

# **OEKROE 20 years!! Newsletter 2 - March 31<sup>st</sup> 2023 (21<sup>st</sup> volume!)**

## **Camp Ukraine 2023 & Working Hands 2023**



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*Dear reader!!*

When you have a new (email) address or when you do not want to receive the newsletter anymore, please let us know.

**Urgent request: when you transfer money as a gift could you please include your address and postal code to facilitate our administration!**

### **Foundation Oekroe 20-year anniversary**

Today, Friday the 31st of March 2023, it is exactly 20 years ago that Foundation Oekroe was officially founded! On the one hand worth special congratulations. Especially when we think of all those more than 3,000 children and teenagers, we were able to give a wonderful camp time during all those years. A camp time where they received good food, where there was genuine attention for them and where, not least, they were allowed to hear of the Love of the Lord God. Also, when we think of all those nearly 200 volunteers who participated in Camp Ukraine and/or Working Hands of Foundation Oekroe. Furthermore, the more than 20 refurbishment projects, where Working Hands have been working together with Ukrainians. As a result, a lot of children got a good spot in a nursery or in a children's ward in a hospital! And finally, all our sponsors and intercessors who made it possible to do this great work! Above all, our thanks go to the Lord God, who has protected and preserved and spared us and who has blessed all these activities. We know this for sure from the reports, as the youth work within Ukraine has received, among other things, a huge boost due to the camps! Thank you, Lord!

### **Covid and the war**

Unfortunately, during 2020, 2021 and 2022, due to Corona and the war, we were not able to go to Ukraine with groups of Dutch volunteers. Fortunately, the camp work did continue, albeit in a different way than during previous years! Those camps were led by Ukrainians with whom, partly due to the previous camps, we have excellent contacts. Thanks to the financial support we provided, over 250 children, including many refugee children, were able to escape the daily stress of war for a while!

### **hulpvooroekraine.nl (support-for-Ukraine)**

Under this name, transports with humanitarian assistance are continuing. Through a cooperation between the Foundations Oekroe, Working Group De Ruyter and Hands & Feet, relief goods and food are still being brought to Ukraine. It goes without saying, that also this support, is more than welcome! Amongst others forwarding support to Odessa and Kharkov is performed by Ukrainians!

### **Camp Ukraine 2023**

Regarding Camp Ukraine 2023, we are focusing on the summer. As camp dates, we have tentatively planned the period 24 July to 8 August! We will keep up our spirits! Should it not be possible, due to the security situation, to go to Ukraine with a group of Dutch volunteers, we will financially support local camps again. Of course, we do hope we will be able to go to Ukraine ourselves this summer!

### **Working hands 2023**

When, hopefully soon, the war will be over, there will be a lot to fix up in Ukraine. In close consultation with our partners, we will decide where we will work, as we do have a long-standing relationship with them. They will decide the location. And until then, we might have an opportunity to do some work for Ukrainian refugees in the border areas of Ukraine.

### **Warm Socks Campaign**

Over 8,000 pairs of socks have now been transported to Ukraine. People, young and old, in Ukraine are delighted! More than 1,000 additional pairs will be shipped with one of the next transports. Then the warm socks action will be completed! In several places, people continue knitting. The knitters are still in demand of wool! Their knitted items will go in due course with the regular transports! All donors of, socks, scarves, and money: thank you very much!

### **Please continue to help us/them with prayer and financial support**

Remember: giving only makes you richer! When and wherever we can, we continue to help. Will you help us to help them? Your help and support will always end up well. We will arrange this; you could be sure of that! Hopefully soon we will be able to go to Ukraine again ourselves! That too will give the Ukrainians a boost!