

# HATTERS Help Mergine

"Hatters Help Ukraine" is a group of caring, committed, apolitical volunteers, community charities, and local service organizations who are working collaboratively to welcome displaced Ukrainians to our wonderful city. We are excited to be welcoming our first of many families in the coming weeks!

## Jatarenko Family

This family is our top priority. Dad, Serhii must remain in Ukraine ready for conscription into the army, but Mom, Hanna and sons are living in squalid conditions four hours from Warsaw and are desperate to leave. None of the family speak English, but are willing to learn and work hard. Hanna is a massage therapist specializing in children with spinal issues and is an avid baker! Her sons, Yaroslav (8) loves taekwondo and Timophiy (2) enjoys playgrounds and music!



Ladenkov Family

Dad, Oleksandr (40) is a dock worker and mechanic who enjoys engine repair, gardening, and speaks Ukrainian, Russian, and some English. Mom, Vita (43) is a former English school teacher with many culinary interests who also speaks Ukrainian, Russian. They have twin boys (5) named Damir and Myron. The boys are looking forward to attending school, learning English, making friends, and getting involved in sports in Medicine Hat.



Dad, Yuri (32) is a Mechanical Engineer who had been working as an Industrial Inspector before the invasion. He loves to take his family biking, camping, and hiking. Yuri speaks fair English, as well as Ukrainian and Russian. Mom, Natalia (32) has a law degree and was working for the government. She has many years of experience teaching dance to children. Natalia also speaks Ukrainian, Russian, and some English. Their son, Danil (7), speaks some English and loves to draw. He hopes to continue to work on achieving his yellow belt in Karate once he arrives in Canada.





Cherniavskyi Family
Dad, Olisksii (35) is a Mechanical Engineer who worked as a manager of a car

dealership - he is passionate about cars! Mom, Olha (34) is an Optometrist. Both Oliksii and Olha speak some English, and are fluent in both Ukrainian and Russian. Their son, Arkhip (7) speaks some English and loves animals, comic books, and superheroes (Batman is his favourite). He hopes to learn how to ride a bike when he arrives in Canada.





#### Cash Donations

All funds raised will go towards the largest costs of housing, transportation, and initial settlement expenses. Our wonderful Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta (CFSEA) is accepting financial donations and issuing charitable tax receipts. Please consider hosting a fundraiser: give your workplace, school, or circle of friends the opportunity to contribute to a new start for Ukrainian families! Cash and cheques can be dropped off at the CFSEA office or make a contribution here: <a href="https://bit.ly/HattersHelpUkraine">https://bit.ly/HattersHelpUkraine</a>. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 to help Ukrainian families build a new life in Medicine Hat!

#### Housing

Do you have a two bedroom apartment or basement suite that you would be interested in providing one of our families? We are asking, if possible, for the first three months rent to be donated (in exchange for a charitable tax receipt) while the family gets on their feet. We will provide the initial damage deposit and anticipate that you will have acquired a wonderful family tenant for the long term. Please contact Chris: hattershelpukraine@gmail.com.

#### Furniture & Household Items

We are setting up apartments for the families to move into as soon as they arrive. Donations of living room (includes TVs), bedroom (including twin beds), and kitchen furniture, small kitchen appliances, pots, pans, and dishes etc. are needed. Also, gently used bedding, towels etc. If you have items to donate, please contact Nikita Kovalev: 403.581.3131, George Kovalev: 780.813.2016 or Pastor Jim with Medicine Hat and Area Refugee Team (MHART): 403.504.9760 or pastorjim@victorylutheran.ca.

#### Food & Sundries

Donations of gift cards to grocery, pharmacy, and department stores are ESPECIALLY needed! Maybe you have some laying around from Christmas that you haven't used yet - or could purchase one on your next grocery run. It might be a fun office/employer activity to all pitch in for some. Gift cards can be dropped off or mailed to the CFSEA office: #104, 430 - 6 Ave. SE Medicine Hat, AB T1A 2S2.

#### Computers & Cell Phones

We aren"t sure what access to technology the families will have, but we would like to have several ready to use or refurbished laptops/computers and cell phones. If you have any to donate, please call or text Selena: 403.977.5227 or Tracy 403.458.2882.

#### Translation & Interpreter Services

If you speak Ukrainian or Russian, please contact Emilia Dirk, Settlement Outreach Worker at Saamis Immigration Services. 403.504.1188, ext. 110 emiliaesaamisimmigration.ca.

#### Job Readiness & Employment

We are searching for employers of both adults and teenagers - and can have varying requirements for English. If you are interested in employing one or more of our family members, please contact hattershelpukraine@gmail.com.

### Interested in Volunteering with the Families?

There are all sorts of ways Hatters can help Ukrainian newcomers experience and learn about Canada and Medicine Hat. Please contact Aidé Hilsendeger, Community Connections Coordinator with Saamis Immigration Services. 403.504.1188, ext. 108. aideesaamisimmigration.ca

