

# Community Foundation of Kherson “Zakhyst”

Annual Report - 2024



# Introductory Note

The year 2024 was challenging for all of Ukraine — and especially difficult for Kherson and its people, who continue to live there despite everything: under daily and nightly enemy shelling and airstrikes.

Kherson is a Hero City because its people are Heroes.

Throughout the year, we responded systematically to the needs of Kherson and its residents — providing assistance to individuals, supporting the restoration of damaged infrastructure, and aiding emergency response services.

Our second focus was strengthening communication with Kherson residents, wherever they may be — in Kherson, in other regions of Ukraine, or abroad.

The main tool for this has been the web platform "Hear the Kherson Community", but offline events with Kherson residents in Kyiv were also organized. One of the key objectives of these meetings was to develop a vision for postwar Kherson.

In response to some criticisms that "now is not the time," we say — tomorrow that time will come, and we must be ready!

We sincerely thank all the benefactors who contributed to our programs and initiatives — through donations, transportation services, their time, as well as professional and intellectual efforts.



**Larysa Polska**  
Chairwoman of the Foundation's Board

Special thanks to Ukrainian businesses — KhersonMiskBud LLC, Knauf Gips Kyiv LLC, Solariti Ukraine LLC, and ASKONA-Pivden PJSC — as well as to the civil society organizations Initiative Center to Support Social Action "Ednannia" and the National Network for the Development of Local Philanthropy.

We are deeply grateful to international donors, whose contributions to supporting Kherson are invaluable — ChildFund Deutschland e.V. (Germany), PACT Inc. (USAID), the Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF, South Africa), Fondation de France, the French humanitarian organization ACTED, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Undatia Comunitara EA II 30 Oradea (Romania), and GlobalGiving (USA).

# Key Figures of the Year



**1 784 268 UAH**

**Support for Medical Institutions**



**1 171 835 UAH**

**Support for Emergency Services**



**3 029 300 UAH**

**Humanitarian Aid for Kherson Residents**



**8 528 519 UAH**

**Community Development and Communication Strengthening Programs\***

**\*Note: The community development and communication strengthening programs were funded by international donors, so not a single penny from charitable donations was spent on them.**



# Support for Kherson Residents: Care in Difficult Times

The Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst" completed the winter assistance program, which was launched in 2023 with financial support from ChildFund Deutschland e.V. The program aimed to help warm those who remained in poorly heated or entirely unheated homes.

Thanks to the program, in January–February 2024: 1 271 Kherson residents received sets of warm clothing (wool vests, felt boots, and thermal underwear), 360 wool blankets and 372 solar-powered lamps were distributed, 48 Kherson families received water filters, 63 tons of fuel briquettes were delivered to residents.

The total German assistance budget for the program in 2024 amounted to UAH 2 674 587.



In 2024, our Foundation also organized the delivery of humanitarian aid to residents of the Kherson region in cooperation with the National Network for the Development of Local Philanthropy and ShelterBox. During January and February, 620 residents received essential kits, including dishware, hygiene products, bedding sets, and materials to repair windows damaged by shelling.

The total value of this assistance amounted to UAH 1 920 586,94.

We sincerely thank ChildFund Deutschland, the National Network for the Development of Local Philanthropy, and ShelterBox for supporting Kherson residents during the difficult wartime winter. We believe this assistance warmed our fellow citizens not only physically but also emotionally.





# Light for Kherson Residents

The enemy continues to destroy the energy infrastructure, leaving residents without electricity. The Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst" consistently supports the restoration of damaged facilities.

✓ 7 street transformers have been provided to the city, the latest in 2024 valued at 350,000 UAH. It is already operating, supplying electricity to six apartment buildings.

✓ 51,500 UAH was allocated for consumables and tools needed to repair power lines operated by Municipal Enterprise "KhersonMiskSvitlo".

✓ An innovative project – an uninterrupted power supply (UPS) system for one of Kherson's hospitals, valued at UAH 773,205. During surgeries, the lights didn't even flicker! The UPS system is a real solution for any hospital under conditions of frequent power outages – and in Kherson, also under constant shelling. The trust placed in the Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst" by both Ukrainian businesses and international donors made it possible to install this vital system at a local hospital.

We are grateful to our partners: ISAR Ednannia, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation (USA), Knauf Gips Kyiv LLC, Solariti Ukraine LLC, and KhersonMiskBud for carrying out the installation works.



