Quarterly Report

July - September 2023



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1. Project Update

Statistics



July

In July, 73 of the 123 new participants who registered at the Centre reside at Katsikas Long Term Accommodation Site (LTAS; camp), located 10 km from the Centre.

August

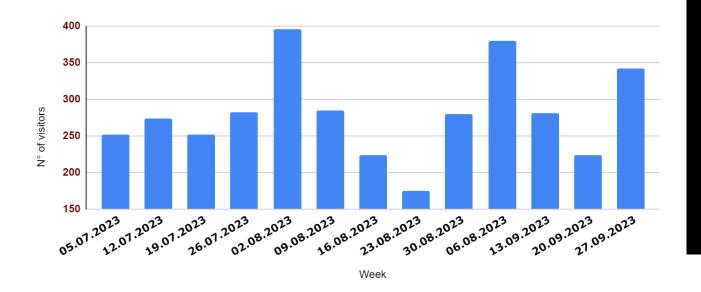
During the month of August, **93 of the 170 new** participants registered reside in Filippiada LTAS, located 60 km from Joannina.





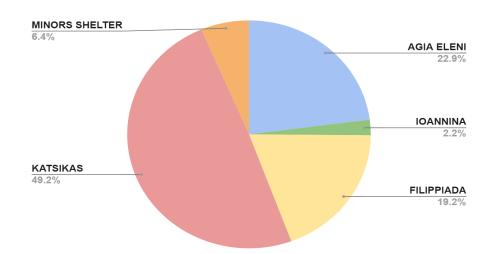
September

In September, we recorded one of the highest numbers of new participants visiting the Community Centre as **300 new people** were registered.



The graph above shows the number of visitors in the Centre each week from the beginning of July until the end of September 2023. The first week of each month is usually the busiest as participants can shop again in our Free Clothes Shop.

Participants who visit the Centre reside in either one of the three LTASs of the region (Katsikas, Agia Eleni and Filippiada), the unaccompanied minors' shelters in the area, or in the city of loannina. The graph below shows a breakdown of the last three months.





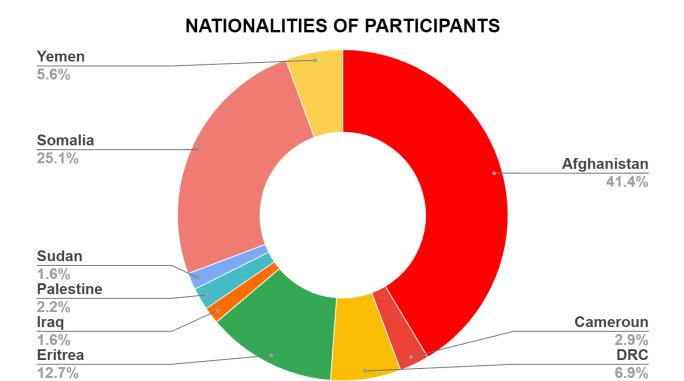
From July to September, the Community Centre welcomed on average 71 participants daily. The highest number of participants recorded in one day was 144 people. Wednesdays and Saturdays remain the busiest days in the Centre.

The average age of the participants in the Centre was 20 years old. From July to September, we registered a number of unaccompanied minors (UAMs) living in the shelters in the city and in the nearby town of Perama.



* * *

In the Centre we welcome new participants from over 25 different countries.



The above shows the biggest groups of participants registered this quarter by their official nationality (as judged by the Greek state¹. Other countries of origin include Angola (2), Ivory Coast (2), Republic of Congo (3), Djibouti (1), Ethiopia (4), Guinea (5), Gambia (4), Nigeria (2), Niger (1), Pakistan (2), South Sudan (3), Sierra Leone (1), Syria (5), Chad (1), Togo (1), Turkey (2), Stateless (1).

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¹ Note, the Greek state does not consider Kurdistan as a nationality, therefore within these statistics Kurdish people are being incorrectly identified as Iraqi, Syrian, Iranian or stateless.

