



MAGYARORSZÁGI EVANGÉLIKUS EGYHÁZ

Országos Iroda – Ökumenikus és Külügyi Osztály

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Refugee Aid and Migration Projects

established by the Diaconal Service of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCH) in Hungary

Updated: 9th September 2015

The Department for Diacony of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary has a number of projects in place or under preparation with the aim of providing help and assistance to refugees.

All the project proposals on the list below are meant to serve a lasting purpose. This approach is necessary, since the refugee crisis in Europe is not likely to be solved in a day or two. This means that the financial contribution directly channeled into the rent of a storage facility for clothes also makes possible the use of that facility for other aid activities in the long run.

Another long-term result enabled by the contributions will be the enhanced ability of the church to respond in disasters, mobilize its resources and act immediately. All financial support received by the ELCH in this current situation, therefore, helps the establishment of disaster relief activities in the church, which will definitely be

God bless all donors and contributors willing to offer their financial resources into the service of the one church in Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary:

Ms. Annamária Buda, Head of the Department for Diacony in the ELCH

Dr. Klára Tarr Cselovszky, Head of the Department for Ecumenical and Foreign Relations in the ELCH

Information for donors:

Account holder: Magyarországi Evangélikus Egyház

Bank: OTP Bank

Bank address: 1072 Budapest, Király utca 49.

Bank sort code (in Germany only): 11707024

IBAN: HU 84 1170 7024-2047 8070 0000 0000

BIC: OTPVHUHB

Reference: MEE-Migration

LIST OF PROJECTS

Railway Diacony

Objective: assisting railway travellers. Mitigating difficulties and uncertainties related to travelling.

Target groups:

- the elderly
- the disabled
- families with small children
- foreigners

Services:

- giving information (on migration, the local area, etc.)
- providing rest facilities
- escorting minors arriving without an accompanying person – with the consent of relatives
- accompanying travellers to and from trains
- First Aid (in cooperation with the Johanniter Aid Services in Hungary)
- cooperation with social care network
- provision of basic needs (drink, food)?
- spiritual counselling
- providing reading material to pass waiting time

Service providers:

- Volunteers from local Lutheran congregations and from congregations of other denominations; private persons
- Pastors of congregations, other helpers

Possible partners

- The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary and its congregations
- Hungarian Interchurch Aid
- Johanniter Aid Services in Hungary
- Hungarian Railway Company

Locations:

- Debrecen
- Békéscsaba
- Budapest
- Győr
- Bicske
- Szeged

Tasks:

- contacting congregations
- contacting the Hungarian Railway Company
- appointing a coordinator for Railway Diacony at the Department for Diacony of the ELCH
- contacting and activating volunteers in local congregations
- training volunteers
- fundraising

Department-in-charge at the Administrative Centre of the ELCH:

Department for Diacony.

Partners: Department for Congregational Ministry and Mission, Department for Applications, Department for Education, Department for Ecumenical and Foreign Relations

Collecting clothes donations for children

Objective: Supporting children and families with children at one of the reception centres in Hungary with donations of clothes and toys

Target groups:

- children
- families with child(ren)

Contributors to collections

- Donors
- Employees and volunteers in deans' offices
- Volunteers in congregations (collecting, receiving, sorting and packing clothes)

Possible partners

- The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary and its congregations
- Hungarian Interchurch Aid
- Johanniter Aid Services in Hungary

Locations:

- Debrecen
- Vámoszabadi
- Kiskunhalas
- Bicske
- Békéscsaba
- Nyírbátor
- Nagyfa

Tasks:

- contacting reception centres for needs assessment
- contacting congregations and persons-in-charge at congregations

- contacting deans
- assessing logistic and storage capacities

Department-in-charge at the Administrative Centre of the ELCH:

Department for Diacony.

Partners: Department for Congregational Ministry and Mission

Peer counselling and attitude formation (youth-to-youth information)

Objective: informing groups of young people for further distribution of information among peers in the context of youth group meetings or homeroom discussion at schools.