**СВІТЛО – ХЕРСОНУ!**  
За 2024 рік сума нашої допомоги на відновлення електропостачання склала **1 385 383 грн.:**

- Система безперебійного живлення в одній з лікарень – 773 205 грн.
- КП «Херсонміськсвітло»
  - Трансформатор вуличний – 350 000 грн.
  - Апарат випробувальний AV-50/70 – 100 000 грн.
  - 4 магаомметри цифрові – 56 222 грн.
  - Запобіжники – 84 841 грн
  - Інструменти – 21 115 грн.

Дякуємо донорам - GFCF (Глобальний фонд для фондів громад – Південна Африка), ІСАР «Єднання» і Фонд ім. Ч.С.Мотта (США), заводу «КНАУФ ГІПС Київ» і ТОВ "СОЛАРИТІ УКРАЇНА"

# Support for Medical Institutions of Kherson

In 2024, our program "Saving Kherson Together: Medicine" continued to save lives and support Kherson's medical institutions under constant shelling.

Every day, Kherson's medical workers save lives despite ongoing threats. Thanks to this support, they receive the necessary resources for their work, and hospitals are able to continue operating even in extreme conditions.

## Key Achievements:

- *Cleaning Supplies and Construction Materials for Hospitals:*

One hospital received half a ton of European-grade cleaning supplies for medical facilities and 1.2 tons of construction mixtures for ongoing repairs of damaged premises. Another medical institution received 42 bags of mineral plaster and 42 bags of adhesive filler, with a total value of 45 700 62 UAH.

- *Medical Equipment and Instruments:*

On June 28, we delivered urgently needed specialized medical needles to a hospital, valued at 19 721 UAH.



This assistance was made possible thanks to our cooperation with:

- Podilska Hromada Community Foundation, which provided humanitarian aid,
- Lüneburg Aid Project for the Ukraine e.V. for funding and support,
- Ralf Peter Olsner and volunteer doctor Andrii Formanchuk, who ensured the delivery of vital resources to Kherson.



# Calendar "My Kherson Through the Eyes of Oleksandr Stepanenko": Art for the Sake of Aid

Even during the war, the Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst" continues to unite Kherson residents. In partnership with like-minded individuals, we created a unique charitable calendar, "My Kherson Through the Eyes of Artist Oleksandr Stepanenko," which has become a symbol of the hometown for Kherson residents around the world.

The project brought Kherson residents together:

- Artist and architect Oleksandr Stepanenko, who remained in occupied Kherson, contributed his paintings depicting views of the old city.
- Designer Maksym Afanasiev and entrepreneur Mykhailo Orel, who relocated his printing business to Kyiv, also joined the calendar's creation.

Results:

- The calendar was distributed in exchange for donations, which enabled the purchase of three medical aspirators for a Kherson hospital, totaling UAH 89,100.
- The publication became a real bridge connecting Kherson residents: its pages, showcasing views of their beloved city, reached various parts of Ukraine and countries abroad — including the USA, Poland, Lithuania, Germany, and the Czech Republic.

This calendar is not only a piece of art but also a form of support for Kherson residents during the most challenging times. We sincerely thank everyone who took part in this initiative!



**Дякуємо всім, хто задонатив за  
благодійний календар «Мій Херсон»!**



## **РЕЗУЛЬТАТ:**

**одна з лікарень Херсона, якій днями виповнилося 65 років, отримала від вас подарунок до ювілею - три медичних апарата аспіратори «NEW HOSPIVAC 350 BASIC 2» RE-410356 (Італія) на суму 89 100 грн.**

**Разом – ми сила!**





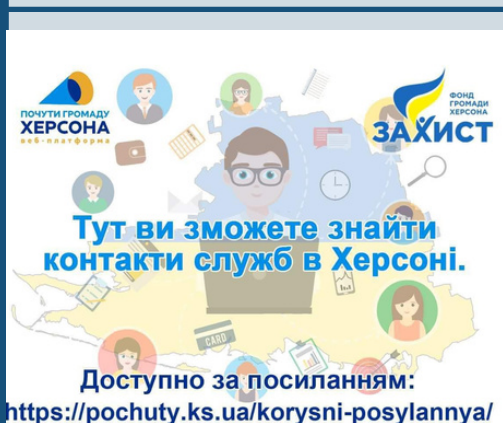
# Web Platform "Hear the Kherson Community": Uniting in Times of Crisis

The full-scale invasion by Russia pushed the Kherson community to the brink of survival. Due to the war, one-third of Kherson's residents were forced to leave the city, increasing the demand for reliable information to objectively assess the situation.

