UCCA Humanitarian Update #16

as of July 1, 2022
Saving Lives

With the help of our partners, UCCA continues to distribute vital life-saving Individual First Aid Kits (IFAKs) directly to those who need them most.

To date, over 22,000 IFAKs have been delivered!
Life-saving IFAKs continue reaching the frontlines
UCCA Contributes to Food Security by supporting AICM’s program

51 delivery points are providing food parcels to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) throughout Ukraine
UCCA’s Country Director delivers additional drones purchased and deployed for safety reconnaissance.
UCCA’s 40’ Humanitarian Aid Container reaches warehouse in Kyiv for further distribution...
THANK YOU
FLORIDA!

Cities and towns across Florida continue to support Ukraine by donating protective and ballistic gear to UCCA.

Thank you
Miami Dade County &
Miami
North Miami
Homestead
Starke

Starke police send lifesaving support to Ukraine

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Staff

STARKE — More than 5,000 ballistic vests are destined for war-torn Ukraine, and Starke police had a hand in making that happen.

Elena’s inventory of Ukraine has resulted in thousands of civilian ducks, 4,8 million airliners fishing the country and 5,1 million internally displaced, according to the United Nations.

The world has been seduced by a population who are fighting for their country and handed over by the authorities who have been left in need of assistance.

The police department is in need of protective gear, support and, in the case of this equipment, new boots.

Ukraine and Bradford County are a world apart but have something in common, and that is better resident Dwight Howard, who grew up here and spent nearly a decade living in Ukraine. Today, he’s the president and CEO of The Dovner Group, a commercial and industrial real estate brokerage firm in South Florida.

“I love the culture. The people,” Howard said of his nearly 30-year relationship with the country. “It’s like you’re going to the public square. When you look at their news reports and you see they’re just going to give up some bed or high chair or something.

Many have given funding to relief organizations or have stood up to do more. With around 150 Ukrainian staff, members working here in the security industry, he has received reports of citizens fighting with forks and knives with 4,000 of these people.

Ukraine Congress Commissioner of America, an organization Howard supports, is shipping in the first load the 5,000 ballistic vests donated by the Miami-Dade Police Department and additional equipment from several municipalities.

Howard was here June 20 to receive the vest and behalf donations from the Starke Police Department and ship them to Miami. Each vest could represent a life saved, he said.

According to Police Chief Jeff Johnson, the vests have an expiration date and the police officers. Because of the content war, vests must be replaced after five years for officer safety. In truth, there is still life-saving protection in the hand-made vests, and they are not being sent to the Ukraine, the police department would have no choice but destroy them.

Also, most of the replacement cost is covered by a matching grant, Johnson said, so it doesn’t represent a major cost to the city.

Howard has been collecting vests, helmets, gas masks and other equipment like red disposal equipment donated by the police department to the Ukrainian police.

Police Chief Charles Perry helped get the Starke Police Officers Association involved and said the vests are still being sold to the U.S. military.

Howard said he had a main goal of visas that could be issued.

“I’m not just going to do something,” Howard said. “I’m just going to do something. I’m going to get to the Ukraine, talk to the Ukrainian people, and I’m going to ask them what they want.

Howard told the people the donations were no longer for the armed police and territorial defense. Since 1940, Ukraine, Americans have supported Ukraine through Ukraine Congress Commissioner of America. Find out more about UCCA at UCCA.org.