Hear from Olena, a Ukrainian who moved with her six-yearold daughter

Olena:

Hello! My name is Olena, I am 32 years old. I am from the Chernihiv region, from a small border town. I came to Poland because our city was under occupation for 32 days. As soon as the troops withdrew—after more or less two weeks—a bomb hit my city and the next day I left it, since I was worried about my daughter, for myself, and so I decided to leave.

Interviewer:

Tell us about your first experience working in Poland.

Olena:

I asked and went around. At first, I was only taken for 6 hours. Now, I work for 10-12 hours. For me, I've already gotten accustomed, and that's not a problem. Most have treating me well. At work, in the beginning, everyone was wary. And then they started to love me so much that everyone fights for me because I do everything quickly, I do everything well. They say "Olena, let's go work with us." So, all good.

Interviewer:

What advice would you give women who have left their homes?

Olena:

Do not hope that here someone will give you money just like that, that you will always be taken care of. That is, you must rely primarily on yourself, because only you can find a good home for yourself, only you can secure a good life. Help at first is needed, and it is there. But it will not always be there and if you want a luxury life, please go work for one—two jobs. And then you will have a luxury life.