building an inclusive world for those far from home or in need.

# Message from the Director



**Dear friends and partners,**

The year 2024 became a time of great effort and new opportunities for our Foundation. We continued to support those who found themselves in the most vulnerable situations, helped refugees and people affected by the war, and actively developed new initiatives aimed at their rehabilitation and integration.

Thanks to your support, we were able to implement many projects and continue working to improve the quality of life of those who lost everything as a result of conflict. Together, we are creating a real future for these people, restoring their hope, and giving them a chance for a new life.

We are proud of what we have achieved, yet we understand that much work still lies ahead. Together, we can overcome any challenges and continue moving toward our shared goal — to help those in need.

Thank you all for your support, trust, and involvement.  
**Together, we can achieve more!**

With gratitude,

**Natalia Ellis**

Director, Ukraine Support and Renovation Foundation

# What We Achieved in 2024



**Second Home** – a buffer center providing temporary accommodation and support for refugees.



**Humanitarian Center** – receives donations and distributes them to people in need.



**Community Center “Compass”** – offers services facilitating initial adaptation and successful integration of refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers.



**Children's Centers**



**Library**



**Medical Center**



**Business Academy  
BASE**



**MHPSS (Psychosocial  
Support)**

# Second Home Accommodation Center

“Second Home” provides **temporary accommodation and integration support**, offering comprehensive humanitarian and social services to Ukrainian refugees in vulnerable conditions. Managed successfully for three years, it ensures safe living conditions and assists refugees at all stages of adaptation and integration into Bulgarian society.



## Key activities:

- Humanitarian aid: food, hygiene products, clothing, medicines.
- Social support: social workers, individual counseling, referrals
- Additional services: educational courses, language lessons, creative workshops
- Support for vulnerable individuals.

## 2024 Data:

- People accommodated: 528
- People supported: 2,130
- Budget: BGN 185,935.59

## Funding sources:

- UNHCR – BGN 162,162.78
- Elephant Bookstore Ltd. – BGN 700.00
- Inner Wheel Club Plovdiv – BGN 400.00
- Mikra Trans 71 Ltd. – BGN 100.00
- Elizabeth Kostova Foundation – BGN 7,243.28
- Lanetika Yoga Spa Ltd. – BGN 90.00
- Individuals – BGN 15,329.53.



# Humanitarian Center

One of the main activities of the **Ukraine Support and Renovation Foundation** is providing **humanitarian assistance** to Ukrainian citizens affected by the war and forced to leave their homeland.

The Foundation's main goals are to **support, integrate, counsel, and provide shelter** to Ukrainians who have made Bulgaria their **second home**. Our mission is to ensure that displaced people have access to the **necessary resources** to rebuild their lives in a **safe, supportive, and secure community**.

Through the Humanitarian Center, the following items are regularly distributed:

- Food products
- Hygiene materials and sanitary supplies
- Clothes and shoes for children and adults
- Children's goods (diapers, toys, school supplies, etc.)
- Household items – blankets, pillows, bed linen, dishes, utensils, cleaning and basic household supplies
- Other essentials depending on the beneficiaries' needs

The Humanitarian Center operates both independently and in partnership with other organizations and donors, striving to respond quickly and effectively to the most urgent needs of refugee families.

- **3,155 families have received assistance (8,754 beneficiaries)**
- The Humanitarian Center received in-kind donations valued at BGN 113,218.88, and additional products were purchased using donated funds amounting to BGN 41,907.17

# Buffer Children's Centers

In 2024, two buffer children's centers operated, aimed at refugee and migrant children. The main goal of these centers was to provide a safe, supportive, and preparatory environment for children who were about to be enrolled in the Bulgarian educational system.

A total of **61 children** attended the buffer centers. The children participated in daily activities that included **Bulgarian language learning, educational games, creative workshops, and social-emotional support.**

An important part of the program was the provision of **catering – breakfast and lunch** – which contributed to a sense of safety and care. After participating in the buffer center activities, most of the children were **successfully integrated** into the Bulgarian educational system and began attending **public schools and kindergartens.**

**Total activity budget for the period:** BGN 54,664.92

**Sources of funding:**

UNHCR – BGN 46,094.92

Individuals – BGN 890.00

Mikra Trans 71 Ltd. – BGN 600.00

Manol Peykov and Friends Foundation – BGN 6,000.00



# Community Center “Compass”

The mission of the center is to provide services that facilitate adaptation at an initial stage and contribute to the successful integration of refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers into Bulgarian society in the long term. Activities at the Community Center are provided by specialists from various organizations: Foundation "Ukraine Support and Renovation," Bulgarian Red Cross, Charitable Catholic Organization "Caritas Vitania," Foundation for Access to Rights (FAR).

