



**Alliance**  
for Public Health



# **Delivering prevention, care, and treatment in challenging conditions**

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## Consequences of the war for the medical system in Ukraine

**1432 medical institutions** were significantly damaged

**190 medical institutions** were completely destroyed

**106 civilian medics killed** in their workplaces

**Documented torturing and killing patients**

Unfortunately, we have 7 confirmed victims among our clients. Out of them 2 were killed in Bucha

# Mailing commodities - Safe-boxes for MSM

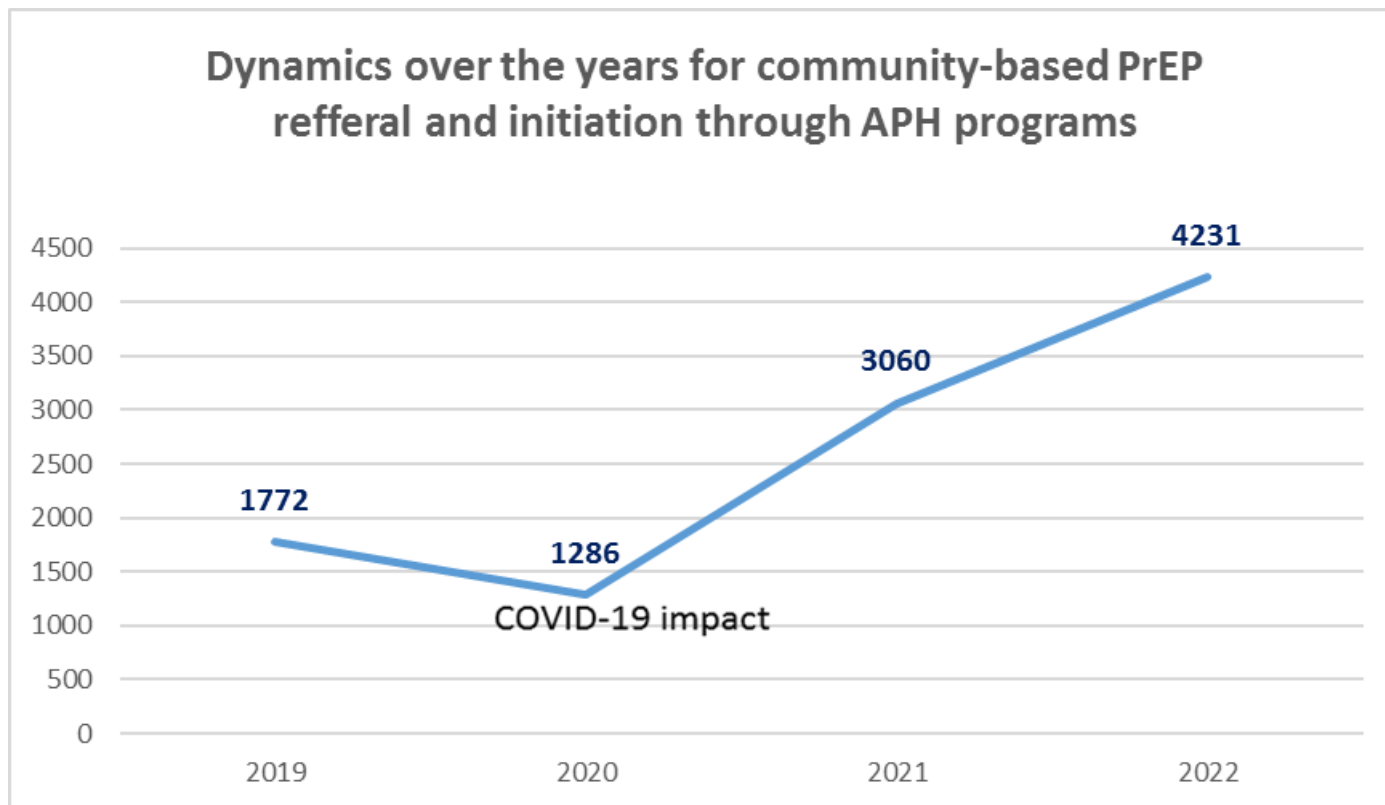


**Safe-box** is a preventive box for taking care of **your health** and the health of **your partner**, which can be ordered **online** from April 2020.

