

## **Kraków's partner cities help Ukraine**

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**All hands on deck. That is the general message of the response given by our partner cities to the appeal of Jacek Majchrowski, Mayor of Krakow, to help the war-ravaged cities in Ukraine.**

Given the effective transport and distribution solutions developed by Krakow, the Mayor offered logistic support to the partner cities that are able to provide the most necessary items, including medicines, medical and sanitary equipment, helmets, flak jackets and power generators.

And so, Nuremberg sent a transport of medicines that has already been dispatched from Krakow to Ukraine. Leipzig is organising purchases of medicines that will soon be transported to our city. The first large transport of medicines from the French city of Orleans is on its way, and the next ones will be completed over the nearest few days. Power generators from Trondheim, Norway are on their way, and some more are expected from Bergen. Aid campaign has also been started in Oslo and Baerum. A power generator from Estonia has already arrived.

Leuven, Pecs and Vienna inform about the vast aid initiatives implemented with the use of own distribution channels, making shipments directly to Ukraine and receiving refugees for whom they provide accomodation and medical service.

Mayor Majchrowski, through the Polish Consul General in New York, also appealed to the Polish American community who already organises collection of most necessary articles and makes donations to aid accounts.

Aid for Ukraine that will be transferred from Krakow is also organised by Poles in Canada, Sweden and Northern Ireland.

Every day, the aid campaign is joined by other partner cities and private individuals who have organised collections in their communities abroad - e.g. in Italy and Spain - bought the most needed items and sent them to Krakow.

Many grassroots aid initiatives are organised in Germany. One of the examples are two Potsdam professors who organised a collection among their friends, drove a minibus full of medicines and other basic necessities from the list, personally unloaded it at Rybitwy warehouse in Krakow and went to the Ukrainian border to take refugees who wanted to go to Berlin. We know that their offer was gladly accepted by a family with a handicapped child.

Every day, trucks loaded with aid are leaving Krakow heading for Lviv, Kiev, but also Drohobych, Stary Sambor and other endangered Ukrainian cities. Unfortunately, the list of towns in need of help is quickly expanding.

We do believe, however, that the circle of our foreign donors will expand to catch up with the needs.