



THE «RIDNI» CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

# Performance Report 2024



NGO «Ridni» Charitable Foundation  
Lviv, Ukraine



We work to ensure every child's right  
to family upbringing and a dignified life!

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We care that every  
Ukrainian child has a chance  
for a happy future  
in a family environment!

# About «Ridni» Charitable Foundation

The «Ridni» Charitable Foundation is a community of support for orphans, children deprived of parental care, and children who find themselves in difficult life circumstances. The Foundation works systematically and comprehensively with families.



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## Our mission

**Supporting every child  
by creating a safe environment  
and developing  
the institution of family.**

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## Values

- ✦ **Child safety and well-being**
- ✦ **Team interaction**
- ✦ **Transparency**
- ✦ **Responsibility**
- ✦ **Effectiveness**



♥ Vision  
of the foundation

Happy children create  
a successful future!

## ✦ Message from the Head of the Foundation

Dear friends, partners, and all who support our great common cause!

The past year has brought us many valuable projects for the happy future of our children. Thanks to your support, your belief, and tireless work – together we were able to give thousands of Ukrainian children and families more goodness and hope.

Today our mission remains unchanged: to create conditions in which every child can feel safety and support, can grow up in a family, and see a bright future ahead.

At the same time, we are convinced: a child's spiritual development is the key to forming their personality, moral values, life direction, and ability to overcome difficulties with dignity. Through our projects, we try to instill in each of our children an understanding of kindness, compassion, mutual support, and faith in themselves and the world around them

Among all our achievements, I want to share the story of our graduate, Diana. She came to our foundation as a child, became a resident of a family-type children's home that we care for, a delicate girl with big eyes who was then only dreaming of a better future. Thanks to the joint efforts of the team and her new family, the support of donors, Diana received the necessary educational and psychological assistance, as well as love, care, mentorship, and belief in herself. Today, Diana has grown up and is already helping other children. She became a social specialist and works in one of our foundation's programs, helping children and families survive crisis situations and build their future. Diana says: «When I was a child, they gave me wings, and now I want to help others fly.»

This story shows what we work for, it's an example of how supporting a child helps them grow and find their own path. What we do today shapes the future, and the story of each child is a chance for the entire country to recover, grow, and prosper.

**I want to thank each of you — our partners, donors, volunteers, and the foundation team. Thanks to you, we can change destinies and build a strong spiritual foundation for future generations.**

I express my deep gratitude separately to our defenders – the brave Armed Forces of Ukraine, who daily give us the invaluable – peaceful skies under which we can implement all our initiatives.

We don't stop. We are scaling our work, especially in the eastern regions, and are ready to do even more for the safety and development of every child.

There is much work ahead, but I know: together we are capable of anything. Thank you for your faith, your help, and your open hearts.



*With warmth and gratitude,  
Mariana Romaniak  
CEO of «Ridni» Foundation*





In 2024, «Ridni» Charitable Foundation continued to change the lives of Ukrainian children and families for the better. Learn about the achievements that were implemented in this section.

# 2024 year of «Ridni» Charitable Foundation. Highlights

# Results of 2024



♥ **8 975**  
children and families

received material,  
educational  
and psychological support

♥ **5 981**  
events

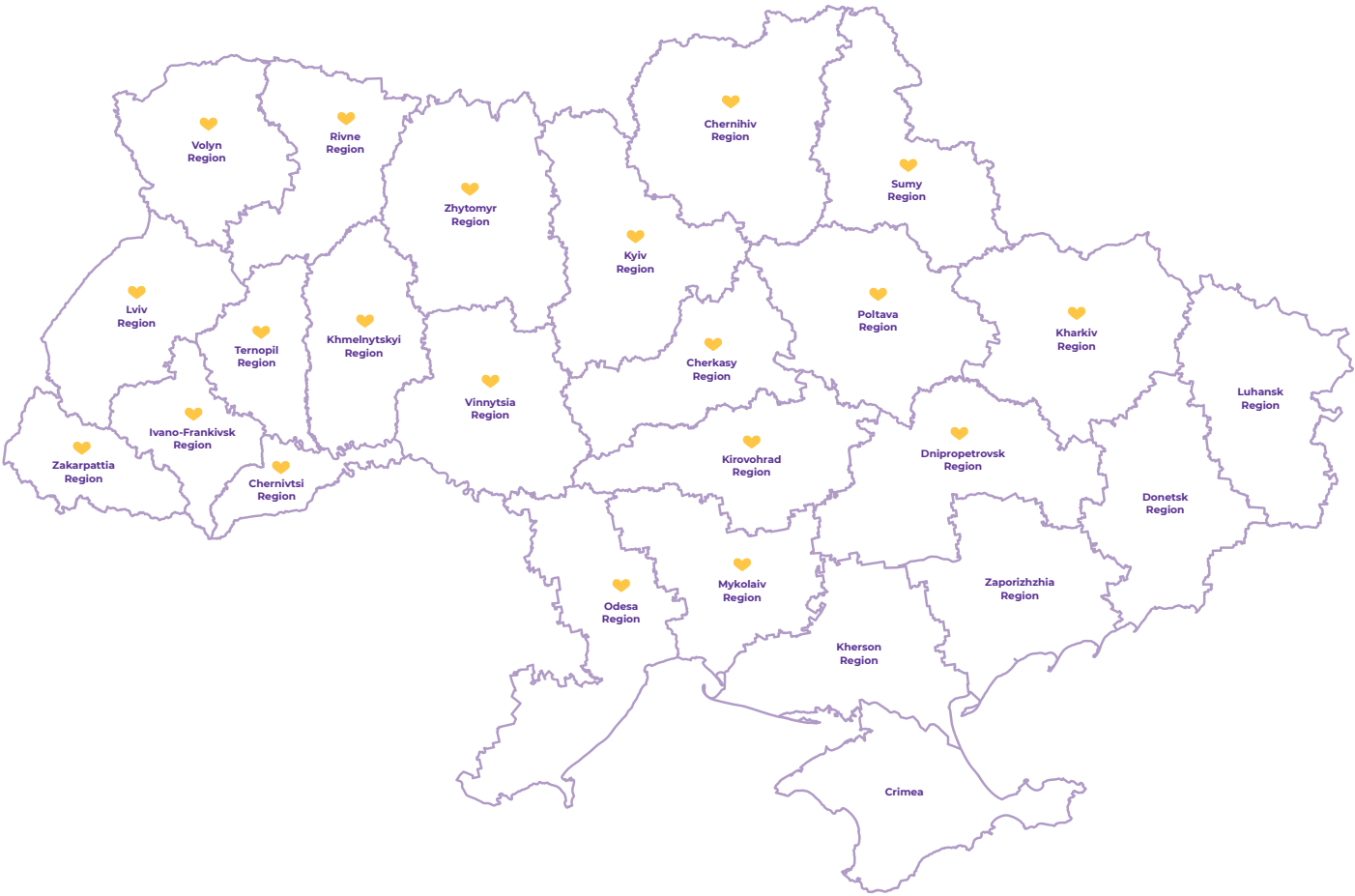
conducted for the development of  
children in the fields of education,  
culture and social support

♥ **14 953**  
specialists

across Ukraine received  
valuable knowledge  
for working with children

♥ **28**  
children

found new families,  
felt warmth and care



The activities and psychological products of the foundation are spread throughout

\*excluding the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson regions and Crimea

# Main achievements for 2024

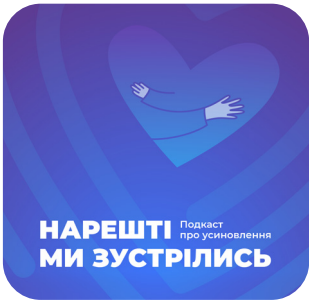


«Ridni» Charitable Foundation became part of the global community

**GlobalGiving,** which allows us to attract support from all over the world.

## Podcast «Finally We Met»

became available on the «Ukraine for Every Child» platform and popular streaming services (Apple Podcast, Spotify, SoundCloud, MEGOGO and NV Podcasts).



