

## **Rubikus Northern Stream**

<u>Rubikus.HelpUA</u> is a team of volunteers helping Ukrainian refugees affected by the war travel to safety. To date, Rubikus supported over 2000 Ukrainian refugee families and their pets in their journeys to temporary or permanent homes in Europe. Over 600 of these families are supported by the Rubikus Northern Stream team.

The Northern Stream team takes on the most critical and difficult cases, helping those refugees who are coming from the occupied territories (like Mariupol) and are often forced to leave the war zone through filtration camps in Russia. Every day families looking to escape Russia are reaching out to Rubikus for help. Since early April, these requests have increased exponentially, and at this time our team is averaging 20 new requests daily from individuals and families reaching out for help.

Rubikus works together with Russian and Ukrainian volunteer organizations to provide a safe way for Ukrainians to leave Russia by crossing the Estonian border. Once families are connected with a Rubikus volunteer, we help develop a safe, and comprehensive travel plan that considers the unique needs of the family. This includes medically vulnerable individuals, families traveling with elderly, young children, disabled dependents including ASD spectrum, or pets.

In the last six weeks, Rubikus' team of volunteers used the \$50,000 grant funding received from Nova Ukraine to develop the travel logistics that support North Stream families on their route to find shelter in Europe. This includes providing temporary housing, transportation, and some other emergency needs for families who reached out to Rubikus for help.

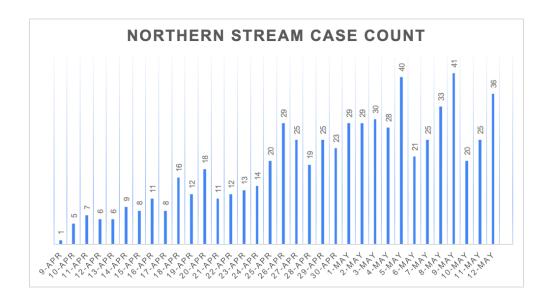
We first greet families in Narva, Estonia, where Rubikus provides them with lodging accommodations. Our team coordinates three bus routes that help us transport groups of Rubikus refugees to Riga, where the families and individuals are also provided with hostel accommodations. In Riga, Rubikus assists with further travel planning, finding free or discounted temporary lodging options and travel solutions including tickets to ferries, busses, trains and planes. We are also working on direct routes from Russia to Latvia directly and to Poland through Belarus.

To date, Rubikus' team have helped over 600 Ukrainians traveling from Mariupol and other occupied territories escape to Europe through the Baltic region. Our local volunteers, hosts, and drivers are all working together to provide a safe way to get refugees into Poland, Germany, Finland, Ireland, France, Czech Republic and other countries in the EU. Our team is growing, and we are recruiting and training volunteers daily so that Rubikus can better help those in need.

Thank you for supporting our work on the Northern Steam cases.



## **Rubikus: Impact in Numbers**



- \$XX average cost to get one family member to safety
- 675 families reached out for help
- 607 families guided to safety
- On average, 20 families ask for help every day
- On May 9th, 41 families reached out for help the highest number of help requests received to date