In April 2023, with the support of the USAID/ENGAGE grant project, the Foundation launched the web platform "Hear the Kherson Community" and continued its development in 2024.

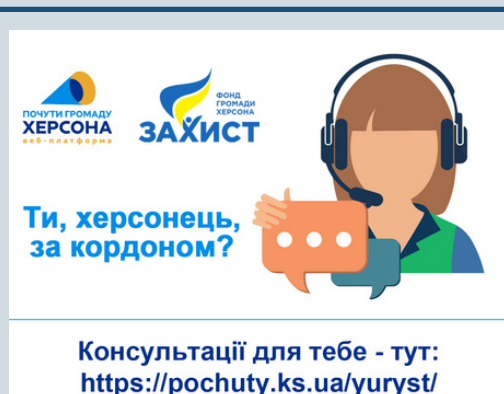


E-Platform "Hear the Kherson Community"



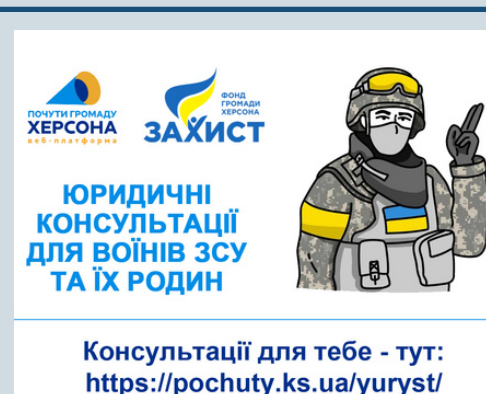
**Тут ви зможете знайти контакти служб в Херсоні.**

Доступно за посиланням:  
<https://pochuty.ks.ua/korysni-posylannya/>



**Ти, херсонець, за кордоном?**

Консультації для тебе - тут:  
<https://pochuty.ks.ua/yuryst/>



**ЮРИДИЧНІ КОНСУЛЬТАЦІЇ  
ДЛЯ ВОЇНІВ ЗСУ  
ТА ЇХ РОДИН**

Консультації для тебе - тут:  
<https://pochuty.ks.ua/yuryst/>

## Key Features of the Platform:

- ✓ Up-to-date information for Kherson residents
- ✓ Data on the recovery of the city and region
- ✓ Public opinion surveys (reports available in Ukrainian and English)
- ✓ Legal consultations
- ✓ A feedback tool for communication between the community and authorities

The platform has become a vital source of information for Kherson residents around the world, helping to mobilize the community, influence decision-makers, and engage international donors in the region's recovery.



Ця платформа створена Фондом громади Херсона "Захист" для херсонців, які наразі – в Херсоні, ВПО в інших регіонах України та за кордоном. Тут ви знайдете актуальну інформацію, юридичні консультації та результати опитувань з важливих для херсонців питань. Об'єднуймо нашу розпорошену громаду!