## We started a project with the British

to strengthen the capacity of the «Family Support Service» department of the «Ridni» Social Support Center, implemented in cooperation with the «Children's Affairs Service» Department of LCC and MI «Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» LCC».



We continued cooperation with the international fund **UNICEF**

We held the All-Ukrainian art festival «Create Worlds» for children from vulnerable categories and reached

**498 children**



We launched a non-formal education program for youth and adolescents in Lviv, Dnipro, Kyiv and Ivano-Frankivsk regions.



**28 children**  
found their families.



**8975 children**  
and their families received material,  
educational and psychological  
support.



**670 specialists,**  
who work with children, received  
knowledge and psychological  
products from the foundation,  
provided support to more than 1,000  
beneficiaries throughout Ukraine.



**30 beneficiaries**  
became candidates for adoption and  
creation of other family forms of  
upbringing.



**2113 young  
people and teenagers**  
completed training  
in the transformational program  
for youth.



**498 129 people**  
were reached by the media campaign  
about adoption and family forms of  
upbringing.

# Main areas of the foundation's work in 2024



**Comprehensive support for vulnerable categories**



**Adoption and alternative forms of family upbringing**



**Mental health and psychosocial support for children and adults (MHPSS)**



**Non-formal education for youth, career guidance programs, socialization and adaptation of adolescents**





- ✦ Project «Strengthening Communities for Child Well-Being»
- ✦ Municipal Institution Small Group Home «Spilnota-Ridni»
- ✦ Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» Lviv City Council
- ✦ Family-type children's home (FTCH)
- ✦ Strengthening the capacity of the «Family Support Service» department of the «Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» Lviv City Council»

# Comprehensive support for vulnerable categories

# Project «Strengthening Communities for Child Well-Being»

In 2024, we continued our cooperation with UNICEF and are successfully implementing a project aimed at supporting children and their families, as well as promoting adoption and family forms of upbringing.



The project «Strengthening Communities for Child Well-Being» is implemented by «Ridni» Charitable Foundation in cooperation with UNICEF with financial support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the people of Japan, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through the state development bank KfW, the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and the Government of France.



**Within the joint project,  
we worked in five areas:**

- ♥ **Psychosocial support for children,  
adolescents and their parents**

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- ♥ **Psychosocial support for families from  
vulnerable categories of the population**

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- ♥ **Promotion and creation  
of alternative forms of family upbringing**

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- ♥ **Strengthening the child protection  
system at the regional and community  
level**

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- ♥ **Involvement in the Reintegration program  
(return of children from abroad)**

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**The project covered  
five regions within  
the western region:**

- ♦ **Lviv**
- ♦ **Chernivtsi**
- ♦ **Zakarpattia**
- ♦ **Ivano-Frankivsk**
- ♦ **Volyn**



**Project «Strengthening Communities  
for Child Well-Being»**



**14 432 children  
and parents**

received psychological assistance.



**We held two  
family festivals**

in Uzhhorod and Mukachevo,  
which were attended by almost  
one and a half thousand  
participants.



**25 case managers**

worked with children and families  
from vulnerable categories in Lviv  
and Zakarpattia regions.



**5580 beneficiaries**

received individual support from  
the project's case managers.



**We conducted  
trainings  
and supervisions  
for 1800 specialists,**

who work with children  
and their families.

**Project results  
for 2024**





Виконавець:  
**KfW**

With funding from  
**Austrian  
Development  
Cooperation**



## More than 1300 teenagers

became participants in the transformation program and attended **more than 100 events**.



## 30 beneficiaries

became candidates for adoption, guardianship, care, foster parents and parent-educators.



## 5977 beneficiaries

received psychosocial support within 100 trainings under the «Parental Amulet» program.



## We conducted two large-scale forums in Lviv and Zakarpattia

The Forum «Child. Dream. Family» dedicated to ensuring every child's right to grow up in a family environment, took place in Lviv and **gathered more than 200 participants**.

In Uzhhorod, we held the Forum «With a child, for a child, for the sake of a child», dedicated to ensuring the best interests of every child and the development of family forms of upbringing, which **was attended by more than 150 participants**.



## We conducted 7 events

where we increased the capacity of specialists in implementing the «Better Care for Children» reform at the community and regional levels. **We reached more than 150 specialists**.



## We conducted over 19 trainings

for specialists on providing quality social services, **covering more than 400 participants**.



Project «Strengthening Communities  
for Child Well-Being»

We recorded 12 new  
podcast episodes

where invited guests, parents who adopted children into their families shared their own experiences, and also discussed with our specialists - a lawyer and a psychologist - interesting and relevant issues regarding adoption and family forms of upbringing.

498 129 people

were reached by the media campaign on the topic of adoption and family forms of upbringing.

The podcast episode  
with Tetiana  
Perevezentseva

«Childhood in an institution. How do institutions affect the formation of a child's personality?» **was included in the weekly selection of the best podcasts from NV media.**

We launched an  
outdoor advertising  
campaign aimed  
at raising awareness  
about adoption  
and family forms of  
upbringing,

in Lviv and Zakarpattia regions.





- ◆ **28 children found their families**
- ◆ **19 family forms of upbringing were created**
- ◆ **A unique case — a mother and child reunited after separation in the «Window of Life»**

## The Forum «With a child, for a child, for the sake of a child» dedicated to ensuring the best interests of every child and the development of family forms of upbringing took place in Uzhhorod.

150 participants took part in it, including representatives of state and local government bodies, specialists from children's affairs services and social services, communities of Zakarpattia region, representatives of charitable and public organizations.





The forum became a platform for exchanging experience and developing practical solutions that will help protect children's rights, especially during the war, as well as ensure their right to be raised in a family. Through interaction

and exchange of best practices, we aim to contribute to increasing the capacity of communities for the development of family forms of upbringing: guardianship and care, foster families, family-type children's homes.



## The Forum «Child. Dream. Family» dedicated to ensuring every child's right to grow up in a family environment took place in Lviv.



More than 200 representatives of state authorities and local selfgovernment, specialists in children's affairs services, foster parents and other interested persons united to discuss ensuring every child's right to grow up in a family environment.

The forum took a comprehensive approach to issues that arise in the implementation of state policy and sectoral regional programs regarding the provision of measures to protect the rights of every child, the development

of a developed system of family forms of upbringing for orphans and children deprived of parental care, as well as the development of services to support parents or persons who replace them.



# spilnota



**MI Small Group Home «Spilnota-Ridni»** was created by the Children’s Affairs Service of the Lviv City Council together with «Ridni» Charitable Foundation. MI «SGH «Spilnota-Ridni» aims to provide comprehensive support and development for youth and help break the cycle of orphanhood by preparing adolescents for independent living. It can

accommodate orphans, children Our goal deprived of parental care and children from these categories. The foundation helped with the renovation of the premises, and also developed a training program for the development and education of residents, adolescents and youth. The «Spilnota» training program in Lviv operates on the basis of MI SGH «Spilnota-Ridni».

✦ **Our goal**

**is to prepare adolescents for independent living, create an environment for developing their own skills, talents, knowledge of themselves and the world, form a community of active and successful young people and lay a solid foundation for moral and civic position.**

The foundation provided a fully equipped facility, and also developed a training program for the development and education of residents, adolescents and youth. Among the partners who supported MI SGH

«Spilnota-Ridni» are GETEC Group, Ukraine Children’s Action Project, Avalon, The Ambassador Platform. It is thanks to the support of partners that we are able to create the best conditions for the children we care for.





## This year, MI SGH «Spilnota-Ridni» celebrated its first year of operation.

During this time, the small group home has become a safe place for young people, where they continue to receive support and opportunities for development. All this became possible thanks to the support of our partners.

