

# Beyond Numbers: Personal Stories of People Supported by PIN Ukraine







**Tetiana** and her three children, from a small village in Chernihiv Oblast, were incredibly fortunate. Fifteen minutes before shelling destroyed their house and killed Tetiana's husband, she and her children went to their relatives. The family was in despair when they returned home — the walls, windows, ceiling — everything was damaged. Tetiana was unable to restore the house on her own. We helped Tetiana with repairs. Now, Tetiana, Maksym, Veronika, and Dmytro are living comfortably and trying to cope with their painful loss. We are happy to make their lives better.





**Olha** is from Kharkiv. At the age of 68, she had to leave her home because of constant shelling. She lives with her mother in a collective centre in the Zakarpattia Oblast, which we renovated. We tried to create the most comfortable conditions for older people, for people with disabilities, for families with children. "People with disabilities live in our centre. Of course, we have made a good repair. Everyone has their own room. Some have rooms for two people, some for three, depending on the family. We have everything we need for an everyday life and are sincerely grateful for the help. "But people still miss home. Olga found solace in painting. She paints pictures and gives them to her friends.



HERBS OF UKRAINE AROMA COLLECTION  
CARPATHIANS  
People in Need  
AROMA HERBS AND HONEY

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HERBS OF UKRAINE AROMA COLLECTION  
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HERBS OF UKRAINE AROMA COLLECTION  
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УЖГОРОД  
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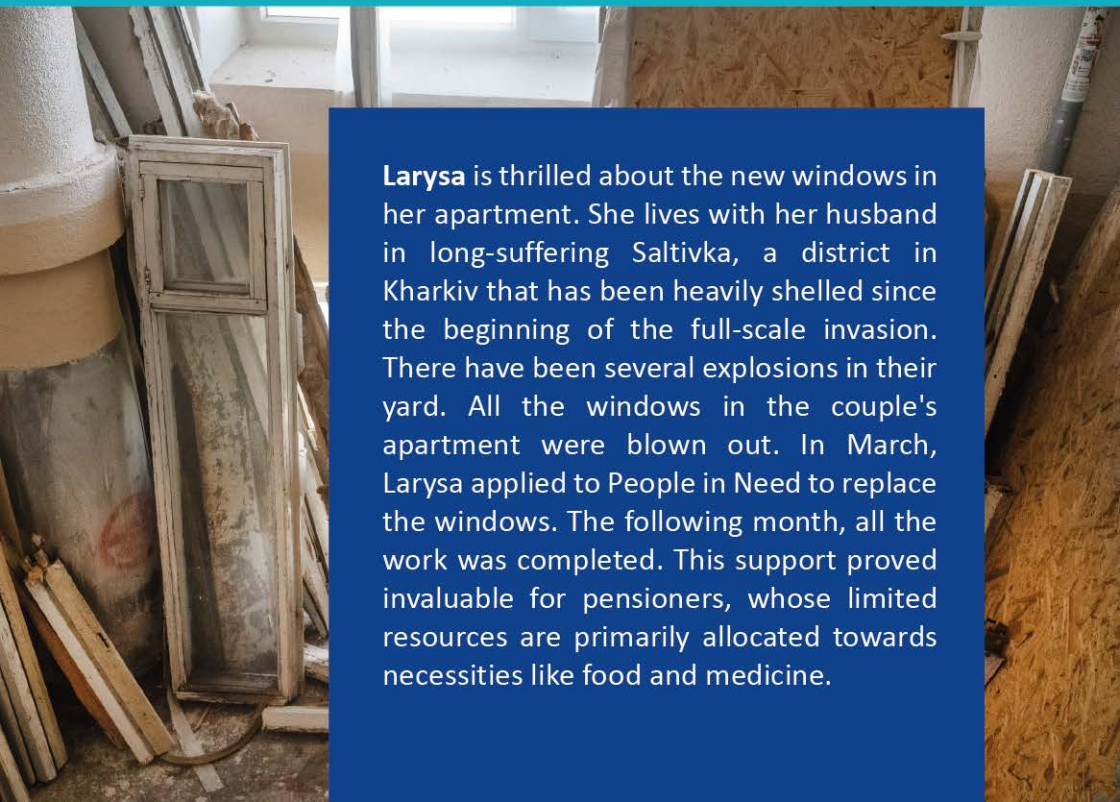




Aromatic candles, disposable, biodegradable tableware — **Dmytro** makes all these things from ordinary coffee grounds that he collects all over Ukraine. Because of the war, he was forced to relocate his business from Sumy to Lviv. Here, he received a development grant from People in Need. The businessman plans to use the funds to purchase equipment that will allow him to increase production and work for export. In times of war, when businesses are experiencing a shortage of labour and investment, such support is critical. "We need this support because it allows us to believe in ourselves, not to stop and move forward." — says Dmytro. In total, we have awarded business development grants to 150 local and relocated companies. This support benefits not only the companies but also the communities they operate in. Residents have jobs, and the community budget receives taxes.







