



**Ocalenie
does not end
at the border**



**YEAR 2023
CHALLENGES
DO NOT END**



photo. Marcin Obara

The year 2023 was a little calmer for us. But past crises still persisted.

We adjusted our operations and resources to meet the increased needs. We are still at the post! Ready to support people on the move.

Throughout the year, about 15,000 people received our support.

**YEAR 2023
EACH PERSON
IS IMPORTANT**

Each of these people has a separate story! That's why we are happy with every international protection granted, every matriculation exam passed, every child enrolled in a kindergarten, every new job and every progress in Polish language learning.

Because in our work, people are the most important! We treat each of them individually and try to make sure they get the support they need most.

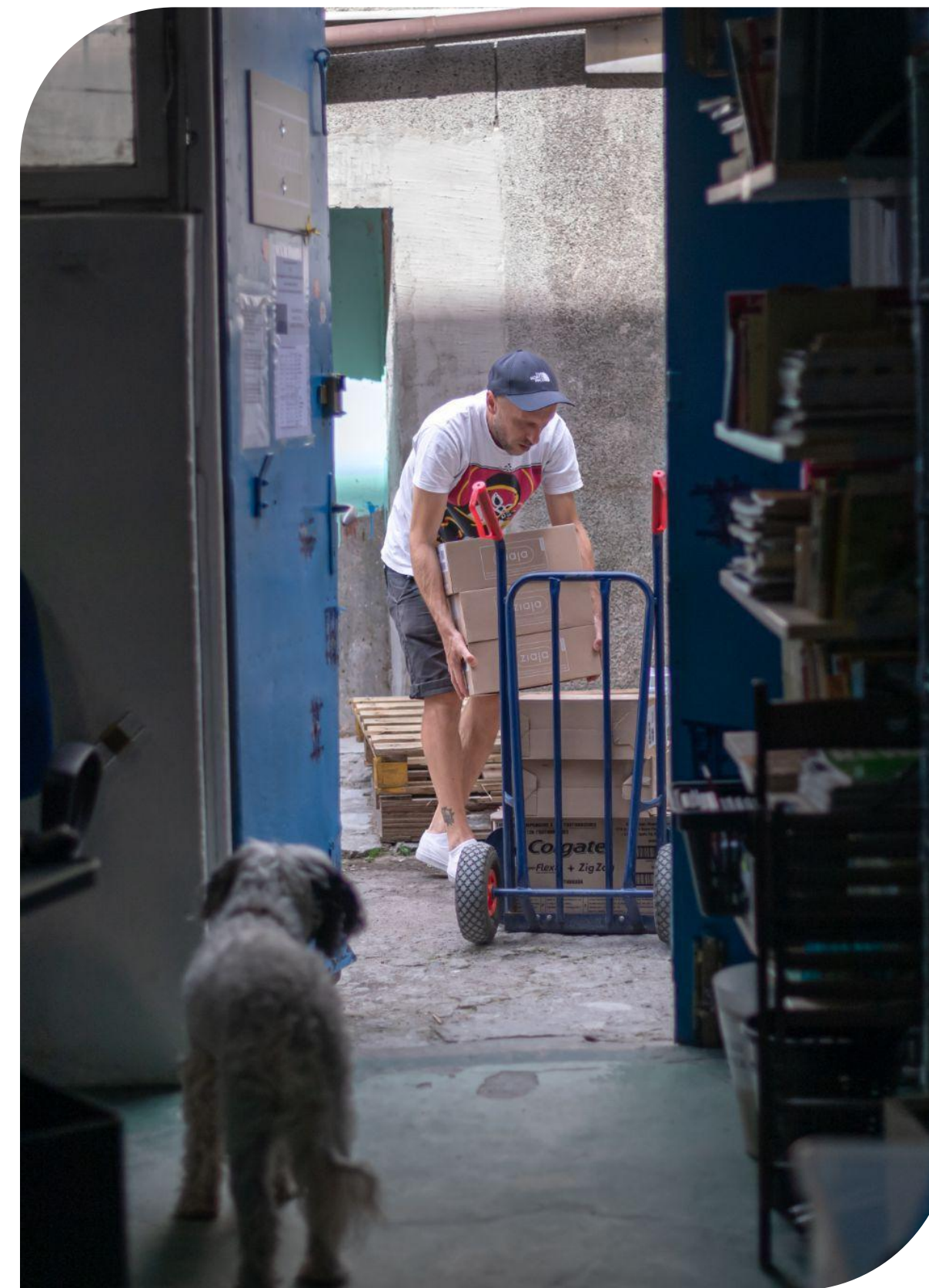


photo. Marcin Obara

**YEAR 2023
CHALLENGES
DO NOT END**

**Thank you for supporting us
throughout 2023!**

Have a look at the following slides
and see what we did in 2023.





Help Centers for Foreigners (CPC)



**HELP CENTERS
FOR FOREIGNERS
IN WARSAW, ŁÓDŹ
AND ŁOMŻA**

The Help Center for Foreigners is a key place in the Ocalenie Foundation. People who need the support of mentors, career counselors, psychological or legal support can seek assistance here.

The Help Centers for Foreigners currently operate in three cities in Poland: **Warsaw, Łomża and Łódź.**

People from 95 countries received support at the CPC in Warsaw.

Most people came from Ukraine (55.8%), Belarus (14.4%), Russia (5.2%), Afghanistan (3.2%).



4,452
people reported
to the Help Centers
for Foreigners (CPC)



3,610
to the CPC in Warsaw



182
to the CPC in Łomża



660
to the CPC in Łódź

**CONSULTATIONS
IN HELP CENTERS
FOR FOREIGNERS
IN WARSAW, ŁÓDŹ
AND ŁOMŻA**

Number of mentoring consultations:

- Warsaw: 7,724
- Łomża: 3,331
- Łódź: 1,358

Number of legal consultations:

- Warsaw: 1,450
- Łomża: 1,039
- Łódź: 156



photo. Marcin Obara



photo. Marcin Obara

Number of consultations by career counselors:

- Warsaw: 728
- Łomża: 1,059
- Łódź: 130

Number of psychological consultations:

- Warsaw: 3,810
- Łomża: 89
- Łódź: 232



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Additional activities of the Help Center for Foreigners in Warsaw

