

## FUNDRAISING FOR THE WALDORF EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMUNITIES IN UKRAINE



Although many Waldorf families have left Ukraine so that their children can be safe as they continue to attend Waldorf schools and kindergartens, a number of teachers and families have stayed in Ukraine and are supporting one another during wartime conditions.

Kindergartens located in frontline zones like Dnipro, Krivoy Rog, Zaporozhye are officially closed but the kindergarten teachers who remain are in constant contact with the parents and offer them finger games, songs, fairy tales, and advice and support. The kindergarten teachers also bake and prepare food and supplies for the fighters at the front.

In Kiev and the surrounding region, the Waldorf kindergartens are all closed except for the "Sofia" kindergarten, where 112 children are officially enrolled, but the average number now attending is only 18, in three groups of six. Their only shelter during air raids is a tiny basement room, unless they walk 300 yards to the underground chapel of a nearby church.

In Odessa, the Stupeni Waldorf kindergarten and school suffer from lack of funds and since their air raid shelter has not yet been completed, they are in rented quarters nearby. They invite neighborhood children to play together, hold conversations with interested parents, and open the doors of the group to all children and parents interested in baking, painting, puppet stories, and festival celebrations. At the moment, the teachers receive either limited salaries or none at all.

Teachers and parents are taking emergency pedagogy workshops to learn how to offer art and movement therapy to children, and there is curative eurythmy and music therapy available for those who have suffered losses.

The tenacity and courage and generosity of our Ukrainian colleagues inspiring. We hope that you will join us in offering donations so that these brave and dedicated early childhood teachers can continue to support children and families in Ukraine.



THANK  
YOU