Services Update

Free Clothing Shop



July



August

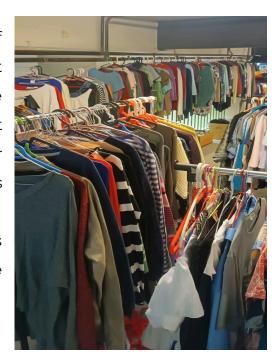


September

There was a significant increase in the number of participants visiting the Free Clothes Shop in the last three months, culminating in 741 individual people shopping in September. This increase is due to the fact that there has been a significant increase in the number of arrivals to the Aegean islands and thereby transfers of people to the different camps of the region.

With the increase in the number of people using this service we are reaching out far and wide to secure more winter clothing donations.





Donations

IHA

On 21 July our partner IHA delivered a full van load of items for our Free Clothing Shop and diaper distribution, including underwear, scarves, shoes, thermal cups and hygiene items.

Attika Human Support Warehouse

On 12 September we received three pallets of diapers, as well as some women and children's clothing from our partners at Attika Human Support Warehouse. This delivery and cooperation has ensured that we have been able to support all children who come to the Centre under 4 years old with diapers, as well as a number of additional special cases of older children who continue to require diapers for a variety of medical reasons.



Chios Mastic Centre/ Container

On 29 July, Patricia & Marco, the previous project co-coordinators and current BAAS Vice-President & Fundraising team member, respectively, brought a van load of items that had remained on Chios following the closure of Mastic Campus, a BAAS & Action for Education partnership project in 2021. The delivery included bunk beds, tables, stools, mattresses, sewing machines, sportswear, and most wonderfully of all our table football, which has become an iconic part of the Centre ever since!

This transportation was made possible thanks to Network Anthropia who lent their van to Marco & Patricia!



Network Anthropia

During this quarter Network Anthropia visited Ioannina again. They brought some pushchairs, adult underwear, donated clothing and brand new hijabs for the shop.

Local & ad-hoc donations

<u>"Friends of Refugees Ioannina"</u> (Φίλοι των προσφύγων στα Ιωάννινα)

Led by a local man called Stergios, the collective 'Friends of Refugees Ioannina', have been very helpful for the Centre and have continued to collect and donate numerous items for our Free Clothes Shop and Centre. In addition they also spread the word about our organisation and our work among the local community.

Youth Centre of Epirus (YCE)

YCE, a local NGO, collected clothing for people on the move in the area. They gave us a number of bags of women and children's clothing.

Smile Cafe

A local café, connected with us via our friends at Habibi.works, collected three bags of clothing for us at their café.

In addition to the above groups, a number of individuals and centre participants have been dropping off clothing, toys, cups, wellies, strollers and even an old television set (which we have found a good home for since) to the Centre.

Distributions

Menstrual pads

Each month we support 200 women with menstrual pads, with thanks to support from Pads4Refugees. Women visiting the Centre can collect one pack of pads each month.





Diapers

With thanks to <u>Carry the Future</u>, as well as additional support from both IHA and Attika Warehouse, we have been able to support on average 60 babies per week with diapers. Each week, each family can collect a pack of 20-25 diapers, depending on the size

Baby carriers

By the end of September we have distributed 15 baby carriers to families with young babies.

Creative Atelier

This quarter we received two additional high quality sewing machines for the Atelier, from the aforementioned Chios delivery. The Creative Atelier has been, as ever, a popular spot to fix and tailor clothing, as well as a social space for many participants. In August and September, Mascha, one of our visiting volunteers, gave introductory sewing lessons for four participants who were interested in learning how to use the machines correctly and fix some of their clothes.



Coffee Corner

Popular area with free tea, coffee or milk, and biscuits. We received some more ceramic mugs from locals, which are very important items in this ever popular area of the Centre!



