### HOPE AND Homes For Children

### **06.** Our new strategy: a global tipping point in the fight against orphanages

**14.** Ukraine War: Inside our team's response

### 20.

KT Tunstall on BBC R4 for Hope and Homes for Children

# **IN THIS** ISSUE



On the frontline of the pandemic News from our teams in Rwanda, India, Nepal and Ukraine.



In March 2022, we launched our new strategy, outlining how we will achieve our mission to be the catalyst for the global elimination







Uktraine crisis response The future of Ukraine's 100,000 children in care.



**16.** A Day In My Life

Our Ukrainian colleague Daria, takes us through an extraordinary day evacuating children from Dnipro, Ukraine to safety in Romania.





My Life In 10 Objects What would you pack if you found yourself having to leave your home and everything you knew? Here, one Ukrainian refugee shares her experience and the essentials she packed when fleeing her home.



### 20.

Singer KT Tunstall presented our BBC Radio 4 Charity Appeal Singer songwriter and Hope and Homes for Children Global Ambassador KT Tunstall presented our BBC Radio 4 Charity Appeal in April.





Every child deserves the love and belonging of a safe family home-never the violence, abuse and neglect suffered in orphanages. We're Hope and Homes for Children. Since 1994, we've inspired the UN, EU and local and national governments worldwide, from Romania to Rwanda, to close the doors of orphanages forever. In their place, we fight to keep families together, to reunite them, and to create new ones – always working with children, for children.

Gina is looking forward to a bright future at home. Our social workers supported her parents back into education and work.

## WELCOME

Mark Waddington, CEO, Hope and Homes for Children



rom the pandemic, to the war in Ukraine, to the extreme rise in the costs of living around the world, we've all faced into the toughest of circumstances over the past three years.

For every two adults who have died of COVID, a child has lost a key care giver. Since the start of the pandemic in 2020, that's over **3 million** children at greater risk of being taken from their families and confined in harmful orphanages. With your help, we're fighting to ensure their safety. You can see more of our country teams' incredible work during the pandemic on page 10.

And then in February this year, like you, we were rocked by the invasion of Ukraine. The impact will be felt around

the world for years to come. Read about our courageous Ukrainian colleagues' successful bid to evacuate children from our 'It's Good at Home' centre in Dnipro (page 16) and what your incredible response has enabled us to do (page 14).

Despite all this, our hope for children remains fierce. Our new strategy (page 6) is built for the modern world, and sets out our response to these challenges. We make no bones about it - we're still heading for the global elimination of orphanages in our lifetime. With you by our side, supporting action across the world, we'll reach a tipping point where everyone understands that families are the future.

A new look and voice Our new look is all about ensuring our voice is heard, so our strategy succeeds. We're committed to speaking with a voice that is unapologetic about children's rights, deeply human about the situations families find themselves in, and alive with hope, because we know a better world is possible.

We can inspire thousands more to fight for every child to feel the love and security of a safe, family home.

Visit our new website to read more stories of the children and families we help to protect, from all the countries we work in: hopeandhomes.org

Read more about our new strategy on page 6.



### **ALIVE WITH HOPE** A strategy for the modern world

Our mission, to be the catalyst for the global elimination of institutional care of children has never been as important as it is now. But the world has changed so dramatically that we couldn't just assume the strategy we initially created to fulfil our mission would remain relevant. So, last year, we reviewed and significantly adapted it in ways that have provided us with a four-wheel-drive equivalent of a plan to progress our mission, regardless of global circumstances.

We have called this new strategy, which we launched in March 2022 'Alive With Hope'. Here, in brief, are the most important points from it:

ur strategy flows from our nine-year aim which states that by December 2030, worldwide, we will be approaching a consensus that orphanages are an unacceptable way of looking after children.

It will be a consensus rooted in the evidence that orphanages are harmful to children and the belief that children belong and want to grow up with the protection and care of a loving family. It is a consensus that will be based on accountability, because if society were truly accountable it would not be depriving children of their liberty by locking them up in orphanages. Finally, it is a consensus that will require governments and local authorities with responsibility for children to act and deliver on that consensus.

