



Press Release

For immediate release

The Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation Brings Support to HI's Work for Persons with Disabilities in Ukraine

Montreal, June 28, 2022 - Humanity & Inclusion Canada (HI) is pleased to announce a major donation of \$100,000 from the Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation. The donation will strengthen HI's emergency activities with vulnerable and disabled people in Ukraine.

This generous donation demonstrates the Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation's trust in HI's ability to intervene effectively in the field with vulnerable people and persons with disabilities, who have been severely affected by the armed conflict during the past five months.

"We are proud to begin this relationship with the Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation. As global citizens, this donation reinforces the involvement of Quebecers and Canadians in international solidarity." - Alexis Gaipman, Executive Director of HI Canada.

"Through HI's action in Ukraine, the Foundation is extending its action towards people with disabilities in countries where there are great needs. For my husband and I, this support is important." - Mirella Saputo, President of the Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation.

This major support will strengthen HI's current emergency operations on the borders of Moldova and in several regions of Ukraine, with the aim to:

- Improve access to physical rehabilitation, mental health and psychosocial support services.
- Train Ukrainian medical teams to care for victims of war injuries as well as people with disabilities.
- Promote access to essential goods and strengthen logistics.
- Train populations in safe behavior in conflict zones.



Faced with the devastating humanitarian consequences of this war, HI's work is more than ever necessary to help those who need it most. It is estimated that at least 12 million people in Ukraine will need humanitarian aid, including 2.7 million people with disabilities. Since the fighting began, nearly 8,000 civilians have been killed or injured as a result of bombing in populated areas, and 4.8 million have been displaced. These figures are in reality much higher.

So far, HI has already supported thousands of Ukrainians in shelters and reception centers by distributing essential goods and supplies, as well as identifying the elderly, the sick or persons with disabilities to ensure adequate medical follow-up and appropriate care. Our teams deployed on site also offer rehabilitation and psychosocial support services for people injured and traumatized by the violent conflict, as well as training hospital staff to care for these victims.

Our action in Ukraine is possible thanks in part to the generosity of the Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation and the solidarity of Canadians who hope for a better future for the most vulnerable populations.

About Humanity & Inclusion

Humanity & Inclusion (HI) is an international solidarity organization that has been working for 40 years with persons with disabilities and vulnerable people facing situations of poverty and exclusion, conflict and disaster. HI acts and testifies to meet their essential needs, to improve their living conditions and to promote respect for their dignity and their fundamental rights. In 40 years, HI has acted in 86 countries and a total of 23 million people have benefited from inclusive education, rehabilitation, armed violence reduction programs and much more. Recognized for its advocacy work, HI is one of the six founding organizations of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), co-winner of the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize and winner of the 2011 Conrad N. Hilton Award. Based in Montreal and Ottawa, Humanity & Inclusion Canada is part of a network of national associations in Europe and North America (Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States) whose mandate is to mobilize resources, manage joint projects and promote the organization's values and actions.



Source :

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