

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Cultural Community Raises \$16,000 for Ukrainian Relief Effort**  
*The fundraiser held at the Italian Cultural Center brought together 42 businesses & cultural organizations.*

**BUFFALO, New York** - The [Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo](#) (CCI Buffalo) in conjunction with 42 other businesses and cultural organizations hosted a fundraiser on March 27th to raise money for the Ukrainian relief effort.

After all of the contributions were tabulated, **the total amount raised was \$16,205.75.**

**Friday, April 8th, 2022 1:00 pm:** The Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo will present **Emil Brandriwsky, President of the Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center** with the check.

“Each day we are shocked and deeply saddened by the inhuman brutality of the Russian army against peaceful Ukrainian civilians,” said **Emil Brandriwsky**, “But, here in Buffalo, the Ukrainian community is blessed with compassionate friends and neighbors. We are deeply thankful to the Italian Cultural Center for organizing the Stand Together for Ukraine. The CCI brought together other local cultural organizations, and many people of goodwill, to share our common humanity. The unjustified tragedy in Ukraine affects all of us. We sincerely thank the Italian Cultural Center of Buffalo for their compassion and generosity.”

“We are humbled by the outpouring of support this event received,” said **CCI Deputy Director Lindsey Lauren Visser** “People from all corners of Western New York contributed in whatever way they could and the event really highlighted the best of our diverse community.”

**About Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo:**

The Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded by Dr. Francesco Giacobbe and his late wife, Renata Giacobbe in 2010. For over ten years, the CCI has been sharing and promoting education, history, and inspiring current and future generations within the Buffalo community. CCI Buffalo's mission is to preserve and promote Italian culture, heritage and language through educational opportunities and community engagement in the Western New York region. For more information visit, [ccibuffalo.org](http://ccibuffalo.org).

**About the Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center:**

Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center located at 562 Genesee Street in Buffalo, NY was founded by Ukrainian emigrants that had been displaced from their homeland by World War Two. The founding members sought to establish a community center where they could maintain their cultural identity, pass their heritage onto their children, socialize, and participate in organizations that would continue their progress toward an independent Ukraine. Dnipro is a part of the Ukrainian American Freedom Foundation, which is an IRS recognized “501C3 charitable organization”. All donations are tax-deductible. For more information visit, [dniprobuffalo.com](http://dniprobuffalo.com).

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