



# TRANSFORMING CRISES INTO HOPEFUL FUTURES

HEART OF AN ACE, INC.



[WWW.HEARTOFANACE.ORG](http://WWW.HEARTOFANACE.ORG)

HEART OF AN ACE, IS A FLORIDA-BASED NON-PROFIT CORPORATION WITH APPROVED 501(C)(3) STATUS.

EIN 87-4159229



## — *We are a Team of Teams*

**Heart of an Ace, Inc.** was born out of the chaos that emerged in August 2021 when the gates of HKIA, the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, were closed to tens of thousands of at-risk Afghans, including U.S. Nationals. *As those gates closed, allies of the United States, many of whom had put their lives on the line, were suddenly left with targets on their back.* The Taliban made clear that those who worked with the United States; who had advocated for the rights of women and minorities; and who worked with the elected government were all to be seen as traitors, putting their lives and their families at risk.

Due to our generous donors, volunteers, and partners, we continue our operations in **South Asia** and have a significant operation in **Europe** called **Project UNCN.ONE**, strengthening Ukraine's resilience against Russia's aggression.





*2022 Year in Review*

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**Matt Y.,**  
Executive Director &  
Veteran

On behalf of the founder, Ernest and Matt are extremely grateful for every donor & volunteer that allows Heart of an Ace to continue helping our Afghan-American allies & our partners on the ground supporting the Ukrainian people.



**Taliban celebrate  
victory after US troops  
withdraw from  
Afghanistan - Aug. 2021**



*Our origins: the  
catastrophic pull-out...*

POLITICS

# U.S. ends 20-year war in Afghanistan with final evacuation flights out of Kabul

PUBLISHED MON, AUG 30 2021-4:34 PM EDT | UPDATED TUE, AUG 31 2021-6:52 PM EDT

Through a network based on a team of teams, Heart of an Ace has procured and delivered food to Afghan-American allies and their families in hiding from the **Taliban**. We've sheltered, transported, and fed each individual and family in a combined effort under the **Moral Compass Federation**. We do this because most of us served alongside Afghan-American allies who saved our lives during military operations. We consider it our moral obligation to protect our allies from the Taliban. We utilize extensively organized logistics and our Afghan partners to procure and deliver food to each family in hiding secretly.





Following the withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan, we responded swiftly to the humanitarian crisis that emerged. According to the World Food Program (WFP) and other international aid organizations, “around 23 million people – half the population – are food insecure, with 8.7 million people at risk of starvation.” Though the international community provides aid through the WFP and other programs, many factors have blunted the impact in Afghanistan. Those factors include the collapse of established governmental aid distribution mechanisms, sanctions, and restrictions on movement for women, minorities, and former employees of the old government, civilian and military personnel. Most significantly, former Afghan-American allies evade help and prefer to hide from the Taliban.

Due to the humanitarian crisis in the country we supported a Naan bread delivery program with the Azimi Foundation founded by our Afghan partner **Abdul Ramin Barin Azimi**, aka AB. The program delivered free Naan every single day for months, by car and foot, on the streets of Kabul to the neediest families. During those months, approximately 500 pieces of Naan were distributed a day. Its founder, AB, gave up everything to aid the humanitarian crisis. For example, he sold his vehicles, house, and worldly possessions in Afghanistan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to provide thousands of meals for the past two years. We are very thankful to AB!

Heart of an Ace will continue to partner with the Moral Compass Federation, a federation of 20+ veteran-run organizations whose mission is to advocate for and help the people of Afghanistan who were left behind. Heart of an Ace has over two hundred volunteers and as noted a central partnership with the Azimi Foundation, with its own partners throughout Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the UAE.

Currently, our volunteers fund their own sponsored families in Afghanistan. The typical aid package lasts a month and includes enough aid to provide five to eight family members with nutritious and necessary sustenance to avoid malnutrition. Through partnerships forged over twenty years of deployments and military service in Afghanistan, the Heart of an Ace Executive Director has created a network of an additional two dozen veteran-run NGOs that can support and expand aid distribution if regular and more significant donations increase to the organization.



As we continue our operations in the South Asia & Europe, we pledge to –

Our **MISSION** to provide rapid response to natural disasters and humanitarian crises around the globe.

Our **VISION** to use cutting-edge technology and regional assets in crisis regions to establish command and control in each situation to restore hope to at-risk communities, one person and family at a time.



## — *Afghanistan*

We cannot miss the opportunity to thank our amazing volunteers for their hard work and sacrifices this year! Together we have cried, laughed, and challenged our will to continue serving in spite of our busy schedules.

