

Changemakers

Charity Initiative: Ukraine

2 ZERO HUNGER



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Aim

The aim of our project was to aid the defenders of Ukraine in the brutal, unfortunate circumstances of war and allow students, teachers, parents, as well as the wider community to contribute. The project aimed to enable students to express their gratitude towards the efforts of those at the front lines, to help them and work together towards a better, safer and brighter future.

We need to empower our community to not only verbally support the protectors of our nation, but to support them financially, physically and in any other way they can. For this, we organised charity campaigns throughout Kyiv in the districts of Pechersk and Dnipro. Donating and contributing to a noble cause was made more convenient and accessible by our initiative, as we collected a large amount of essential items including hygiene products, long-shelf life food items and survival equipment (sleeping bags, masks, flashlights, etc). We hope to support our brave soldiers with this initiative, empower the community to contribute, and hope for a peaceful future.

Highlights:

The Student Parliament of BISU organised a five week long charity program for the soldiers at the borders and was able to partner with them to create an impact. We are grateful to the different brigades who partnered with us for the program, especially the Tech Air-Borne Brigade whose representative arrived to school to collect the donations.

We began with making announcements in the school assemblies to putting up posters in the two Kyiv regions and sending out emails. At school, primary school students made drawing and wrote heart-felt letters for the soldiers while students, parents and the community brought warm clothes, energy bars, nuts, toothbrushes and contributed financially.

In the third week of the initiative, one of the representatives of the brigades arrived to the school campus at Pechersk to collect the donations while the rest of the donations were sent to the border regions. Donations at Dnipro were sent to the National Military Hospital. As many teachers at school had family members in the military, they went a step further and helped by travelling to the border and delivering the items to the defenders by hand. Funds that were collected were used to buy routers for the army's aid and a portion was sent directly to the accounts of the military units.

The venue was our school campuses and for the delivery, the hospital and border itself. Being located at a convenient spot, the charity collection point was easily accessible.



Outcome and impact

Our charity initiative resulted in the support and aid of the Ukrainian defenders. We were able to collect around 20–30 kilos of necessary items that were sent to units in the borders and the Military Hospital in Dnipro.

Alongside items, just over 12 000 hryvnia were raised out of which a quarter were used to purchase routers for the army, and the remaining was halved to be donated directly to the accounts of the military units.

Students, parents and the community were able to contribute to this cause. Younger students especially, were empowered with the idea that they can help make a positive change, their ideas matter, and they can impact the world they live in.

Gathering support for the project and organising it at a large scale was a bit challenging at the start. The lack of awareness about our project at the beginning made it difficult to get support from larger, private social organisations in Ukraine however, with determination, we were able to partner directly with the military units.

It was also a bit difficult at the beginning to gather support from the community for the project however, once we were able to convince others of our potential, the community's support was overwhelming.

These struggles that came with organising such a project were majorly a result of the Student Parliament's new and recent establishment. Being present for only 2 years, this was part of one of the larger initiatives taken up by the Parliament and we believe it will be successful in arranging such events in the future, as we

- have begun establishing the community's trust in our
- capabilities. Although we were not able to reach our goal
- of raising 45 000 hryvnia and purchasing generators for
- the soldiers, we were able to contribute to them by
- donating to them directly and purchasing routers. In the
- future, we believe our parliament will be able to surpass
- these goals in the projects that will be organised.

Reflection

This project has taught us the importance of resilience. Despite seeming difficult and even unsuccessful at the start, the team remained perseverant, hopeful and optimistic in the initiative and believed in their own potential.

We were able to understand the importance of clear, open communication alongside marketing skills. We learned to work with each other, meet deadlines, help one another and be supportive. This project enabled us to focus on these particular skills while also using what we learnt in business, math and English classes to lead the initiative to success. Our theoretical knowledge was tested in a practical way, helping us value our education more and use it to make strong decisions for the program.

With patience and hard work, the team succeeded in making a positive difference and benefitting not just one particular group of people, but the entire nation.

The Team:



Aisha
Jawad
(Team leader)



Sofiia
Illiashova



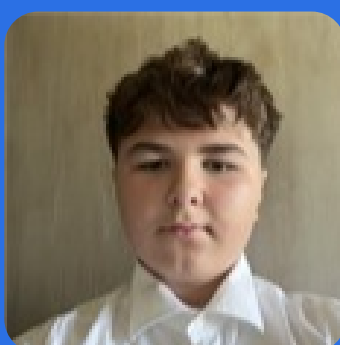
Mariia
Oliinyk



Anastasiia
Nosachenko



Mykola
Rudkovskyy



Michael
Malynovsky



Oleh
Hladush