## Includes:

1. HIV oral test
2. Three condoms
3. Lubricants
4. Useful information printed out
5. Social worker business card
6. Nice little things - tattoo pack, bracelets. Package for test disposal.
7. Chat bot “Pomichnyk Den”

# Significant expansion of PrEP



During the war the demand in PrEP increased in the regions where the KPs migrated. **The greatest increase was recorded in Lviv and Volyn regions (6 times)**, Ivano-Frankivsk, Cherkasy, and Vinnytsia (2.4–2.9 times) compared to 2021.

CAB LA pilot in Kyiv and Lviv for 100 patients starting at the end of 2023

# New models/approaches in involving clients into PrEP

- Index approach: involvement of partners in obtaining PrEP for the first time
- Attracting clients according to the new "Salesman" model
- Newly created chat bot "HIV self-testing" as a new source of information about PrEP among hard-to-reach partners of key groups
- Postal shipment of PrEP medicines
- Bicycle delivery of the medicines and preventive means to clients, directly by the case manager
- Transportation of clients to the HCF
- Expanding the geography of the provision of PrEP social support services to regions with the highest level of wartime migration

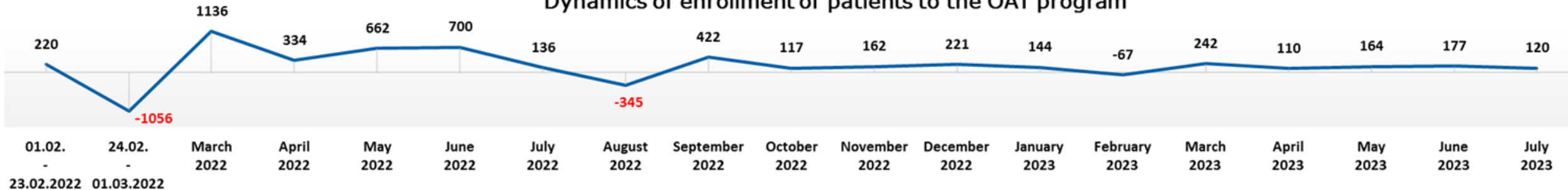


Vitaliy Gaiseniuk, case manager of NGO "Alliance Global"

# OAT program in Ukraine during the war

Due to the efforts and coordinated work of the Public Health Center, Alliance and partners, the OAT program was saved during the war. On 04.03.2022 the Ministry of Health of Ukraine approved Order No. 409 to increase the period for dispensing OAT in “take-home dosing” to patients up to 30 days, which allowed patients to avoid interruption of treatment and to move to safe regions of the country/abroad to continue treatment (the order was valid until November 2022 (until the situation stabilized)).

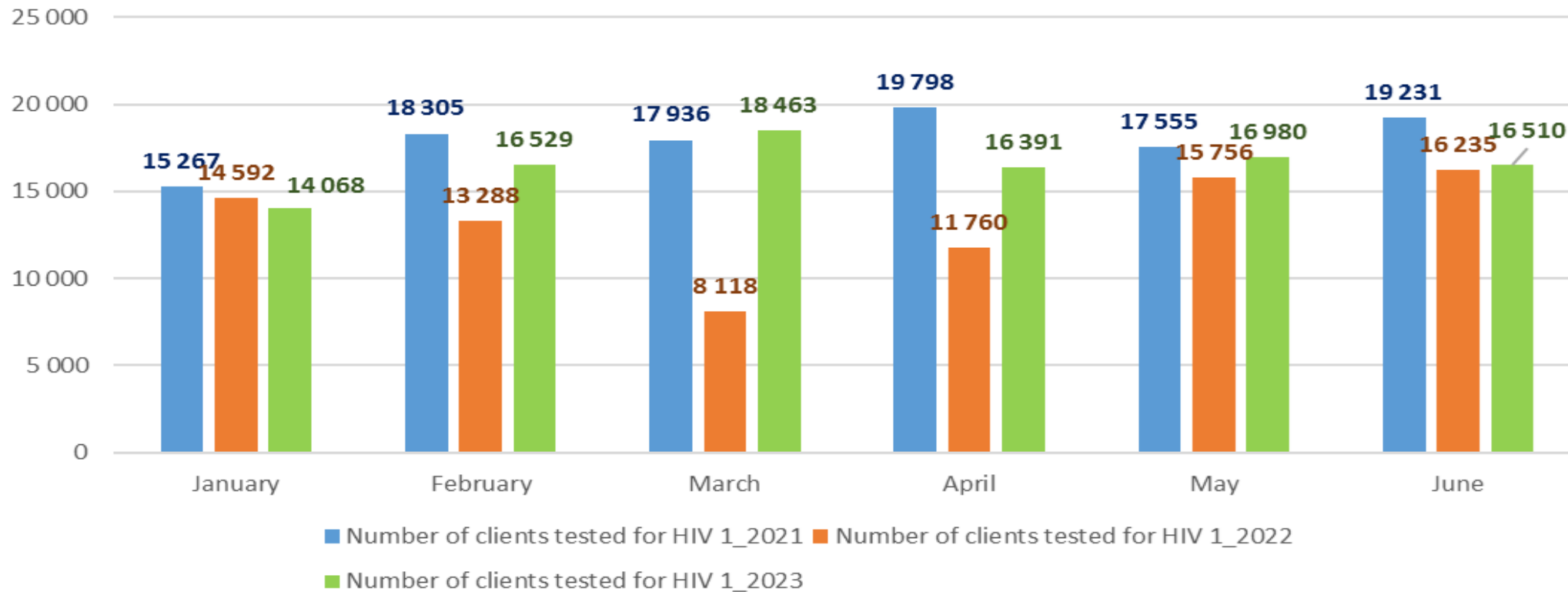
Dynamics of enrollment of patients to the OAT program



