Dear FCEI, GPODHH, and DLIA, 5 July 2022

Your desire to help families affected by war strengthens hope and brings us even closer to victory. I want to briefly describe the idea of the event we are planning now for our families with deaf or hard of hearing children.

The savagery with which Russia destroys the civilian population is beyond common sense. The fears experienced by Ukrainian children were not seen even in the most terrifying horror films. Pictures, when fragments of human bodies lie underfoot, or acts of murder or violence take place in front of children, are not always able to be experienced by adults, and are traumatizing to children who have special needs and are at greater risk.

Our public organization, "Union of Special Families: Ozhyna," has successfully implemented the Inclusive Summer School project for seven years in a row. The uniqueness of the project is that the participants are parents or caregivers with children are also included in this camp. The inclusive summer school program provides fun activities plus intensive, remedial assistance for children and training and psychological support for their parents and fostering adults.

Here is more information about this program:
https://youtu.be/O_wNuTDvZgM https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YdBrUWedl8c

The need for this project has increased significantly during wartime, but the financial capabilities of families raising children with disabilities are sharply limited.

We appeal to everyone who can help, let's make this a success endeavor even for these children and their families!

It is not the children's fault that the war fell upon them. They have the right to childhood and our care. It depends on us how the next generation will grow up.

We are planning to hold an inclusive summer camp from August 15 to 24 in the safest place in the mountains. It is planned to involve as many families as we can—many who have been forcibly displaced from their homes and cities. This camp will feature experienced trauma specialists who have volunteered to help. Families will receive qualified assistance and the opportunity to process their difficult experiences and survive in war conditions. There will also be specialists on-site to help repair or adjust hearing aids and cochlear implants free of charge.

The total budget of the Inclusive Summer School is 316 thousand hryvnias (approximately $10,700.00 USD or €10,400 Euros) which will fund the Resources Studio to cover transportation costs, accommodation, and food for the families. Ozhyna will provide a detailed report on the funds spent.

We invite you to join this effort with a contribution that can be wired safely and directly to our organization. The following directions explain in more detail how this will work.

Thank you so much for helping Ukrainian families with children who are Deaf or hard of hearing including those with additional special needs. This is what our organization does every day, and now we need to do much, much more. And we need your help. Thank you for being there for Ozhyna now. With deep gratitude from your Ukrainian colleagues and friends,

(from left to right) Oksana Chekanova, Kateryna Taran, *(Ekaterine Tortladze from the Republic of Georgia in pink*) and Dr. Olena Doroshenko, Director

Supporting Ukrainian Families with Deaf or Hard of Hearing Children:
ASSISTANCE REQUEST FORM

1. Contact details	
Our organization name	**Ozhyna**, meaning “the union of special families” (PO: UOSF “Ozhyna”), an All-Ukrainian group of Parents for Early Intervention established by HEALTHPROM and its partners in Ukraine.
Organisation location	We are located in Kropyvnytskyi, Ukraine. This area is currently not under Russian fire, so we have become a gathering place for families who have escaped their cities and need our help.
The mission and purpose of Ozhyna	Our non-government, public organization supports families who have children with disabilities including those who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. During the six years of its existence, Ozhyna has established itself as an effective structure with many successfully implemented projects. https://www.cuspu.edu.ua/en/news-fv/7988-blahodiinyi-zakhid-nadiia-vesny Our Inclusive Summer School is one of the most successful projects and is known far beyond the region. https://kr-rada.gov.ua/news/inklyuzivna-litnya-shkola-kvitka-semitsvitka-tsogorich-pratsyuvala-iz-dotrimannyam-vsih-karantinnih-vimog.html https://m.facebook.com/permalink.php?id=308815542628933&story_fbid=948645495312598 Our public organization has created Resource Studios where we offer a series of trainings for parents and habilitation support for children. The Ozhyna Resource Studios provide a comfortable stay for families who come to the programs with their children. Currently, the war in Ukraine poses extreme challenges to Ozhyna. Many displaced families, including those raising children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and those with special educational needs, come to Ozhyna for help when their cities are under siege. https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1349822332169851&id=100014262901294 https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1230313060835502&id=100015704581695 https://www.facebook.com/100011170507538/videos/739027604140838/
Name of lead contact	Dr. Olena Doroshenko is the head of the Ozhyna’s regional program for the All-Ukrainian organization Parents for Early Intervention, ESTABLISHED BY HEALTHPROM AND ITS PARTNERS IN UKRAINE, and actively defends the rights of families raising children with special needs.
Lead contact email	Olena-doroshenko@ukr.net
Website or social media	https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100014262901294

2. Purpose of the funding
We desperately need funding for the operation of the Ozhyna Resource Studios in order to expand the provision of training and support to those families that come to us even as we continue to serve those already in our membership.

The funding provided will be used to…

1. Identify the needs of internally displaced families with special needs children by use of a questionnaire.

2. Purchase basic necessities for displaced families (based on the results of the analysis of questionnaires).

3. Host lunch meetings where we will provide training and information to families about:
   - arrangement of life in new conditions
   - employment opportunities
   - crisis management, search for prospects
   -informing and helping socialize children with special needs, support for inclusion.

Additionally, we will ensure a sensory integration room is open during the meetings, where children with special needs are under the supervision of specialists and volunteers.

Our goal is to be able to serve to 50 new families. A complete financial report on the funds to be spent including photos and testimonials of the activities will be provided.

3. Payment details

Your bank or financial institution will require the following information to set up a transfer (wire) of funds directly to Ozhyna. Funds may be paid in USD, EUR, UAH. Thank you so much for helping these families during this difficult time.

Account name (organisation/ individual)	Public organization “Union of special families “Ozhyna” (PO “UOSF “Ozhyna”)
Full address of account holder	25007, Ukraine, region Kirovohradska, city Kropyvnytskyi, street Vokzalna 18A
Account currency (USD, EUR, UAH)	
IBAN	UA363052990000026009035108012 UA713052990000026006015108897
SWIFT/ BIC	Bank of beneficiary:SWIFT CODE/BIC: PBANUA2X Intermediary bank: JP MORGAN CHASE BANK SWIFT CODE/BIC: CHASUS33
Bank name and address	JSC CB PRIVATBANK, Kropyvnytskyi city, 37\16 Vokzalna Street 25006, UKRAINE