Our partners from «The Ambassador Platform» provided scholarships that allowed eight residents to receive additional training, extended medical support, technical assistance for

the educational process, as well as provision of clothing and personal hygiene products.

## Feedback from residents of MI SGH «Spilnota-Ridni»



*Yulia*

I saw the world from  
a slightly different angle.  
«Spilnota» is what  
I wanted to have,  
particularly my personal  
life, support.

«Spilnota» has enhanced  
communication skills.



*Serhii*

“**«Spilnota» provides many opportunities for development.**



*Valentyna*



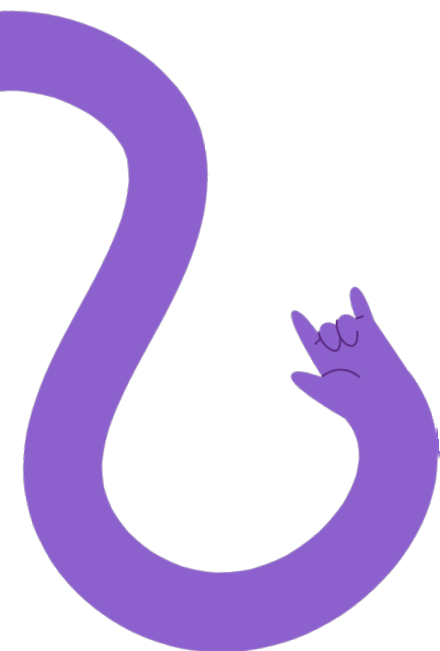
*Liza*

“**There are many opportunities here, there is free time for yourself, as well as support and help in any matter. This is a huge space to follow the path in life that you want.**

# SPILNOTA FEST



Together with partners, we organized Spilnota Fest, within which we gathered active teenagers and conducted a series of trainings, master classes and other activities.





# MI Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» LCC

MI Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» LCC was created by the Children's Affairs Service of the Lviv City Council in partnership with «Ridni» Charitable Foundation. The foundation provided a fully equipped facility with renovation.

✦ The main goal of the MI Center «Ridni» LCC is to preserve the family and return the child to relatives.



**It is here that up to 26 children can temporarily live. Among them are children who have been left without parental care, orphans and children who are in difficult life circumstances.**

The Center has two departments:  
«Urgent Placement of Children» and  
«Family Support Service».



# Joint Christmas dinner at MI Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» LCC

✦ In a warm atmosphere, we organized a joint dinner for the children of the Center.



The children sang carols, enjoyed the festive dishes and simply enjoyed the holiday. **And most importantly - everyone felt that we are together, like one big family.**



## Winter holiday and performance from the children of MI Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» LCC



Traditionally, every year the Center's team gathers partners who support children for a pre-holiday meeting.

✦ This year, the children and educators prepared a performance based on «The Little Prince» by Exupery, which became a symbolic reminder for us adults: we are responsible for those we have tamed.



# Family-type children’s homes (FTCH)

Since 2016, the Foundation has been taking care of **two family-type children’s homes in Lviv** created in partnership with the Children’s Affairs Service of the LCC. Up to 10 children

can live in each of them, including orphans and children deprived of parental care. They receive everything necessary for safe development, as well as comprehensive support (education, career guidance, health improvement).

Thanks to the care of parenteducators, children live in a warm family atmosphere where everyone feels needed and protected.

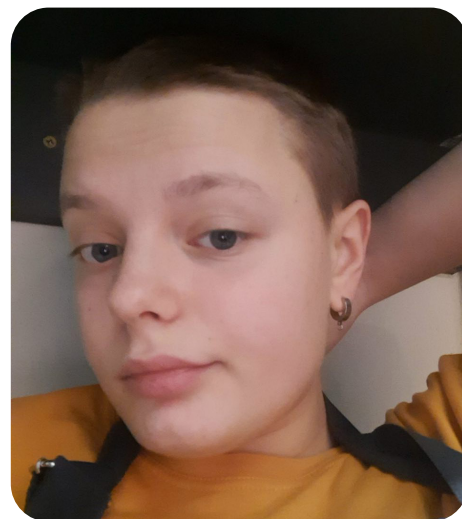
We are proud of the achievements of our FTCH pupils!



**Nastia - entered Lviv Vocational College of Lviv National University of Nature Management specializing in «Tourism and Recreation.»**



**Karina - first-year student at the National University «Lviv Polytechnic», specializing in «Economics and Management». She also works as an administrator at MI Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» LCC.**



**Svitlana is a student at Lviv National Agrarian University specializing in «Design and Architecture».**

## Support for FTCH graduate

- ✦ Our foundation became part of an important event in the life of Lilia Hnatyo - a graduate of a family-type children's home. With the support of the Lviv City Council and our foundation, Liliia was able to purchase her first apartment.





Within the framework of the city's targeted program for co-financing the purchase of housing for orphans, children deprived of parental care, and persons from among them, the Lviv City Council provided about 70% of the cost of housing, and the rest was covered by our foundation. Thanks to joint efforts, we were able to make this important step for Liliia a reality.

# Project «Strengthening the capacity of the «Family Support Service» department of the Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» with the support of the Government of Great Britain»

In July 2024, CF «Ridni» began implementing the project «Strengthening the capacity of the «Family Support Service» department of the Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» with the support of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great

Britain and Northern Ireland, acting through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commonwealth Affairs and Development in cooperation with the Department «Children's Affairs Service» of the LCC and MI «Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni».

**Project duration:**

**July 2024 –  
March 2025**





Project goal:

**preserving and increasing the potential of families in crisis situations to ensure the wellbeing of children in Ukraine by supporting the capacity and scaling the work of the «Family Support Service» department of the «Ridni» Center, promoting recommendations and cross-sectoral cooperation on preserving the family and returning the child to relatives at the legislative and social levels.**



The project is implemented within the «Family Support Service» department of MI «Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» LCC. **Activities are aimed at helping families who have found themselves in difficult life circumstances to ensure the preservation of the family for the well-being of the child.**

The project provides:

- ☀ **strengthening the department’s team with additional specialists**
- ☀ **cpromoting cross-sectoral cooperation**
- ☀ **development of methodological recommendations for the activities of MI «Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» LCC**



Project participants were families from the Lviv territorial community who need additional support from psychosocial specialists: family-type children’s homes, foster and guardian families, adoptive families, patronage families, biological families in difficult life circumstances, families raising children with disabilities and/or special educational needs, families with IDP status.

**Total number of psychological consultations > 200**

The following activities were conducted by specialized specialists (correctional psychologist, neuropsychologist, art trainer, speech therapistdefectologist)

period from July 2024 to December 2024 inclusive:

- 🌞 family consultations: 58
- 🌞 individual consultations: 813
- 🌞 group consultations: 39 (including 2 workshops and 10 art therapy sessions with children and adults)

The topics of the events were dedicated to overcoming stress, ecological interaction and revealing family resources.

Group events help improve relationships between parents and children, promote the development of skills of awareness of one's own needs and emotional self-regulation of parents/persons who replace them.

The result of the work was motivation for positive changes in family interaction and strengthening family ties among workshop participants, art therapy and group sessions.





## In 2024, the project covered psychosocial services for 84 families with 144 children:

On November 7, 2024, the Forum «When are we going home?» was held, the purpose of which was a comprehensive discussion of urgent issues related to providing support to children and families who found themselves in crisis life situations; participants analyzed the needs of a child and their family, looked for effective solutions for reintegrating children into families or upbringing in alternative family forms.



The forum was held simultaneously in two formats - offline and online, which made it possible for a larger number of participants from all over Ukraine to join. **The event gathered more than 180 participants**, including representatives of local selfgovernment bodies, specialists from children's affairs services from different regions, social work specialist and representatives of public organizations.



The event took place within the framework of the project «Strengthening the capacity of the «Family Support Service» department of the «Ridni» Center», which is implemented by CF «Ridni» in cooperation with the Department «Children's Affairs Service» of the LCC and MI «Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» LCC» with the support of the Government of Great Britain.





