



Annual Report 2025



Who are we?

NGO "Dream Workshop" (Maisternia Mrii) is a space where people with intellectual and complex disabilities unlock their potential. Our mission is to build an inclusive society where everyone is accepted, independent, and has every opportunity for a dignified life in the community.

We work with families and society to break down stereotypes by our own example. Our goal is an environment where every person feels important and needed.

Challenges we overcome:

The right to dignity.

In Ukraine, people with mental disabilities often end up in psychoneurological residential institutions—closed "storage" systems. In isolation from the world, without proper support or the right to privacy, their personality is erased, and life turns into a passive existence following a schedule.

Social stigma allows the community to "not notice" 50,000 people behind the high fences of various types of institutions.





Stigma

For people with mental disabilities, stigma is often heavier than the diagnosis itself. It is a force that pushes them to the sidelines: due to societal ignorance, they become "unwelcome" in public spaces, at work, and within their own communities.

According to data from [The Lancet Commission on Ending Stigma](#), social exclusion is more destructive than the symptoms of the illness itself. Stigma forces a person to withdraw at home, stripping them of the meaning to develop, while depriving the community of the ability to see the person behind the diagnosis.

Isolation at home

For many, life is confined to four walls. Without accessible infrastructure and social services, families are left alone with their challenges. For a person with disabilities, this means a lack of communication, friends, and the chance to realize themselves. For parents—often mothers—it means total exhaustion and social exclusion, as they are forced to dedicate their entire lives to 24/7 care without the possibility of a break or self-fulfillment.





Our solutions: systemic changes in response to challenges



Supported Living Homes



Day Care Centers



Awareness Raising and Advocacy



Family Support



Day Care Centers

Since January 2017, we have been helping young people socialize and develop self-care skills through various activities: daily culinary workshops, creative studios, physical exercises, music therapy, a book club, excursions, hosting our own events, and psycho-emotional training. Currently, we operate two Centers, which are consistently attended by 28 students (from Monday to Friday).

Leonid's Story: From Anxiety to Confident Steps in the City

Eight years ago, due to high sensitivity to noise and changes in the environment, Leonid often experienced severe emotional breakdowns. Being in public places or interacting with others was nearly impossible for him due to constant stress.

For eight years, the Day Center team has provided a stable, predictable environment and the support of an assistant. Through cooking, creativity, and participation in community events, we have gradually expanded Leonid's comfort zone, teaching him how to recognize his own emotional states.





Today, Leonid demonstrates an impressive level of autonomy: he does his own shopping at the supermarket and feels confident in public places. Thanks to developed self-regulation skills, he has learned to signal in a timely manner when he is tired or needs a break. The need for total isolation from people has vanished, as Leonid now knows how to manage his own sensory load and feels like a part of the community.



Museum visits



Time in nature



Volunteering



Preparing a shared lunch



Birthday celebrations



Variety of trainings



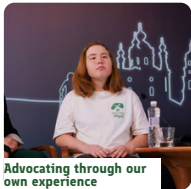
**Every day
is a new experience**



**Visiting the Lviv City
Council**



**Celebrating holidays
together**



**Advocating through our
own experience**



**Caring for the
environment**

Our 2025 in numbers

**24|7|365 SUPPORT IN SUPPORTED
LIVING HOMES**

**1820HOURS OF WORKING WITH YOUTH IN DAY CARE
CENTERS**



**88 HOURS OF CULTURAL INTEGRATION THROUGH ART
(EXHIBITIONS, CONCERTS, THEATER, CINEMA, VARIOUS
WORKSHOPS, MUSIC THERAPY)**

**6 OPEN EVENTS FOR THE
COMMUNITY**



Supported Living Homes

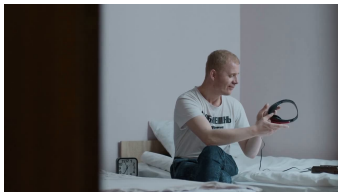
At the beginning of 2023, we launched our supported living program, which currently operates two Homes. People who previously lived in closed institutions—boarding schools and psychiatric hospitals—were given the opportunity to move there. Currently, we have two functioning Supported Living Homes, where 14 residents live.



Until 2023, Vasyl stayed in residential care facilities and later in a psychiatric hospital, limited in his ability to pursue his own interests and participate in community life.

Vasyl has always loved music and trams, but previously, these passions remained only dreams. Thanks to the NGO "Dream Workshop," where he is both a student at the Day Care Center and a resident of the Supported Living Home, he has received the space and support to realize them. Today, Vasyl moves freely around the city, attends cultural and educational events, and is actively integrated into the life of Lviv, demonstrating the effectiveness of comprehensive social and psychological support.

