May 13, 2022

Representative Sara Hannan Chair, Legislative Council Alaska State Capitol

Dear Rep. Hannan,

Anchorage, AK - Anchorage Friends of Ukraine is hosting a fundraising event to assist those impacted by the tragic war in Ukraine. The event will be held at The Arctic Recreation Center (The ARC) located at 4855 Arctic Blvd., on May 19th at 6:00 p.m. A traditional Ukrainian dinner will be served, music will be performed by local bands Turnagain Blue, Tanana Rafters and Fox In The Henhouse, and a silent auction will be conducted. The keynote speaker is Art Davidson. Event proceeds will be directed to Doctors Without Borders to provide financial aid to their medical mission in Ukraine.

The military campaign against the independent, democratic nation of Ukraine has created a vast humanitarian crisis. Anchorage Friends of Ukraine is responding to critically urgent needs by organizing this fundraiser event. Along with Ukrainian community members and concerned Alaskans, the event is being organized in cooperation with The ARC, Matanuska Brewing Company, and Cowork by RSD. Endorsed by the Alaska World Affairs Council.

On March 25th, Olena Zyuba, with support of the Juneau World Affairs Council and the Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, held a Fundraiser for Ukraine in Juneau. All funds raised went to UNICEF/Ukraine Mission. Inspired by Zyuba, Faina Kronos reached out and began planning for an Anchorage event. She believes that our own city has many caring people and charitable support to offer in response to this crisis.

Kronos, the Anchorage event organizer, is of Ukrainian heritage, but her family members are all still in Kharkiv. With this devastating war situation, everyday is an unknown with the terrifying reality that she never knows if her loved ones will remain safe and survive. Her heartfelt concern is shared by others who are originally from Ukraine. Kronos states: "Anchorage Friends of Ukraine is honored to endeavor to support the brave people of Ukraine. This fundraiser on May 19th is an opportunity for other Alaskans to join our humanitarian cause."

So, pursuant to AS 24.60.080(a), we respectfully request that the Fundraiser for Ukraine Charity Dinner & Silent Auction be sanctioned as a charitable event by Legislative Council.

Anchorage Friends of Ukraine is a cultural group. Our fundraising partner, The Arctic Rec Center, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit (EIN # 46-5014292). All contributions will be routed through The ARC and are tax-deductible. For further information, please visit the Anchorage Friends of Ukraine Facebook page. Purchase event tickets and/or donate at https://www.centerak.org/events

Thank you,

Director: Mona Hundrup

Assistant Director: Zack Hickel