- ✦ Hotline on adoption and family forms of upbringing
- ✦ «Finally We Met» — podcast about adoption and family forms of upbringing

# Adoption and alternative forms of family upbringing

# Hotline on adoption and family forms of upbringing

Over the year of operation, the hotline received more than 800 inquiries. Everyone who calls the hotline will receive answers to their questions, information

consultation, as well as (if desired) legal and psychological consultations.

Adoption and alternative forms of family upbringing:

## ♥ Hotline

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## ♥ Promotion of adoption and family forms of upbringing

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## ♥ Individual consultations (psychologists, lawyers)



Виконавець:  
**KfW**

With funding from  
**Austrian Development Cooperation**

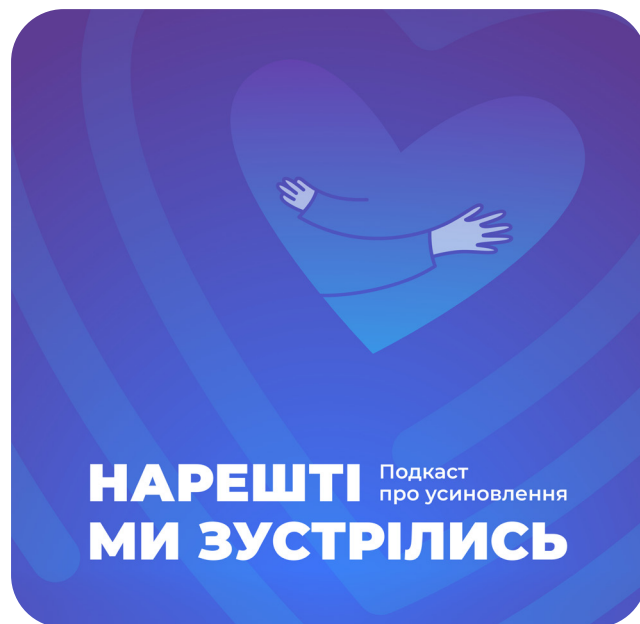


The hotline operates in Lviv and Zakarpattia regions within the framework of a joint project of «Ridni» Charitable Foundation and UNICEF, implemented with financial support from

the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through the state development bank KfW and the Austrian Development Agency (ADA).

## «Finally We Met» — podcast about adoption and family forms of upbringing

In our podcast, parents who have adopted children into their family share their own experiences, and also discuss interesting and relevant issues with our specialists - a lawyer and a psychologist. These conversations can help you on the path to accepting a child into your family and provide answers to many questions.



✦ **The podcast has already been viewed and listened to more than 88,000 times.**

The podcast is available for listening on Apple Podcast, Spotify, SoundCloud, Megogo, NV Podcast.





- ✦ Project «Resilience Resources in Educational Communities» supported by World Vision Ukraine Crisis Response
- ✦ Psychological products of the foundation
- ✦ Training, workshops
- ✦ Art festival «Create Worlds»

# Mental health and psychosocial support for children and adults (MHPSS)

# Project «Resilience Resources in Educational Communities» supported by World Vision

The «Ridni» Charitable Foundation joined the portfolio of verified partners of World Vision International and with the support of World Vision Ukraine Crisis Response in 2024 began implementing the project «Resilience Resources in Educational Communities», which aims to adapt and strengthen the psychological resilience of children and families affected by war.



**What makes this project unique?**

- **It helps develop competencies and strengthen the capacity of social workers, psychologists and teachers of general secondary education institutions to create a safe environment for children and families.**
- **It promotes the improvement of the psychoemotional state of children and families through interaction with resource methodologies with the assistance of specialists.**

**The project consists of several sequential stages and will be implemented in 2025 in Lviv and Dnipro.**

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**Project stages:**

- **Conducting two resource-educational forums «Points of Support» in Lviv and Dnipro**

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- **Online training course on working with the methodological set «Khvylyalka» and practical part for implementing the tool in work**

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- **Online workshop on writing therapeutic fairy tales**

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- **Writing of therapeutic fairy tales by participants and creation of an illustrated collection**

# Organization and conducting of training courses on the methodology of working with the psychological



In 2024, 60 participants completed the course, including psychologists, educators and social workers from different regions. Three offline and two online courses were conducted.



The peculiarity of the psychological game «Rejoice Together» is that there are no rules, so a participant or group of participants can create the ones they wish, depending on

the age of the children. It is through writing rules that an atmosphere of safety and responsibility is created.



# «Resource-educational projects for specialists»

## ✦ «Educational Circle: Around the Word»

120 educational specialists took part in the event, representing 39 educational institutions of Lviv region and 22 educational institutions of Kyiv region.

## ✦ Resource-training program «The Art of Recovery»

47 people took part in the event, including social workers, educators and psychologists from Chernivtsi region.

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### The purpose of the events:

to promote the professional and personal development of specialists in the educational field through increasing the level of emotional and ethical competence and analysis of practical tools for emotional and psychological recovery.



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#### Results of the events:

- ✦ **Provided conditions for emotional and physical recovery of participants**
- ✦ **Specialists developed skills for selfsupport and stress management**
- ✦ **Strengthened resilience of specialists working in conditions of high psychological load**
- ✦ **Provided modern methods and practices of psycho-emotional support and professional case management tools**

# Creating a charitable puzzle «City of Happy Childhood» in cooperation with «ORNER»

«City of Happy Childhood» — a puzzle about joyful childhood in the best place. In a place where everyone feels accepted, where diversity is respected and individuality is valued. In a place where, although everyone is different, everyone feels equally surrounded by care.

Main values  
embodied  
in the puzzle plot:



- ✦ **Acceptance and inclusion**
- ✦ **Family traditions and generational connection**
- ✦ **Care and support**
- ✦ **Joy of learning**
- ✦ **Respect for nature and ecological initiatives**
- ✦ **Creative self-expression**
- ✦ **Safety and trust**
- ✦ **Harmony and mutual assistance**
- ✦ **Celebration and joy of communication**



The funds raised will help organize the All-Ukrainian art festival «Create Worlds», where children from vulnerable categories will be able to express themselves emotionally, develop innate creativity and explore the world.

# Collaboration with Lviv BookForum literary festival

Within the 31st International Literary Festival Lviv BookForum, CF «Ridni» organized and conducted special events aimed at sharing the experience of psychological support for children through fairy tale therapy.

It was a great opportunity to get acquainted with our activities and learn how fairy tales help children and adults overcome difficult life situations.



**Panel discussion on the topic:  
«Fairy tales for children  
or adults: who needs  
them more?»**

The participants of the discussion - psychologist Svitlana Omelnytska, writer Dara Kornii and the editor-inchief of «Magula» publishing house Nadiia Zhyla - discussed the relevance of fairy tales from the point of view of psychological demand, creative selfexpression and market demand in the conditions of modern Ukraine.

**Lecture on the topic:  
«Recovery through fairy tales:  
a source of strength  
for family interaction»**

Fairy tale therapist Svitlana Omelnytska shared tools that help enrich the experience of reading and listening to fairy tales, providing additional resources for both children and adults.



# Trainings implemented in partnership with UNICEF

## «Parental Amulet»



Training was conducted for specialists to improve parental competencies. Methodological material was finalized: «Parental Amulet» manual + «The Hedgehog Who Was Found». An electronic collection of fairy tales about Khvylyalka was created based on fairy tales written by participants during the training.

## «Non-violent communication when working with families in difficult life circumstances»



Trainings were conducted to form participants knowledge and skills on conflict resolution through mechanisms of non-violent communication for further work with families who found themselves in difficult life circumstances. We managed to reach 67 participants from Zakarpattia region.