<https://pochuty.ks.ua/>

# Putting Kherson Residents' Voices First

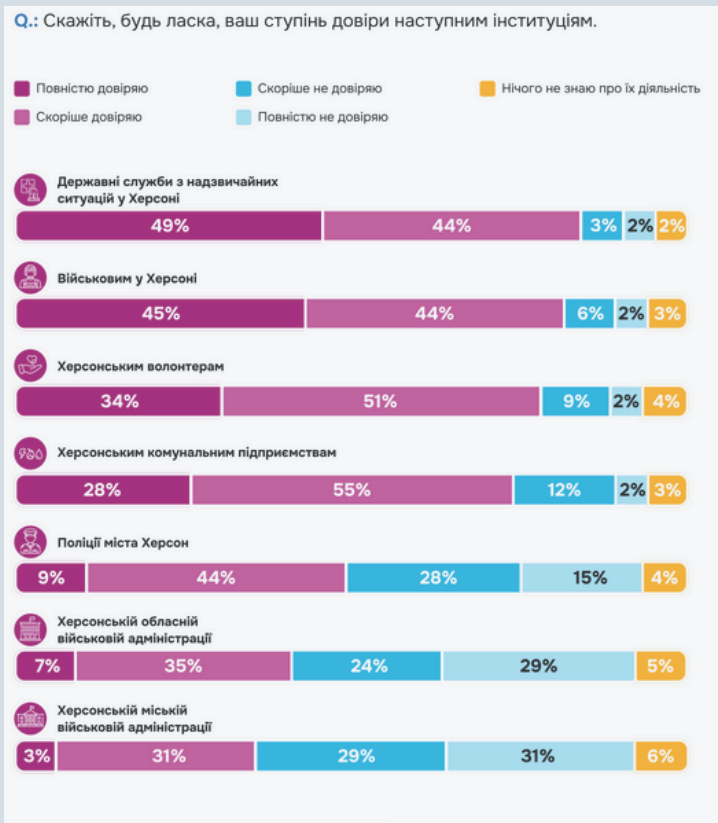
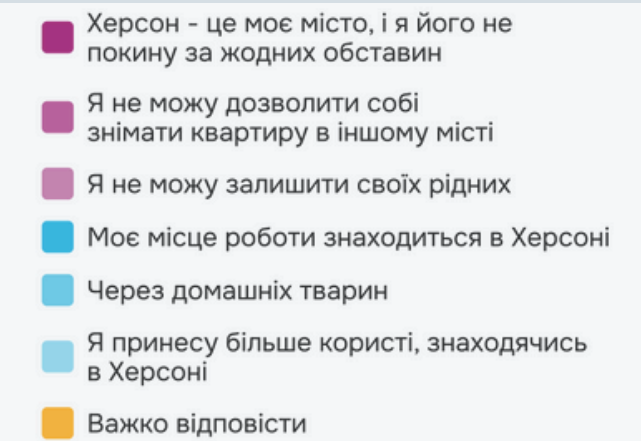
Fulfilling our role as a community foundation, we placed special emphasis on studying the problems, needs, and concerns of Kherson residents. To this end, we actively used a tool unique for Ukraine's civil society sector – the Kherson Community Research Online Panel. With the help of expert sociologists, this platform enabled us to conduct 23 public opinion studies in 2024, exploring various aspects of city life, including:

- socio-economic situation
- migration and demographics
- education
- community cohesion
- information behavior
- values and identity of Kherson residents.

In total, around 9,000 respondents took part in the surveys – both those who remained in Kherson and those who were forced to relocate within Ukraine or abroad, yet still maintained their connection to the city and continued to feel part of the community.

The Foundation used the results of these studies in its work to plan and implement initiatives aimed at providing humanitarian support to Kherson residents, strengthening community cohesion, and consolidating the efforts of civil society, authorities, and businesses in ensuring the city's resilience and recovery.

Survey reports were published on the "Hear the Kherson Community" e-platform and shared with the city and regional military administrations to inform relevant decision-making processes.



Scan the QR code to register and take part in the Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst" surveys aimed at understanding the opinions and sentiments of Kherson residents and engaging them in community life.



The results of the Foundation's research were published on the e-platform "Hear the Kherson Community".



# Forum "Kherson – the City Where Life Prevails."

On September 16–17, in Kyiv, the Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst" brought together representatives of civil society and charitable organizations, educators, journalists, business leaders, and government officials from the Kherson region at the Forum "Kherson – the City Where Life Prevails."

The event gathered Kherson residents from across Ukraine, including those from the frontline city itself, as well as representatives of the authorities. The Forum began with a moment of silence to honor the memory of fallen heroes who gave their lives for Ukraine's independence.

Ahead of the Forum, four strategic sessions were held, focused on shaping a vision for Kherson's future. Despite ongoing shelling, the Hero City continues to live, and participants discussed key challenges, opportunities, and ways to rebuild the community.

The Forum became not just a platform for discussions but also a catalyst for real change. Already on September 23, following the event, Kherson entrepreneurs initiated the creation of the Kherson Business Association, recognizing that business is a driving force behind economic recovery, infrastructure rebuilding, and encouraging people to return to the city.

The Forum confirmed: Kherson is fighting, developing, and preparing for revival!





# Open Annual Meeting

On March 13, 2024, the Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst" celebrated 21 years of activity. On this day, an open annual meeting was held in Kyiv, bringing together members of the organization and Kherson residents who were forced to leave the city due to the war.

The event served not only as an opportunity to report to the community on the humanitarian initiatives implemented in 2023 but also as a warm gathering that helped our fellow citizens find emotional relief.

Hugs, smiles, and shared memories made this evening truly special, reminding everyone that Kherson is not just a place on the map — it is, above all, the people who support one another, no matter where they are.





