







#### Moldova



#### WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MOLDOVA?

Size: 13,068 sq miles

Roughly the size of Maryland and Connecticut combined.



About twice the population inside the DC Beltway.

**Government:** Parliamentary Republic

Maia Sandu, President of Moldova since December 2020.

Income: Average annual 2022 income \$5,148

Average annual 2022 income in Washington DC is \$77,372.



#### **UDG – NPC Partnership**

- UDG Established (1993)
  - College of Theology and Education
  - Peg Cantwell, Dick Manthei, and Team
- UDG and NPC Relationship Early Years (1993-2007)
  - Scholarships and Library Books
  - Mission Teams
- UDG Hosted Family Ministry Conference (2007)
  - Leadership development
  - Local pastors and wives



- Prepare professional Christian social workers
- Scholarships program leaders







#### **Today's Program**

#### UDG the Way Forward: Equipping Christian Leaders During Challenging Times

Part 1

**UDG Context/Challenges** 

Part 2

**UDG Partner Engagement** 

Part 3

**UDG Future Priorities** 







#### UDG MAIN CAMPUS CHISINAU, MD











#### Dr. Mihai Malancea President, Divitia Gratiae University









## Part 1 UDG Context/Recent Challenges

UDG Program Information

- Recent Challenges Commitment to keep the university open and move forward
  - Covid Pandemic
  - Refugees from the war in Ukraine
  - Current concerns about war in Ukraine and inflation (heating, petrol, etc.)



## **UDG Program Information**

- Programs
  - Theology
  - Intercultural Studies Mission
  - Social Work
  - Business and Management
- Students from 13 Countries
- Student Enrollment (2022-23)
  - 150 full-time students
  - 250 part-time students



## **Challenge: Covid Pandemic**

<u>University Open</u>: UDG stayed open during the Covid pandemic despite several faculty and students getting the Covid.

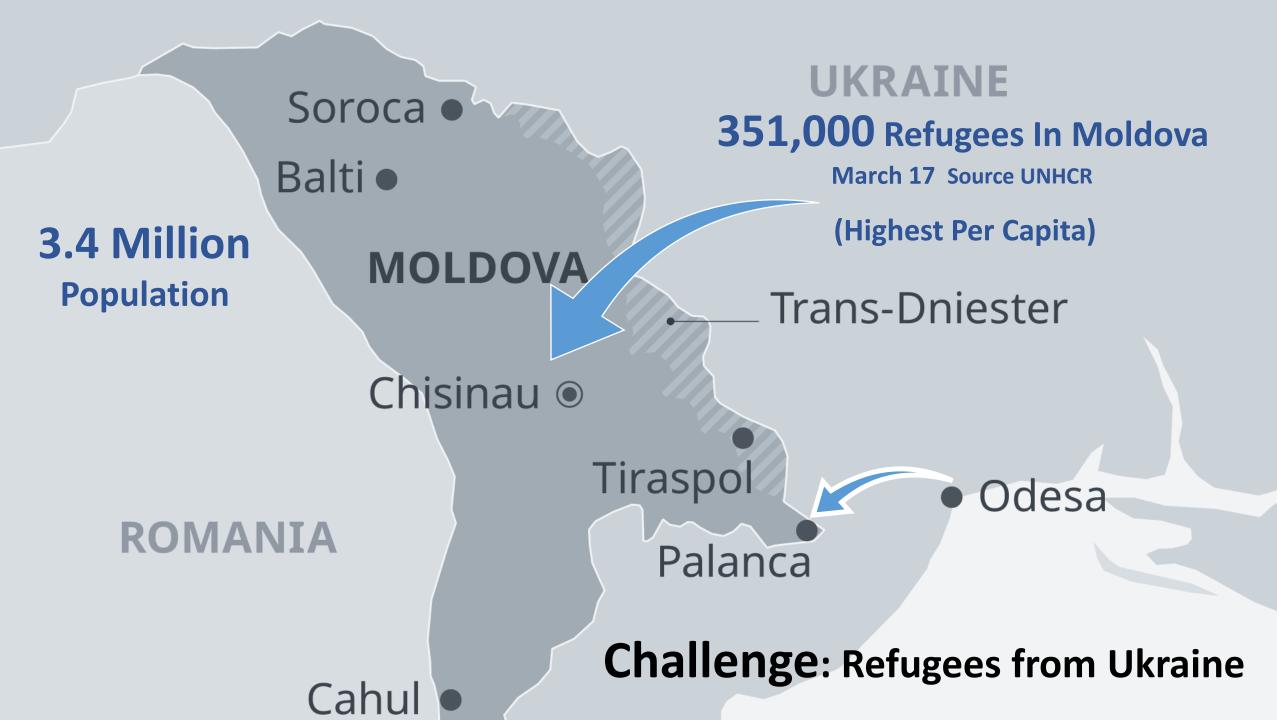


Online Classes: UDG initiated online classes for students to continue their studies.





