DISTRICT 5610 ROTARIANS PROVIDE MEDICAL SUPPLIES, OTHER AID TO UKRAINIAN EMERGENCY NEED

-Part of a Quarter Million Dollar Multi-District Effort; Other Donations Also Being Rushed to War-Torn Country

Rotary International is noted for its global healthcare response, especially as a major sponsor of polio eradication, clean water sources, and more. And now District 5610, which includes all Rotary clubs in South Dakota as well as portions of Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska, will send \$25,000 toward emergency supplies to healthcare workers in Ukraine to assist with the urgent need in that war-torn country.

District 5610 was awarded \$25,000 in disaster relief funding from The Rotary Foundation to provide "Shipping of Emergency and Healthcare Supplies for front-line emergency workers, hospitals, clinics, and physicians in Ukraine." The district is one of 10 working together on a joint project to support the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA). This multi-district Disaster Grant will provide \$250,000 toward airlifting pallets of supplies into Ukraine.

Crews are assembling medical supplies (tourniquets, gauze with blood clotting powder, etc), survival food supplies and emergency aid in a warehouse in Illinois, with 330 pallets already assembled. But this isn't the only Rotarian response to the Ukrainian crisis.

"District 5610 Rotarians also have already contributed more than \$20,000 to Ukrainian support through Hope Haven, an international ministry that provides wheelchairs to those in need," said District 5610 Governor Doug Lind. And, noted District 5610 Foundation Chair Dan Little, the district also is working on a streamlined District grant of at least \$10,000 to the Rotary Club of Barlad, Romania for humanitarian relief for Ukrainian refugees.

"This will bring current and anticipated District 5610 contributions to Ukrainian aid to more than \$55,000," said Little.

Any contributions to the Rotary Foundation Disaster Fund prior to April 30, 2022 will all be allocated to Ukrainian Aid. Rotarians may donate through their MyRotary account online, designating "Ukrainian Disaster Fund," and others may give by logging in to https://my.rotary.org/en/donate and choosing "Disaster Response Fund."

"Many people are watching the news and wondering, 'What can I do to help?' and feeling helpless," said Little. "Making a donation to this effort is one way to make a direct difference in the life of someone who is suffering." Added District Governor Lind, "The respected reputation of Rotary International and its Foundation for being able to penetrate boundaries and provide global assistance makes this donation opportunity a very good choice for anyone wishing to help."

Questions may be directed to your local Rotary club, or by emailing 5610dlittle@delittledvm.com

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