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IOCC and Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Respond in Ukraine Partnership Provides Emergency Assistance to Ukrainians Affected by Conflict



Baltimore, Md. (September 27, 2022) - International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) announced today that with support from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, IOCC will provide immediate assistance to people in Ukraine displaced by the conflict and receiving aid through six dioceses of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

IOCC's response to the conflict in Ukraine began in March of this year and includes work in Poland and Romania as well as Ukraine. With funding from the Archdiocese, IOCC will continue meeting emergency needs in Ukraine, particularly crucial as winter approaches.

The newest initiative will equip Church-run and community accommodation centers in Ukraine with items such as beds and mattresses, as well as household appliances like washers, dryers, and stoves. In addition, families who lost their livelihood in the conflict will receive material assistance, meals, and pastoral care and counselling through the program, while displaced people in especially vulnerable situations, including elderly persons, people with disabilities, and orphans, will receive hot meals through the winter months from a Church-run soup kitchen.

The program is projected to reach over 30,000 people in need of assistance because of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

"As shelters in Ukraine face dire shortages, and so many continue to be forced from their homes, Christ's people are called to serve our neighbors in need," said His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros, head of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. "Together, we can offer some very basic comfort and dignity to so many who have lost nearly everything."

With staff on the ground there as well as in Poland and Romania, work is ongoing to address the most pressing needs and to lay the groundwork for long-term response

as circumstances and needs shift in the coming years.

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America (GOArch) is under the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and is governed by the Archbishop and the Holy Eparchial Synod. GOArch is made up of approximately 540 parishes from across the United States. For more information, visit www.goarch.org and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) is the humanitarian relief and development agency of the Assembly of Canonical Bishops of the United States of America. Since its inception in 1992, IOCC has provided more than \$771 million in humanitarian relief and sustainable development programs in over 60 countries worldwide. Today, IOCC applies its expertise in humanitarian response to natural and human-caused crises in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and the United States, offering assistance based solely on need. Learn more at iocc.org and follow us @IOCCRelief on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

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