



CHILDREN MISSION

Annual Report 2025

Foreword

Despite all the challenges that 2025, the fourth year of the “full-fledged war”, brought to Ukrainian society, we remained faithful to our mission. We equipped people to reach out to children, children who need understanding with supportive adults alongside them.

Children Mission team promoted the OpSAFE Trauma Care Program and trained teams from different contexts – schools, children’s learning centers, churches, and camp providers. Based on our contacts with Armenian faith-based NGOs and churches, the “Thrive Together” project was born. This is an Armenian version of the OpSAFE Trauma Care Program. A Ukrainian team plans to travel to Armenia in May 2026 to train locals to use the program for refugee children from Nagorno-Karabakh.

We developed the new webinar on resilience for adults, which later grew into a specialized course for parents, “How to Support a Child during War”. Thanks to online webinars, we have contact with Ukrainian refugees from across the EU. We have motivated many of them to attend a longer, international training course planned for the first half of 2026.

At last, our dream came true: we developed 12 therapeutic Bible lessons and 12 therapeutic stories that children’s workers and parents can use free of charge at home and in their curricula (we thank Samaritan’s Purse for the grant that made this possible).

Finally, we were invited to the Jacaranda Communities of Hope training and emotional healing camp. Based on what we learned, and in consultation with the Jacaranda trainers, we are developing a training curriculum to equip Ukrainian practitioners without medical training in how to support children with emotional trauma.

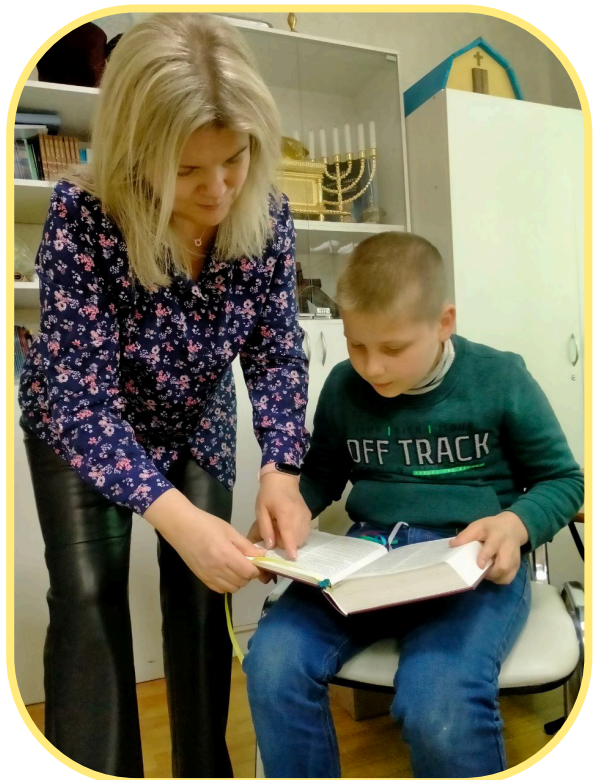
Sadly, the war is not over. Therefore, children will require emotional support and profound answers to many existential questions in life that their parents, caregivers, teachers, and pastors will need to provide. Children Mission is committed to training all these adults to be available to respond to children's needs.



Lyudmila Bryn
Executive Director
Children Mission

*“Children’s trust
in the world is built
when a caring adult is
by their side.”*

Lyudmila Bryn



Milestones in 2025

Period	Milestone
January to March	<p><i>Basic training – Connecting with Children. 58 students enrolled for 3 training groups:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>online Ukraine only - 20 students</i> ● <i>online international (Ukraine, Poland, Germany, Kazakhstan, South Korea) - 18 students</i> ● <i>In-person (in Dnipro) - 18 students</i>
	<p><i>Won Samaritan’s Purse grant this year. That funded not only short and long trainings in OpSAFE and trauma care, but also writing 12 therapeutic stories and developing 12 therapeutic Bible lessons</i></p>
April to June	<p><i>Started a Children Mission Telegram Channel</i></p> <p><i>(by the end of 2025, this had 261 subscribers, 181 items published with 91,992 views)</i></p>
	<p><i>First-ever OpSAFE Trauma Care Camp held in a bomb shelter (Kherson, June 2025)</i></p>
	<p><i>Lyudmyla Bryn was invited to join a planning team for Europe Without Orphans Forum that will be held in March 2026</i></p>

