

21 August 2023

Highlights:

- **Visitor numbers remain stable.**
- **Memberships grow to over 200.**
- **Summer camp a great success with pizza making lessons proving popular.**

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Momentum

Employing Volunteers' Talents, Wisdom & Experience

The Centre is one of the most successful initiatives helping Ukrainians in the Canton. To date it has welcomed over 2,000 people (many repeatedly) over the past 16 months.

The refugee crisis that erupted so tragically in March 2022 has been successfully managed and step by step, the Ukrainian community is thankfully beginning to integrate and to focus on more traditional priorities such as education, work, professional development and cultural nourishment.

The Centre needs to adapt its services accordingly says Jeremy McTeague: "Our priority should be to provide assistance with language training, finding work, professional development, integration and local advice. All our volunteers have so much to offer and they can be of far more help and value interacting with our visitors rather than working in the kitchen. The co-mentoring programme being organised by

Herb Riband and Dmytro Milashchuk is a perfect example". See article in this edition).



"We really need as much help as possible with French and English conversation. For us it is reassuring to be able to sit down with volunteers we know and trust. Please sign up if you can." says Lyudmila.

There are now many Ukrainians who volunteer at the Centre. The clothes team is almost entirely managed by Elizabet Malkova and her team. Events such as Ukraine Independence Day are now managed entirely by Lyudmila Bahmut, Volodymyr Soroka and others. Thanks to Karma Fussell, the

registration process has been automated and is ready for Alexandr and Valentim to run it as a membership and safeguarding system. The café service, while still reliant on Swiss volunteers, is being handed over to Ukrainian volunteers.

We will continue to run a rota sign up system where people can select what they will help with on a particular day. Every Thursday and Sunday session will be run by a host volunteer and we ask the experienced volunteers and members of the Coordinating Team to sign up as hosts.

Our Coordinating team will continue to manage the financial and legal administration and to maintain oversight of safeguarding and relations with the founding churches and donors.

The transition is being managed by the Coordinating team and by a newly established team of Ukrainian volunteers led by Lyudmila Bahmut. We expect it to be completed by 5 October.

Preparing for Ukraine Independence Day Celebrations on 26 August

26.08
14:00-21:00

FÊTE TRADITIONNELLE UKRAINIENNE
en l'honneur de la Journée de l'Indépendance de l'Ukraine

Programme :
Vos plats ukrainiens préférés
Divers concours pour adultes et enfants
Des ateliers passionnants
Concert
Foire des produits ukrainiens

Adresse:
École De Béthusy, Av. de Béthusy 7, 1005 Lausanne

ivAlive Ukraine reborn

The 24 August marks Ukraine Independence Day. After the great success organised last year by the Ukrainian community at the Centre, a truly ambitious celebration is being planned this year on Saturday 26 August. A joint initiative between the Centre, Ukraine Reborn and IvAlive the event will take place at the Béthusy School (Av. de Béthusy 7) It's close to the Ours metro and both the No. 6 and 7 bus are close by. Rehearsals are in full swing. Dancers, musicians,



singers, poets are all being put through their paces by

Volodymyr Soroka and choreographer AlOBejd Maryna.

Workshops have been in full swing producing beautiful traditional Ukrainian crafts such as motanka dolls and Ukrainian delicacies including home-made honey spice loaf. There will be a great barbeque and other delights. Please tell



your friends to come along! See QR code for directions:



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UDCL Intergenerational Co-Mentoring Programme

**Assisting young professionals and talented Ukrainians
realise their potential in the workplace**

There is a pressing need to support the Ukrainian community's integration into Swiss society and give them skills they need - whether they ultimately remain in Switzerland or return to Ukraine someday. Herb Riband, an international healthcare policy advisor and volunteer at the Centre and Dmytro Milashchuk, a social entrepreneur and coach from our partner, Ukraine Reborn believe that "co-mentoring" relationships can be part of the solution.



Herb Riband

A "mentor" is a trusted, experienced advisor who supports and guides someone (a "mentee") through their personal and/or professional journey and provides a sounding board so that mentees can learn from others' perspectives and prior experience and make decisions with greater confidence. Traditionally, mentoring has been viewed as a one-way relationship, with a senior person sharing their wisdom and expertise with someone more junior. However, to meet the needs of evolving societies and workplaces where multiple generations inter-act on a regular basis, "co-mentoring" relationships learning opportunities, across generations each gaining skills, expertise, and new perspectives as part of the process.

"Each mentor will support the success of a younger Ukrainian refugee"

the needs of evolving societies and workplaces where multiple generations inter-act on a regular basis, "co-mentoring" relationships learning opportunities, across generations each gaining skills, expertise, and new perspectives as part of the process.



Dmytro Milashchuk

Herb and Dmytro are working to build an innovative, intergenerational co-mentoring programme that will bring together experienced Centre volunteers and younger Ukrainians who are currently navigating career and other challenges in their adopted country, Switzerland. "We call this a "co-mentoring" relationship because there will be bi-directional learning and benefits for both parties" explains Herb. Each mentor will support the success of a younger Ukrainian refugee, provide connections and support their acquisition of skills to navigate life/career opportunities and to develop new relationships. For their part, mentees can help mentors to gain insights into today's professional environments, emerging technologies and new ways of thinking about professional and societal challenges.

To launch the programme, we are looking for people who are (a) excited by collaborating and learning with a "beginner's mind"; (b) willing to provide open, constructive and confidential feedback to support others' growth; and (c) are willing and able to commit 2-3 hours per month over a 6-month (minimum) period to build relationships based on mutual respect and trust.

If you are interested to learn more there will be an online podcast on 30 August and a face-to-face presentation and meeting with Herb and Dmitry at the Centre on 10 September at 15h00.
Email: Herb Riband: hfriband@gmail.com; or hiretheukrainian@gmail.com.

Are you interested in helping Ukrainians with English or French conversation?

Please email: ukrainecentrelausanne@gmail.com or call: 076 558 6805

Donate

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