- **In spring of 2022** Alliance, in cooperation with the PHC and the "100% Life Network", made an emergency procurement of OAT medications to meet the 2-month needs of 5 regions of Ukraine to prevent treatment interruption.
- **In March 2023** Alliance made an urgent procurement of OAT medications (liquid methadone) for OAT patients in the penitentiary sector.
- **At the beginning of 2023** due to the PHC and partners, Ukraine received 500 annual courses of the innovative Buvidal (long-acting buprenorphine). Currently, 120 patients are receiving the medications, 98% of whom are receiving psychosocial support by Alliance.
- **During the war** due to the difficult/absent transportation situation, the Alliance provided more than 9,000 transportation services for patients and medical staff to OAT sites, which ensured uninterrupted treatment of patients.
- **Alliance** continues to support the opening of new OAT sites, and the repair of health facilities that were damaged by the war, including in the penitentiary sector (2 new OAT sites were repaired during the war and 5 more are planned by the end of the year).
- **Alliance** has provided significant financial support to OAT facilities (which were under-funded by the state at the beginning of the war), which were overload by the OAT patients from hostilities and occupied regions.
- **Psychosocial and humanitarian support for OAT patients** was increased during the war, which contributed to the retention of patients in the program.

# Testing - rapid tests and initiation of treatment and PrEP on mobile phones, testing via networks

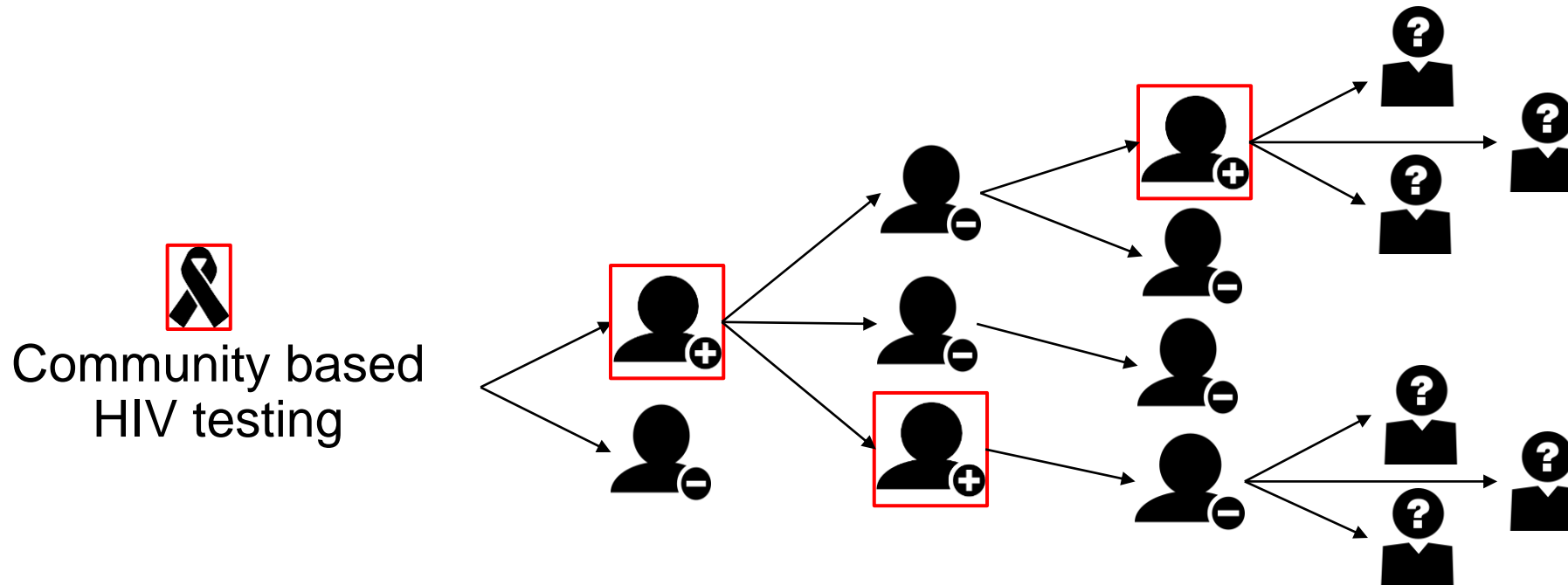
Community based and social network HIV testing in pre-war and war conditions, SYREX database