Laundry Service

The laundry service. The washing machines in Katsikas LTAC are operated at awkward times for people, particularly those who are working full-time, to be able to wash their clothing. Most of the people who use the washing machines service in the Centre reside in Katsikas or in the city. Thankfully in Agia Eleni LTAC the washing machine works more like the service one might wish for in such conditions, participants living there rarely ask to use our machines.

As the population grew significantly in September, the number of washes increased substantially to 114 cycles in September.

Computer Lab

The computer lab is open to all participants to use for their own purposes. In the last three months, people have used them to apply for jobs, do coursework, write CVs, play games, watch television series and listen to music.

In the Computer Lab we also set up a PlayStation 4, more on this below!

Education

Two volunteers, Chloe & Tania, restarted English classes in August. Classes were split into two different levels. Having two teachers teaching was helpful as even within levelled classes there are different levels of speaking, writing, reading and/or listening. This way classes could be very student focused and adapted to individual needs.



The classes paused in September due to a shortage of teaching volunteers. Classes are planned to resume in October. Worksheets and support for students was still available during this time, corrected by and with team members.

Printing Service

The printer & scanner offers a valuable service for participants to print, copy as well as scan their documents.

Thanks to ForRefugees, we acquired a new better quality printer in September, which is able to scan several pages at the same time.



Socials

As usual the Centre has been lively throughout the past three months. We received a PlayStation 4 as well as a table football. Both have been very popular in the Centre.



In the last three months, socials have included dance sessions. We have two speakers available in the Community Centre, and participants are free to connect and put on the music of their choice. Musical chairs games as well as 'ninja' have also been popular among children and young adults.

Many bracelets were made in the last three months by children and adults. We purchased a collection of beads available at all times. Colouring pens, paint, paper, and some crafty material were also freely available to be used by anyone in the Centre.

The PlayStation 4, which was given to us by former project co-coordinator Marco, complete with games such as FIFA 21 and Need For Speed, has become an incredibly popular part of the Centre, with people playing together for hours on end.



Kids Space

As we witnessed an increase in the number of children attending the Centre, we moved the kids room in August to a bigger room, which gave us more capacity to do more expansive and creative activities in a safer & brighter space with the children.

These activities ranged from painting rocks, dancing, stretching with Dan, building forts with the foam flooring, bracelet making and many more crafty and fun activities. We are incredibly fortunate to have our long-term local volunteer, Alexandra, who is a social worker, and helps to organise and support several different activities with children of all ages each week.







Garden

The garden is open outside of 'quiet hours', i.e. from 17:30 - 20:00, each day. Outside we play games such as badminton, volleyball and ping-pong. Mostly this is where children come to play in the late afternoon.



Special Events & Activities at the Centre

Breakdancing with Andy

In July Andrea, a professional breakdancer, joined the project for three weeks. During this time he gave breakdancing lessons for children at the Centre, which were a real hit! Each day the children watched his demonstrations and learned new dancing techniques, styles and just had fun! He was also able to do a class at Yoga & Sport beside Katsikas LTAC, which was very well received.





Co respondences project

This quarter we worked with the project Corespondences, which connects children on the move, with other children all over the world. We received letters from children living in Switzerland. Then some of the children at the Centre wrote and drew messages responding.

Photographer visit

Azura, a professional photographer, visited the project for a week. During her time here she took photographs and videos for the organisation which may be used at events supporting POM, including an exhibition in the early 2024². Moreover, Azura's main project was to ask participants if they wanted to get their photos professionally taken. Over 35 people had their pictures taken. She was able to take some serious, some very funny but all beautiful pictures of individuals, families and friends together in and around the Centre. Participants were then able to digitally receive their photographs.

Legal Aid Clinic

After their last visit in June, two legal aid NGOs, Equal Legal Aid (ELA) and Mobile Info Team (MIT), returned to conduct legal aid clinics for participants at our Community Centre, as well as at Habibi.works, on 28 & 29 September. Both teams had private spaces within the Centre to have 20 to 40 minute appointments with participants who could ask questions regarding their asylum cases.