We have set ourselves nine years for three reasons. Firstly, our work to reform entire national systems of child protection and care takes time, and we need to calibrate our efforts over the long term with that in mind. Secondly, it allows us to align our work with the sustainable development goals – the 2030 Agenda. The more we integrate child protection and care reform into wider issues like poverty eradication

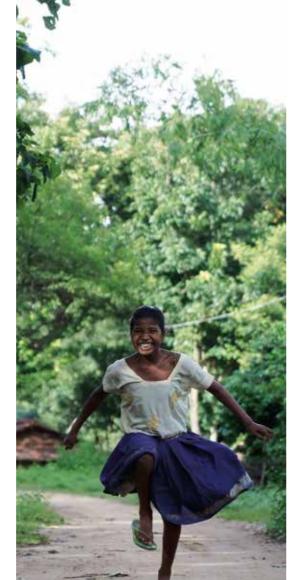
and access to education and health, the greater the benefits for children. The third reason is that we can neatly split nine years into three delivery phases, each of three years, which gives us the flexibility to adapt to the complex and changing context within which we are working.

### Our aim is that:

by December 2030, worldwide, we will be approaching a consensus that orphanages are an unacceptable way of looking after children.

So, how are we going to go about fulfilling this aim? We've developed a theory of change that has a twin-track approach. The first of these delivers reform at national scale in enough countries to produce a critical mass of reform internationally, including the evidence that it is possible in diverse contexts. The second seeks to harness this critical mass of progress and diffuse the commitment to reform across many more countries.

This is how we'll make it all happen:



## 01.

### National reform

We start with national reform. There is no one-size-fits all instrument to deliver reform nationally because just as every child is different, so too is every country. Nevertheless, our experience shows that we require four conditions to be in place to succeed at a national level. These are political will, know-how, capacity and financing. By working alongside partner organisations, as well as with governments, we will seek to dial-up or down the emphasis on each of these four elements depending on national and local circumstances.

### 1. Political Will

Governments don't just need to commit to reform, they need a vision for what that reform should look like. Without this governments will struggle with a lack of clarity of purpose and direction of reform. It is a vision that must embrace and make the links with health. education, judiciary and social services. In this way, the whole system begins to work for the best interests of children and their families.

### 2. Knowledge and Know How

This is where we feature strongly. Over almost thirty years we have worked in many countries accruing a unique practice base and insights from our frontline experiences. Central to our own learning isn't just the knowledge that every country is different, but also that every child and their circumstances are different. All too frequently expertise is used to funnel decision making away from those affected by it. Our know-how recognises this by ensuring we listen to children's views and incorporate these into the services we help local authorities develop, making them more relevant and **4.** Financing enabling better outcomes.

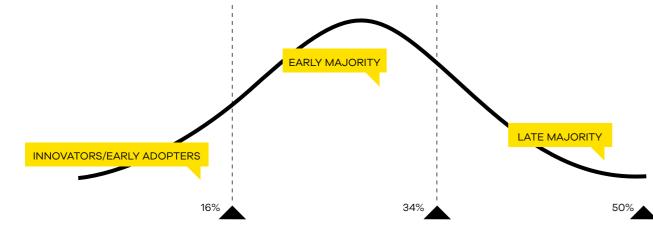
### 3. Capacity

Orphanages are routinely used by social workers and medical practitioners as a one-size fits all solution, regardless of the challenge. Consequently, the skills and capabilities of in-country key-staff across social services and other forms of service provisions - are under-developed To ensure that the often absent, alternative family-based solutions



are developed and the skills are there to achieve this requires investment in piloting closures so that critical learning in the local context can be captured. It requires training and investment in the structures needed to train trainers. It also requires investment in monitoring, evaluation and research so that reform is not just seen as an end-point. It's rather a continuous process that informs and helps to shape the services, policies, legislation and budgets a country needs to provide the very best protection and care options for children.

Too often, budgets for reform are calculated on the basis of expense, rather than investment. As a result, financial considerations are skewed towards looking at the cost of reform instead of what is actually being bought: improved health, improved education, and improved well-being outcomes. All these things yield far more favourable financial dividends so making the case for this will be critical for us as we move forward.



### 02.

### **Global impact**

Progressing national reform across a few countries is all well and good. But we don't want to see any child left behind, locked up in an orphanage. Not a single one.

