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CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** **For Immediate Release**

**Kearney Sister
City Opava
Help Ukraine
Fund**

Date Issued: March 17, 2022

Point of Contact: Mayor Stanley Clouse, (308) 233-3216

Sister City – Opava, Czechia – Help Ukraine Fund

The City of Kearney has an outstanding relationship with Opava, Czechia (Czech Republic), through the Sister City program and has had numerous group exchanges prior to the COVID pandemic. The Sister City team in Kearney reached out to the Mayor of Opava to understand how the war in Ukraine is affecting our friends and colleagues in Opava and the region.

Lord Mayor Ing. Tomas Navratil responded by stating Opava is receiving hundreds of refugees daily, especially women and children, and they need our help. The Czechs are providing accommodations such as food, medical services, and other necessities but it is a tremendous strain on their local resources. Additionally, they are cooperating with mayors of surrounding villages, firefighters, health workers, local institutions, companies, and volunteers to provide aid but the evolving situation is escalating.

In response, the Sister City team in Kearney is coordinating relief efforts through the Kearney Area Community Foundation (KACF) to help our Sister City in Opava as they deal with the collateral damage of the war in Ukraine.

If you are interested in helping our partner and the people of Ukraine, an account has been established at the Kearney Area Community Foundation. All contributions will be sent to the Mayor of Opava to help provide accommodations, food, medical care and necessities.

Donations can be dropped off in person during office hours, or mailed to, Kearney Sister City Opava - Help Ukraine Fund, c/o Kearney Area Community Foundation, 412 W. 48th Street #12, Kearney, NE 68845. To donate with a credit or debit card, go to <https://www.kearneyfoundation.org/help-ukraine>. Gift receipts will be sent for donations of \$250 or larger. Contact KACF at 308-237-3114 if you want to make a gift of appreciated stock or a distribution from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.

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