

22q without Borders



Email from the 22q11.2 Society Trustees (March 9, 2022)

Dear All,

We are looking forward to sharing science and camaraderie in beautiful Split, Croatia in June. Plans for a wonderful meeting are well under way.

At the same time we are stunned and heartbroken by the terrible events unfolding in Ukraine. We send you this email today in solidarity with our European colleagues and families, and most importantly the Ukrainian people and those helping displaced persons across Europe.

It is very likely that many of you have already contributed to various agencies, including the Red Cross, that are assisting the humanitarian efforts in regard to the Ukrainian crisis. But, if you have not yet identified a way to help and would like to do so, we wanted to inform you about an option to consider.

Some members of the 22q11.2 Society are actively participating in the efforts to feed, clothe, and house some of the >1.6 million displaced persons from Ukraine, primarily women and children. Many have family, colleagues, and friends in Ukraine, Poland and elsewhere who are doing everything they can to support the humanitarian efforts. Others are working from a greater distance in organizing collection and distribution of supplies and transport of ill children.

In particular, 22q11.2 Society advisor, member and basic scientist, Dr. Beata Nowakowska, is housing families, feeding newly arriving refugees at the train station in Warsaw, and working closely with the Polish 22q Association (Stowarzyszenie 22q11 Polska) to support families of children with disabilities, including those affected by chromosome 22q11.2 differences, as well as others arriving daily to Poland. Current estimates suggest that >1.2 million Ukrainians are now in Poland and numbers are expected to continue rising. These efforts require support. To that end, Stowarzyszenie 22q11 Polska has created a fundraiser that can be accessed via the below link, which is in Polish, English and Ukrainian (the payment page is in English as well):

https://zrzutka.pl/en/aps8yg?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=sharing_button

(Information about the PayPal method, which contains a personal email address, has been removed.)

On Monday, for example, 180 newly arriving refugees were fed at the Warsaw train station because of donations from friends and family - a concrete example that every little bit helps.

Again, we stand together as we send our hope for a brighter tomorrow.

Sincerely,
Donna, Anne, Ann, Bernice and Pete