



**UKRAINIAN NATIONAL
WOMEN'S LEAGUE
OF AMERICA, INC.**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UNWLA Launches 'Hope for Ukraine's Children' National Campaign

'Hope for Ukraine's Children' initiative combines fundraising, advocacy, and community action to support Ukrainian children affected by Russia's war

NEW YORK, NY, UNITED STATES, Oct. 1, 2026 – The Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA) has launched **Hope for Ukraine's Children**, a national campaign focused on supporting children affected by Russia's war and raising awareness about the continued deportation and forced transfer of Ukrainian children.

The campaign aims to raise **\$100,000 by Nov. 20, World Children's Day**, to support efforts to bring Ukrainian children home and provide rehabilitation and care upon their return.

As of September 2026, Ukraine's Ministry of Justice had officially confirmed **20,651 cases of deportation and forced transfer of Ukrainian children**. Ukrainian authorities emphasize that this figure represents individually verified cases rather than the total number of children affected. As of Sept. 28, 2026, **2,650 children had been returned** from Russia and temporarily occupied territories through the Bring Kids Back UA initiative.

"Behind every number is a child and a family waiting for them to come home," said Natalie Pawlenko, national president of UNWLA. "Through this campaign, we want people not only to support these children, but to become part of the hope surrounding them by helping bring them home, supporting their recovery, and keeping their stories visible."

The fundraising effort is part of a broader two-month UNWLA initiative bringing together direct support, community engagement, advocacy, and education to keep the plight of Ukrainian children in the public eye.

Children Praying for Children



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Between October 17 and November 20, with a target date of October 24-25, UNWLA will hold its annual **Children Praying for Children** campaign*, bringing children, families, faith communities, schools, and organizations together in prayer and solidarity with Ukrainian children affected by Russia's war.

Launched in 2024, Children Praying for Children has grown into a nationwide initiative. In 2025, UNWLA branches and partner organizations organized **51 events across 14 states**, including an interfaith gathering in Washington, D.C.

This year, UNWLA is once again providing resources to help communities organize local prayer events, engage families and children, and raise awareness about Ukrainian children affected by the war.

Through **Hope for Ukraine's Children, Children Praying for Children**, and other advocacy and educational initiatives, UNWLA will dedicate the coming weeks to supporting Ukrainian children, amplifying their stories, and keeping their return home in the public consciousness.

Keep them visible. Bring them home. Help them heal.

About the Ukrainian National Women's League of America

Founded in 1925, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to advocacy, education, cultural preservation, and humanitarian assistance benefiting Ukrainians in the United States and Ukraine. For more than a century, UNWLA members have worked to strengthen Ukrainian communities, preserve Ukrainian heritage, and mobilize support for Ukraine.

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