Our second track adapts a wellestablished model called 'diffusion of innovation', to spread our consensus across many more countries than those we'd ever be able to operate in ourselves. This model was first published in 1962 by Everett Rogers and has been widely and successfully adopted, ever since. We've adapted it to our purpose by focusing on the particular characteristics of three distinct populations of countries: the innovators and early adopters which according to Rogers comprise 16% of the whole population, the early majority which comprise 34%, and the late majority which comprise 50%.

### **1.** Innovators and early adopters

If we assume there are 125 countries around the world with child protection and care systems that significantly depend on orphanages, then we need to win the active commitment of 20 countries as innovators and early adopters. Innovators and early adopters are those countries that have already embraced the importance of transitioning from dependence on orphanages to systems which support family care. Key influencers in these countries – legislators, senior social

workers and so on - believe the change we promote is the right thing for children. Their values match ours: a belief in the importance of families, in their many varieties, as the basis for caring for and protecting children.

Of those 20 countries, we're already operating in nine. Within the timeframe of this strategy, we're confident some of those countries will eliminate orphanages by December 2030. They include Bulgaria, Rwanda, Moldova and - we hope - Romania. But that's only nine out of 20. There needs to be at least another 11 countries in a similar situation. We can't do this alone. That's why our friends like Child's I Foundation, Safe Child Thailand and Lumos are so important. They bring other countries to the movement whilst also pushing and driving for change globally. By working collectively, we can build our critical mass up to 20 countries over the next nine years.

Once we meet this objective we reach a 'tipping point'. To help prepare for that, and as part of our strategy, we must begin to engage the early majority.

### 2. Early majority

The early majority are, under our assumption, a set of 43 countries in which their key influencers are a different set of folk altogether. They're circumspect. Not as aligned with the

values we have. They want to see proof that reform is actually possible. We have to speak to them differently. Less with emotion and more with data. Therefore, collecting and collating an evidence base from the progress we build with our 20 'innovator and early adopter' countries is absolutely vital. We prove with cold, hard facts that reform at national scale is feasible and the risks associated with it can be managed. That it's affordable. And most importantly, that the end point is more advantageous than where they find themselves now.

Our global communications and advocacy, and working alongside likeminded partner international partners will, more than ever before, be critical if we are to secure active commitments from these countries.

### 3. Late majority

The key influencers in the late majority countries are not only sceptical but also cynical. They want to know what's in it for them. These are really important questions which we'll be pre-empting with the evidence-gathering we focus on. We'll also continue to work alongside important multi-lateral bodies like the UN and others to put in place the treaties and conventions which, over time, will compel countries among the late majority to agree to eliminate their orphanage systems.

## $\mathbf{03}$

### **Our strategic objectives**

From this twin-track theory of change, and by working as a catalyst, we will identify, convene and develop strategic partnerships that will, by December 2030:

**1.** Complete the elimination of orphanages in four countries; make meaningful progress in delivering national child protection and care reform with this regard in a further five countries; and coordinate this progress with partners in 11 countries (in which we will have no presence) to build international momentum and proof of concept to demonstrate

that change is possible regardless of national context.

- 2. Establish and harness child protection and care reform as a human imperative in development programming and human rights monitoring, toward securing significant commitments to implementing that reform across a growing number of countries including those in which we, as well as partners, operate and influence.
- To leave a lasting legacy, and help us close every last orphanage on the planet, please consider a gift in your will: you will be changing a life today, a generation tomorrow and the world forever. Call Joe Sutton on 01722 790111 or email joe.sutton@hopeandhomes.org if you would like to discuss this further.



1 C. Desmond, and others, 'Prevalence and Number of Children Living in Institutional Care: Global, Regional, and Country Estimates', The Lancet, Child & Adolescent Health, 4.5 (2020), 370-377 www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/article/PIIS2352-4642(20)30022-5/fulltext?rss=ves (accessed 13 April 2021).



### **AN ESTIMATED** ION CHILDREN. LIVE IN INSTITUTIONS AROUND THE WORLD **ORPHANAGES** HARM CHILDREN

**3.** Put in place international financing mechanisms that will support those countries that need it to help them prepare for reform - and ultimately commit to it.

So, there you have it. A strategy born from purpose. Aligned with the wider work on global development to maximise the impact it will have and able to adapt to the more dynamic world we live in. We know we'll need to continually learn and adapt as we go but we feel that, together with your continued support, we can see the closure of every last orphanage on the planet.

