PROJECT REPORT

YOU WERE A LIFELINE FOR **UKRAINIAN REFUGEES**

Thank you for your donation during the Leading & Loving It Re:Treat. Because of your generosity, you helped raise nearly $17,000! That's enough to help provide lifesaving aid like food, clothing, and medical care for 485 Ukrainians who were forced to flee their homes.

It's been almost a year since Russia's invasion of Ukraine began. During that time, Ukraine went in and out of the news cycle ... and it started feeling like old news. Support lessened as time passed, and Ukrainians began to fear they'd been forgotten. They began to worry that they would have to face the freezing winter temperatures alone.

That's why your gift was so important! You met a Ukrainian refugee's most urgent needs while reminding them that you still care.

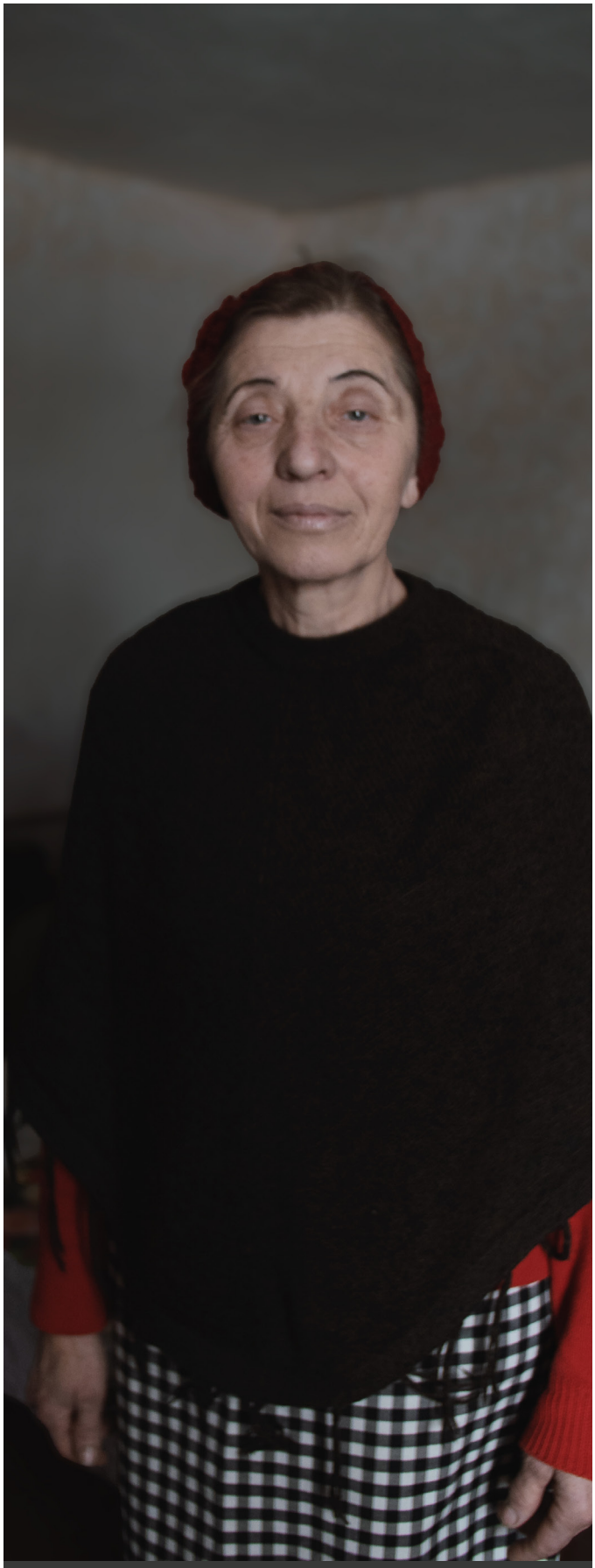
Here are two testimonies to give you a glimpse at the impact of your life-changing gift:

OLYA: SURVIVING THE COLD WITH A THANKFUL HEART

Olya's hometown was one of the first places occupied by Russian soldiers in Ukraine. She had hoped to remain hidden inside her home with her disabled son for the duration of the war ... but when the windows were blown out by explosions, she knew she needed to take her son and go.

Leaving was easier said than done. She walked over 19 miles in the freezing cold, pushing her son's wheelchair over debris until she got them to safety.

Once the Russian soldiers left their hometown, Olya



Olya and her son now have the cold-weather supplies they need to survive the winter, thanks to you!

and her son returned, but there were few housing options since so many buildings had been damaged or destroyed. The new house they began renting was much more expensive, even though it had cracks in the walls and ceiling from air strikes. After paying the rent, Olya had little money left over for food.

But thanks to gifts like yours, our partners were able to deliver food and other lifesaving supplies to Olya so that she and her son could survive the winter. Your support also provided resources to repair the cracks in their home and install a wood-burning stove so that they could stay as warm as possible.

Now, she doesn't feel so alone and has experienced genuine Christ-like love because of you.

LEANA: GENERATING HOPE

Leana is a fighter. She refused to leave her home in Ukraine, but surviving a year of war has been exhausting. **Leana lost electricity in her home in February 2022, when Russia first attacked, and lived for 10 months without power.**

It was a miracle she survived those early days of war and made it to spring ... but when winter rolled around again, the challenge of staying warm returned with a vengeance.

With no heating in her home, Leana warmed up bricks in a fire and tucked them into her bed at night. She and her dog huddled together for extra warmth, but every night was still miserable.

But then, after almost a year of living without heat, your gifts helped provide Leana with new warm clothing, blankets, food, and even a generator!

The smile on her face says it all.

Leana is so grateful that people she's never met — people like you — cared about her enough to send help. Now, thanks to the generator and other aid she received, she doesn't have to worry about the cold. She has what she needs to survive this winter.

THANK YOU!