**Larysa** is thrilled about the new windows in her apartment. She lives with her husband in long-suffering Saltivka, a district in Kharkiv that has been heavily shelled since the beginning of the full-scale invasion. There have been several explosions in their yard. All the windows in the couple's apartment were blown out. In March, Larysa applied to People in Need to replace the windows. The following month, all the work was completed. This support proved invaluable for pensioners, whose limited resources are primarily allocated towards necessities like food and medicine.





10-year-old **Maryna** accompanied her grandmother to our newly opened digital learning centre (DLC) in Kryvyi Rih. Maryna is a passionate dancer, but due to the war, she had to give up her passion. However, her grandmother is delighted that Maryna has found a new source of inspiration at our centre: "Children need to come together and support each other. I believe it's a wonderful initiative to have such an institution for our schoolchildren." Children can engage in remote learning and utilise essential equipment in our DLCs. Additionally, they can participate in various workshops and receive support from psychologists after school.





**Vira's** tears flow as she reminisces about her once peaceful life. She used to see her children regularly, but the war forced them to leave, and now they are limited to phone calls. Connection becomes particularly difficult as their village often loses electricity and communication due to shelling. Vira with her husband, face the harsh reality of winter. Heating their home becomes a financial burden. Supporting vulnerable individuals like Vira is a top priority for us. We provided Vira with 2.5 tonnes of fuel briquettes, ensuring her family could stay warm through the winter. Vira remains hopeful, praying that the advancing front line won't reach their community, allowing them to stay home and avoid occupation.



**Iryna** has lost her home twice. In 2014, she had to flee from her native Makiivka to another city in the Donbas Oblast. When the full-scale invasion began, the mother and her three children were again in danger: "For two weeks, we were hiding from shelling in the basement of a sports school. It was -10 degrees outside, and over a hundred people were gathered in the shelter. We could only find light, communication, or gas by risking our lives," she recalls the nightmare. Having barely escaped the shelling, they travelled all over Ukraine and several European countries in search of a safe place. Eventually, Iryna's family settled in Vinnytsia. We reimburse their rent because we know how difficult it is to start life from scratch without savings or a job.



Ten years ago, **Hanna** has lost her only son. Age is taking its toll; at 83, she finds it increasingly difficult to manage her household and garden. Happily, our social worker, Natalia, is on hand to help. She cleans Hanna's house, prepares meals for her, and sometimes listens and provides emotional support to the elderly individual. Natalia visits her clients twice a week. The distance between them can be several kilometres, and walking to each is quite challenging. That's why our organisation ensured that social workers have bicycles. Thanks to them, they save time on travel and can provide more assistance to older adults. Additionally, we purchased a washing machine for the needs of the social service centre because unfortunately, not all pensioners have one at home.







"The biggest problem we have today – is water supply and education." – says **Serhii** Tarasunko, Head of Novopetrivka village council. The residents of this village in Mykolaiv Oblast continue to grapple with the lasting impacts of Russian occupation. Much of the infrastructure here has been either destroyed or damaged due to shelling, including the vital water tower that supplied water to the villagers' homes. We addressed these critical needs by ensuring residents have access to necessities and installing a new water tower. This infrastructure improvement guarantees water supply to 420 households. With the restoration of crucial infrastructure, more and more people can now safely return to their homes and rebuild their lives step by step.



**Tetiana**, despite her disability, dedicates her time to helping those in need through an organisation partnered with People in Need, providing diverse forms of assistance to vulnerable individuals. Tetiana often interacts with families experiencing challenging life circumstances in her volunteer work. Each story resonates deeply with her, requiring significant emotional fortitude. To support specialists like Tetiana, we've conducted training sessions to prevent professional burnout, offer psychological first aid, and manage stress effectively. Equipped with this knowledge, Tetiana empowers herself and extends her help others more effectively. Her dedication and resilience inspire us all.





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