Meals to Community: Teams of faculty and students took meals into the community to feed families during pandemic.



## Challenge: Refugees from Ukraine

Hosted Refugees: UDG housed, fed, and cared for hundreds of refugees fleeing from Russia-Ukraine war.





Border Welcome: UDG students and faculty greeted and fed Ukrainian refugees at the border of Moldova and Ukraine.

Ongoing Classes: University carried on with all classes during this period and celebrated graduation in June 2022.





# Challenge: On-going war in Ukraine and inflation (heating, petrol, etc.)

**War Anxiety**: Uncertainty and anxiety about war in Ukraine spreading to Moldova.

Fuel for Heating: Cost and uncertainty that Russia could cut off fuel for heating buildings.



<u>Inflation</u>: Inflation rate in Moldova is approximately 35 percent reflected in high costs of food, housing, petrol, and air travel to and from satellite campuses in Central Asia.



## Part 2 Partnership Engagement with UDG

#### **NPC and Other Organizations**

- NPC's Building Up the Global Church Team
- Keys Connections
- Moldova Mission Network
- Save the Orphans

#### NPC Building Up Global Church Team (BUGC)

 Annual gift from NPC Mission budget to UDG to support students and faculty.

• Flex funds to support Ukrainian refugees - food, medical

care, fuel, and other needs.

Prayer for UDG students and faculty.





Rev. Paul Beech
Director of Development
Keys Connections

## Keys Connections Support to UDG

Tuition
Teaching
Food
Clothing
Transportation
Technology

(501c3 Partner for NPC Contributions)







#### **Moldova Mission Network**

- UDG
- Marriage Ministry
- Outreach
- Orphans and Refugees (with Save the Orphans)
- Prayer





### Support to UDG (Fall 2022 Events)







**Trauma Counseling Conference** 





## **MMN Marriage and Family Ministry**









## **MMN Outreach – Tent Ministry**



















### Outreach with Oak House to Gymnasium #3







#### **Other Camp activities**

Şoldănești, Cricova, and Chisinau

- Summer camps for underprivileged children
- Life skills, spiritual nurture, arts and crafts, sports
- About 200 campers total



## Pastor Vasile Surdu's Camps at "Isus Salvatorul" Church in Şoldăneşti











#### **Orphan Outreach with UDG**

#### Robotics Camp with Ion

21 campers, and lots of enthusiasm!

#### Cricova Camp with Pavel

 160 campers – spiritual nurture, life skills, sports





## **Robotics Camp**









## **Cricova Camp with Pavel**







#### Food staples distribution

For 7 families, each with 5-13 children

#### "Christmas Caravan" with Oak House volunteers

#### Refugee assistance during spring

 Support to Oak House activities, donations for Keys Ministry, the US UDG affiliate



## Food staples distribution











### Oak House "Christmas Caravan" Program







## Refugee assistance









## Sponsorship Initiative: Elena Babei's family















SERGIU I VEAR OLD



NIKU 2 YEARS OLD



VERA 6 VEARS OLD



T YEARS OLD



ELENA 10 YEARS OLD



MARIANA 15 YEARS OLD



LISA 15 YEARS OLD



NIKOLEXA 13 YEARS OLD











## Sponsorship Initiative: Maria in Şoldăneşti











### Refugee Work with UDG and MBU

"First day as a Ukrainian refugee" Washington Post, March 4, 2022









## Refugee Work with UDG and MBU









## Refugee Work with UDG and MBU







## Part 3 UDG Future Priorities

- Nourish academic programs and hybrid delivery for students.
- Equip Christian pastors for sustainable local church development (e.g., Central Asia)
- Assist refugees from Ukraine, Afghanistan, and other countries to cope with conditions of being displaced from their homes.

### **Nourish Academic Programs and Hybrid Delivery**







### **Assist refugees from**

#### Ukraine









## **Questions and Answers**