Виконавець:  
**KFW**

With funding from  
**Austrian  
Development  
Cooperation**



## «Socio-sychological technology of child adaptation in a new family according to the «Helper Hedgehog» methodology»



Trainings were conducted to increase the knowledge and skills of specialists from children's affairs services in working with children adapting to new family conditions.

53 specialists from Zakarpattia region were covered.

## «Therapeutic Hedgehog»



We conducted a series of trainings to help participants master knowledge and skills in working with children using toys («Therapeutic Hedgehog - Mother and Baby»). The trainings are aimed at developing sustainable behavioral strategies of resilience in war conditions and providing psychosocial support.

We covered 120 participants from Zakarpattia region.

# Laboratory of psychosocial solutions

✦ Laboratory of psychosocial solutions  
- a project of the psychological  
supervision department of the «Ridni».

**Purpose  
of the Laboratory:**

**development  
and implementation  
of psychosocial solutions  
(products, services, events)**

**Psychological  
products:**

- ✦ **Psychological game «Rejoice Together»**
- ✦ **Set for family interaction «Khvylyalka»  
(Ukrainian version of Worry doll)**
- ✦ **Collection of therapeutic fairy tales  
«Tale of the Helmet»**
- ✦ **Charitable puzzle «City of Happy  
Childhood» in partnership  
with the brand «ORNER»**

## All-Ukrainian art festival «Create Worlds»

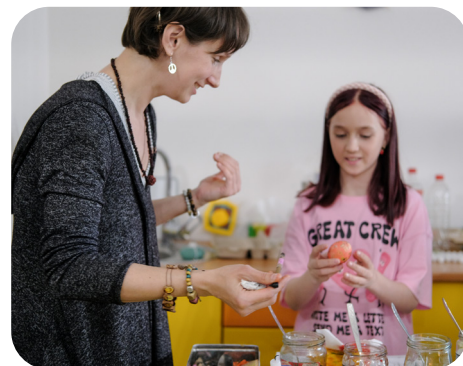
The «Ridni» Charitable Foundation created and organized a creative project - the All-Ukrainian art festival «Create Worlds» for children from vulnerable categories: orphans,

children deprived of parental care, those in difficult life circumstances, as well as those affected by the war.



The art festival became a safe platform for children, where they were able to express themselves emotionally, develop innate creativity and explore the world. Events were conducted in the format of art workshops covering various artistic directions.





In 2024, the project was implemented in  
**Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Cherkasy  
and Kharkiv regions. We managed  
to involve about 500 children.**

Thanks to various forms of interaction in the creative process with specialists and other children, participants received the necessary resources and experience of creative expression to strengthen internal supports against difficult life situations and challenges of the full-scale invasion for the sake of a happy future for Ukraine.







- ✦ Formation program «Spilnota»
- ✦ Children's camps
- ✦ Ridni. Ambassadors

# Non-formal education for youth, career guidance programs, socialization and adaptation of adolescents

# Non-formal education program for adolescents and youth «Spilnota»

- ✦ **The non-formal education program «Spilnota» is a project aimed at supporting teenagers from vulnerable categories.**

The goal of the program is to create a safe space where teenagers can receive psychological, social and emotional support, develop life skills and adapt to wartime conditions. Within the program, master classes, trainings, practical exercises, meetings, events and field trips are conducted, which help participants improve emotional management and reduce levels of stress and anxiety.



Thanks to the support of Ukraine Children's Action Project, we managed to involve 167 teenagers from Lviv, 31 teenagers from Dnipro in the program, who received knowledge in career guidance, non-formal education and psychological support.

Thanks to the partner The Collectyv in Kyiv region, 60 teenagers were involved who went through the program in Fastiv and Hrebinky for three months.



Partners Avalon, Vchasno, Ukrenergo joined the formation of the program, providing the program with lectures, workshops and excursions with the possibility of internships.

✦ **Main directions of the program:  
psychological, career guidance  
and educational support for teenagers  
and youth from 14 to 23 years old.**

Participant's feedback:

Ridni Foundation & «Caritas Donetsk»

Thanks to you, I was able to overcome the fear of being out of place in social groups. I experienced many emotions and feelings, and I have almost gotten rid of social phobia because here I'm not afraid to express my emotions or thoughts.



Feedback from our partners:

Ridni Foundation & «Caritas Donetsk»

This project is so unique that we have great pleasure and honor working in it, providing help to children and seeing the results of our work.



**The program is implemented in Lviv, Kyiv and Ivano-Frankivsk, previously also operated in Dnipro.**

In December 2024, a program for teenagers and youth in Ivano-Frankivsk began with the support of Ukraine Children’s Action Project, where, in addition to non-formal education, teenagers have the opportunity to receive educational support for admission to higher educational institutions.

# Children's camps

A summer camp was held for children from MI «Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» of the Lviv City Council. The camp took place in the village of Strilky, Sambir district. Children received powerful educational and patriotic experience: they learned to be leaders, support each other, act cohesively and take responsibility.



The main goal of the camp is to create an opportunity for children to spend time fun, informative and safe, gain valuable experience, find new friends and create memories that will stay with them for life.



The camp program harmoniously combined educational, upbringing and practical elements. Sports competitions, rugby, obstacle course and quest helped children become stronger physically and mentally. Learning insurgent songs, discussing symbols of Ukraine and modern challenges contributed to a deeper understanding of their country. Discussions about values, leadership, language issues, as well as countering information attacks (IPSO) helped participants better navigate in the modern world and become its active creators.



The day in the camp began with morning exercises and dances. Throughout the day, children participated in mini-games, discussions, master classes, team

challenges and nature hikes. Such activities contributed to team building, development of new skills and discovery of their own talents.

**Camp theme**  
**«Courage»:**

- ◆ **Emotions**
- ◆ **Communication**
- ◆ **Career guidance**
- ◆ **Self-discipline**

**Children learned to show courage not only in trials, but also in demonstrating their own talents, openness to new experiences and supporting each other.**

---

The camp was joined by:

- ✦ **Children who suffered from the war and moved to Lviv from Donetsk and Luhansk regions**
- ✦ **Children living in the Center for Mother and Child «Unbreakable Mothers»**
- ✦ **Children from families who found themselves in difficult life circumstances**
- ✦ **Children deprived of parental care who are temporarily staying at MI «Center for Social Support of Children and Families «Ridni» LCC**



## Football camp organized by the «Orphans Care Center» with financial support from «Beetroot» company

22 young men from vulnerable categories took part in a football camp, which became not only a sports gathering, but also part of a comprehensive program of psychoemotional recovery. During the week, participants overcame the consequences of stress, strengthened emotional resilience, restored socialization skills through team interaction and psychological support, and prepared for the football championship.



The camp program combined daily intensive training with psychological support, helping young men reduce anxiety, strengthen self-confidence and prepare for competitions. Teamwork developed trust and cohesion.

In addition to physical training, participants went through group sessions with psychologists, which contributed to a better understanding of their emotions and overcoming traumatic experiences. As a result, the young men became more open, confident and ready for challenges both on the field and in life.



✦

**We thank our partners for supporting this initiative, which helps children who have experienced difficult life circumstances find new opportunities for development and look confidently to the future.**

A special proof of the effectiveness of the camp was the team’s participation in the «Hope for Mundial» championship, where they won third place among 24 teams. They also took part in the «Silver Liga», which was organized by the association of amateur mini-football teams of Lviv region and took first place. These results became not only a sporting success, but also a symbol of personal growth and cohesion.



# Ridni. Ambassadors

✦ **A program with opportunities for personal development and first professional steps in the social sphere with Ridni.**

The foundation’s ambassadors actively worked with foundation projects, organized events and helped create a safe and creative space for children and families.

Among the implemented projects were a series of educational, developmental, creative classes and events for mothers and children at the «Mother and Child» Center and for residents of MI SGH «Spilnota-Ridni».



**Thanks to the project, students were able to gain valuable experience working in the social sphere and charity, participate in various foundation projects and initiate their own, develop personal and professional skills.**



✦ We were glad to get to know them better, share experiences and inspire young people to choose a path in the social sphere, particularly in our organization.