### **ON THE FRONTLINE** News from our teams





**Richard Munyaneza,** Communications and Advocacy Coordinator, Hope and Homes for Children, Rwanda

### Rwanda

whose cases were about to be closed but due to COVID, have lost their economic status, and now they are kept under Hope and Homes for Children regular support."

Adapting to new ways of working whilst maintaining the quality of care needed by those we serve during COVID hasn't always been easy. However, there have been some positive outcomes to this unpredictable pandemic.

No longer able to physically visit families, we intensified our phone calls and engaged actively in community structures, for example Friends of families, Community Health workers and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities committees. This turned out to be an effective way to carry out community monitoring and support the families under our care. Before COVID, we had to obtain medication for families and children with disabilities and be the point of access for this. Now, due to COVID, we've been able to link families with medical facilities for them to access necessary medication directly.

The pandemic also added another layer of credibility to our work in Rwanda. Some families were very surprised to see us on the frontline continuing to support families, even during the worst lockdowns. One parent said: **"I thought that you were going to stop supporting us because of COVID. But seeing you continuing to call on us, provide food, and care for us, strengthened us."** 

Even though COVID was very hard for everyone, it's shown how we can be resilient as an organisation: adapting to the measures put into place to reduce the spread of COVID whilst effectively continuing to implement activities and services to vulnerable families and children.



Subhadeep Adhikary, Program Manager – Child Protection, Child in Need Institute (CINI), our partner in India

### India

s of 20th April 2022, official figures from the Indian Government and World Health Organisation (WHO), show India has the second-highest number of confirmed COVID cases in the world (after the USA) with 43,047,594 reported cases of infection and the third-highest number of COVID deaths (after the USA and Brazil) at 522,006 deaths. The impact on communities, families and children, many of whom were already extremely vulnerable before the pandemic started, has been significant. In our project areas in Jharkhand, we have seen many families plummet further into poverty, children's physical and mental health negatively affected and an increased risk of children being trafficked and forced into child labour.

Many of our activities with the community were put on hold due to a government directive that restricted face-to-face meetings, community gatherings and supporting child care institutions in their transition. This meant we had to be more innovative



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in our approach to ensure we could continue supporting the community. We made full use of technology to provide remote support, health information, counselling, and monitoring through Whatsapp groups and other forms of mobile communication. Through our community workers we were able to keep linking families and children to necessary Government support services including health centres, sponsorship schemes and food programs.

We developed a COVID mobile 'app' which was rolled-out to all frontline workers in our project areas to identify and register children who were vulnerable to separation either due to losing a parent or falling into a desperate situation. Using this 'app' we were able to keep 60 children - who would otherwise have been exposed to trafficking, being institutionalised, or both - safe with a parent or caregiver.

As we emerge from the pandemic we will build on the innovations it has born to strengthen our work in communities.





Anju Pun, Country Director, Forget Me Not, our partner in Nepal

### Nepal

n 31 March 2022 Nepal's COVID count reached 978,4261. The heavy rains in mid-October in addition to the pandemic impacted the lives of many with job losses and increase in food and fuel prices. To make things worse there is a growing fear of shortages in the coming months. Despite the challenges, we continued to support government's deinstitutionalisation efforts and provided our support to the most vulnerable and marginalised children and families.

In January, we saw rising COVID cases. This variant caught most of our team members and our children in transitional care. Our 24 team members, 17 children under case management, and 1 parent of reunified children were infected with the Omicron variant. Luckily, everyone has fully recovered and is back to their normal life.

With Hope and Homes for Children's support, we're currently managing 74 cases of reunited children living in 16 districts with their families or in familybased alternative care. During the last

• Please consider starting a regular monthly donation or increasing your donation if you already give this way. Giving regularly significantly helps us to be flexible in a rapidly changing world. Use the form enclosed or call us on **01722 790111** or visit hopeandhomes.org/donate

6 months (Oct 2021 - Mar 2022), our reintegration team made 102 in-person family monitoring and follow up visits; provided food support to 38 children and their families; made 420 remote phone calls; and provided education support to 52 children to ensure their well-being and safety.

