

Bringing Occupational Therapy to Ukraine



International collaboration to establish the profession as a part of rehabilitation reform triggered by wounded soldiers of the war in Eastern Ukraine



About Ukraine

- Ukraine is located in the Eastern part of Europe
- Neighboring countries: Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Belarus, Russia and Moldova
- Ukraine is the 2nd largest country in Europe
- Estimate Population: 43 million
- Only 2 licensed OTs
- Growing number of professionals working in the roles of OTs



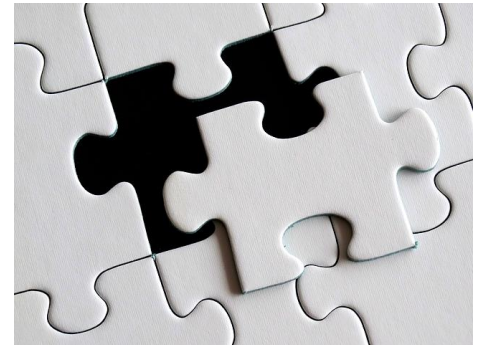


The Need for OT

- The war in Eastern Ukraine began in March 2014
- Wounded Soldiers
 - Over 10,000 deaths and 25,000 wounded at the end of 2017
 - Approximately 80% suffer from mental health issues
 - Need for rehabilitation and reintegration to civilian life
- Opened eyes to the reality of the need for rehabilitation
 - Mental Health
 - Inclusive Education
 - Early Intervention
 - De-Institutionalization
 - Human Rights and Accessibility



Sywenkyj, J. (2016, May 03). [First Steps After Maidan].



Transitioning to a new Model of Rehabilitation

- Medical Model Influence from the Soviet Union
 - Medical Model of Rehabilitation
 - Rehabilitation as passive activities
 - Sanitorium
 - Massage, pools, saunas, aromatherapy
- Introduction of New Model
 - Bio-psycho-social
 - Focus on the individual and preferences
 - Focus on quality of life



Timeline of Government Level Collaboration

April 29, 2015:

Government order #266: "Physical rehabilitation" leaves "01 Education" knowledge area and enter "22 Health care" knowledge area.

Aug 10, 2016: National Classificatory of Professions: established the name "Ergotherapist" in Ukraine

April 26, 2017: signing of Memorandum of Cooperation WFOT - UA Ministry of Health

October 26, 2017: National Classificatory of Professions: established the name "Assistant of Ergotherapist" in Ukraine

Jan 10, 2015: first draft of new "Law for Rehabilitation"

Dec 03, 2015: UA President Directive #678/2015: necessity of establishing new rehabilitation professions: MD of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine, Physical therapist and Ergotherapist

Nov 11, 2016: First version of qualification characteristics for Ergotherapists issued (MoH Order #1171)

June 12, 2017: MoH began discussing Order #385 to establish working places for new rehabilitation professionals



Education

- 72 Universities - Bachelor's degree of Physical Therapy, Ergotherapy
 - Programs not taught by OTs
 - No clinical sites for FW
 - No educational resources in Ukrainian
 - Programs not guided by minimum standards
- Entry Level Master's Degree



Ukrainian Society of Ergotherapists

- Established June 13, 2016
- Currently growing
- Promoting, advocating, supporting
- Need continuing education for members (especially those who currently work in role of OT)
 - USET will serve as medium for professionals working in the roles of OTs to get access to resources and continuing education with the help of international colleagues
- Medium for international collaboration

УТЕТ

**Українське
Товариство
Ерготерапевтів**



International Collaboration

- Estonia
 - Training course “OT in Clinical Placement” at Tallinn Health Care College
 - 3 Ukrainian PTs trained to become clinical supervisors for future OT students
- Czech Republic
 - The Charles University, one month long training for a rehabilitation team from Kyiv Regional Clinical Hospital
- Canada
 - University of Toronto - educational resources
 - Canadian Ukrainian Foundation - financial support
- WFOT
 - Associate membership granted in 2017
 - Train the Trainers (April - October 2018)



World Federation of
Occupational Therapists



Current and Future Needs

- Development of educational programs according to WFOT Minimum Standards
- Further International Collaboration
 - Preparation of clinical placements and training of clinical supervisors
 - Educational resources - translated
 - Assessment tools and protocols - shared and translated
 - Workshops and seminars to support professionals already working in the roles of OTs
 - Support for the Ukrainian Society of Ergotherapists, sharing experience and providing guidance from other countries



Conclusion

The need for further collaboration from partners around the world is imperative to provide support in the establishment of occupational therapy as an effective, WFOT approved, evidence-based profession in Ukraine.



Resources

Bamburak, N.M. (2016). Psychological Aspects Functioning Social Institutes and the Social Joint in Conditions of Social Crisis. *Lviv State University of Internal Affairs Scientific Letter*, 1. Retrieved from http://www2.lvduvs.edu.ua/documents_pdf/visnyky/nvsp/01_2016/16glivvp.pdf.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (2017). *Report on the human rights situation in Ukraine 16 August to 15 November 2017*. [online] Retrieved from http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/UA/UAReport20th_EN.pdf.

State Statistics Service of Ukraine (2018). *Population (by estimate) as of March 1, 2018*. Retrieved from http://database.ukrcensus.gov.ua/PXWEB2007/eng/news/op_popul_e.asp.