# Optimized case finding (OCF): design

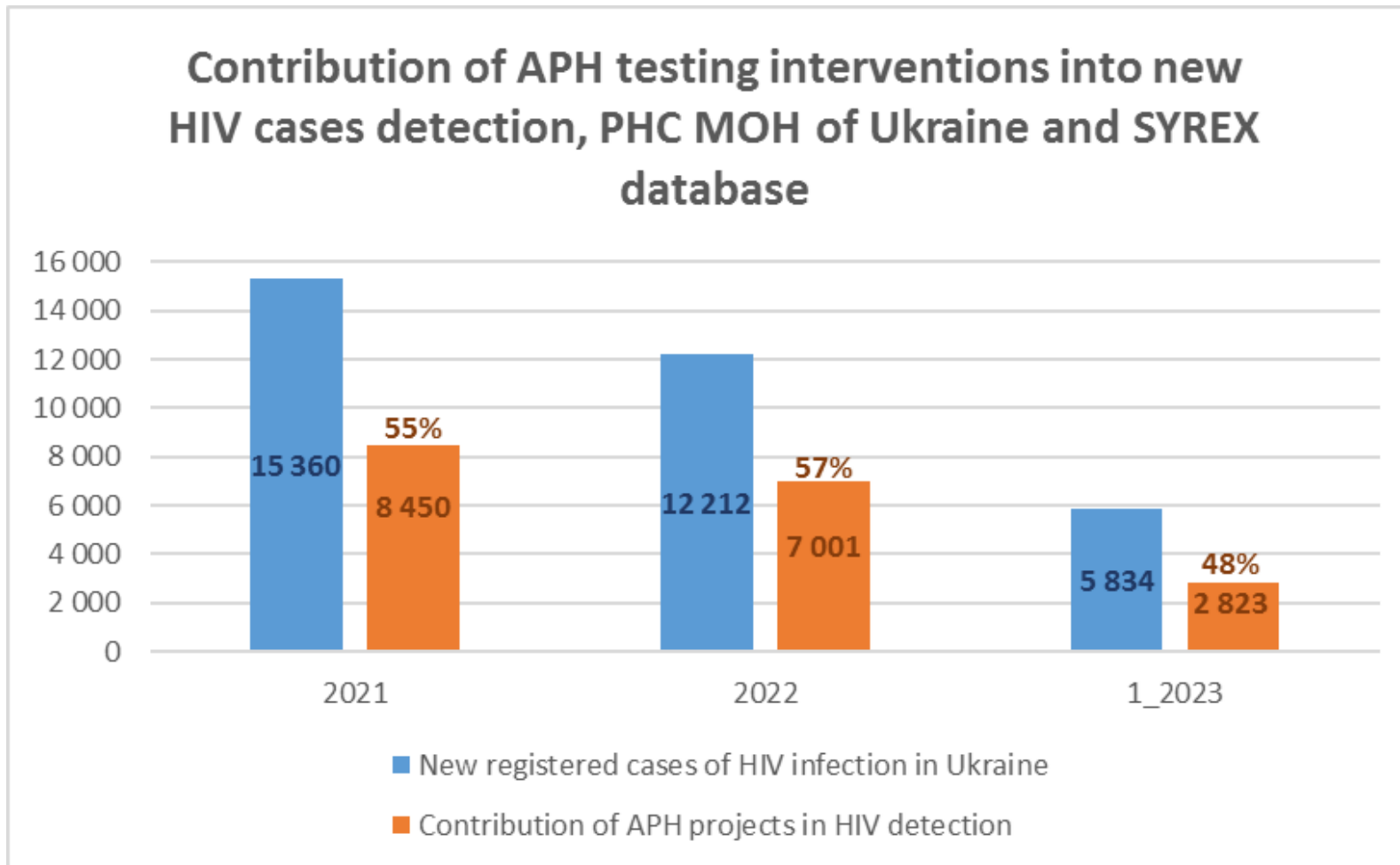
The OCF extended risk network testing model is peer driven, has ability to quickly reach to very hard to reach subgroups in the network of linked individuals and is designed to focus recruitment at the network areas with higher probability of undiagnosed HIV infection:

- HIV(+) and high risk HIV(-) persons identify and recruit persons for HIV testing from their social, sexual, or drug-using networks associates who can be also at risk of HIV;
- 2 steps approach: recruitment is stopped if there are 2 HIV(-) cases next to each other in a chain;
- Clients, eligible for recruiting new clients: HIV+ and HIV- who came from HIV+;
- Incentivized intervention (approximately 2,5 euro for participation and 1,25 euro for referral);





# Testing - quick tests and initiation of treatment and PrEP on mobile phones, testing via networks



# Treatment - Telemedicine in HIV care

In May, 2022 within HelpNow HUB, Online Doctor - HelpNow Doctor was introduced on Help24 Online platform, to provide consultations to refugees.

In 2023, Alliance has launched a project aimed at developing Telemedicines Module on Help24 Platform.

## The Main Goals are:

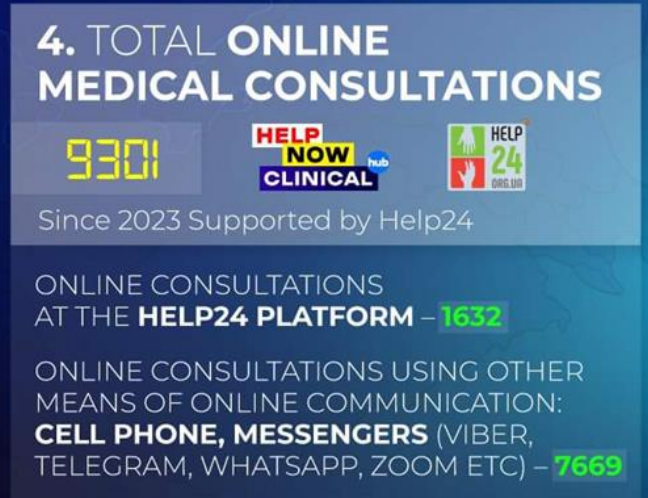
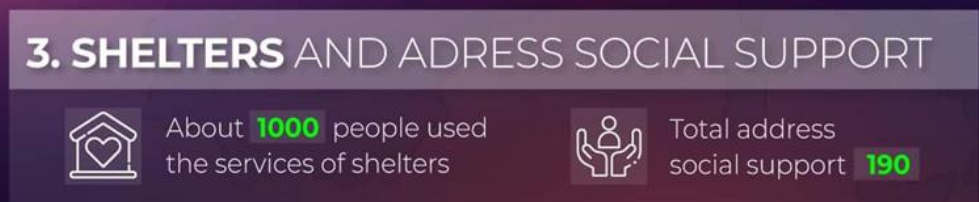
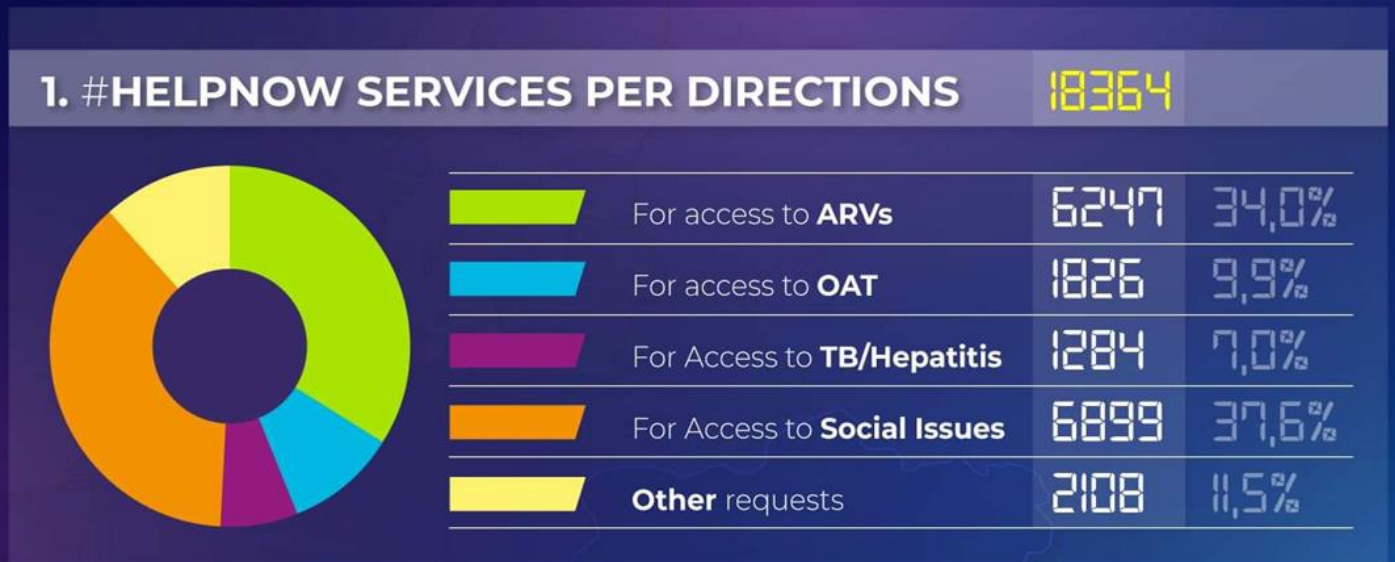
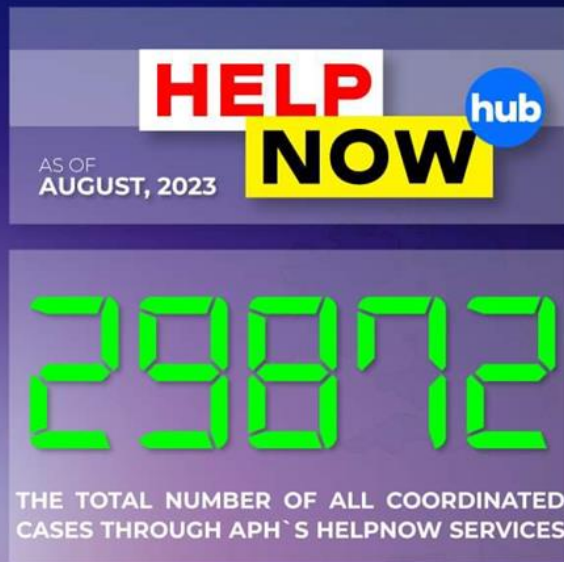
- Effective telemedicine implementation in Ukraine for HIV care and related areas;
- Promoting telemedicine as an open, transparent, accessible, and universal healthcare tool;
- Addressing the needs of key and vulnerable HIV populations

The Project plans to achieve the successful implementation of telemedicine for HIV care and related areas in Ukraine, including the establishment of **2 telemedical units** in Kyiv and Lviv HIV clinics, the delivery of **2,250 screening/diagnostic packages** to clients, ensuring timely logistics and distribution of **2,000 ARV** drug units, and providing **access to mental health services** for all Project clients

# Emergency response - supporting care continuum for KPs and PLWHIV from Ukraine affected by the war

**#HelpNow** started its work on 1 March, 2012 - on the 6th day of the full-scale invasion

People from **50 countries** and **200+ cities** received services



# Expansion of the range of services based on mobile outpatient clinics (GF)

Mobile clinics proved to be an effective tool for providing services to key population groups during the war, modifying and expanding their spectrum - from traditional to new ones.