Our volunteers continue to demonstrate strong work & ethical values, many of which they forged during their military and government service.



The character of our volunteers is unmatched. Persevering in unity, we uphold our moral responsibility to our Afghan-American allies left behind in Afghanistan. Keeping a warrior mindset, our volunteers are determined to protect and defend against terrorist threats and regimes.

**Moral Responsibility:** our responsibility and capacity to respond decisively to the humanitarian crisis caused by irresponsible U.S. government foreign policy and diplomacy.

**Warrior mindset:** our volunteers were the emergency response to the Afghan-American allies who were left behind during and after the withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan.

They provided all kinds of emergency services like mental health support, brokered releases from kidnappings and arrests, and worked tirelessly to audit visa applications and charter flight packages.

Together, our volunteers are making a life-long impact with every individual and family they assist.



*With help from our donors & volunteers,  
Heart of an Ace served this year –*

- 01 Meals 720,000**
- 02 Flour 177,361 lbs.**
- 03 Cooking Oil 2,125 gal.**
- 04 Rice 53,312 lbs.**
- 05 Sugar 12,415 lbs.**
- 06 Afghani Beans 10,586 lbs.**
- 07 & much more!**

Visit our  
website to  
find out how  
you can help!





# UNCN.ONE

— *Ukraine*

## Russia invades Ukraine on multiple fronts in 'brutal act of war'

[World](#) Updated on Feb 24, 2022 8:27 PM EST – Published on Feb 24, 2022 5:35 PM EST

The war in Ukraine created one of the most urgent humanitarian crises in Europe since the end of World War II. As a result, the Ukraine NGO Coordination Network (UNCN) was formed to lead collaboration efforts across a network of U.S.-based 501c3s and international non-profit humanitarian organizations. Efforts focus on providing food, shelter, medicine, and other life-saving humanitarian aid to those in the hardest-hit regions of the country. UNCN also backed winterization efforts as the Russians used the cold against Ukraine's citizens. For example, UNCN and its partners held three winter clothing drives near U.S. military institutions in North Carolina, Kentucky, and Illinois.



**Sarah A.,**  
UNCN Vice President &  
Chief Operating Officer  
of Ukraine Operations

The constituent groups of the UNCN were among the first non-profit organizations running operations in Ukraine. Members of UNCN organizations were tracking the deteriorating security situation in Ukraine even before the Russian invasion and, within 24 hours, were in-country actively assisting those in need. In the war's early months, our teams worked around the clock to evacuate people in need, including women and children, safely. UNCN also supported sensitive efforts to locate missing U.S. persons.



“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.” I am a first-generation immigrant and refugee raised in the U.S., with my family still living in Ukraine in danger. Seeing the people of UNCN sacrifice their time and energy and risk their lives constantly inspires me. I am grateful for the members of UNCN working tirelessly to ensure that evil does not triumph.

- Alla P., Chief Liaison &  
Management Officer, UNCN

*Photo courtesy of New York Photographer Greg Fernandez @gregfernandez.jpg*

**41**

NGO PARTNERS

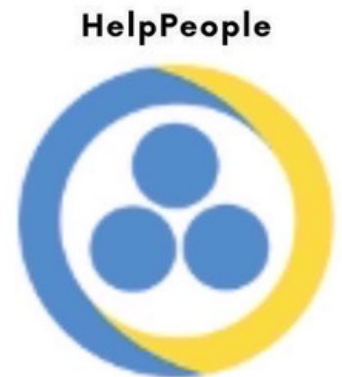
UNCN is a network platform of NGO Partners whom each bring specialized and critical capabilities to the humanitarian effort in Ukraine. UNCN provides "connective tissue" in the form of open-source intelligence, communications, command post services, and situational awareness tools so that our NGO partners can focus on their missions.



With help from key partners, UNCN successfully held six NGO development workshops to sharpen team members skills to help us all serve the mission better.

