More than 2 million Ukrainians have fled their country since Russia began its invasion, according the U.N. refugee agency. The 2 million refugees, who are mostly women and children, represent about 4% of Ukraine's population. At least half of them are children, according to UNICEF. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimates that some 4 million Ukrainians could flee their homeland as the crisis unfolds.¹

“As far as we know, the people coming here are only in transit. A few of them remain in Romania. The rest are going through eastern countries. But we don't know how many people will come so we need to be prepared,” Bucharest’s general manager of the directorate of special services, said.² Moldova's Prime Minister Natalia Gavrilita said, “We are seeing an extraordinary humanitarian crisis. We are also seeing a lot of families and children move from Ukraine. So every eighth child in Moldova is now a refugee .... at least three fourths of the refugees are staying with families ... we are at capacity. The flow of refugees is higher and faster than even predictions indicated.”³

**Advance Team in Eastern Europe**
- Heart to Heart International's Advance/Assessment Team has been in Bucharest and Isaccea, Romania, and Chișinău, Moldova, meeting with partners to determine needs on the ground.
- Open Door Foundation, which typically provides assistance and protected shelter in emergency situations to victims of human trafficking, is now using their expertise and resources to help the refugees coming into Romania from Ukraine. Through efforts by the HHI team on the ground, HHI will be supporting Open Door Foundation's work by providing a desperately needed van to transport refugees from border crossings and shelters to airports, bus stations, and other destinations.

**Humanitarian Aid Shipments**
- HHI will be shipping $20 million (13 tons) of medicines and medical supplies to Warsaw, Poland. The aid will be transported by Hope Worldwide into Ukraine to the Ministry of Health to be distributed to hospitals and clinics throughout Ukraine.
- HHI is also preparing to ship 6,750 hygiene kits that will be delivered to Poland to support Convoy of Hope's refugee work.
- HHI will be sending another 10,000 hygiene kits that will be delivered to Romania to support Project Hope's efforts to help Ukranian refugees and people still in Ukraine.
- HHI continues to evaluate and process requests for medicines, medical supplies and hygiene kits from other nonprofit organizations and governmental departments.

¹ https://www.npr.org/2022/03/08/1085200492/ukraine-2-million-refugees-russian-invasion
² https://www.cnn.com/europe/live-news/ukraine-russia-putin-news-03-09-22/h_0bcc2c761af0f12b9e3ef4e92038ec80