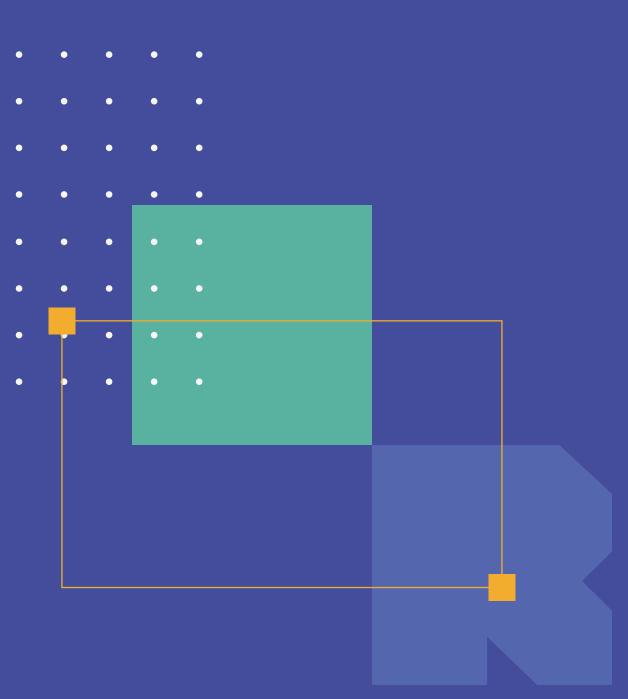








The HealthLink project team has been working on the Recovery initiative since April 2023.





THE GOAL OF THE INITIATIVE

The goal of the initiative is to restore and support primary healthcare in regions most affected by the full-scale invasion.

We've started the project implementation in Dnipropetrovsk region and have been working together with the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, the National Health Service of Ukraine, the Department of Health of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast Administration (DOH), and primary healthcare facilities in the region for over 10 months.

Below you can find information on how things were going during February and early March 2024 in our key areas of work, which are:

- Technical support for targeted healthcare facilities in two districts of Dnipropetrovsk region.
- Procurement of equipment, medical supplies, and transportation for targeted healthcare facilities.
- Educational and training materials developed for facility teams.
- Information campaigns focusing on the prevention of certain non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and the re-enrollment of declarations at the current place of residence, unfolding in Dnipropetrovsk region to expand nationwide.



TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR HEALTHCARE FACILITIES IN DNIPROPETROVSK REGION

One of the key activities of the HealthLink.Recovery project is providing technical support to healthcare facilities (HCFs) in Dnipropetrovsk region to improve and expand primary healthcare services. This work is divided into several stages:

STAGE 1:

Identifying the needs of target facilities for training by conducting an assessment of community needs and capacities.

For these purposes, the <u>Ukrainian Health Center (UHC)</u> team developed an assessment methodology and surveyed 14 targeted healthcare facilities (HCFs). Based on the collected and analyzed data, they generated an <u>analytical report</u>. As a result, a training plan for target HCF teams was developed. The focus of the training includes strengthening managerial capacity (management training) and expanding primary care functions (clinical training).





TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR HEALTHCARE FACILITIES IN DNIPROPETROVSK REGION

STAGE 2:

Conducting management training, which includes project management, strategic management, and fundraising basics.

The first training, held from March 4th to 6th in Kyiv, was attended by 16 representatives of target HCFs. The next training will take place from March 18th to 20th, and registration is ongoing.





TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR HEALTHCARE FACILITIES IN DNIPROPETROVSK REGION

STAGE 3:

Conducting clinical training for the medical personnel of targeted HCFs.

Nurses will undergo training from March 25th to 27th, while family doctors from April 8th to 10th. These events will take place at the Zhytomyr Medical Institute.

The training program developed by the <u>Ukrainian Health Center (UHC)</u> team includes:

- Basics of preclinical screening.
- Examination of children under one year and breastfeeding.
- Basics of ECG for nurses and medical assistants.
- Concepts of controlling the most prevalent chronic diseases.
- Basic Life Support (BLS).
- Spirometry, peak flow measurement.
- Basics of palliative care.
- Healthy behavior and ways to maintain it.
- Communication with patients and handling stress reactions.
- Crisis communication and communication during aggression, and so on.



PROCUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, AND TRANSPORTATION FOR TARGETED HEALTHCARE FACILITIES (HCFS)

In the summer of 2023, the project team collected the needs of targeted HCFs regarding the procurement of equipment, medical supplies, and transportation means. As a result, purchases of over 35 types of equipment, consumables, and vehicles (cars, scooters, bicycles) were initiated.