<p>July to September</p>	<p><i>Jacaranda Communities of Hope training and emotional support camp attended by two Children Mission trainees (August 19-29)</i></p>
	<p><i>August 11-16 Retreat for the team of 18 employees and active volunteers in the Carpathian Mountains (supported by NNK church from South Africa)</i></p> <p><i>Last occasion when the team could spend time together was back in March 2023</i></p>
<p style="background-color: yellow;"></p>	
<p>October to December</p>	<p><i>Lyudmyla's business trips to Portugal (Steering Committee for REC Movement) and to Spain (Lausanne Europe conference)</i></p>
	<p><i>Children Mission teams participated in several all-Ukrainian events (for networking, personal development and/or facilitating training sessions):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>October 2-3 - LiveMovement_UA Conference, Lviv</i> ● <i>October 11-12 - Expo for Equipping Children's Workers, Kyiv</i> ● <i>December 10-11 - Called to Freedom Forum for Spiritual and Psychological Support, Kyiv</i>

Operation SAFE and trauma care training

In 2025, Children Mission continued to build the capacity of communities across Ukraine to care for children living in the shadow of war. Through the Operation SAFE (OpSAFE) trauma care program and a broad range of emotional healing training, we helped local teams create safe, structured environments where children can regain stability, process painful experiences, and find their way back to a sense of normal life.

Our training model is both proven and practical. We work through flexible formats designed to meet teams wherever they are: self-paced video learning supported by guided consultations, live online sessions, and hybrid trainings that combine in-person practice with online teaching. This flexibility has been essential. Power outages, travel risks, and the relentless pressures of life in a war zone make rigid schedules impossible. By adapting to those realities, we have enabled children's workers, teachers, and volunteers across the country to keep serving their communities with skill and confidence.



Fun activity during an in-person training

Alongside OpSAFE, we expanded our library of therapeutic stories and lessons, providing practitioners with concrete tools to help children give voice to fear,

loss, anger, and hope. These resources also strengthened the adults who deliver them, many of whom carry significant emotional burdens of their own. Participants consistently told us that the trainings helped them feel steadier, better equipped, and more confident in moments of crisis.

Building skills that last

The impact of this work extends well beyond any single training session. Short courses provide participants with practical grounding in psychological first aid, enabling them to sustain their own emotional resilience and understand how children process loss. Longer programs offer deeper formation for parents, teachers, and community leaders committed to walking alongside children through trauma with consistency and care.

The results are tangible. Teams that completed OpSAFE training have gone on to lead camps, clubs, and Sunday school programs that give children a structured path toward emotional recovery. Others have drawn on therapeutic lessons in small group or one-on-one settings, helping children put words and images to emotions they had struggled to name.

The teams we trained in 2025 conducted 16 OpSAFE Trauma Care programs (including camps, clubs, and Sunday school settings) that benefitted 520 children. 39 holiday programs (one-day-long Christmas and Easter program) provided short-term trauma care support to an additional 1,667 children.



OpSAFE photo (Children listening to a therapeutic story at OpSAFE camp in Kyiv Oblast)

Type of activity	No. of events	No. of participants
Training for Classic OpSAFE program	16	102
Training for OpSAFE holiday program (Easter/Christmas)	31	204
Short emotional healing training	24	430
Long emotional healing training	5	76
Basic training: How to Build Relationships with Children	5	108
Therapeutic lessons	12	-
Therapeutic stories	12	-

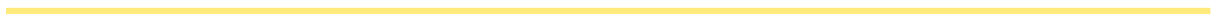
Numerical impact of each type of activity held in 2025

A story of change

One team worked with children displaced from frontline regions. This included a ten-year-old girl who had recently been displaced after her family's home was damaged. She rarely spoke during group activities and often sat apart from the others.

During a therapeutic lesson that invited children to explore emotions through drawing, she quietly sketched her old home and the friends she had left behind. With gentle support from the facilitator, she began to speak about what she had lost and what she hoped to find in her new community. In the weeks that followed, she became more engaged, more open, and began forming friendships.

Her caregiver later said: *"This was the first time she opened up. It helped her feel seen."*



New developments

In August, we were invited to attend the Jacaranda Communities of Hope training and emotional healing camp in Irpin. The Jacaranda program was developed by American clinical psychologist Dr. Timothy Friesen. It teaches practitioners who are not medical professionals the basics of emotional trauma and the practical skills they need to support children with emotional trauma. Two Children Mission trainers attended the pilot training and camp organized by Dutch charity Our Daily Bread. After the training, Jacaranda and Our Daily Bread decided to work with Children Mission, given their training experience and network, to develop a Ukrainian training program based on Jacaranda. This training will be rolled out in 2026.