PSYCHOLOGICAL TEAM



photo. Marcin Obara

In addition to individual psychological consultations, the following consultations were conducted:

- **an integrative Russian-language group** in the form of a song and dance circle, which met 11 times and was attended by women from Belarus, Ukraine, Poland, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan (a total of 50 people),
- **Tajik-Persian support group**, which met 20 times with 14 women from Afghanistan and Tajikistan participating regularly,
- **a support-therapeutic group for women from Ukraine**, which met 18 times.

The groups were organised by the **CPC in Warsaw**.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL
TEAM**

**HELP CENTER FOR
VICTIMS OF TORTURES
(CPOT)**

The psychological team conducted **1,368 hours of psychological and psychotherapeutic consultations** within the framework of the Help Center for Victims of Tortures.

People with experience of torture received:

- psychological,
- psychiatric,
- social,
- legal support.

In 2023, **149 people – 122 adults and 27 children – benefited from the Help Center for Victims of Tortures**. Those supported were primarily from Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and 17 other countries.

CPOT is a project which has been implemented by the Ocalenie Foundation since 2020, funded by the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture.

LEGAL SUPPORT TEAM



photo. Marcin Obara

The legal support team actively supported the activities of the Ocalenie Foundation:

- won redress for those wrongfully detained while providing humanitarian aid on the **Polish–Belarusian border**,
- published the Ocalenie Foundation's position on amendments to the **Law on Foreigners**,
- published the Ocalenie Foundation's position on amendments to the speculative law on assistance to **citizens of Ukraine**.



Polish language courses

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**POLISH LANGUAGE
COURSES**

"During the course, I learned a lot about Polish culture, cultural differences, law, administration and public services (e.g. visiting a doctor, office, etc.)."

- says more than 92% of those taking Polish language courses.

POLISH LANGUAGE COURSES IN WARSAW

In 2023, we announced four open calls for language courses in Warsaw.

