



Listening to the stories of war in Ukraine to guide a response to the needs of children and staff in children's palliative care

The importance of Social Media platforms as a means to communicate



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

Joan Marston
PallCHASE



The war and humanitarian situation in Ukraine is
like no other



Technology including StarLink has facilitated communication and connection





“We tell ourselves stories in order to live”

Joan Didion



I have died 2 dogs, my Grandmother and the beautiful city of Mariupol
8 yr old boy



Social media fosters Interconnectedness & Immediacy; & reduces Isolation

- Facebook

- Messenger

- Twitter

- TikTok

- Instagram

- Telegram

- LinkedIn

- Viber





“Please
do not
forget
us”





Kharkiv Hippocrates Center for palliative care and rehabilitation for children



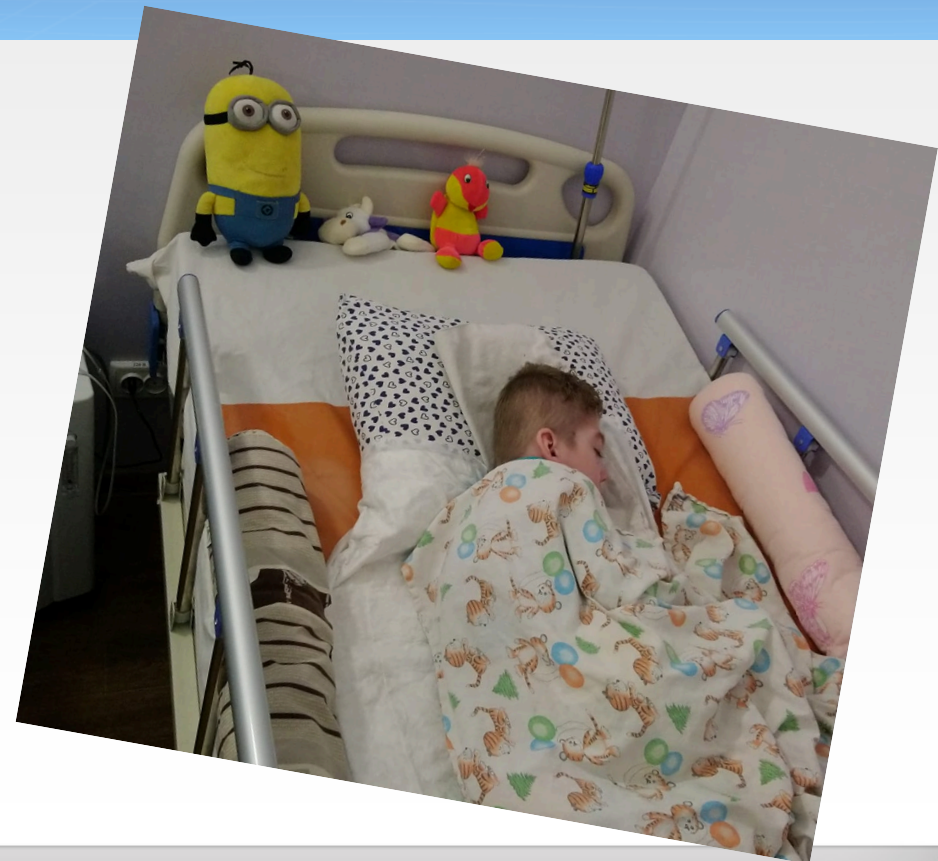
Dr Roman Marabyan - pre-war



Through social media we “heard” their story.

Our colleagues had prepared

- by converting the basement into a safer space
- Teaching staff to manage traumatic injuries
- Storing food and medical resources





The unexpected happened

Dr Roman Marabyan Director

- was called up to fight

Dr Olena Riga

– her home was completely destroyed



The destruction was far greater than expected



During bombardment

The bus to the Polish border was a capsule of exhaustion, grief and tender mercies. Carers hugged the frightened children and whispered soothing sounds. It was not a time or place for words. There were none that could have explained the madness engulfing the world of the children from Kharkiv's Hippocrates Care Centre. They were aged between one and three and all were disabled, with serious medical conditions.





