

Ukrainian Family Needs a Paperwork Sponsor to Apply for a Two-Year US Refugee Visa – An Opportunity for Hands-On Ministry

This is the Plisko Family. They need a paperwork sponsor to be able to receive a temporary refugee status and work in the United States under the United for Ukraine program (UforU). If you're a US citizen and would consider helping a hard-working couple and their three children from Ukraine to escape from war, please read this document for more details.

Plisko Family



Mykola and Olena Plisko and three children are from the Odesa region, which was massively bombed for the past 6 months.

The Pliskos are active members of a local Baptist church in Odesa. Wherever they can find sponsorship and legally come to the US, they would go to Philadelphia/East Greenville, PA area where their best friends live and work (that family also came to the US with the UforU program over a year ago).

The Ukrainian family in the Philadelphia area would help the Pliskos find work and housing, and there is a Ukrainian church in the area as well. We also have several people and churches who committed to support Pliskos financially ones they arrive to the US to cover first few months of rent and other basic expenses. All they need now is a paperwork sponsor to apply for United for Ukraine program.

The Pliskos have basic English abilities. Mykola is a professional construction contractor, and Olena is a music piano teacher.

Mykola has a driver's license and has a preliminary agreement about employment in the construction firm where his friend works. They also have savings to purchase a car in the US.

The couple is very committed to their country, but recent circumstances have forced them to seek safety abroad. The family is ready to cover their flight tickets costs. Also, Mykola can legally leave Ukraine.

The expectation of a potential paperwork sponsor would be to file a [I-134a](#) form on USCIS website. The friends of the Pliskos in East Greenville indicate there are numerous people in the local Ukrainian community who can help with interpreting and help potential sponsor with completing the I-134a form.

NOTE: Supporters in the US have offered to contribute to the transition expense the family will incur. All the family needs now is someone to complete the paperwork to help them obtain a refugee visa. (Financial contributions to assist in the family's support are still welcome.)

United for Ukraine

The United for Ukraine program, announced by President Biden for Ukrainians over a year ago, and implemented by US Department of Homeland Security provides a pathway for displaced Ukrainian citizens and their immediate family members who are outside the United States to come to the United States and stay temporarily for up to two years. This program quickly grants Ukrainians a legal status, work permits, health insurance, and some benefits like food stamps. The process is straightforward, there are about 13 pages in the application. The turnaround time for the application review is not long, but can take up to 2 months. The potential sponsor must qualify, then the family receives visas and permission to travel to the US within a period of time after approval. The official website of the program is: <https://www.dhs.gov/ukraine>

To volunteer as a paperwork sponsor for a family, to assist the family financially, or to ask questions, please contact Nadiia Khomaziuk from U.S.-Ukraine Business Council at 'nkhomaziuk@usubc.org'