One of our trainers Katja helps to teach a module during the Jacaranda training

In view of the great demand for therapeutic Bible lessons, the training team for Basic trainings plans to develop six more lessons.

Both training teams are developing new trainings:

- Trauma Care training team – webinar “A Child: Naughty or Traumatized?”
- Basic trainings team – webinar on Discipline, Modules on Experiential learning and Memorizing Big Portions of Scripture

Networking

Networking with other active organizations in our field – both state (such as schools and kindergartens) and non-governmental (charity foundations, NGOs, churches) – enables us to reach more children affected by war. Lyudmila Bryn, our Executive Director, therefore participated in several online conferences for educators. The interest built there led to a business trip to the Transcarpathian region in November 2025, during which she presented the OpSAFE program and conducted a training session on resilience. Several schools with high numbers of internally displaced children became interested in OpSAFE, but government schools do not have the money to finance a camp. We are therefore looking for funding partners.



Lyudmila Bryn presents the OpSafe program in the Transcarpathian region in November 2025

Lyudmila also participated in the Steering Committee for the REC Movement meeting in Portugal (September 29 - October 1, 2025) and the Lausanne Europe conference in Spain (October 16-18, 2025). Attending these two events advanced Children Mission’s voice on behalf of Ukrainian children in the EU arena, promoted the sharing of experiences, and opened up networking opportunities for different projects. As a result of these events, Children Mission received a grant from WWO-EU to participate in the Hope for Action Forum in Bucharest (March 10-13, 2026), and Lyudmila Bryn was invited as a guest trainer for the second week of the Leadership Experience-Europe “Children’s Context” in Albania (September 28 - October 2, 2026).

Financial accountability

A summary of Children Mission's balance, income, and expenditure is presented below.

We are grateful to all organizations, churches, and individuals who make our work possible through their generous donations.

Summary of income and expenditure in 2025			
Income	USD	Expenditure	USD
Initial balance 01-01-2025	340.48	Salary fund	39,439.01
		Office costs	640.05
		PC maintenance	1,780.77
Donations:		Projects:	
NNK Church, De Doorns, South Africa	33,489.02	Operation SAFE	5,402.67
from Ukraine	1,895.71	Trainings	916.32
for training	3,098.31	Personnel development	600.85

for Operation SAFE project	1645.12	Business trips	1287.4
for personnel development	616.97	Team retreat	7086.68
for team retreat	7100.00	Therapeutic lessons	960.00
		Therapeutic stories	420.00
Samaritan's Purse grant for trauma care trainings and developments	14,763.78		
Loans	7,151.85	Loans repaid (including 2024)	9341.85
Total income	69,760.76	Total expenditure	67875.60
Final balance 31-12-2025	2,225.64		

Contact us

Please reach out to us if you have any questions about our work, how to support us, or how you can partner with us.

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Email: childrenmission@gmail.com

Phone: +380 97 742 5182

Bank details

Euros:

Recipient: Children Mission NGO

IBAN Code: UA97 305299 00000 26007035004453

Name of the bank: JSC CB "PRIVATBANK", 1D HRUSHEVSKOHO STR., KYIV, 01001, UKRAINE

Bank SWIFT Code: PBANUA2X

Correspondent bank:

Account in the correspondent bank: 6231605145

SWIFT Code of the correspondent bank: CHASDEFX

Correspondent bank: J.P.MORGAN AG, FRANKFURT AM MAIN, GERMANY

US dollars:

Recipient: Children Mission NGO

IBAN Code: UA41 305299 00000 26005005026515

Name of the bank: JSC CB "PRIVATBANK", 1D HRUSHEVSKOHO STR., KYIV, 01001, UKRAINE

Bank SWIFT Code: PBANUA2X

Company address: 03142, Ukraine, Kyiv, Semashka Str. 17, Apt. 66.

Correspondent banks:

Account in the correspondent bank: 001-1-000080

SWIFT Code of the correspondent bank: CHASUS33

Correspondent bank: JP Morgan Chase Bank, New York ,USA

Account in the correspondent bank: 890-0085-754

SWIFT Code of the correspondent bank: IRVT US 3N

Correspondent bank: The Bank of New York Mellon, New York, USA

Account in the correspondent bank: 36445343

SWIFT Code of the correspondent bank: CITI US 33

Correspondent bank: Citibank N.A., NEW YORK, USA