

On 24th of February 2022 Russian Army invaded Ukraine. Since then 14 mln Ukrainians left their homes to escape the horrors of war, roughly half of them becoming refugees in different European countries and the other half looking for a new places to live in other parts of Ukraine with the status of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP)



Nikita and Julia's family are one of the 8 thousands people who our charity **POMOGAEM** evacuated from the front lines in April this year.



Because of several months of shelling and bombing, their hometown Lisichansk turned into a ghost town, vastly ruined, including Nikita and Julia's house.



With their mother and two sons (Stasik and Vanya), they lived in our shelter for some weeks and as more displaced families were coming in, we had to find accommodations and transport people like them who were already in our shelter for some time to make space for newcomers.



We found for them very basic but free of charge house in a remote village 100km from Dnipro, where they could spend summer months safely with the whole family. From time to time we were visiting them, bringing food and basic needs; unfortunately since it was very remote area, Nikita, the father, couldn't find any permanent job. The Autumn came and as the house didn't have running water or toilet and Julia was 6 month pregnant, we realised that the conditions they were living in, may turn out to be critical, health threatening for them & the soon coming baby as the winter was approaching fast. Just in order to do a regular prenatal checkup it took Julia whole day of walking, hitchhiking and travelling by buses to the closest clinic & the closest store was in the distance of 3 km walk.



Last week we found for them a house in Dnipro, paid first rent, deposit, fees and did some house improvements to make it a home. It's a simple house but it has gas heating, warm water & the bathroom, and what is very important there is close access to clinic, hospital, shops etc. A few days ago we went to pick them up and brought them to their new location. You can imagine the heart-warming gratitude and thankfulness they experienced. Nikita will have many more opportunities to find a job & start supporting his growing family but because they are starting their life from absolutely nothing & since both salaries & economy in Ukraine are really low, we promised we will cover it for the first year/



first moments in their new house

ONCE ON THE BEACH AN OLDER MAN ASKED A YOUNG BOY WHO AFTER THE STORM WAS THROWING STARFISH BACK IN TO THE SEA, WHY IS HE DOING THAT? YOUNG BOY ANSWERED "THE TIDE HAS WASHED THEM UP ONTO THE BEACH, WHEN THE SUN GETS HIGH, THEY WILL DIE, UNLESS I THROW THEM BACK INTO THE WATER." THE OLD MAN REPLIED, "BUT THERE MUST BE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF STARFISH ON THIS BEACH. I'M AFRAID YOU WON'T REALLY BE ABLE TO MAKE MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE." THE BOY BENT DOWN, PICKED UP YET ANOTHER STARFISH AND THREW IT AS FAR AS HE COULD INTO THE OCEAN. THEN HE TURNED, SMILED AND SAID, "IT MADE A DIFFERENCE TO THAT ONE!"

All the Best to you and your loved ones! God bless you!
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