We can see the resilience of children through the eyes of biological sisters Susheli (12) and Sabita (10). Every evening after school, the two light up their room with laughter and giggles, share their day with family, climb trees and huddle together to study. They were rescued from an abusive and illegal orphanage in Kathmandu and were reunited with their elder sister and brother-in-law in December 2020. This successful family re-integration is a beautiful example of what can be achieved when we provide family support and monitoring and join forces with local authorities.



catch up

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For groups or enquiries about the scheme, email groups@rivieratravel.co.uk or call 01283 523470



### **Earn 10%** back for

HOPE AND ĤÔMES FOR CHILDREN





## UKRAINE CRISIS RESPONSE

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has led to a massive exodus of people, including 7 million in the country itself and 4 million escaping across its borders. Most alarmingly, the 100,000 children associated with Ukraine's orphanage system face grave threats. Some orphanages have been bombed, some have been abandoned by their staff. Some of these children are even at risk from traffickers who would exploit their vulnerability.

our response to the crisis has been overwhelming. Since 24 February 2022, supporters old and new have donated precious time, effort and money to raise, at the time of printing, and astonishing £3.7m with more expected in the coming weeks.

And our team, led by country director Halyna Postoliuk, want to thank you.

Your support has meant that we can provide urgent help to those most in need, even in dangerous circumstances. From mobile units delivering trauma and mental health support, to training teachers and raising awareness among children of land mines – we will continue to rise to the challenges faced by the most vulnerable. Despite the grave danger they're facing, the team in Ukraine refuse to give up on children and families.

Because there is always hope.

But, 30 years of experience, often in countries rebuilding in the aftermath of war, shows that the best way to ensure the long-term safety of Ukrainian children is through replacing Ukraine's network of 700 orphanages with a child protection system based on family care. That's why we're seizing this important opportunity to work with the Ukrainian government and the international community, including the European Union. We must work towardsa future Ukraine that does not rely on institutionsto warehouse the most vulnerable children, but onein which families are the foundation.

Support our appeal online at hopeandhomes.org/donate or use the response form enclosed.

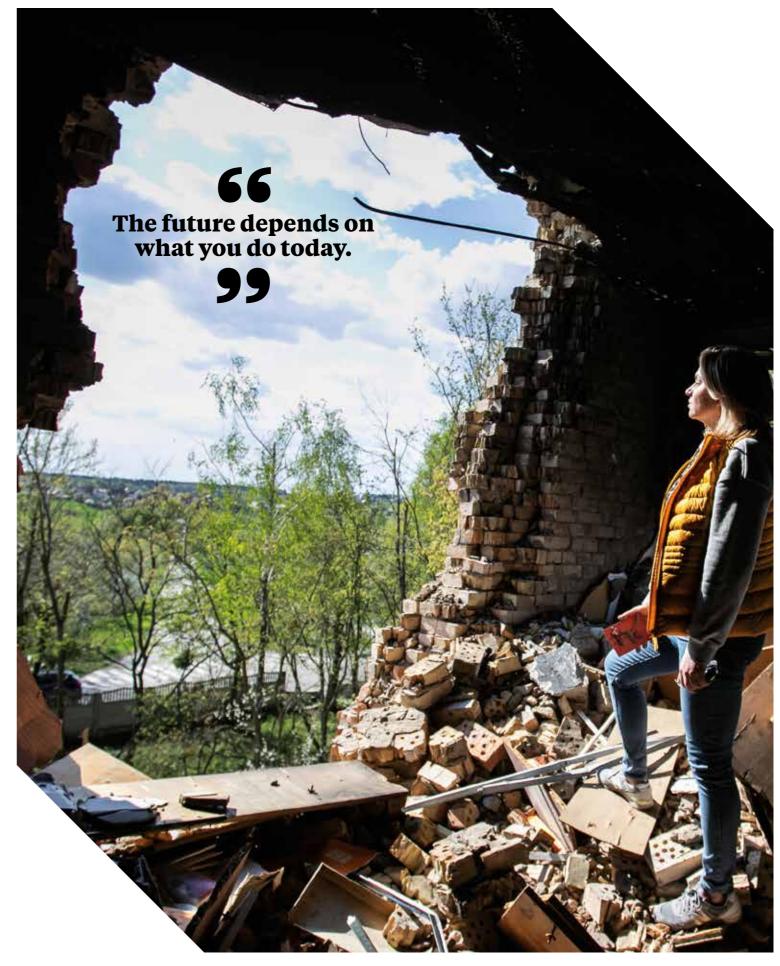


The words of Gandhi on the wall of the schoolroom inspire: 'The future depends on what you do today'. Country Director Halyna Postoliuk and the inspirational team are living these words, delivering life saving support to the children and families most affected by the war.