The following were added to the basic ("pre-war") HIV and TB prevention services (counseling, assisted HIV testing, dispensing of HIV prevention means, TB screening):

- Evacuation of clients and NGO's staff from the war zone;
- Delivery of ART, PrEP in order to prevent interruption of treatment and prevention;
- Transportation of clients and doctors to health care facilities in war zones.
- Provision of humanitarian aid;

**During 18 months of the war, 195,666 visits by representatives of key groups were made to Mobile outpatient clinics.**

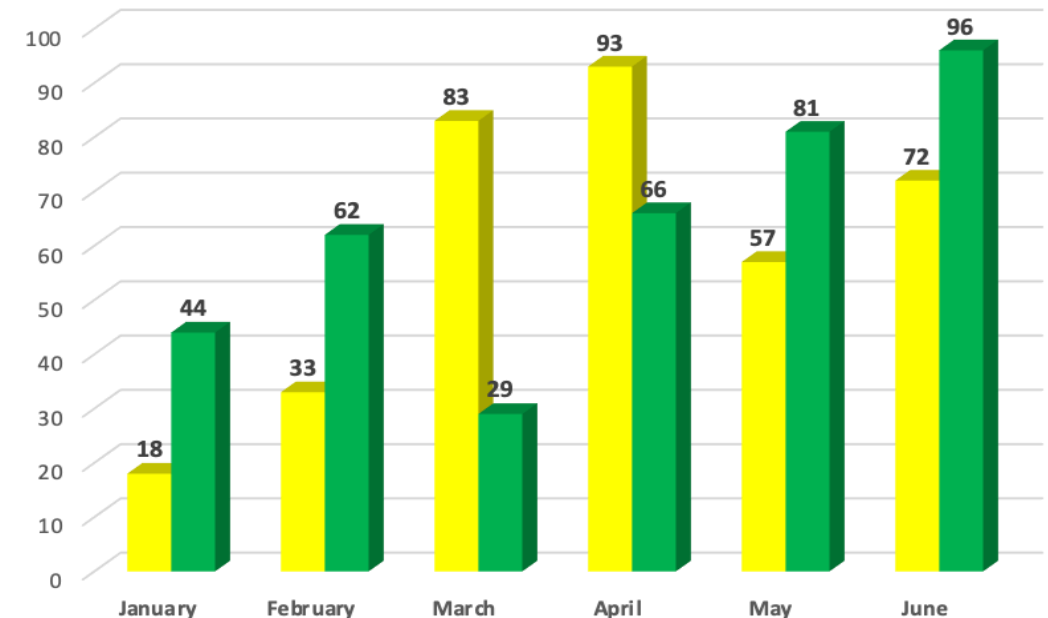


# Impact of the war on TB diagnostics in the APH' projects

In March 2022 screening for TB symptoms decreased by 2 times if compared with Feb 2022 and by 3 times if compare with March 2021

In May-June 2022 number of diagnosed TB cases increased by 3 times in comparison with March and still gradually increasing.

In the next periods of 2022 and 2023 TB diagnostics among risk groups and contacts has increased by 1.4 times.



■ the number of clients who received a TB diagnosis 2021

■ the number of clients who received a TB diagnosis 2022

# Informational and educational events for law enforcement bodies on KP human rights and HIV prevention

Taking into account of the challenges of war period, the provision of trainings was modified with the addition of the **component of first medical assistance**, which increased the interest in such trainings

**New topics:** first medical aid in war conditions, personal safety in the conditions of war, rights of KPs under martial law.

- **2022: 76** trainings for **1369** participants (66% - with paramedical component)

Opportunity for trainings in the frontline zone: Kharkiv 270 participants, Zaporizhzhia – 176 participats.

- **2023** (as of 09.23): **67** trainings for **1165** participants (67% - with paramedical component)

Activity was highly appreciated by Global Fund assessment of the progress of the implementation of human rights programs (December, 2022)



APH implemented FTC approach in **38 cities** from **15 countries** in EECA and SEE regions

**29 cities** from **12 countries** in the region signed the **Paris Declaration**



## Sustainable municipal funding from APH previous FTC projects

	Years of FTC project	Current municipal response
<b>Odesa</b>	2017-2019	Municipal HIV program 2021-2023 \$1,3 M from municipal budget
<b>Almaty</b>	2017-2019	Social contracting to NGOs \$161 500 allocated in 2023
<b>Balti</b>	2017-2019	Municipal HIV program 2022-2025
<b>Chisinau</b>	2019-2021	Municipal HIV program 2022-2025 \$187 000 from municipal budget
<b>Osh</b>	2019-2021	Municipal HIV program 2023-2025 \$41 000 from municipal budget



# Thank you!

# LET'S WIN TOGETHER!