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NON-COMPETITIVE DIVISION

Activating Disability-Led Organizations in Disasters to Fill the Gaps of Systematic Exclusion

The Global Alliance for Disaster Resource Acceleration (GADRA) an international alliance, connects local disability-led organizations impacted by disaster to tangible and intangible resources to fill a gap left by the systemic exclusion of traditional response and humanitarian aid to enable and empower meaningful integration of disability inclusion in response and recovery efforts.

The idea of universal inclusion is not new but has proven very difficult to implement in the face of disaster. GADRA responded to the disaster in Ukraine in support of a Ukrainian disability led organization Fight For Right, and the results, viewed as impossible by other larger entities, include fully inclusive and accessible door-to-door evacuations and provision of in-country life saving and sustaining resources for people with disabilities, along with providing a disability voice in policy conversations.

The GADRA approach pushes action to the true meaning of whole community inclusive asset-based emergency response and lays the foundation for an integrated recovery process; demonstrating the capacity to

shift the paradigm for marginalized and multi-marginalized people with disabilities in disaster.

This poster will document how GADRA and Fight For Right evacuated and supported over 1500 Ukrainians with disabilities in the face of war through a technology based virtual operations center, a network of agencies and culturally competent disability expertise to emergency response.

Presentation Theme: This presentation is focused on the practical application of whole community disability inclusive response quantitative and qualitative data outcomes.

Collaborators, Advisor(s) and Department(s) that assisted with this research: World Institute on Disabilities; Fight For Right; The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies; ONG Inclusiva