



PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Clean Futures Fund coming to Ukraine to promote international cooperation

Non-profit organization focused on assisting areas and populations affected by industrial accidents to implement projects related to the Chernobyl catastrophe as the 31st anniversary of the accident approaches.

KYIV, UKRAINE, 2 April, 2017 – Clean Futures Fund co-founders Erik Kambarian and Lucas Hixson have arrived in Ukraine to meet with officials and Ukrainian organizations to coordinate international cooperation projects within the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone and the Chernobyl worker city of Slavutych. Erik and Lucas are not strangers to Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant as they have participated in professional visits and radiological training at the facility and surrounding zone since 2013. At the conclusion one of their visits, they recognized the need to give back to a community that they have learned so much from and created the non-profit organization, Clean Futures Fund.

“We are proud to have the opportunity to meet with our Ukrainian counterparts and officials from the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone Management Agency, the Ministry of Ecology, and the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant Administration to work together to improve safe working conditions and long-term care for Chernobyl workers and individuals in the affected areas.” – Lucas Hixson

The first project CFF plans to implement is a spay/neuter and vaccination program for the stray dog population that surrounds Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant. Hundreds of stray dogs, descendants of abandoned pets from the 1986 evacuation, live around the plant and within the exclusion zone. These dogs can be exposed to attacks from the rabid animals in the exclusion zone and in turn present a safety concern for the workers at Chernobyl. CFF has developed partnerships with American and Ukrainian animal care organizations to humanely spay/neuter and vaccinate the dog population. CFF has started the twitter hashtag #DogsofChernobyl to raise awareness of the issue and forthcoming project.

CFF's second project involves the future of healthcare in Slavutych. CFF is committed to improving local access to healthcare services in a town with unique healthcare needs. CFF will meet with the administration of Hospital Number 5 in Slavutych with donated medical equipment in hand. Erik and Lucas desire to meet with the Ministry of Health while in Ukraine and advocate for a cooperative relationship that not only preserves, but improves access and quality of healthcare for current and former Chernobyl workers.

“The New Safe Confinement is now in place over the old sarcophagus at Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant, but the world must not forget that decades of work remains. Clean Futures Fund is here to generate awareness about the ongoing efforts to clean up the site of the world's worst nuclear power accident and support the workers involved in this extraordinary task.” – Erik Kambarian

To learn more about Clean Futures Fund please visit www.cleanfutures.org

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The Mission of Clean Futures Fund

Clean Futures Fund is a non-profit organization focused on generating awareness and coordinating international assistance for communities affected by industrial accidents and long-term cleanup programs.

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