As of March 2024, the following items have been procured:

- Medical equipment: portable electrocardiographs, tonometers, floor scales for adults, scales for children and infants, height meters, glucometers, pulse oximeters, thermometers, otoscopes, visual acuity charts, peak flowmeters, manual lung ventilation devices, portable defibrillators, medical cabinets for drugs and instruments, medical screens.
- Medical supplies: children's diapers, adult diapers, baby food, disposable absorbent pads, moist disinfectant wipes for hands and surfaces, paper towels, alcohol wipes, gynecological kits.
- Non-medical equipment: bicycles, portable PCs (laptops), printers.
- Diagnostic tests: troponin tests.

Soon, the corresponding items will be shipped to targeted HCFs in Dnipropetrovsk region. The list of equipment, consumables, and vehicles is regulated by <u>Order of the Ministry of Health dated 10.12.2020 No. 2857</u> "On Amendments to the Model Table of Material and Technical Equipment of Healthcare Institutions and Individual Entrepreneurs Providing Primary Medical Care," approved by Order of the Ministry of Health dated 26.01.2018 No. 148.



EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PRODUCTS FOR HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

Certification program for senior positions in the specialized healthcare "Modern management tools for healthcare institutions".

In response to the request from the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, we have planned the development of two educational products for healthcare facilities that will help address current challenges for service accessibility and sustainability.

The first one is a pilot certification program for healthcare institution managers. The further vision is to integrate it into state medical universities nationwide. To work on this task, we have engaged our partners, namely the strategic support bureau SUPERWISE, experts from the Bogomolets National Medical University, and the Ukrainian Catholic University.

The HealthLink.Recovery and partners team has completed the development of the methodological design of the training program and is currently preparing educational materials, recruiting participants, and organizing offline training sessions. The first block will start at the end of March 2024.

Overall, the program will have 4 blocks:

- Healthcare institution strategy and international frameworks.
- Financial management.
- Human resources management.
- Quality management.



The course for medical teams "Communication with People Traumatized by War"

Our second educational product is being developed as a series of video lessons available on the platform of the National Health Service of Ukraine's Academy. The Ministry of Health (MOH) drew the attention of the project team to the problem: healthcare teams do not feel confident in communicating with people who have experienced trauma due to war, and they are not always aware of the consequences of poorly chosen words for such patients.

Therefore, within the framework of HealthLink.Recovery, we are preparing an online course that would address this issue and help medical teams communicate harmlessly with patients.

In addition to the strategic support bureau SUPERWISE, we have also engaged the MOH's Center for Psychological Support and Rehabilitation "Lisova Polyana," nongovernmental organizations caring

for veterans and victims of violence (VeteranHub, "Sylni" etc.), and leading experts in practical and clinical psychology to work on the course. Currently, we are recording the first of three lessons, and we will release it on the NSZU Academy platform in a few weeks.



INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS

Campaign on prevention of cardiovascular diseases

In response to the request from the Ministry of Health, as part of the HealthLink.Recovery initiative, we have launched an informational campaign that raises awareness about the early signs of cardiovascular diseases and urges people not to ignore them, and to seek help from their family doctor.

For the implementation of this campaign, we involved colleagues from the public association "Your Family Doctor," conducted a series of interviews with experts in this field,

and developed a communication strategy for the campaign based on the gathered information.

Materials within the first pilot phase have already reached 327,000 residents of the key project region — that of Dnipropetrovsk, and another 858,000 people nationwide as part of the second campaign stage scaling across the country. We continue to distribute printed informational materials in the target region; 14 target HCFs have already received and displayed informational posters in their clinics and family doctor offices.





Information campaign on re-enrolling declarations in the current place of residence (with a focus on internally displaced persons)

Another informational campaign aims to address the issue of quality access to healthcare services for people who have been forced to change their place of residence.

Over the past months, together with the "Your Family Doctor" team, we have studied insights into why people who have moved sometimes reluctantly re-register their declarations in a new place, developed a communication strategy, and created creative materials and a landing page for the information campaign.

Currently, we have compiled <u>a list of</u> <u>primary healthcare facilities</u> in two project districts of Dnipropetrovsk region where there are available doctors for signing declarations.

15 healthcare facilities in Kamianske and Pavlohrad districts have already received colorful and attractive informational materials displaying the office numbers and names of available doctors. We also plan a media campaign and publication schedule on social media and local media outlets to expand the campaign to the regional level.





PARTNERS OF THE PROJECT