Services provided in the period from April to December 2024: 6,421

Unique beneficiaries: 861 people

Social and informational services, integration activities, trainings, and lectures in total: 725

Support for children: 119 children

Bulgarian language courses for children: 98 children

Preschool education: 78 children

**Budget:** BGN 224,449.50

**Sources of funding:** UNHCR



**КОМПАС**  
— БЪЛГАРСКА МРЕЖА —  
от центрове за закрила и включване



# Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)



Consultations: 4,797

**Budget:** BGN 68,177.53

**Funding:** UNHCR, individual donors

During the reporting period, the Foundation provided comprehensive psychosocial support (MHPSS) for children, youth, and parents from refugee and vulnerable communities.

*The support included:*

- Individual and group consultations with psychologists
- Art therapy and therapeutic creative activities that promote emotional expression and reduce anxiety
- Trainings and workshops for parents, teachers, and specialists on topics such as mental health, stress, emotional regulation, and support in crisis situations
- Support for children with special educational needs (SEN) – individual approach, inclusion in adapted activities, and close collaboration with educational institutions



# Medical Center

The Foundation's Medical Office provides integrated assistance in the areas of health, mental well-being, and social support for refugees and individuals in vulnerable situations.

During the reporting period, a total of 2,906 services were provided, including:

- Consultations with general practitioners and medical specialists – conducting examinations, diagnostics, monitoring health status, and referring for additional medical care if needed
- Psychosocial support (MHPSS) – individual and group consultations with psychologists aimed at improving mental health and emotional well-being
- Diagnostics – basic medical examinations and referrals for laboratory and imaging tests
- Speech therapy support – for children with language, communication, or learning difficulties
- Rehabilitation – services for individuals with mobility issues or specific physical needs
- Social support – assistance in accessing health and social services, accompaniment to institutions, help with documents, and referral to appropriate resources

The Medical Office operates in close collaboration with partner organizations, healthcare facilities, and institutions, ensuring accessible, timely, and culturally appropriate care for those most in need.

In 2024, the Medical Office received donated equipment, consumables, and medicines valued at BGN 38,819.76.

**Budget:** BGN 151,301.88

**Funding:** WHO, local authorities

# Library



Our library has a collection of around 4,500 books – children’s and adult fiction in various languages from around the world. The library is not just a place for books – it is an active educational and cultural space where a variety of activities are held for children, young people, and adults.



## Among the regular initiatives are:

- Language clubs for children – in Bulgarian and Ukrainian
- Educational courses, creative workshops, and reading clubs
- A free zone for learning, reading, and quiet games
- A branch of the library is located in the Community Center “Compass”, where the book collection is regularly updated. In addition, we distribute books to other cities in Bulgaria through partner organizations and reading promotion initiatives.
- A special focus is placed on the distribution of medical literature among refugee doctors who are preparing to validate their diplomas and practice their profession in Bulgaria. The distribution is planned to begin in 2025.



# Business Academy BASE

**BASE Program “Business Academy for Starting Entrepreneurs”** – Aimed at creating a favorable environment for the sustainable economic development of Bulgaria and encouraging residents of different regions to start or develop their own businesses.

The uniqueness of the program lies in the fact that the course is designed specifically for Ukrainians who have received temporary protection in Bulgaria due to the war and wish to create or expand their own businesses in the country where they reside.

The course duration is 12 academic weeks.

Upon completion, each participant receives a Certificate from the “Business Academy for Starting Entrepreneurs” (BASE) and a cash prize is awarded to those who present the best business plans. Three groups successfully completed their training in 2024, and one more group will graduate in 2025.

## **2024 Data:**

- Sofia: 1 group, 25 certificates, 3 winners
- Plovdiv: 3 groups, 68 certificates, 8 winner

**Budget:** BGN 86,098.41

**Funding:** America for Bulgaria Foundation, Bulgarian Leaders Association

# Children & Youth Activities (UNICEF)

- **Judo Program** – Created thanks to funding, provides sports and psychological support for refugee children. 100+ children were introduced to the sport, 40 train actively. Exam results: 8 white and 13 yellow belts. Total participants: 231 children.
- **English Club** – Uses the students' native language to explain grammar rules and supports easier learning of English. Participation: 95 children. Significant progress in overcoming language barriers.
- **Teen Club** – Weekly meetings for newly arrived children, including social adaptation, celebrations, games, trips, and cooking activities. Participation: 145 children. Improved social integration and new friendships.
- **Creative Workshop** – Making soft toys, developing skills, and providing psychological support. Participation: 128 children. Improved self-esteem, development of patience, attention, and teamwork.
- **Lego in Children's Centers and "Second Home"** – Children's centers use Lego sets for development; at "Second Home" there is a dedicated playroom. Children assist adults by cleaning and taking care of the space. Children's centers – 106 children, "Second Home" playroom – 167 children. Strengthened intergenerational connection and creation of a warm environment

**Budget:** BGN 38,480.70

**Funding:** UNICEF Bulgaria

# Bulgarian Language Courses for Adults

In 2024, three Bulgarian language courses for adults were conducted, organized to support the social and professional integration of refugees. Two of the courses were successfully completed in 2024, while one course will continue and be finalized in 2025.

