

# hartbeat

Humanitarian Aid Response Teams



“HE DEFENDS the cause  
of the FATHERLESS  
and the WIDOW, and loves  
the FOREIGNER living  
among you, GIVING them  
food and clothing.” Deut 10:18





BECAUSE OF YOU...

Dear Friends,

HART, along with our network of partner churches throughout Ukraine, have been working tirelessly over the past five months of this terrible conflict - providing emergency food, clothing, water, shelter, medical care, and evacuating thousands of suffering families desperate to escape the the conflict zones.

Our sincere **THANKS TO YOU** for standing by HART during these extraordinary times - helping us to share God's love with tens of thousands of hurting people during this war. **We could not do this without you!** We are honored to do this work and take you along with us.

Please continue to pray for an end to the war. Too many families have been impacted and are suffering because of it, just like the one in the following story told by Pastor Rostislav in Western Ukraine.

TOGETHER - we **ARE** changing the world - one heart at a time.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Cenaiko  
President, lloyd@hart.ca



A fallen soldier's story

## Taras - father, husband & hero

I am writing you the story of Taras, a father, husband, friend, a proud Ukrainian, and a brother in Christ. I am the pastor of the church Taras and his family attended and where he served our Lord.

Taras was born into a terribly dysfunctional family and therefore had a very difficult childhood. He essentially grew up on the streets.

His situation opened him up to many temptations, and Taras plunged headlong into the world of partying, alcohol, cigarettes, and drugs.

Without exaggeration, outside of a radical change in his life, he surely



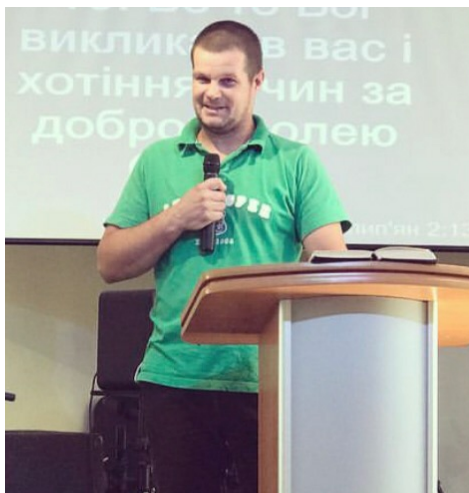
Pastor Rostislav & Taras

would have perished because of his alcohol addiction.

But miraculously, change came... Taras became acquainted with our church through some young people who were attending there.

We discovered he had a strong interest in music and guitar playing, and through a loving, caring community of new friends, he eventually accepted Jesus and repented of his sins.

The Lord helped him give up all his old passions of partying and drinking. And we began to see a completely new person, someone who was genuinely sincere, kind, and generous.



THANK YOU!



Over the years, Taras eventually became a minister in our church. He was involved in praise and worship, worked as a sound director, and in recent years was a deacon.

He also became a first-class welder whose work was in demand by people and businesses from all over our region.

And an even brighter page in Taras's life was his family. He married the love of his life, Olya, and God blessed them with four children: Misha, Andrew, Veronica, and Rostik. Theirs was a strong, loving Christian family with plenty of plans and dreams ahead... if not for the war.



Taras & Olya

When the Russian invasion began, Taras's younger brother was already in the military. Taras had a deep love and concern for his brother and didn't want to let him go to war alone. So he voluntarily joined the army to be able to fight alongside him.

During a deadly combat mission, amidst shelling and bombs, Taras was hit by shrapnel, with fragments piercing his lungs and trachea. He



was hospitalized in Zaporizhzhia (South Ukraine).

With Taras's wife and a few church volunteers, I loaded a van with food and medicine needed in the combat zone and went to see Taras. After traveling a thousand kilometres from western Ukraine, we finally found him in an intensive care hospital unit.

We had a great time of fellowship; we talked, took pictures, prayed,



**“His funeral service was the largest evangelical outreach our town had ever experienced.”**

and agreed to meet the next day. We were so shocked when the hospital informed us in the morning that Taras had died during the night.

The next day, we brought the body of our Taras home.

Having lost all common sense, Russia wants to destroy our country. They are killing tens of thousands of people and filling our Ukraine and the hearts of our people with pain. Olya and Taras's four children, and his mother, are suffering so much. We all miss him very much.

And if it were not for faith in God, then the injustice and cruelty of the rulers in the world, especially Russia, could drive us crazy. But we believe. We believe, and we fight. We fight for freedom, humanity, Taras's children, and all our kids.

Because war is not the norm, we understand our powerlessness and how evil and immoral war is. The norm should be a life full of God's values.

Before going to war Taras often talked with me about his desire for our church to stage a large outreach meeting (crusade) for the people in our town, where they could sincerely hear the Word of God preached.

At his funeral, we were overwhelmed by how much the people in our community loved and respected Taras. His funeral service was the largest evangelical outreach our town had ever experienced.



They heard the Word of God preached, so his wish was granted through his death. Taras could have died ingloriously from alcoholism at the age of 20 or 23; we have enough such cases.

But God gave Taras 38 years, and he managed to leave in the hearts of many people memories of love, friendship, and warmth - and left this land a hero. I thank God that we had him in our lives! -*Pastor Rostislav.*



**Hundreds of people from the community attended the funeral for Taras**

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP

[www.hart.ca](http://www.hart.ca)



### SUPPORT HART'S 'CRISIS Relief & Refugee Aid' Fund

While conditions throughout much of Ukraine is heartbreaking and dangerous, **HART and our extensive network of church partners are on the ground serving those in need.** Thanks to everyone in HART's community in Canada and USA – here is what YOU helped us accomplish since the invasion began:

- **Financial support:** for churches working tirelessly to assist and care for refugees.
- **Distribution centres:** dispensing relief aid supplies from Europe to all our church partners who are extending love to refugees.
- **Food distribution:** sending food trucks from Europe to conflict zones where no grocery stores exist any more.
- **Purchasing vehicles:** to assist in food distribution and evacuation of people from dangerous regions.
- **Purchasing ambulances:** from Poland to provide emergency medical care for civilians and soldiers in war zones.
- **Evacuation of orphans** to Europe. There are still thousands of orphans that need to be evacuated to the safety of European countries.



### Humanitarian Aid Response Team

International Relief & Development

**CANADA** - 106, 90 Freeport Blvd, NE, Calgary, AB, T3J 5J9

403.230.8263 | 1.888.788.3880

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**USA** - 15900 N. 78th Street, #210, Scottsdale, AZ 85260

1.888.788.3880 Registration#: 86.0908190

HART is audited annually by an independent accounting firm and our financial statements are available upon request. Our Board of Directors has established the policy that all contributions designated for specific projects shall be applied to that project, with up to 10 per cent to be used if needed for administering the gifts. Occasionally we receive more contributions for a given project than can be wisely applied to that project. When that happens, we use these funds to meet a similar pressing need.

**Life is too short,  
the world is too BIG,  
and GOD'S LOVE  
is too great - to live an  
ORDINARY LIFE**