# Partnerships of «Ridni» Charitable Foundation

# GlobalGiving

«GlobalGiving» is a reliable crowdfunding platform that allows you to easily and safely support local projects from anywhere in the world.

The «Ridni» Charitable Foundation has become part of the GlobalGiving global community, which allows us to attract support from all corners of the world. Within our cooperation, you can make your contribution to support children from vulnerable categories and echildren affected by the war.



Child Protection | Ukraine | Project #65291

Give support to 1,000 Ukrainian orphaned-children

by Charitable Organization Charity Fund RIDNI



Give support to 1,000 Ukrainian orphaned-children

DONATE NOW

Donate once

Donate monthly

\$10 USD

will provide a child with learning materials for a month

>

\$50 USD

will provide a psychological support session for one affected child

>

\$100 USD

will provide humanitarian and educational support

>



Your contributions will help us provide psychological support and humanitarian aid to at least 1,000 children, including orphans, children deprived of parental care, and those affected by Russian aggression in Ukraine.



**Our CEO Mariana Romaniak held an extremely important meeting with the «GlobalGiving» team in the US capital.** We discussed future plans with partners and opportunities to expand cooperation to attract even more support for our programs to help children from vulnerable categories and children affected by the war in Ukraine.

We are grateful to the organization «Global Giving» for the partnership and look forward to new prospects for the development of our initiatives at the global level!

# Giving Tuesday

We spent this day in the circle of our partners to say the most sincere «Thank you». It was a warm and sincere event where we talked, shared thoughts and simply enjoyed time together.



## Collaboration with the brand «GIDNIST'»



**In cooperation with «GIDNIST'», we created unique charity T-shirts, part of the proceeds from the sale of which were transferred to our foundation to support children who are growing up without relatives.**

# International events



## UN Future Summit



Our CEO Mariana Romaniak had a unique opportunity to participate in the UN summit, where the most pressing issues of the future world were discussed. One of the important topics of the summit was leadership among youth.

Youth is the driver of change. The summit brought together leaders from around the world to discuss the role of young people in shaping a better future.



## Participation in the World Economic Forum in Davos



Our CEO Mariana Romaniak attended this event and noted:

«There was a lot of international press at the forum, and this made it possible to keep Ukraine in the top news, talk about the consequences of the war, about the importance of military support, about the return of Ukrainian prisoners of war and the return of Ukrainian children deported to Russia».

## The World Children Day in Vatican



As part of this event, an international delegation consisting of Ukraine, Poland, Indonesia met with Pope Francis.

Our foundation was invited to a conference on the protection of children’s rights in Rome, where we had the opportunity to tell the international community more about the work of our foundation and the current situation in Ukraine.

Pope Francis also met and spoke with Ukrainian children who suffered from the war and saw the consequences of enemy aggression with their own eyes.

## Fice 35 Congress in Croatia



For three days, the foundation team together with international colleagues discussed the most pressing challenges in the field of child protection. At the congress, one could hear about the experiences of young people who grew up in various forms of alternative care. Croatian colleagues also presented their innovative models of helping children from vulnerable categories.

# Events in Ukraine



## Meeting of the Coordination Council on ensuring the right of a child to grow up in a family environment in Lviv region



Our CEO Mariana Romaniak, who is a member of the Coordination Council, took part in the meeting of the Coordination Council on ensuring the right of a child to grow up in a family environment in Lviv region.

The meeting was initiated by the Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights and the Coordination Center for the Development of Family Upbringing and Child Care.



## Participation in a press conference on the results of monitoring visits by the Ombudsman's Office and NGOs (Kyiv)



The foundation team took part in monitoring visits and in a press conference on the results of monitoring visits by the Ombudsman's Office and public organizations to children's institutions in Lviv and Ternopil regions.

Among the speakers was the CEO of CF «Ridni» - Mariana Romaniak. The purpose of the press conference was to highlight the systemic problems of institutional care and find ways to solve them.

Charity Forum  
«Masters of Good»  
from Forbes Ukraine



We took part in the forum, which brought together representatives of business, charitable organizations and activists to share experiences and discuss how together we can make the world better.

The «Masters of Good» forum provided an opportunity not only to learn about new approaches to charity, strategies and partnerships aimed at supporting those who need it most, but also to establish new acquaintances with potential partners. These meetings inspire and give new strength for the development of our initiatives!

Christmas meeting  
with British  
Embassy Kyiv



Our CEO Mariana Romaniak had the honor of meeting with the British Ambassador to Ukraine Martin Harris and the team of the British Embassy. «Thank you British Embassy Kyiv for this Christmas meeting. I'm very happy about our partnership. Thank you Mr. Ambassador, Martin Harris, and the entire British Embassy team for your enormous contribution to Ukraine and the future of Ukrainian children!» - adds Mariana Romaniak.

# «Ridni» Charitable Foundation in the media


Reached **more than 500,000 people** through media and digital platforms.

**More than 70 mentions in the media**, including leading Ukrainian media.  
Publications in **«Vogue Ukraine»**, **«ELLE»**, **«Radio Liberty»**, **«Hromadske»**, **«NV»**.


  
hromadske


FTCH pupil Diana, who is supported by the foundation, shared her story in an article for **«Hromadske»**.







The foundation's CEO explained why she chose work in a charitable foundation instead of a successful media career in an article for **«Happy Monday»**.





We talked about adoption during the war for **«New Voice»** media.





The series of charity exhibitions of our partner The Collectyv, which it organized to support the foundation, was featured in **«Vogue»**.





Ridni together with partner Laska store were included in the list of charitable initiatives to support Ukrainians according to the version of **«ELLE»** magazine.







- ✦ Do good with Ri and Di
- ✦ Coffee with St. Nicholas
- ✦ Cooperation with the Center  
for Intellectual Art «Mercury»
- ✦ Cooperation with TheCollectyv

# Charity events

# Do good with Ri and Di

Our partner establishments traditionally joined forces to support the implementation of the All-Ukrainian art festival «Create Worlds» for children from vulnerable categories.

**The main goal of this campaign in 2024** was to raise funds for the implementation of the All-Ukrainian art festival «Create Worlds».

Anyone could purchase a dish, a drink or use a certain service in the networks of establishments of our partners. At the end of the campaign, we managed to collect 119,082 hryvnias for the organization of the All-Ukrainian art festival, which will take place in 2025.

Video report:



Partners of the campaign:



SISTERS



Narcissist



✦ Thanks to joint efforts,  
we managed to raise:

119 082 UAH.



# Coffee with St. Nicholas

A charity campaign within which anyone could buy delicious coffee drinks, aromatic beans with special stickers and goodies in establishments that joined the initiative.

**The main goal of this campaign in 2024**

psychosocial support, mentoring and practical training to help teenagers within the framework of the nonformaleducation program «Spilnota» in Kyiv region.



Video report:



Partners of the campaign:



✦ Thanks to joint efforts,  
we managed to raise:

141 901 UAH.



# Cooperation with the Center for Intellectual Art «Mercury»

Within the exhibition «My Territory», we launched a charity initiative to support children affected by the war.



Visitors had the opportunity to join the initiative by purchasing a charity ticket or unique postcards. Part of the proceeds was directed to psychosocial support for children under the care of the foundation.

A special element of the initiative was the entrance ticket, which depicted a joint artistic work of residents of MI SGH «Spilnota-Ridni» LCC, created during a painting class.

# Cooperation with The Collectyv

«The Collectyv» is a unique project of Ukrainian contemporary art, created with the assistance of «Roman Sviridov Gallery» and implemented by independent Ukrainian artists.

Within the project, a charity exhibition and charity auction were held at the National Art Museum of Ukraine in Kyiv, part of the proceeds from which were directed to the Ridni Foundation to support the «Spilnota» non-formal education program.