During four trimesters, people from **71 countries** took part in the classes. Most participants were from **Ukraine, Belarus, Russia, Afghanistan and Turkey.**



5,537

people signed up for Polish language courses



2,302

people took part in the courses



834

people continued their language education



115

lecturers conducted classes

**POLISH LANGUAGE
COURSES IN ŁÓDŹ
AND ŁOMŻA**



photo. Damian Lemański

We announced two enrollments for **Polish language courses in Łódź.**

The classes were held in two trimesters and **55 people** from 14 countries took part, most of them from Ukraine and Belarus. Among others were also people from Jordan, Guinea, Brazil and Armenia. The classes were conducted by a team of **5 lecturers.**

Polish language lessons were also **conducted in Łomża.** They were attended by **67 people.**



Career counseling

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CAREER COUNSELING

In 2023, 24 people raised their professional competencies by participating in courses in IT, cosmetology, floristry, tailoring, computer graphics, accounting, and specialised authorizations (e.g. forklifts, welding).



photo. Marcin Obara



photo. Marcin Obara

The 20 people who fled Ukraine after February 24, 2022, took part in a project aimed at improving digital competencies. The project was carried out together with the Polish-Japanese Academy of Computer Technology.

The courses covered knowledge of Excel, WordPress, Python.



Material aid

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**IN-KIND SUPPORT:
MAGAZIN**

2023 in Magazin:

 **3,862**
times received in-kind
assistance

 **1,830**
families received help

 **4,709**
people received support,
including 2,008 children



photo. Marcin Obara

**IN-KIND SUPPORT:
MAGAZIN**



photo. Marcin Obara

Magazin issued:

- ✓ **1,154**
kilograms of clothes
- ✓ **3,591**
kitchenware items
- ✓ **29,226**
cosmetics and household
chemicals
- ✓ **9,322**
school supplies

**IN-KIND SUPPORT:
PARCELS TO GUARDED
CENTRES FOR
FOREIGNERS (SOC)**

The Foundation sends parcels with **cosmetics, underwear, socks, rucksacks and warm clothes to people in Guarded Centres for Foreigners (SOC)**. At the request of inmates, notebooks, crayons, pens, books, puzzles and toys for children were also provided.

- In 2023, we sent 901 such parcels to **934 people**, including 30 women and 15 children.
- Statistically, every inmate received help from us, some of them even several times.
- We exchanged more than **5,000 email** messages with inmates.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Foundation's clients were able to receive support in the form of prepaid cards to shops, as well as gift cards for the purchase of **school kits and necessities.**

At the CPC in Warsaw:

- **571 families** received cards for the purchase of school kits for **887 children.**

At the CPC in Łódź:

- **55 families** received prepaid cards,
- **635 families** received cards for the purchase of school kits,
- **300 women** received Dignity Kits.

At the CPC in Łomża:

- **228 families** received cards for the purchase of school kits,
- **280 individuals** received support in the form of care packages,
- **228 women** received Dignity Kits.



Polish-Belarusian Border

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HELP AT THE POLISH-BELARUSIAN BORDER



photo. Kasia Streck

Since August 2021, we have continuously brought humanitarian aid at the Polish-Belarusian border:

- at least **401 people** in need contacted the Foundation in 2023,
- Foundation volunteers intervened **100 times** and provided direct assistance to **368 people** (including at least 34 women and 15 children and minors),
- **58 people** were on duty at the border, in shifts.



Integration and housing support



WELCOME HOME



photo. Damian Lemański

The **Welcome Home** program supports refugee families to move towards self-reliance, so that once they will have participated in the program, further ongoing assistance is no longer needed.

- **12 families** (i.e. 66 individuals, including 42 children) were included in the program.
They were from: Afghanistan, Chechnya, Dagestan, Tajikistan, Russia.
- **One family** was granted humanitarian residence (3 persons).
- **One child** was born.
- **3 families** became independent and got a communal flat.



Refugees Welcome Polska

We **connect people** living in Warsaw, who have a spare room in their home, with refugees who need it.

In 2023, **18 people** who have been in Poland for no more than two years participated in the program. The program participants came from Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Uganda, Yemen and Russia.

