

Press



Release

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For Immediate Release

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Legislators Wolfe & Paul Thank Rockland Residents For Contributions To Relief Drive For Ukraine Refugees

Collection Done In Partnership With Nonprofit Afya Foundation

New City, NY (April 13, 2022) – Rockland County Legislators Alden Wolfe and Aney Paul are offering their thanks to everyone who donated to the relief effort to benefit Ukrainians forced to flee their country amidst the worst fighting seen in Europe since World War II.

“Not only have more than four million people - mostly women, children and the elderly - been forced to flee Ukraine, but Putin has chosen to murder unknown thousands of civilians as a war tactic,” Legislator Wolfe said. “The refugees need supplies and I offer my sincerest gratitude to everyone who contributed to this relief effort. This is our small, but meaningful way to aid everyday people just like us who are truly in desperate need.”

Legislators Wolfe and Paul partnered with the nonprofit Afya Foundation for the relief effort. Afya is supporting hospitals in Ukraine and refugee centers in Poland. The humanitarian supplies collected through the drive will be delivered to refugee centers.

“I also thank everyone who contributed to this drive,” Legislator Paul said. “We put the call out and you gave so much. Thank you Rockland County. As we continue to watch the devastating news reports, we know that even if a ceasefire is put in place, it will take years to clear Ukraine of mines, to rebuild water and natural gas lines, hospitals, schools, homes and businesses. Putin has left no stone of destruction unturned. The people of Ukraine will need help for a long while.”

Afya is based in Yonkers in Westchester County. All donations were transported today to their warehouse for shipment to Poland. Donations included first aid kits; flashlights and batteries; personal hygiene kits; bar soap; shampoo; toothbrushes; toothpaste; deodorant; shaving cream and razors; baby diapers; adult diapers; facemasks; hand sanitizer; and more – all of it needed by people abruptly forced to flee, often with only the clothes and coats on their backs and what they could hurriedly pack into small suitcases.

Inside one of the donation boxes, we found a card in a child’s handwriting with the words, “Praying for Peace” in blue and yellow on the cover – the colors of Ukraine’s flag. Inside was a blue heart with the word, “Love” in yellow and a drawing of the Ukraine flag. It was signed, “Sincerely, Caroline and

Connor.” We put it back inside the box before we sealed it as we finished packing up the donations for transport.

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