This was the treasured family home we supplied for Ivan and Olha Bachinski, foster parents who've cared for an astonishing 24 foster children over the years. Damaged by shelling, the couple and their remaining foster children have fled to Germany. We're still supporting them, and hope to repair it so they can return soon.

Opposite page - Halyna looks out through the mortar hole blown in the schoolroom wall opposite Gandhi's quote.



# A DAY IN MY LIFE

### Daria Doshchuk,

Hope and Homes for Children, Ukraine

Long term supporters will know we've been working in Ukraine since 2007. Recently, as shelling intensified, our colleagues in Ukraine made the extremely difficult decision to evacuate children and young people we'd been supporting in the 'It's Good At Home' centre in Dnipro. Having planned for this eventuality for weeks, several of the staff and their families came too.

Our Ukrainian colleague Daria, who accompanied the children every step of the way, talked to us about how we kept them safe on the long journey to shelter in Romania.

t was a mammoth event; nearly 50 hours, with more than 50 children! The children had their names and details attached to them in little wallets. some were stamping feet to keep warm, everyone was nervous.

A carriage, specially prepared for us alone, opened. When the children were aboard safely, we instructed them to put all telephones on flight mode and to not call or send anybody their location.

At night the train lights were out. And we didn't want any mobile phone lights to be seen from outside, in case we came under fire.

We also had to reassure the children not to be scared if they heard any air raid sirens, or if the train stopped suddenly. Despite cancellations and delays, we made it safely to the border point near the town of Solotvyno in the dead of night. But the bus was unable to go over the bridge between the two states. Luckily, kind Samaritans came to our aid to help us bring all the children and their luggage across through passport control.

Just over the other side we were met in heated tents with hot drinks and packed lunches, brought by the Romanian team. They'd also brought thermos flasks full of hot water for baby formula, and motion sickness tablets which you just can't get in Ukraine anymore. After a pit stop, we drove the final hours to the reception centre prepared for us in Iași.

Throughout the journey the children were asking, "Have we arrived yet? Does it have air raid sirens? Please tell us it will not have sirens?" We told them, "No, don't worry. In this country, there's no war". It was very hard for them to understand that they didn't have war after one month of conflict. Most of the children understand very well what's happening now back home in Ukraine, but so as not to stress them, we have said that the children of Romania have invited us to see their culture and to be their guests. They now see it more as a trip.

I really miss my country, Ukraine, but I'm really relieved that I have my own children with me in a safe country, and that I could help save these other

<complex-block>

### "Have we arrived yet? Does it have air raid sirens? Please tell us it will not have sirens?"

children from the bombing. My husband insisted that that we leave Ukraine, while he stayed behind. I miss him. But here everything is good; everybody is happy to see us.



♥ It has been a hard journey, particularly on the brave carers and educators who have evacuated along with their families so they can continue to support these children. Any gift you make will help us continue to protect vulnerable children, visit **hopeandhomes.org/donate** or call **01722 790111**.

#### HOPE NEWS MAGAZINE

# MY LIFE IN 10 OBJECTS



**Natalia Fricker,** Content Strategist, Hope and Homes for Children

As I began to think about this issue's 'My Life in Ten Objects', my mind took me back to my experience of the Romanian border with Ukraine a few weeks ago, where I witnessed thousands of refugee women and children fleeing their country with nothing but the limited number of items they could fit in their suitcase.

eople who have left almost everything behind to seek safety elsewhere.

There were hardly any cars. Most women and children were being dropped near the border by their husbands, saying goodbye and then crossing on foot to make the rest of their journey alone by bus and train. So they could only bring what they could carry by hand –in suitcases, rucksacks and handbags.

As I saw family after family emerge across the border with merely a wheely suitcase and a rucksack or handbag, it began to sink in just how few things they could bring with them.

I struck up a conversation with a young 26-year-old mum called Liza who spoke some English. She'd fled with her two-year-old son, as well as her mother, sister and two nieces. I asked her what she had time to pack. She told me:

"We only packed what we saw," she explained. "For example, my mum only took two sweaters and one pair of jeans.And that's all. We only have small suitcases. I took more because of my son, I took his clothes and some for me and for my husband, but he stayed in Ukraine.