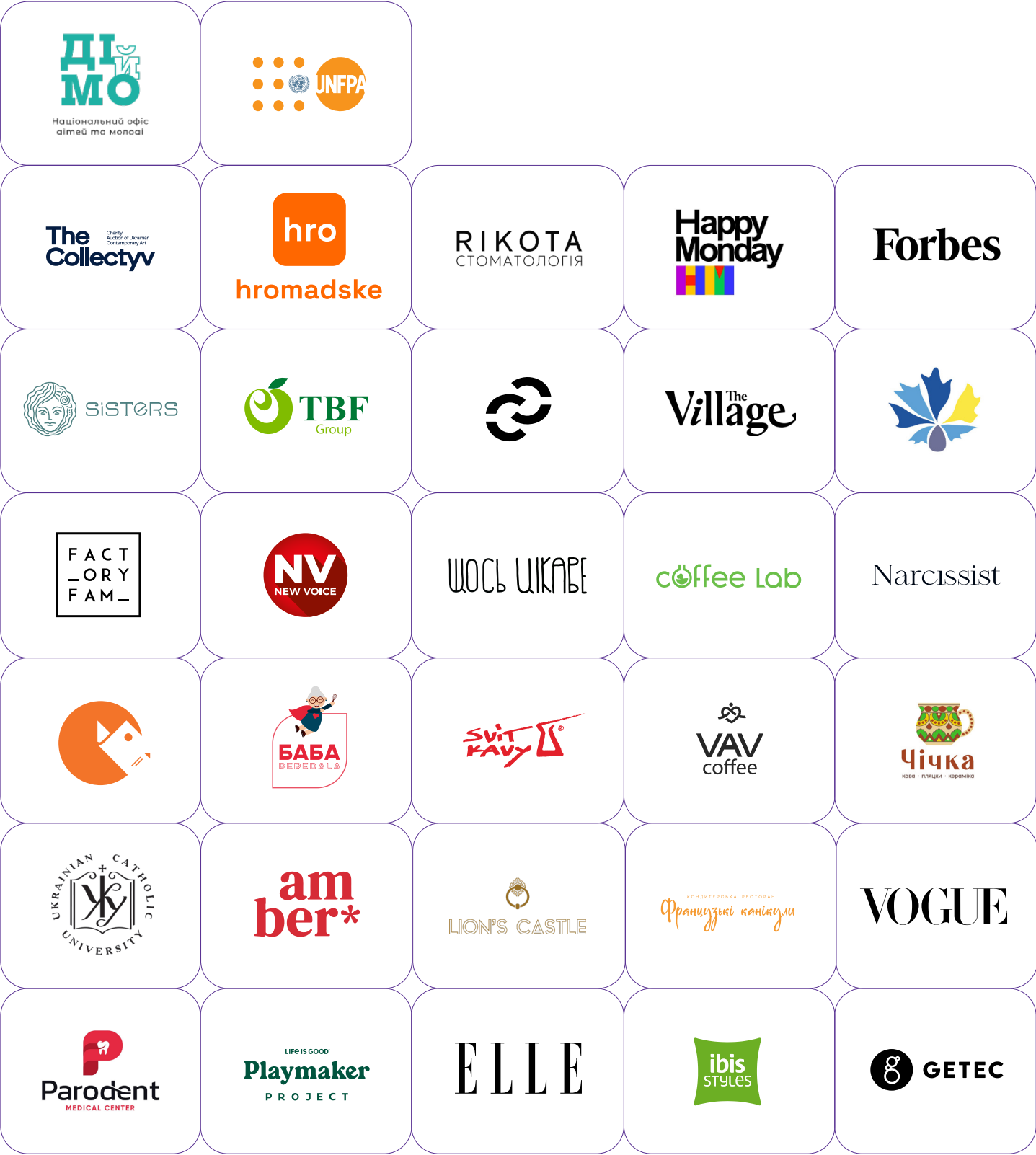


Also, within the partnership with «The Collectyv», we organized an interactive master class for children and a meeting with contemporary Ukrainian artists Iryna Maksymova and Oleksandr Kryzhanovskyi.

Children had the opportunity to learn more about contemporary art, participate in the creative process and visit an exhibition tour, which was conducted by the project curators.

