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The

Daily Citizen

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Shipping humanitarian aid to Ukraine

BY MATT BURKS

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Ron Finley of Searcy drives a forklift at a warehouse in Judsonia on Monday morning which is carrying bags of clothing that will be shipped to a children's refugee camp outside Kyiv, Ukraine.

Finley and his wife, Billie, are among dozens of local residents who volunteer to gather donations to send for humanitarian aid.

John Kachelman Jr., who heads up the volunteers and shipments, said 1,538 items weighing 23,357 pounds with an estimated \$180,195.00 value were loaded onto an 18-wheeler bound for a cargo ship.

David Lawyer of Searcy volunteers during a humanitarian aid load at a warehouse in Judsonia on Monday morning.

To volunteer or donate, call the College Church of Christ in Searcy at (501) 268-7156 or email Kachelman at john@kachelman.com.

Donations can include clothing, toiletries, medical supplies and furniture.



HOW THIS SHIPMENT BEGAN...

From: Anastasiya Kyrillova

To: john@kachelman.com

Hello dear Mr. Kachelman and Churches of Christ,

I am writing you on behalf of Charitable Foundation "Together into the Future" in Kyiv, Ukraine. We work in Kyiv Region and provide help for marginalized categories of people, orphanages, homeless people, aged people, patients in different medical spheres, and others. The last project we have organized is a summer camp for children from Eastern Ukraine, for those kids who are escaping war conflict.

As you may know from the news - armed confrontation that is happening in Eastern Regions of Ukraine took enormous number of lives, including civilians. We have organized "Forrest Camp" to create possibility for families who have no chance to leave the war zone at least to send children out of the territory of danger in order to create atmosphere of safety and help children to cope with the stress of last months. Also, since much more families expressed desire to send children to the camp away from the zone of military actions then we expected, we decided to continue to host children in the camp during the autumn and even possibly in the winter time. SO, how can you help? We invite you to donate clothes, shoes and toys for the children in the camp. Things that are the most needed right now to fully equip the camp are: sleeping bags, tents, mattresses, and dishes. We will be very grateful if you would like to somehow participate in the project and provide humanitarian help, which mainly will be used for the needs of childrens camp.

With kind regards and warmest wishes,

Anastasiya Kyrillova