# Правління Фонду громади міста Херсон “Захист”



Larysa Polska,  
Chairwoman of the Board



Ihor Bergart



Olha Zahrebelna



Serhii Khomchyk



Oleksandr Honobolin



Yurii Hrabar



Tetiana Ignatova



Nataliia Drachuk



Hanna Lagutina



Yevhen Sydorenko



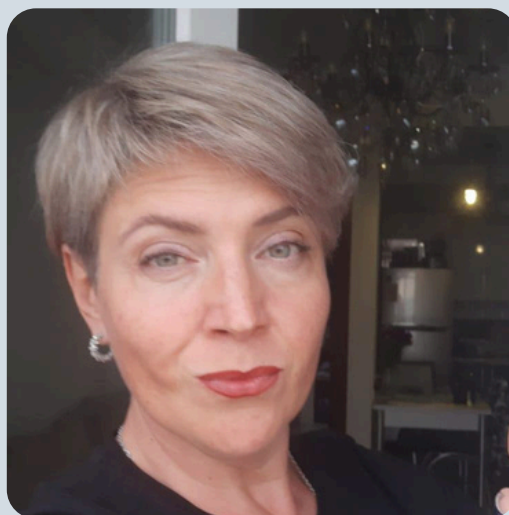
Oleksii Tilniak



# Team of the Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst"



Kostiantyn Filenko



Hanna Kachura



Olena Lobanova



Tetiana Shkodivska



Olena Pimenova



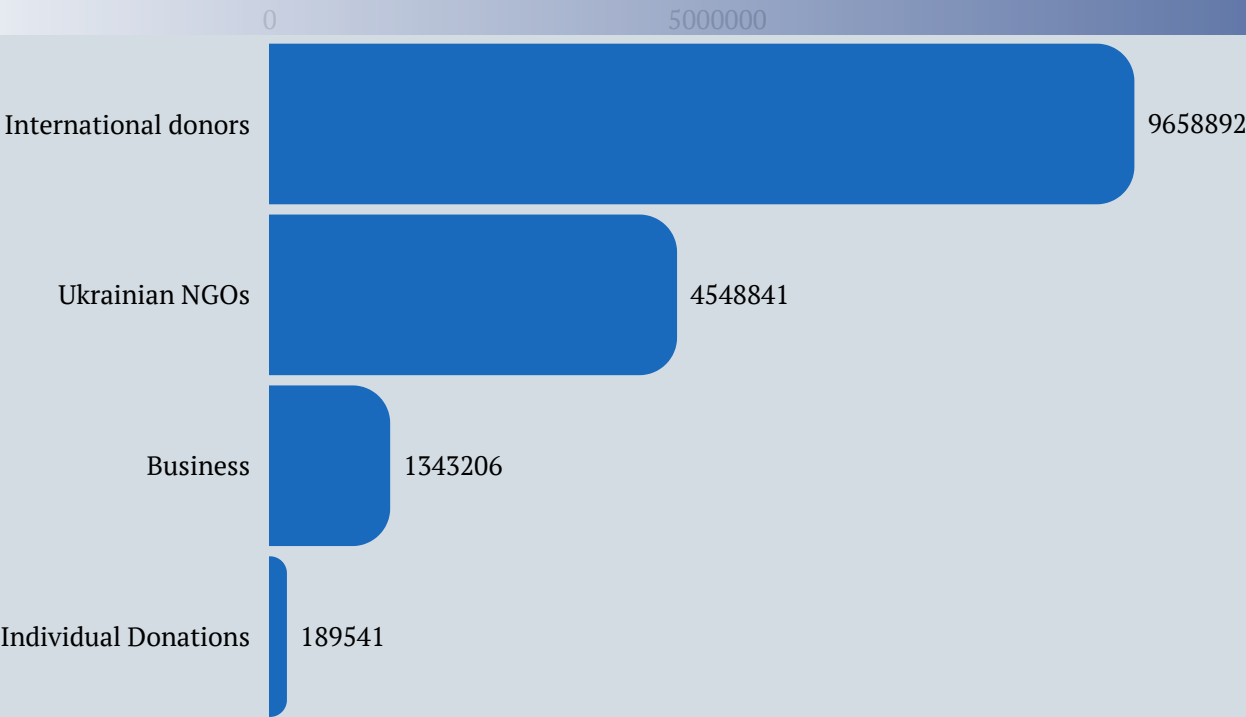
Nadiia Kotliar



# Financial Report for 2024

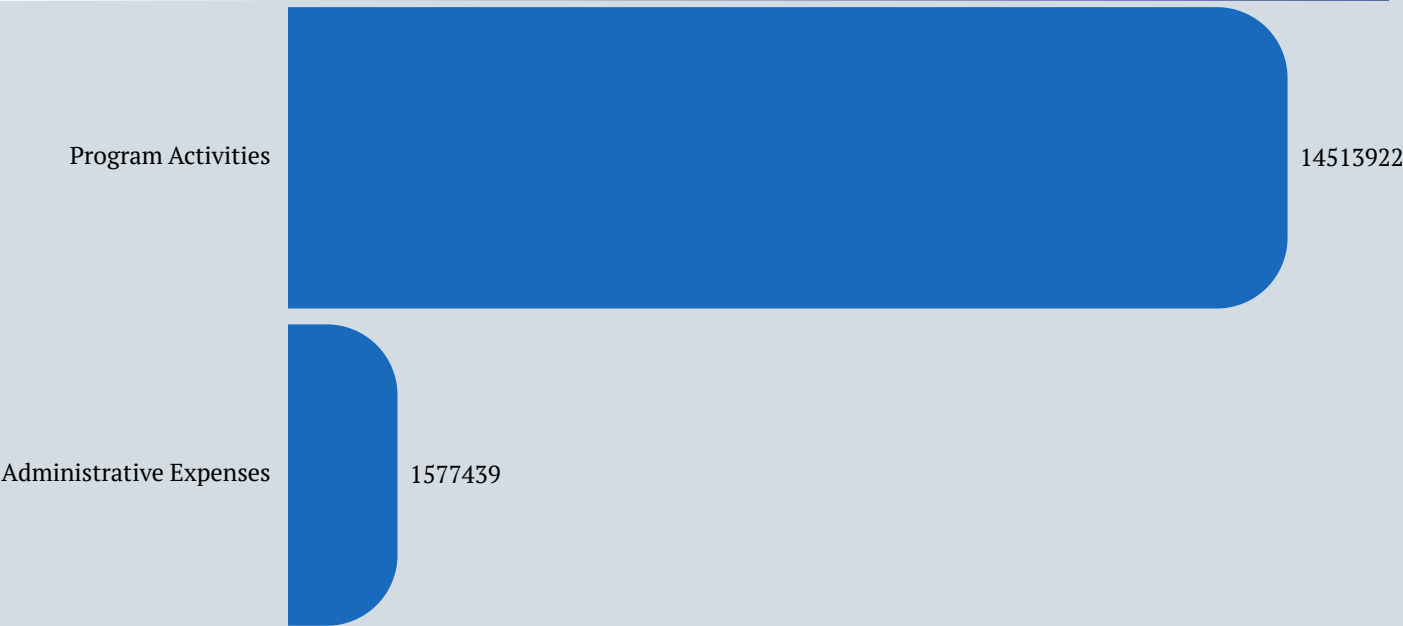
Income for 2024 - 15 740 580 UAH

Balance as of 01.01.2024 - 1 637 666 UAH



Expenses for 2024 - 16 091 361 UAH

Balance as of 01.01.25 (for the completion of projects initiated in 2024) 1 286 885 UAH

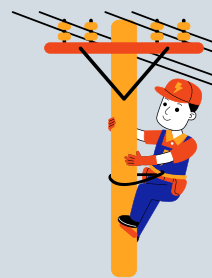


# Program Activities



**1 784 268 UAH**

**Support for Medical Institutions**



**1 171 835 UAH**

**Support for Emergency Services**



**3 029 300 UAH**

**Humanitarian Aid for Kherson Residents**



**8 528 519 UAH**

**Community Development and Communication Strengthening Programs\***

(web platform "Hear the Kherson Community", systematic surveys of Kherson residents' opinions, discussion forums, the Forum "Kherson – the City Where Life Prevails", a new organizational website, and a YouTube channel)

# Administrative Expenses



**1 577 439 UAH**

(salaries, taxes, purchase of office supplies and equipment, office rent in Kyiv, postal and internet services, bank fees)

**\*Note: The community development and communication strengthening programs were funded by international donors, so not a single penny from charitable donations was spent on them.**

# Our contacts



**Website of the  
Community Foundation  
of Kherson "Zakhyst"**



**YouTube**



**Facebook**



**Instagram**



# Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst" We are always with you!

16-17 ВЕРЕСНЯ

ХЕРСОН — МІСТО, ДЕ ЖИТТЯ ПЕРЕМАГАЄ