- **10 people** benefited from housing support - they rented rooms from Polish families at a symbolic price (rent lasts 3 months, extendable to 12 months).
- All persons benefited from the various forms of support offered by the Foundation and the RWP team and participated in **meetings and integration events.**
- Volunteers supported the program participants in learning the Polish language. **Nine pairs were formed.** We plan to pair more people in 2024.



Support for children and youth

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**DAY CARE CENTERS
IN WARSAW**

"The chess classes have surprised us with their enormous popularity. It is also a way to include people with different needs.

Nobody looks at who among the players is deaf, or with concentration and attention deficits. Everyone has the same opportunities. 10 children from our four day care centers took part in a chess tournament. According to the tournament results, one person is with category IV and four children with category V."

- Łukasz Zbroszczyk, day care centers manager.

DAY CARE CENTERS IN WARSAW



photo. Fundacja Ocalenie

In 2023, there were **four day care centers** in Warsaw. Three are located in the collective accommodation centers for refugees from Ukraine. One of the day care centers was run in a Local Community Centers (MAL).

A total of **200 children** were enrolled in the day care centers. They were supported by 10 care workers.

Children in all day care centers received **support in their studies**, worked with their emotions, participated in numerous excursions and sports, dance, chess activities.

DAY CARE CENTER IN ŁOMŻA



photo. Jane Berdzik

The day care center in Łomża is the **first and longest-running** day care center run by the Foundation.

It is attended by around **30 children** each quarter, and there were **162 children** in the whole year.

In 2023, children took part in various activities:

- During the holidays, **20 children** took part in a trip to the nearby Narwianski National Park. They also went on an excursion in the Narew River Valley in Tykocin and took a water tram ride on the river.
- During the **winter holidays**, the children took part in **two one-day trips**: to Białystok – to the ice rink and to the Pharmacy Museum, and to Warsaw – to the Art Box Experience and the Copernicus Science Center.

**KNOWLEDGE
TO THE MAX
TUTORING PROGRAM**

Knowledge to the Max – a tutoring and scholarship program of the Ocalenie Foundation and the BNP Paribas Foundation.

The program supports refugee children, particularly those with learning difficulties and at risk of dropping out. Young people receive **learning support** and also participate in **workshops, joint educational and cultural outings and camps**.

In 2023, **117 children** participated in the program. **54 of them** were primary school pupils.

Each child participating in the program can apply for a scholarship for the duration of the school year. It covers the student's educational needs and school fees (parents' council fees, insurance, lunches, trips and textbooks). In 2023, **36 students received such scholarships**.

Among others, young people from Afghanistan, Chechnya, Georgia, Iraq, Iran, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela, Kyrgyzstan, took part in the program.

**KNOWLEDGE
TO THE MAX
TUTORING PROGRAM**



In October, we launched classes in Polish, mathematics and English, preparing for the **eighth-grade exam and for the matriculation exam.**

Additionally, in autumn 2023, we launched classes in computer science, visual arts and careers advice workshops for students aged 14 and above.

In 2023, we awarded **21 academic and 15 support scholarships.**

Children were supported by **80 tutors.**

In June, we held an exhibition entitled '**Growing up in Many Cultures**', for which the young participants prepared more than **50 works.**

SUMMER CAMPS



photo. Jane Berdzik

In 2023, we organised a summer camp trip for children and youth from Łomża and Warsaw.

The summer camps were attended by children participating in the tutoring program, day care centers and support from the Help Centers for Foreigners in Warsaw and Łomża. **There were 82 participants.**

During the trip they got to know Dolny Śląsk and Mazury.



School support program



SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM



The school support program was created to **support the integration and adaptation of children and their parents** with migration and refugee experiences.

As part of the program, we also support schools in creating a welcoming multicultural environment by organizing training, workshops and webinars.

Link to [Learning Package](#).



Intercultural assistants

- **Two assistants** work with **93 children** from 77 families on a daily basis. **83 children** are from Ukraine, 9 from Belarus and 1 from Uzbekistan.
- The presence of the assistants in the schools helps the students to better understand their new educational environment, facilitates communication and integration.