Target groups:

- Students at the Theological University and secondary schools
- Congregations

Services:

- Facilitating homeroom discussions
- Giving talks in church events

Service providers: Volunteering students trained by the Department for Education of ELCH

Possible partners: Secondary schools, colleges, congregations

Locations: National

Tasks:

- developing training material in cooperation with the Department for Education
- training student instructors
- advertising the service

Department-in-charge at the Administrative Centre of the ELCH:

Department for Diacony, Department for Education, Department for Congregational Ministry and Mission

House of Integration

Objective: Assisting the integration of recognized refugees by providing them with a year-long complex service

Target groups: Refugee families with children staying in Hungary

Services:

- Protected housing for refugees
- Labour market services

- Social casework
- Language training
- Community programmes, informing neighbours
- Spiritual support

Service providers:

- Social workers trained by the Department for Diacony
- Volunteers

Possible partners:

- Local social and educational service providers
- Office of Immigration and Nationality in Hungary

Locations: Nyíregyháza

Tasks:

- fundraising
- recruiting
- setting up the service

Department-in-charge at the Administrative Centre of the ELCH: Department for Diacony

Community programmes at Reception Centres

Objective: Preventing the hospitalisation of refugees, particularly children, by improving their psycho-social condition

Target groups: Refugees staying at reception centres

Services:

- Providing general information
- Community programmes, sport events, workshops for children
- Social and cultural orientation
- Language training

Service providers: social workers and volunteers

Possible partners:

- Office of Immigration and Nationality in Hungary
- Reception centres
- Local congregations
- Educational institutions

Locations:

- Debrecen

- Vámoszabadi
- Kiskunhalas
- Bicske
- Békéscsaba
- Nyírbátor
- Nagyfa

Tasks:

- developing the service
- setting up the team, recruiting volunteers
- contacting reception centres

Department-in-charge at the Administrative Centre of the ELCH: Department for Diacony

Cookery project (involving women from both the refugee and the local communities)

Objectives: Creating inclusive communities; spreading awareness of the other culture through cuisine. Regular meetings for women, opportunities to prepare food together, increased familiarity with each other's culture through shared activity.

Target groups: Refugee women and members of congregations

Services:

- Providing a shared space for cooking, cultural and social orientation and decreasing mistrust
- Enabling the natural creation of a helping environment

Service providers: Volunteers

Possible partners: Jövőkerék Alapítvány (a foundation supporting civil activities and local, bottom-up initiatives)

Locations: Budapest

Tasks:

- creating a community of volunteers
- providing cooking facilities and public space

Department-in-charge at the Administrative Centre of the ELCH: Department for Diacony

Information for refugees

Objective: Informing refugees about rights and responsibilities related to the process of applying for asylum

Target groups: Refugees and applicants for asylum

Services: Publishing and distributing informative and easily comprehensible material in the language of the refugees

Service providers: Volunteers, social workers

Possible partners:

- “Menedék” Hungarian Association for Migrants
- Office of Immigration and Nationality in Hungary
- UNHCR

Locations:

- Debrecen
- Vámosszabadi
- Kiskunhalas
- Bicske
- Békéscsaba
- Nyírbátor
- Nagyfa

Tasks:

- creating, translating, printing and distributing publications

Department-in-charge at the Administrative Centre of the ELCH: Department for Diacony

Crisis intervention

Objective: Mitigating crisis situations pertaining to refugees

Target groups:

- Applicants for asylum
- Hungarian authorities

Services:

- Providing storage facilities
- Providing information
- Providing food
- Donations of clothes and medicine

Service providers: Volunteers

Possible partners: Relevant organizations in the state, civil and church sector

Locations:

- Budapest
- Szeged

- Győr
- Province of Vojvodina (Serbia)?

Tasks:

- setting up a network for donations
- establishing storage facilities
- developing cooperation with other organizations

Department-in-charge at the Administrative Centre of the ELCH: Department for Diacony