A total of **70 participants** successfully completed the training and received certificates of proficiency in Bulgarian at levels A1–A2.

We believe that mastering the Bulgarian language is a key step toward successful integration – not only for finding employment but also for communicating with institutions, accessing education, and actively participating in public life. The courses were conducted by qualified instructors, at convenient times, and with adapted materials tailored to the needs and level of the participants.



**Budget:** BGN 8,589.35

**Funding:** individual donors, “Za Dobroto”  
Foundation

# Creative Workshops for Children



In 2024, the Foundation organized and conducted a variety of activities for children, aimed at their creative and emotional development. Among the most attended activities were chess, drawing, dance, and pottery, which were held regularly throughout the year.

- A total of 164 children participated in the pottery workshops, where they had the opportunity to develop fine motor skills, imagination, and a sense of form and material.
- In the various creative workshops – such as drawing, sewing, chess, and dance – more than 250 children participated, engaging with enthusiasm and consistency.

These activities created an environment for learning, play, and expression, contributing to the social integration and emotional well-being of the children.

**Budget:** BGN 3,140

**Funding:** individual donors, Mai Nails Ltd

# Causes and Key Initiatives

The Foundation "Ukraine Support and Renovation" implements a variety of initiatives both for individual support of vulnerable people and for groups of refugees. All causes are determined according to the specific needs of our beneficiaries. The main areas include health causes, individual support, provision of food for vulnerable people, medical assistance, and medicines for pensioners and people with disabilities.

*Some of the ongoing and key initiatives:*

Partnership with the Foundation "Help Ukraine Today Kh" for the rehabilitation department in Kharkiv – the initiative aims to equip a rehabilitation unit to provide comprehensive care for people affected by military aggression.

Donations collected from individuals by the end of 2024: BGN 339.48

Support for students – annually, before the start of the school year, the Foundation provides backpacks with a full set of school supplies for children, including those attending a Bulgarian school for the first time. In 2024, approximately 300 children were supported.

Donations collected: BGN 2,450.00

From individuals: BGN 1,450.00

Elephant Bookstore Ltd.: BGN 1,000.00

# Events and Holidays 2024

In 2024, several important events were held at “Second Home” as part of the activities of the community center “Compass,” dedicated to cultural exchange, support for refugee communities, and strengthening the sense of belonging and solidarity.



## Easter

The Ukrainian community in Plovdiv celebrated the Resurrection of Christ with a church service and a festive program organized at “Second Home.”

The event was attended by the Honorary Consul of Ukraine in Plovdiv, Eng. Dimitar Georgiev, and brought together representatives of various communities.

This was the third consecutive Easter celebrated in the space of Second Home.

# Events and Holidays 2024



## World Refugee Day – June 20

A festive event dedicated to World Refugee Day was held in Plovdiv, focusing on promoting equality, tolerance, and mutual support among all residents of the city – regardless of their origin.

The event was organized with the support of local authorities, the Bulgarian Red Cross, Caritas Vitanya, UNHCR, and civic activists working with forcibly displaced persons.

The program included cultural performances, national cuisines, games and workshops for children, and presentations of refugee initiatives.

# Events and Holidays 2024

## Christmas

On the eve of the Christmas holidays, the “Second Home” initiative organized a large celebration that brought together dozens of families — both Ukrainian and Bulgarian.

The event became a vivid example of the power of community, generosity, and cultural exchange.

The goal of the celebration was not only to create a warm and joyful atmosphere, but also to provide moral and social support to families affected by the war.



# Beneficiaries' success stories



- ◆ Thanks to the support of the Ukraine Support and Renovation Foundation, Anna was able to quickly adapt to life in Bulgaria, find a job, and secure education and stability for her daughter. Her story is an example of how timely assistance and integration support can change the lives of vulnerable families affected by the war.

- ◆ Valentina's story is an example of how, even after a double evacuation—first from war, then from a natural disaster—her family was able to find a new beginning and support in Bulgaria. The foundation played a key role in the family's medical, psychological, and social adaptation, helping them feel part of a new, safe, and welcoming community.