WWW.HEARTOFANACE.ORG  
WWW.UNCN.ONE

# NGO FUNDRAISING AND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP



Organized by partner org: HelpPeople

Presenter:  
Diana Alejandra Pantoja Sanchez

## DATES (KYIV TIME ZONE)

<b>November 17</b>	6:00 PM- 8:00PM
<b>December 1</b>	6:00 PM- 8:00PM
<b>December 8</b>	6:00 PM- 8:00PM
<b>December 15</b>	6:00 PM- 8:00PM
<b>December 22</b>	6:00 PM- 8:00PM
<b>December 29</b>	6:00 PM- 8:00PM



To get involved, submit an inquiry at  
UNCN.ONE/contact & follow us on social  
media @ngocoordnetwork



# *UNCN & Partners responded to Hurricane Ian*



While UNCN was committed to helping Ukraine's war victims and refugees resist Russia's aggression, our U.S.-based partners mobilized quickly to provide emergency aid and support to Florida's residents during Hurricane Ian. UNCN will continue to respond to domestic emergencies while focusing most of our efforts on Ukraine. We thank partner Fill the Needs for organizing network outreach which included search & rescue, food, water & supply distribution, first aid & mental health, hot meals, satellite imagery and mapping technology, debris & tree removal, transportation & logistics, and long-term recovery and rebuilding.



# Ukraine NGO Coordination Network



# UNCN.ONE

**41 NGO Partners**

A network of U.S. and internationally registered non-profit humanitarian organizations currently working around the clock to evacuate people in need to safety, and provide food, water, medicine, and other life-saving humanitarian aid to those in need. Focused on strengthening Ukraine's recovery and resiliency through this year's winter storm, UNCN is mobilizing and working tirelessly to help Ukraine's war victims and refugees.

**#standwithUkraine**

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Volunteer: [uncn.one/contact](https://uncn.one/contact) Follows us: @NGOcoordnetwork Donate:



# *Join us for our first event of the year in 2023!*

Calling all Afghan Artists from where ever you may be! If you are in contact with an Afghan, relocation volunteer, or U.S. Veteran of the war in Afghanistan, we would love for you to help make our Art Show possible in Washington, D.C., in the spring of 2023.

The show aims to promote communication and healing through storytelling and bridge the gap across cultures. For this reason, we accept artists from all skill levels and different types of mixed media.

**For more information, email Matt, our Executive Director, at [Sedique@heartofanace.org](mailto:Sedique@heartofanace.org).**



*Art by Afghan artist Khatera Akbari on Twitter @AkbariKhatira sold as as part of a collaboration between CodeToInspire & ENCRYPTAS. The NFT debut of CodeToInspire Students showcased the talent, resilience, hope & power of women in Afghanistan.*



## — *Donate*

Your generosity is helping families evacuate war-torn countries facing starvation and urgent medical needs. Your lifesaving donations are applied directly to foundations that procure, schedule, and deliver food, shelter, medical, and emergency aid. In addition, your donations now go towards our operations in Afghanistan and Ukraine.

**You can select which operation you would like to support most when you visit [www.heartofanace.org/makeagift](http://www.heartofanace.org/makeagift).**



*thank you*

# *Learn more about our non-profit & NGO partners*

1. Moral Compass Federation  
[www.moralcompassfederation.org/](http://www.moralcompassfederation.org/)

2. Operation Angel Wing  
[www.operationangelwing.org/](http://www.operationangelwing.org/)

3. AFG Free Organization  
[www.afgfree.org/](http://www.afgfree.org/)

4. Operation Sacred Promise  
[www.opsacredpromise.org/](http://www.opsacredpromise.org/)

5. Task Force Hawk  
[www.tfhawk.com/](http://www.tfhawk.com/)

6. Operation Recovery  
[www.operationrecovery.org/](http://www.operationrecovery.org/)

7. Special Operations Association of America  
[www.soaa.org/](http://www.soaa.org/)

8. Task Force Argo  
[www.taskforceargo.com/](http://www.taskforceargo.com/)

9. Flanders Field Organization  
[www.flandersfields.org/](http://www.flandersfields.org/)

10. Continuing Evangelical Episcopal Communion  
[www.ceec.church/](http://www.ceec.church/)

11. Operation 620 Organization  
[www.operation620.org/](http://www.operation620.org/)

12. Project Exodus Relief: Afghanistan  
[www.proexodusrelief.com/](http://www.proexodusrelief.com/)

13. Task Force Pineapple  
Visit Facebook Site

14. Fletcher Afghan Evacuation & Resettlement  
Working Group  
Visit Facebook Site

15. Project Dynamo  
[www.projectdynamo.org/](http://www.projectdynamo.org/)

16. Humanitarian Aid & Rescue Project  
[www.harprescue.org/](http://www.harprescue.org/)

17. The Order of St. George  
[www.orderofstgeorge.co.uk/](http://www.orderofstgeorge.co.uk/)

18. August Mission  
- Humanitarian Recover & Resettlement  
[www.augustmission.org/](http://www.augustmission.org/)

19. Health Tech Without Borders  
[www.htwb.org/](http://www.htwb.org/)

20. Operation Orphan  
[www.operation-orphan.org/](http://www.operation-orphan.org/)

21. Freedom Shield Foundation  
[www.freedomshieldfoundation.com/](http://www.freedomshieldfoundation.com/)

22. Atlantic Counter-Trafficking  
[www.actnowusa.org/](http://www.actnowusa.org/)

23. National Child Protection Task Force  
[www.ncptf.org/](http://www.ncptf.org/)

24. Help Ukraine 22 Operation Palyanytsa  
[www.helpukraine22.org/](http://www.helpukraine22.org/)

25. The Vulnerable People Project  
[www.movietomovement.givingfuel.com/ukraine-vpp](http://www.movietomovement.givingfuel.com/ukraine-vpp)