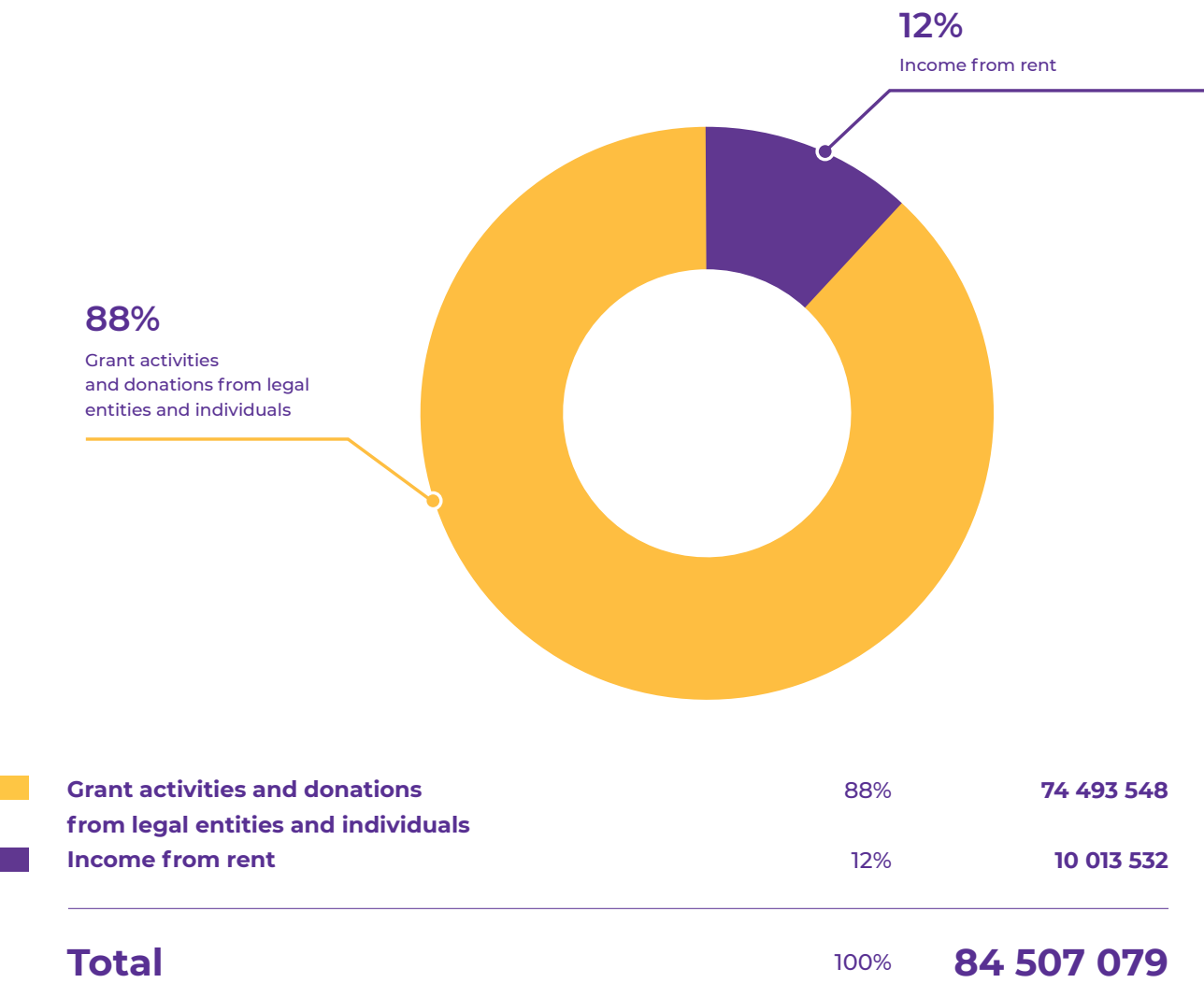
# Partners of the foundation

 <p>unicef для кожної дитини</p>	 <p>STREET CHILD UKRAINE</p>	 <p>OCHA</p>	 <p>СЛУЖБА У СПРАВАХ ДІТЕЙ</p>	 <p>HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH</p>
 <p>GlobalGiving</p>	 <p>MRIY DIY ОСВІТНІЙ ЦЕНТР</p>	 <p>UK International Development Partnership   Progress   Prosperity</p>	 <p>УМПО Українська мережа за права дитини</p>	 <p>Координаційний центр з розвитку сімейного виховання та догляду дітей</p>
 <p>Львівська ОБЛАСНА ВІЙСЬКОВА АДМІНІСТРАЦІЯ</p>	 <p>Львів Львівська міська рада</p>	 <p>Управління Служба у справах дітей</p>	 <p>УКРЕНЕРГО Національна енергетична компанія</p>	 <p>World Vision</p>
 <p>BERTA GROUP</p>	 <p>ЦЕНТР ГІДНОСТІ ДИТИНИ</p>	 <p>Омбудсман України Ombudsman of Ukraine</p>	 <p>ЗАКАРПАТЬСЬКА ОБЛАСНА ДЕРЖАВНА АДМІНІСТРАЦІЯ</p>	 <p>The Ambassador Platform</p>
 <p>CAF Charities Aid Foundation</p>	 <p>КАРИТАС ДОНЕЦЬК CARITAS DONETSK</p>	 <p>With funding from Austrian Development Cooperation</p>	 <p>Avalon</p>	 <p>співпраця з німеччиною DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT</p>
 <p>BEETROOT</p>	 <p>OlamAid</p>	 <p>Ukrainian Children's Action Project Проект "Життя для дітей України"</p>	 <p>Вчасно</p>	 <p>ORNER</p>



# Foundation’s income 2024

Data presented in the national currency — hryvnia

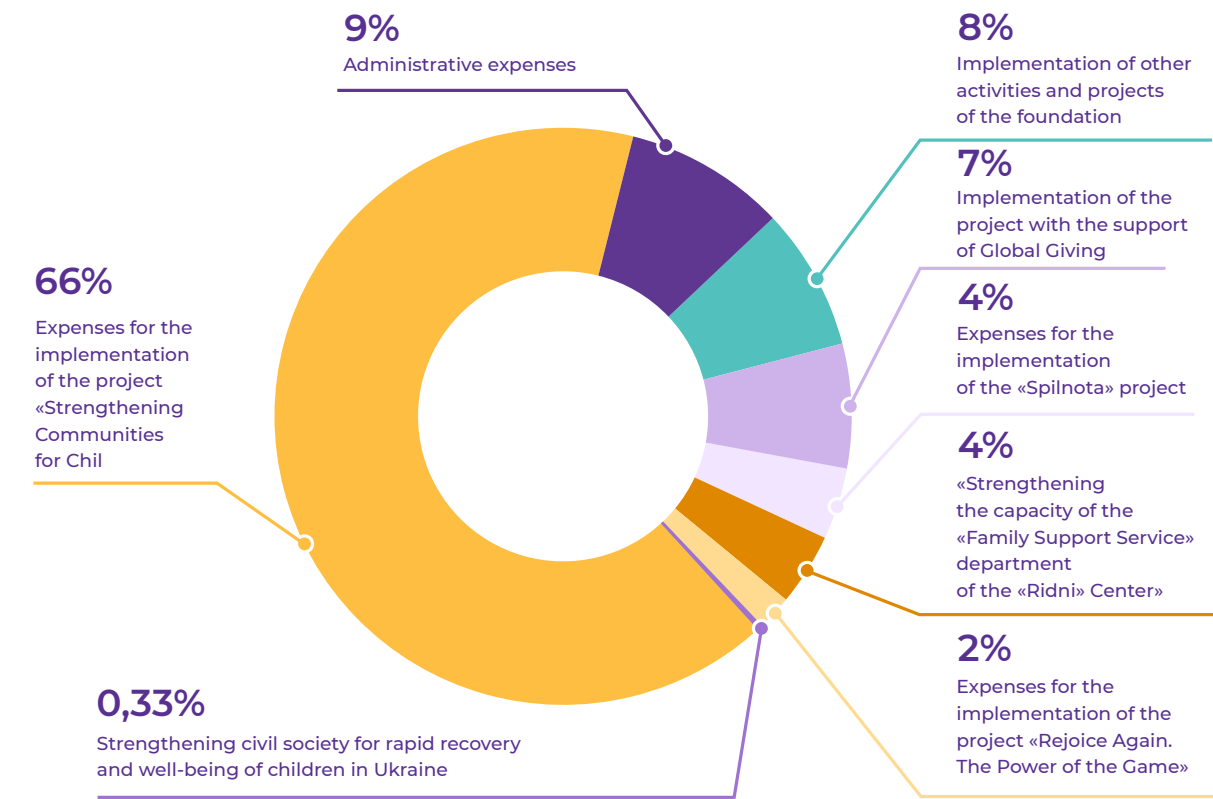


*\*Results for 2024 are presented using the «cash method» and are not audited.  
The result of the independent audit of activities for 2024 will be published on the foundation's website.*

Data presented  
in the national currency — hryvnia

# Foundation’s expenditures

## 2024



Expenses for the implementation of the project «Strengthening Communities for Child Well-Being»	66%	41 471 835
Administrative expenses	9%	5 670 651
Implementation of other activities and projects of the foundation	8%	4 940 561
Implementation of the project with the support of «Global Giving»	7%	4 371 199
Expenses for the implementation of the «Spilnota» project	4%	2 438 066
Project «Strengthening the capacity of the «Family Support Service» department of the «Ridni» Center»	4%	2 703 193
Expenses for the implementation of the project «Rejoice Again. The Power of the Game»	2%	1 403 150
Strengthening civil society for rapid recovery and wellbeing of children in Ukraine	0,33%	208 993
Total	100%	63 207 648

# Foundation team



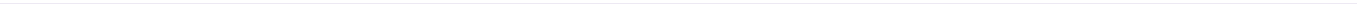
**Chief Accountant Natalia Nikolenko** took second place in the all-Ukrainian competition **«Best Accountant of Ukraine»**, which united the best specialists of the country in the field of accounting.



**We became participants in an orientation training on the implementation of the «Better Care for Every Child»** model with the support of UNICEF. Together with partners and representatives of other public organizations, we shared experiences and worked on a deeper understanding of reforms to jointly implement it in Ukraine.



The foundation team underwent **training on effective feedback skills**, and department heads and project managers took part in the second part of the training, which focused on how to preserve one's own resources, how to determine employee motivation.






**Psychologists of our foundation took part in the conference «Childhood Against the Background of War».** During the event, important aspects of supporting children in wartime were discussed.



**Our activities were recognized with thanks from the Office of the Ombudsman of Ukraine** at the regional forum «Civil Society and the Office of the Ombudsman of Ukraine: Joint Actions for Human Rights».



**We conducted an annual strategic planning of our work.**

 Your kind hearts and dedicated work change the lives of children from vulnerable categories for the better, giving them care, support and hope. Thank you for your faith, love and dedication to our common cause!

**You are the heart of our foundation!**



**We believe that every Ukrainian child deserves a safe childhood in a loving family in a peaceful and free Ukraine, and we work to make this dream a reality! ❤️**

**Thank you to everyone who continues  
to support us on this journey!**

**Together we are changing children's lives  
for the better and building a world  
in which every child has the opportunity  
to develop and be happy!**



NGO «Ridni» Charitable Foundation  
Lviv, Ukraine

**Instagram**



**Facebook**



**You Tube**



**ridni.org.ua**