Reaching out & Listening

- Creating ongoing awareness through social media
- Ongoing sharing of their stories through Social Media
- Promoting and contributing to Appeals
- Collecting and sending items they require
- Supporting children's palliative care and hospices in other countries who are presently providing care



Encouragement for PCC
colleagues to remain in
the field

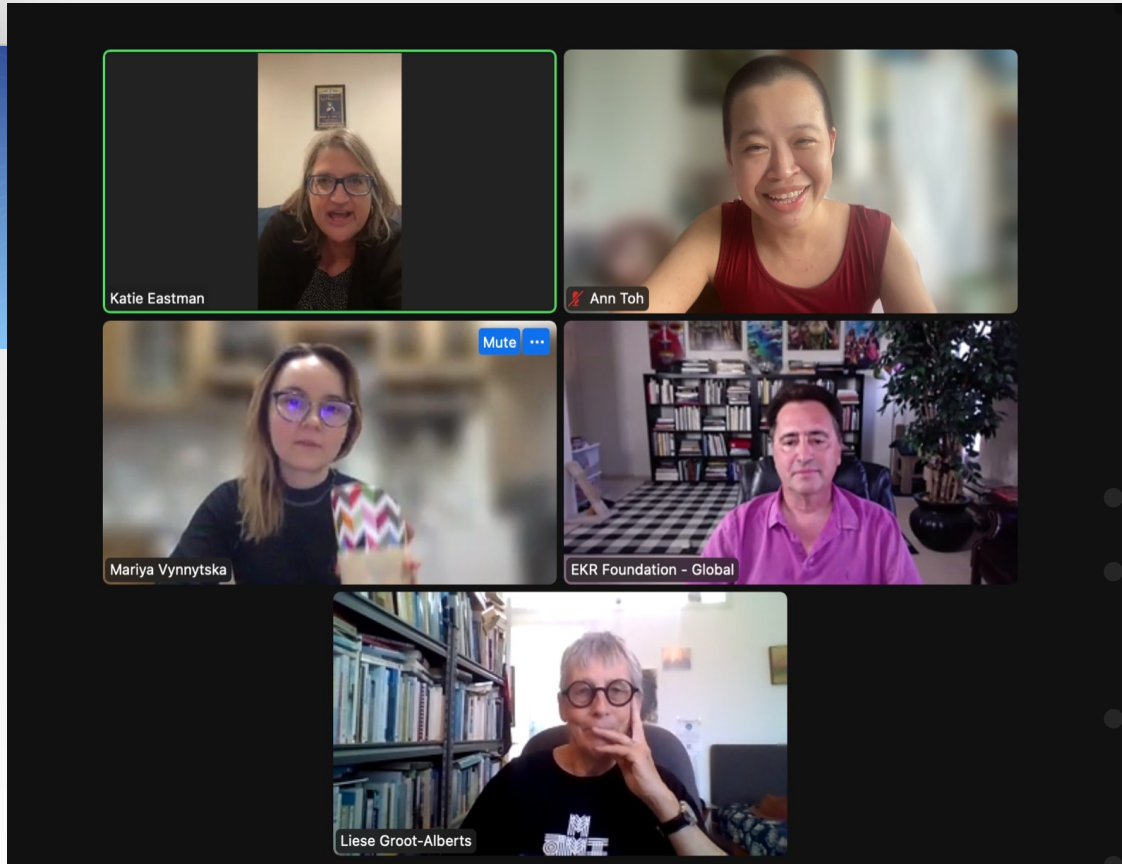




Ukraine Psychosocial Coalition for Palliative Care and Counselling

- Psychologists, Social Workers, spiritual care professionals from Ukraine and around the world
- Led by Ukraine, working together to help colleagues in Ukraine to provide support to children and adults
- Initiated by Mariya Vynntska in Kiev





- Organisations and Individuals
- Closed Facebook page
- Circles of care and support
- Buddy system



Центр
психологии
The Soul

#hugsforukraine



wrapped up in love,
connected across continents

Be it a shawl, scarf, bandana, blanket or any other wearable accessory, join in the movement and show us YOUR vision of what it means to embrace those at the centre of the crisis in Ukraine – reminding them that we will always have them in our thoughts, and that they are not alone!

HOPE TO DO MORE?

Join the Ukraine Psychosocial Palliative Care & Counselling Coalition

An initiative adopting a trauma-sensitive approach to provide safe spaces for frontline workers in Ukraine to be supported, nourished and trained



<https://tinyurl.com/HandsUpToServeUkraine>

EKR Elisabeth Kübler-Ross
FOUNDATION

PallCHASE
Palliative Care in Humanitarian
Aid Situations and Emergencies



- A group of psychologists, social workers and spiritual care professionals from around the world
- Using a closed Facebook page
- Led by, working with and supporting colleagues in Ukraine to support others –children and adults



“ There can be few things more important or more valuable in life than to relieve the suffering of a child and to help that child live the life they have as fully as possible.”

Dr Justin Amery

Palliative Care for Children in Africa: Oxford University Press. 2009”



Left – Right

Dyakuyu

Mille Grazie

Thank you

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