



International Medical Corps is offering dignity kits and psychosocial support to displaced women and girls in Kharkiv.

Attacks and fighting have continued in Kharkivska oblast, in northeast Ukraine, since Russia's latest offensive began there early last month. Between May 10 and June 4, Russian troops dropped some 300 bombs around the city of Vovchansk, while Lyptsi—to the west—also remains under threat of attack and occupation. Though the front line has stabilized somewhat, residents in the border area continue to flee their homes and air attacks continue across the oblast. A missile strike overnight on May 30–31 on an apartment building in Kharkiv city killed at least nine people and injured 20. Multiple villages have also reportedly suffered shelling and air attacks—including a missile strike overnight on May 31–June 1 on a house in Balakliia, southeast of Kharkiv city, that reportedly injured 12 people, among them eight children and a pregnant woman.

International Medical Corps' Response

In response to the ongoing crisis, International Medical Corps has continued to coordinate with local authorities and other humanitarian organizations and to work with partners such as Relief Coordination Center—which operates the transit center in Kharkiv for internally displaced persons (IDPs). Even as we carry out our relief activities, we continue to assess and respond to people's needs.

Our **Gender-based Violence (GBV)** team in Kharkiv distributed 197 dignity kits there this week to women and girls evacuated from around Vovchansk and Lyptsi. At the same time, a psychologist from our **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MPHSS)** team was on hand to assess needs and offer psychological first aid—providing support to 43 people. On June 4, the GBV team also distributed 18 dignity kits at a collective center housing some of the IDPs. There, our colleagues told the women and girls about the psychosocial support and other services available to them, and invited them to visit our women's and girls' safe space in Kharkiv.

Meanwhile, the International Medical Corps psychologist also assessed needs and offered support to displaced people at a Kharkiv dormitory on Molochna Street. Our MPHSS team collaborated with the International Organization for Migration, Proliska and Right to Protection to identify other locations where people need MPHSS.

The **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)** team has so far distributed child and adult diapers as well as drinking water to IDPs, and donated water heaters and tools to facilities housing them.

International Medical Corps' **Health** team in Kharkiv continues to provide critical medicine to two health facilities in the towns of Krasnohrad and Zmiiv, which are hosting about 300 of the newly displaced people.

FAST FACTS

- Fighting and air attacks continue in Kharkivska oblast.
- People living in the northern part of the oblast—close to the border and the Russian city of Belgorod—continue to flee their homes.
- Ukrainian forces are holding their positions around Vovchansk and Lyptsi, but Russian air attacks continue there and across the oblast.
- International Medical Corps is cooperating closely with partners, other humanitarian organizations and local authorities to support the new wave of internally displaced people.
- Response efforts this week included providing some 200 dignity kits and psychological first aid to women and girls sheltering in Kharkiv city.