



When There Was Nowhere Left to Go

War took Oleksandr's home. With injured legs and no house left standing, he had nowhere to turn. Until someone said, "Go to the church."

Oleksandr had never left his village of in the Kherson region of South Ukraine. It was home. It was familiar. It was where life made sense.

But when the full-scale invasion began in February 2022, everything changed. Still recovering from a serious work injury that left his legs weak and unreliable, Oleksandr was in no condition to endure war.

Yet war does not wait for strength. Shelling tore through his community. Danger pressed in from every direction. With his elderly mother at his side, he fled—not searching for comfort, but simply for somewhere to survive one more day.

They returned immediately after the village was liberated in November 2022 — not to a home, but to ruins. Less than half of their house remained. Walls shattered. It was like their previous life had been erased and only emptiness remained.

At first, they lived in a tent beside the wreckage. In summer, the heat suffocated them. In winter, it was bitterly cold. When the electricity failed, whatever warmth they had, vanished within minutes. Inside the tent, the temperature dropped to match the freezing air outside. Sleep became survival. Survival became exhaustion. Exhaustion became despair.

And Oleksandr could not even seek help on his own. Because of his leg injuries, government offices and long lines were impossible. He felt trapped—not just physically, but emotionally.

That was when his mother took a simple but crucial step — she reached out to the local Baptist Church. People in the village had told her to go there. They already knew from experience: **help is not refused there**. They were not members of the church. They came exhausted, afraid, with hope barely flickering.

And help came. Through the local church's **partnership with HART**, Oleksandr and his mother were given a modular home — sturdy walls, a secure roof, and, for the first time in months, warmth that didn't disappear with the wind.



"After living in a tent, this is a completely different life," Oleksandr says.

Their original home has still not been rebuilt. The future remains uncertain. The war has not ended. But something profound has changed.

Now they have a roof over their heads. Heat in the winter. Safety in the night. And perhaps most importantly, the **assurance that they are not alone**.

"I know where to turn when it becomes truly hard," Oleksandr says. "I know the pastor. I know the church—and they are always there for us. Faith doesn't begin with words. It begins with someone becoming the answer in the darkest moment."

That is exactly what happened. **Because of faithful supporters in Canada and USA**, the Church in Ukraine is able to be present in the darkest places.

Because someone gave, a mother found courage to knock on a church door. Because someone prayed, a wounded man now sleeps in warmth instead of fear.

This is more than a mobile home.

It is dignity restored. It is stability in chaos. It is the Gospel lived out in real time.

And it is proof that when the world turns away, the Body of Christ steps forward.

Why This Story Matters

Because someone like you chose to care, a freezing tent was replaced with solid walls and heat. Your partnership with HART is rebuilding more than homes. It is changing the world - one heart, one family – at a time.

If this story moves you, don't stop here...

Read more about this Mobile Home Project and **SHARE** it with friends and family.

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