

"COMMUNITY ACTION FOR HIV CONTROL" PROJECT



2021-2026



by <u>Pact</u>, <u>FHI 360</u> and <u>AFEW-Ukraine</u>, in cooperation with 20 regional subgrantees NGOs



funded by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Nina's story

Nina was fleeing occupied Kherson under severe Russia's shelling for several days by foot to find a shelter in the suburbs of Kryvyi Rih. The woman's background includes drug injection and alcohol addiction.

The regional Project subgrantee NGO helped Nina to receive humanitarian assistance, clothing, hygiene products, food, and psychological counseling. Social worker Tetiana assisted Nina with psychological support and offered an HIV oral test. Trustful relationship with a social worker helped the woman to accept her HIV+ status, develop a personal action plan, and started ARV treatment. Thanks to followed doctor's recommendations now Nina's well-being is improved.



"Some time ago, I lost hope and joy to live. Not simply the support and care, but also compassion and empathy of Tetiana restored my faith in humanity and my own future", states Nina.

the names have been changed



GOALS:

- provide HIV testing services to 390,000 people
- identify 19,500 PLHIV and enroll 95% of them on medical care
- provide PrEP to 2,500 HIV-negative people



FOCUS:

- promote flexibility of HIV package with differentiated service delivery (DSD) models
- strengthening the capacity of community-based organizations
- introduce an enabling policy environment

Opinion: 3 key ways to fight the HIV crisis in Ukraine

Evidently the challenges are high. Hostilities in Ukraine are happening in the regions with the <u>highest HIV prevalence</u> and disrupting the medicine supply chain. Simultaneously, the country's western regions are experiencing an influx of internally displaced people but have limited infrastructure and capacity to provide services to them, especially when it comes to HIV. Within the already vulnerable population of IDPs, people living with HIV face added social stigma and discrimination.

Dr. Volodymyr Kurpita, the Chief of Party of the "Community Action for HIV Control" Project

BENEFICIARIES:

REGIONS:



Key and priority populations representatives

- people who inject drugs and use non-injecting drugs
- sexual and needle exchange partners of people who inject drugs
- sex workers, their clients and sexual partners
- men who have sex with men and their sexual partners
- people living with HIV and their sexual partners and biological children
- former prisoners
- transgender persons
- adult men with HIV risky behaviors

* the territories under the control of the Government of Ukraine

IN 2022:

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the Recovery Plan to restore HIV, TB, HV(B)C, and MAT services during war and in post-war Ukraine was developed upon <u>Center for Public Health (CPH)</u> request

HIV services availability monitoring by KP representatives was launched and implemented in 24 cities across 14 oblasts plus the city of Kyiv

a national information campaign regarding HIV services available during the war was designed and implemented together with <u>CPH</u>

held a **Public Initiatives Forum** for almost a hundred representatives of national and regional NGOs and community organizations, government bodies, donors programs and international organizations

piloting of DSD models of HIV prevention and treatment services for key populations has been started

✓ invested in the development of adaptive skills of NGOs to operate in wartime ✓ since April 2022, services have been provided by 20 regional NGOs ✓ ~12,500 people were covered by immediate assistance services ✓ ~12,000 people were tested for HIV •10.373 people – HIV blood test •2.074 people – oral self-test ✓ 305 people were confirmed positive and referred to medical facilities

273 people enrolled on ART

THE LARGEST NUMBER OF PROVIDED HIV SERVICES TOOK PLACE IN:



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Oleksandr's story

In April 2022, after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Olexandr and his pregnant wife miraculously left Mariupol. They moved to Dnipro and settled in the rehabilitation center where two years ago, Olexandr had been passed through a drug-free program after eight years of drug addiction.

Oleksandr managed to organize HIV testing in the drug-free program. Up to 50 people were offered and accepted HIV testing. Oleksandr's result was among HIV positive ones. The professional support of the NGO consultant helped him link to care and accept the diagnosis. Now he started ARV treatment and his family is safe.

the names have been changed

IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE SERVICES PROVIDED:

5,236 – psychosocial support

4,509 – ensuring of non-interruption of ART

4,406 – food packages, basic medicines, hygienic kits for PLHIV

2,117 – consultations on relocation due to war, legal aid, self-support groups, documents renewal, other consultations

- **1,480** non-monetary HIV testing motivation package
- **1,243** preventive materials (condoms, lubricants etc)
- **337** transportation to medical facilities
- 92 linkage to medical facility for PrEP