"You don't have time to think through what you need, you only take what you see and just flee very quickly because it's really scary, especially when you have small children and parents so you don't have time to think over what you need. Passports, documents and some money and clothes and that's all." As I took in everything around me, I noticed the things people had brought with them.

### **1** Mobile phone

Several people were on their phones, speaking to loved ones, telling them they were safe. Cut off from husbands, friends and family, their phones are a lifeline; they only way to stay in touch with loved ones and make plans for the onward journey.

### 2 Suitcase/rucksack

Many of the children had little rucksacks on their back to carry a few items of their own, like toys or teddies. This one really struck me. It seemed a very poignant reminder of the innocence of children, the hopeful atmosphere and the challenging journey ahead.

### 3. Pets

So many people had brought their best friend with them –heads poking out of bags, coats and trolleys.

66

We only packed what we saw.

99

### **A** Buggy

In the freezing snow, the smallest children and babies were wrapped tight and snug in buggies. It was both heartwarming and heartbreaking how seemingly unaware they were of the chaos around them.

### 5 Walking stick / crutches / wheelchair

Although the roads were good, many with mobility problems still needed a lot of help – everyone pitched in, fellow Ukrainians fleeing, border forces and aid workers.

### **6** Snack

Those with small children had brought what they could – but travellers of all sizes were grateful for the kindness, warmth and snacks at the border centres.

### **Warm** clothes

Warm clothes were essential. It was bitterly cold. I was wearing two woollen jumpers, two puffa jackets, a woollen hat, scarf and gloves and I was still freezing. For those who hadn't managed to bring enough layers with them, volunteers were handing out extra hats, gloves and blankets.

### 8 Cuddly toy

Children were clutching onto any reminder of normality, of home, of safety –for many, this was a treasured cuddly toy.

### Passports / documents and/or money

People snatched what they could as they left the house. Those caring for friends and neighbours' families often arrived without full documents.

### **1** Nappies

For some families it was taking so long to get to the border – journeys of 2 or 3 days –supplies hadn't lasted. Our colleagues at border crossings are still handing out nappies and other essential items.

7.)

9.)





#### Singer songwriter and Hope and Homes for Children Global Ambassador KT Tunstall presented our BBC Radio 4 Charity Appeal in April.

BBC Radio 4's 11 million listeners heard KT's broadcast last month, and you can listen to it again on BBC Sounds at bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0016s1s

"I know a little bit about the uncertainly of being a baby without a family," said KT, the Ivor Novello winning, multimillion selling, Grammy-and-Mercurynominated singer songwriter.

"After being given up at birth, I spent the first 18 days of my life with a foster family until a caring couple who became my parents took me home.

"But not every child is as lucky as me." 5.4 million children are trapped in orphanages worldwide today, but 80% of them aren't orphans. They've been separated from families because of disability, poverty or war. Many suffer violence, abuse and torture. In later life,

they're more likely to become homeless, to turn to crime and to experience mental and physical health issues. Some don't survive orphanages at all.

Donations from our BBC R4 Appeal are still coming in thick and fast, and will make a huge contribution to helping us make orphanages history.



♥ KT shared the emotional story of Uwase in our Radio 4 appeal. To read how this little girl finally found the love and safety she deserves, turn to p22

A BBC RADIO 4 APPEAL

## THE HOPE 50 **CYCLE CHALLENGE**

On 30 August 2021, ten determined cyclists embarked on a gruelling 4.5 day ride from our Head Office in Salisbury 500 miles to Land's End and back again, raising over £70,000 for our work in Ukraine.

rganiser Joe Mycielski said, "Riding to Land's End and back was a pointless journey. That was the aim - to draw attention to the fact that children in orphanages hit their "Land's End" on an hourly, daily basis. Warehousing children like this is bleak, damaging and in this day and age, unacceptable. It is sobering that just £1,300 can make the difference in getting a child out of an institution and into

We'd also like to highlight the efforts of a loving and supportive family-based setup. Although deeply uncomfortable at the pupils, staff and parents at Casterton times, this was child's play compared to Sedbergh Preparatory School, who raised what babies and children in institutions £2,600 in the space of one term through endure day to day." a range of activities, including a whole school sponsored walk, a charity day Huge thanks to Hope 50 sponsors Ogden and the end of term Carol Service. A big of Harrogate, Brompton, Lawn Master thank you to the wonderful Sedbergh and Weatherbys Private Bank; also to Prep family.

