# Ukraine Veterans Reintegration Program Results 2019-2024

According to the Ministry of Veterans Affairs (MoVA) of Ukraine, following Russia's full-scale invasion there are expected to be up to 5 million veterans and their family members in Ukraine. These veterans will encounter significant challenges as they reintegrate into civilian life, including securing employment and accessing psychosocial health support. The Veterans Reintegration (VR) Program, supported by the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations (CSO), collaborated with local partners to enhance the effectiveness and responsiveness of Ukraine's veteran support systems.

## **Veteran Reintegration Survey**

Iln 2019, a comprehensive study conducted with the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology, Veteran Hub, and Legal Hundred explored veterans' needs in areas such as physical and mental health, social wellbeing, employment, and benefits utilization, as well as public perceptions of veterans. In early 2024, IREX alongside the Ukrainian Veterans Foundation and Info Sapiens, conducted a qualitative study assessing veterans' barriers to accessing services and emphasizing the need for a comprehensive approach to support veterans. The findings are available at irex.org/project/ukraine-veteran-reintegration.

# **Supporting Local Organizations**

VR provided small grants to local organizations implementing projects to support veterans' needs. These grants have funded a variety of initiatives, including a veterans' creative writing program, canine, art, and sports therapy sessions; job training in cybersecurity and farming, and the development of a mental health app.

- 33 small grants issued
- **\$5M g**rant funding to local organizations
- 73k veterans and family members reached
- **24 o**blasts reached with activities

### **Supporting Ukraine's Government**

Collaborating with MoVA, VR has significantly contributed to the development of an e-registry, enabling veterans to access services and allowing MoVA to efficiently manage veteran data, and MARTA, a psychological self-screening system. VR also played a crucial role in facilitating strategy sessions for MoVA and training government employees who frequently interact with veterans.

- **215k e**-registry downloads
- **75** MoVA staff participated in strategy sessions
- **622 s**ocial workers trained
- 4.1k State Employment Center employees trained

# **Mental and Physical Health Support**

To support veterans' mental health, VR offered consultations to veterans and resources to mental health professionals. In addition, VR translated physical health protocols to assist Ukraine's doctors in treating common veteran-related issues.

- **72k** people received psychological support
- **34.9k** people downloaded the mental health app
- 13.2 million people reached through the information campaign on mental health
- **206 f**amily doctors trained on veteran healthcare
- 140 medical protocols translated into Ukrainian

#### **Veteran Hub**

VR collaborated with VH to create safe spaces where veterans can access services, connect with peers, and participate in activities. With VR's support, VH has expanded its network by adding hubs in Dnipro and Vinnytsia, launching mobile support services, establishing Plus Plus centers, and operating a dedicated hotline for veterans.

- 12.2k consultations provided
- **3.7k** Trust Line callers
- **1.8k** Veterans received mobile support services
- **18k** visitors

# **Employment Support**

**Employment is a key factor in helping veterans transition back to civilian life.** VR provided trainings to veterans on both hard and soft skills to boost their employability. VR collaborated with HR professionals to make hiring and workplace processes more veteran-friendly.

- **2k v**eterans received employment consultations
- **142 h**ard skills scholarships issued
- **5k** HR specialists trained
- 173 companies improved veteran hiring policies

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