Educational materials

- **20 primary schools** in Warsaw, Łódź and Łomża received contemporary children's literature in Ukrainian and Russian (including compulsory school readings) and educational materials to help them learn the Polish language.



Training for teaching staff

- 185 people teaching and working in 6 primary schools and 1 secondary school took part in training sessions, during which they learned the basics of setting up a support system for migrant and refugee children, and for their parents or guardians/caregivers.
- They also learned how to support the integration of a multicultural group and how to counteract discrimination in schools.



Information brochure

- The information brochure is aimed at migrants and includes basic information about the education system and practical information, e.g. how to use Librus or how to write an exemption.



Integration activities

Activities and workshops for students in three Warsaw primary schools in grades 1-3, 4-6 and 7-8.

Workshop topics include:

- Who Is different – learn about different cultures including Tajik, Ukrainian, Belarusian, Georgian, Arab
- Self in a multicultural world
- Who Is a migrant/refugee
- Let's learn tolerance
- How we perceive others – stereotypes, prejudices, discrimination

**SCHOOL SUPPORT
PROGRAM**



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**Intervention
actions taken
in the wake
of the full-scale
Russian invasion
of Ukraine**

EDUCATIONAL POINTS AND CHILD-FRIENDLY SPACES

From January to August 2023, there were **19 education points** in long-term accommodation centers and 1 child-friendly space in an education point.

A total of **5,465 children** received support at the educational points and the safe spaces.



945

children took part in additional developmental activities



467

children took part in Polish language classes



5,465

children benefited from child-friendly spaces and educational points

IKEA INTERNSHIPS

The second edition of the internship project was carried out in cooperation with IKEA Retail Sp. z o.o. in Warsaw, Łódź, Gdańsk and Kraków.

Ocalenie Foundation shared its knowledge and experience from the pilot with partner organizations: Immigrants Support Center in Gdańsk, Salam Lab and Laboratory for Peace and Internationaler Bund Polska in Krakow, who supported the implementation of the project in the respective cities.

During the project, people were provided with an intensive Polish language course during working hours, mentoring, legal support, psychological support and help from the career advisors.



46 people
took part in the project



33 persons
were employed
at IKEA Retail sp. z o.o
or another employer in Poland



Volunteering



VOLUNTEERING

“It is a very direct kind of help through which I feel and see that my actions actually have a positive impact on other people”

- says one volunteer.

VOLUNTEERING

In 2023, 417 volunteers supported the Foundation, among which 11 in several programs:

 156	Polish language courses	 13	Refugees Welcome Poland
 121	Tutoring program	 6	day care centers in Warsaw
 58	PL-BY border	 5	Welcome Home program
 27	27 SCI reception points	 9	people who help independently of the programs, e.g. psychiatrist, piano teacher
 22	Translators		



Refugees Welcome Charity Auction

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REFUGEES WELCOME CHARITY AUCTION


The Refugees Welcome auction was organized in conjunction with the Museum of Modern Art and the Society of Friends of the Museum of Modern Art.

The auction was preceded by a two-month exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art on the Vistula River. The exhibition was visited by more than **10,000 people**.

 **75 people**
donated works for the auction

 **76 works**
were auctioned

 **PLN 1,283,100**
was collected during the 7th
edition of the auction

 **PLN 140,000**
was cost of the most expensive
work sold – a painting by Karol
Palczak

**2023:
CHALLENGES ARE OUR
EVERYDAY LIFE**



photo. Jane Berdzik

In 2023, we received financial support from you **21,697 times** (via PayPal, PayU, Facebook, as well as via traditional bank transfers).

Last year's **1.5% campaign** was also a record, with as much as **909,759 PLN** donated!

Thank you for your solidarity, for your words of support, encouragement and activity on social media. Another year full of work and challenges lies ahead.

See you all!



Thank you!

-  www.ocalenie.org.pl
-  facebook.com/FundacjaOcalenie
-  instagram.com/fundacjaocalenie
-  twitter.com/fundocalenie
-  linkedin.com/company/fundacja-ocalenie
-  biuro@ocalenie.org.pl

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ŁÓDŹ

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