[More about Vasyl's story here](#)





Responsibility for one's own daily life



A home where everyone has a voice



Dignity in everyday mattersx



Volunteering and creating change side-by-side



The right to one's own pace



Trust is the foundation of our community



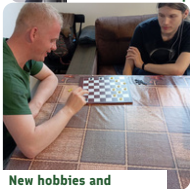
A home that feels comfortable



Small deeds — big steps



Daily skills — the foundation of a dignified life



New hobbies and activities



Where everyday life becomes significant



Simply about life and a little bit more

Supporting families

We care for the well-being of the entire family: while young people with mental disabilities develop at the Center or at camps, parents get time for work and recovery.

Our comprehensive support includes support groups, consultations, and work with behavioral therapists to overcome shared challenges. Through individual development plans, we help each family improve their quality of life and find their inner resources.



Nazar is a young man with autism for whom the Day Center has become a place of stability and social skill development. Thanks to a clear routine and professional support from the team, he masters daily tasks every day and learns to interact with others in a safe environment. However, the changes have affected not only Nazar but his entire family as well. Nazar's mother, Mariia, notes that previously all her time was dedicated to caring for her son. Since the Center opened, space for professional fulfillment has appeared in her life: Mariia found a job and resumed her own plans. "A happy son means a happy mother," she says, emphasizing that the support for her son has restored her sense of confidence and the opportunity to fulfill herself not only as a mother but as an individual with her own aspirations.

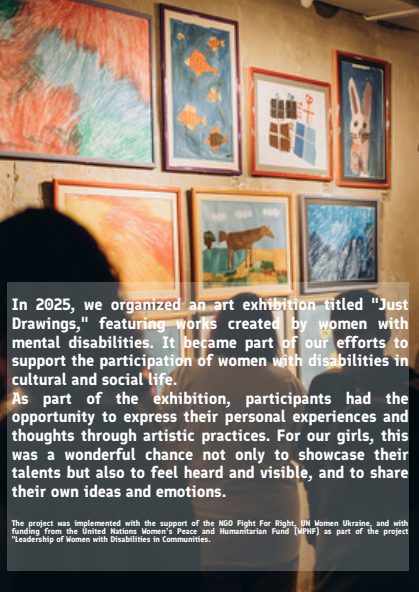


Education and Advocacy

Through the stories of our beneficiaries and the organization's expertise, we work to raise public awareness and protect the rights of people with mental disabilities.



[More about supported living in the video](#)



In 2025, we organized an art exhibition titled "Just Drawings," featuring works created by women with mental disabilities. It became part of our efforts to support the participation of women with disabilities in cultural and social life.

As part of the exhibition, participants had the opportunity to express their personal experiences and thoughts through artistic practices. For our girls, this was a wonderful chance not only to showcase their talents but also to feel heard and visible, and to share their own ideas and emotions.

The project was implemented with the support of the NGO Fight For Right, UN Women Ukraine, and with funding from the United Nations Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (MPHF) as part of the project "Leadership of Women with Disabilities in Communities."



**In 2025, we celebrated
10 years of activity for
our organization!**





**This is our student Nazar, who loves
photography very much, and here is
how he saw this day:**







Those who create change:

In 2025, our team brought together 27 professionals who are passionate about what they do.

Our team constantly invests in training and professional growth.

Since the organization's founding, our employees have been studying at the Ukrainian Catholic University in the program for medico-psychological and social support, and some of them have already joined the faculty, passing their experience on to others.

The year 2025 was no exception: three more specialists successfully completed the program, strengthening the team with up-to-date knowledge and practical skills. This continuity in learning allows us to implement the world's best practices into our daily work.



An important element of professional resilience is also our supervision program with Swiss specialists: thanks to the monthly mentorship of international experts—psychologists and psychotherapists—we integrate modern approaches into our daily work and ensure a high quality of support.

Throughout 2025, we participated in 60+ events, ranging from trainings and webinars to forums and international meetings, allowing us to constantly refine our approaches and strengthen our practice.



Finance

14 152 268,00

грн

49,38%

Supported Living Houses

20,56%

Day Care Centers

16,24%

Operating expenses

13,82%

**New space renovation
and furnishing**

Our partners



MH4U



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confederation suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra



Львівська
міська
рада



World Health
Organization

global
fund
for
children



HLF Help
Localisation
Facility



The UN
Refugee Agency



GlobalGiving



Фундація
Змін





ЛІГА —
СИЛЬНИХ



Global Mental Health
Action Network



LA П'ЄЦ
гостиника піци на рообах



ПАЛАЦ КУЛЬТУРИ
ІМ. ЄКАТЕРИНИ КОТЛЯРЧУК





L'ARCHE®

FIGHT
FOR
RIGHT



Родина



BEYOND
CONFLICT

бачити
серцем 



ЕМАУС



Thank you for your support!

Thanks to your trust, we continue to implement vital changes and support those who need it most.

**WITH YOUR SUPPORT,
WE CAN DO MORE**



[monobank](#)





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**Thank you for being
with us in 2025**