Mark Martin for donating an amazing Jamaican getaway auction prize.



The Hope 50 Cycle Challenge Team: Mark Tidmarsh, Marc Roberts, Ian Jamieson, Tim Parker, David Ball, Andrew Green, Ben Ogden, James Reid, Joe Mycielski, Joss Wilbraham

♥ If you would like to organise your own event, big or small, to raise much needed funds for Hope and Homes for Children, or can introduce the charity to your children's school, please contact Catherine Butt (Supporter Fundraising Manager) at **fundraising@hopeandhomes.org**. For inspiration and more fun ideas for what you can do to raise funds, please visit hopeandhomes.org/get-involved



20







Casterton Sedbergh Preparatory School, going the extra mile to raise vital funds for Hope and Homes for Children in Ukraine.



# **FINALLY, SOMEONE TO CALL MÚM AND DAD**

### 66

On the day Uwase joined our family, I felt the same emotions as when I gave birth to my other children.

Uwase was abandoned on the streets of Rwanda's capital, Kigali, at just 10 months old. Found by the police, her parents couldn't be traced, so they took her to an orphanage.

> ut orphanages don't protect children, they harm them.

Uwase may have been fed and had a roof over her head. but she had no one to cuddle her, care for her, or love her. Because Uwase was born with a disability in her leg, the orphanage staff didn't take the time to help her learn to walk. Unable to move around, she couldn't interact or join in any games. Instead, she was left alone and ignored. Just existing. Day in. Day out.

With the right support, Uwase's real parents might have been able to give her the love and care she needs. But they couldn't be found, so we looked to find her a new family.

Gatete and Uwimana heard about our initiative of reintegrating children from orphanages into families, and decided they wanted to offer a child the chance to grow up with brothers and sisters and have someone to call mum and dad.

Our team provided Gatete and Uwimana with specialist training to become foster care parents, and finally, the day arrived when Uwase would move to her new home. Uwimana remembers this moment fondly:

#### "I'm not exaggerating when I say that on the day Uwase joined our family, I felt the same emotions as when I gave birth to my other children."

With the love and encouragement of her adoptive parents and five siblings, Uwaseis thriving. After four years of only crawling on her hands and knees, within four months Uwase took her first steps. Now she can walk, run and play and becomes more independent every day.

Your support made this happen. Thank you.



### To make a donation

Visit donate.hopeandhomes.org, call **01722 790111** (9am–5pm, Mon–Fri) or use the form enclosed.

It costs £600, or **£17 per month** over three years, to keep a family together. Rarely has the need been so overwhelming to ensure that children, orphaned by COVID, are kept safe from orphanages. Our experienced family support workers are working with families every day, providing them with the tailored support they need to stay together.

It costs £1,140, or **£32 per month** over three years, to reunite a child with their family. Our expert teams are working right now to trace children's birth families, preparing children and their parents to be reunited, and supporting them through this complex and challenging process.

It costs £1,680, or £47 per month over three years, to build a new family for a child rescued from an institution. Our teams are in the field each day undertaking the skilled work needed to help a child feel loved in a new family. This includes recruiting and training foster parents, the complex work of preparing a child to join their new family, and the resources they need to make a success of their life together.

### ♥ Use your Will to change a life today, a generation tomorrow, and the world forever

Our supporters have enabled us to free more than 268,000 children from the threat of family separation, and help us champion the global movement that will bring the antiquated orphanage system to an end. By remembering Hope and Homes for Children in your Will, you can impact children for generations to come whilst bringing us even closer to a world without orphanages. For more information, please visit hopeandhomes.org/leave-aor contact our Head of Supporter Care, Joe Sutton, on **01722** 790111 or joe. sutton@hopeandhomes.org





All photos are by Hope and Homes for Children, unless otherwise stated. To ensure the safety and privacy of our beneficiaries, all the names of the children, relatives and carers featured in this publication have been changed.

Cover image: COVID stole Sonia's father. Then it nearly stole her childhood too. But thanks to our local partner, she's no longer at risk of entering an orphanage.

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