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## *Learn more about our non-profit & NGO partners*

26. Freedom Bird Foundation  
[www.freedombirds.org/](http://www.freedombirds.org/)

27. Cross Border Civilians  
[www.crossbordercivilians.org/](http://www.crossbordercivilians.org/)

28. Aviation without Borders  
[www.awb-usa.org/](http://www.awb-usa.org/)

29. The Warrior's Journey  
[www.thewarriorsjourney.org/](http://www.thewarriorsjourney.org/)

30. MOAS  
[www.moas.eu/](http://www.moas.eu/)

31. Global Surgical and Medical Support Group  
[www.gsmsg.org/](http://www.gsmsg.org/)

32. Team Rubicon Disaster Response  
[www.teamrubiconusa.org/](http://www.teamrubiconusa.org/)

33. The Resilience Resource  
[www.theresilienceresource.org/](http://www.theresilienceresource.org/)

34. Free Burma Rangers  
[www.freeburmarangers.org/](http://www.freeburmarangers.org/)

35. Rapid Aid Liaison Group  
[www.ralg.org/](http://www.ralg.org/)

36. Volunteers for Ukraine  
[www.volunteerforukraine.org/](http://www.volunteerforukraine.org/)

37. Carry the Future  
[www.carrythefuture.org/](http://www.carrythefuture.org/)

38. Medical Teams Worldwide  
[www.mtww.net/](http://www.mtww.net/)

39. Save Our Allies  
[www.saveourallies.org/](http://www.saveourallies.org/)

40. Fill the Needs Organization  
[www.filltheneeds.org/](http://www.filltheneeds.org/)

41. YPO  
[www.ypo.org/](http://www.ypo.org/)

42. Fight for Right  
[www.ffr.org.ua/projects/support-in-war/](http://www.ffr.org.ua/projects/support-in-war/)

43. Ukrainian Efforts  
[www.ukrainianefforts.org/](http://www.ukrainianefforts.org/)

44. Global Outreach Doctors  
[www.globaloutreachdoctors.org/](http://www.globaloutreachdoctors.org/)

45. Bomb Techs Without Borders  
[www.btwob.org/](http://www.btwob.org/)

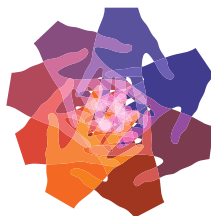
46. Ukraine Trust Chain  
[www.ukrainetrustchain.org/](http://www.ukrainetrustchain.org/)

47. Mountain Seed Foundation  
[www.mountainseedfoundation.org/](http://www.mountainseedfoundation.org/)

48. Analyst Army  
[www.analystarmy.com/](http://www.analystarmy.com/)

49. Razom For Ukraine  
[www.razomforukraine.org/](http://www.razomforukraine.org/)

50. Primer AI  
[www.primer.ai/](http://www.primer.ai/)





## CLOSING REMARKS

HELPS US ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVES FOR 2023

1. CREATE AND CONNECT HEART OF AN ACE NETWORKS INTO GOVERNMENT-FUNDED FOOD DISTRIBUTION CENTERS (WFP, UNICEF, ETC.) TO RELIEVE THE STRAIN ON VETERAN ORGANIZATION-LED HUMANITARIAN RELIEF EFFORTS.

2. ENSURE AID REACHES THOSE IN CRISIS BY ENHANCING SECURITY BEST PRACTICES THROUGH THE USE OF SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS TO PROTECT IDENTITIES, EVACUATION ROUTES, AND DELIVERY NETWORKS, AS WELL AS, PROTECT AGAINST FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE.

*Heart of an Ace is confident we can meet the challenges ahead and stand proudly with you in delivering aid to the most vulnerable population in Afghanistan & Ukraine through our trusted networks.*

**SINCERELY,  
ERNEST "ACES" NISPEROS  
FOUNDER, HEART OF AN ACE, INC.**