# Projects Funded by Contracts and Conditional Donations – 2024

## Agreement with UNICEF Bulgaria

Funding received:	38480,70 BGN.
Funds spent:	37919,21 BGN.
Returned to the funding organization:	561,49 BGN.

## Agreement with UNHCR

Funding received:	875220,32 BGN.
Funds spent:	790291,32 BGN.
Purchased DMA / Deferred Revenues	11705,59 BGN.
Balance	73223,41 BGN.

## Agreement with WHO 02.2024 - 06.2024r.

Funding received:	94548,00 BGN.
Funds spent:	94548,00 BGN.

## Rehabilitation Department Campaign, Kharkiv

Receiving a Donation from an Individual	339,48 BGN.
Funds spent:	0,00 BGN.
Balance for 2025	339,48 BGN.

## Agreement with WHO 09.2024 – 01.2025r.

Funding received:	54375,00 BGN.
Funds spent:	53303,88 BGN.
Balance for 2025	1072,12 BGN.

## Courses in Bulgarian Language

Funding received:	8589,32 BGN.
Funds spent:	8589,32 BGN.

## Agreement with the America for Bulgaria Foundation

Balance for	1098,41 BGN.
Funding received:	20000,00 BGN.
Funds spent:	17506,21 BGN.
Returned to the funding organization:	3592,20 BGN.

## Agreement with the Association of Bulgarian Leaders and Entrepreneurs

Funding received:	65000,00 BGN.
Funds spent:	49464,70 BGN.
Purchased DMA / Deferred Revenues	748,80 BGN.
Balance for 2025	14786,50 BGN.

# Projects Funded by Contracts and Conditional Donations – 2024

## Creative Workshop – Summer Camp

Donations received from individuals	3140,00 BGN.
Funds spent:	2641,82 BGN.
Final Balance for 2024	488,18 BGN.

## Buffer Children’s Centers

Balance 2023	880,00 BGN.
Funding received:	7490,00 BGN.
Funds spent:	8570,00 BGN.

## Support for Refugees

Opening Balance 2023	2159,47 BGN.
Donations received from individuals	10229,65 BGN.
Funds spent:	10597,74 BGN.
Final Balance for 2024	3592,20 BGN.

## Support for Students – Full Backpacks

Opening Balance 2023	880,00 BGN.
Donations received:	
from individuals	1450,00 BGN.
from Elephant Bookstore Ltd.	1000,00 BGN.
Funds spent:	2501,88 BGN.
Final Balance for 2024	828,12 BGN.

## Agreement with BFW – computer courses

Funding received:	15000,00 BGN.
Funds spent:	0,00 BGN.
Final Balance for 2024	15000,00 BGN.

## Cause: Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine

Material donations received	32098,00 BGN.
Donations received from individuals	1529,12 BGN.
Funding Elizabeth Kostova Foundation	180,00 BGN.
Export carried out with a value of	32278,00 BGN.
Final Balance for 2024	1529,12 BGN.

## Project Second Home

Opening Balance 2023	3360,55 BGN.
Donations received:	
Elephant Bookstore Ltd.	700.00 BGN.
Inner Wheel Club Plovdiv	400.00 BGN.
Mikra Trans 71 Ltd.	100.00 BGN.
Elizabeth Kostova Foundation	7243.28 BGN.
Lanetika Yoga Spa Ltd.	90.00 BGN.
Individuals:	18223.14 BGN.
Funds spent:	23629.24 BGN.
Final Balance for 2024	6487.73 BGN.

# Projects Funded by Contracts and Conditional Donations – 2024

In 2024, the Foundation received non-earmarked cash donations totaling BGN 63,243.69, which were used to finance various projects that lacked sufficient funding for their implementation.

**Sources:**

**Individuals:** BGN 63,243.69

**Legal entities:**

Kvalifikatsiya Konsult EOOD – BGN 5,000.00

Mikra Trans 71 EOOD – BGN 600.00

Kamchiya EAD – BGN 2,000.00

Das Fenix Group OOD – BGN 100.00

Alfil EOOD – BGN 1,000.00

Aitarget EOOD – BGN 250.00

A2Z Capital – BGN 1,950.00



## **Report Approval**

Prepared according to Art. 40, Para. 2 of the Non-Profit Legal Entities Act

Approved by General Assembly, Protocol dated 28.05.2025

**Prepared by:** Natalia Ellis – Chair, Ukraine Support and Renovation Foundation.



## Contacts



Phone: +359 88 515 2000



Office: Plovdiv, 4000, Central District, 59  
Iztok Blvd



Email: [office@ukraine-renovation.com](mailto:office@ukraine-renovation.com)



Website: [www.ukraine-renovation.com](http://www.ukraine-renovation.com)