² At the Centre we take consent very seriously. The centre rules are not to take photographs in the Centre of anyone's face or distinctive features (e.g. tattoos). Azura herself is writing a thesis on consent to being photographed or videoed in numerous different contexts.

As there are no free legal aid organisations active in the Epirus region. The need for free impartial legal support is high, In total, 18 personal appointments took place in the Centre. The legal teams were also able to conduct sessions with residents of Filippiada on the Friday morning. People residing in Filippiada are very isolated from services. Appointments were available in Greek, French, Somali, Farsi, Arabic, English and Turkish. ELA and MIT also work remotely and are able to follow up on the participant's cases via WhatsApp after their visit to the Centre. Participants can also contact them independently and have remote appointments via WhatsApp.

Plans for Second Quarter Vs Outcomes

→ Plan 1: Increase the number of Community Volunteers

Outcome: Two more Community Volunteers, Aseel and Sulaiman were recruited.





→ Plan 2: Outreach to local NGOs and authorities

Outcome: Co-operation with minors' shelters as well as Habibi.works & sport continued as normal. Limited, if no response from most authorities, including camp management, to our correspondences.

Plans for 4th Quarter

→ More consistency with language classes

Rational: Language classes have been stop-start in the project, in part due to a lack of participation as well as due to a lack of team resources.

→ Ensure there is capacity to support up to 800 people from our Free Clothing Shop per month.

Rational: In September over 740 people shopped. More people are being transferred to LTACs in the region, as the camps on the Aegean islands become seriously over populated. We expect that more people will be using the service over winter, as the weather deteriorates and warm clothes become essential.

Quarterly Financial Statement

	YEARLY BUDGET 2023	MONTHLY BUDGET 2023	EXPENDITURES QUARTER 3 2023	
Total Running Costs Community Centre	45.360,00 €	3.630€	8.694,22€	
Centre Costs	27.600,00 €	2.300€	5.729,99 €	
Services	14.940,00 €	1.095€	2475,87 €	
Transport	2.820,00 €	235€	488,00€	
Total Running Costs Team	38.904,00 €	3.242€	7.918,36 €	
Coordination Costs	21.600,00 €	1.800€	5.400,00 €	
Living costs	17.304,00 €	1.442€	3150,95 €	
Total Miscellaneous	5.340€	445,00 €	227,64€	
Total One time Costs	12.360,00 €	x	851,95 €	

Total	101.964,00 €	7.317€	17.692,17€
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The budget was reviewed. The total amount allocated remains the same but split in different/additional budget lines to reflect more accordingly to our services for the rest of the year.

2. Context Update

Transfers

Transfers to the mainland from the Aegean islands³ 4:

July	August	September	3 month Total
947	1 943	3 295	6 185

Many people got their asylum decisions in August and September and were asked to leave the camp. This was nominally done in order to accommodate those being transferred from the islands in September and October. What is apparent is the lack of preparedness for the eventuality that more people would arrive (with fewer people proportionally being pushed-back or prevented by the Turkish Coast Guard), additional capacity as well as desire, to accommodate people on the move.

The Ministry of Migration & Asylum (MMA) does not share details publicly regarding exactly how many people are transferred to each camp, nor the number of occupants in each camp on the mainland. Each week we were made aware of bus loads of people arriving at each camp. Though we do not have precise information, nor information about all or even most transfers, on 16 September approx 70 people arrived in Katsikas, a further 100 arrived on the last days of September. Approx. 60 people arrived to Agia Eleni on 18 September.

³ Ministry of Migration & Asylum Statistics

⁴ <u>Aegean Boat Report Statistics</u>

LTASs Populations

Location	Population⁵	Capacity ⁶	Distance from the Centre	Type of accommodation
Katsikas LTAS	Approx 900 according to Habibi.works, will like go over 1000 people by end of September	1152	10 km	Iso-boxes (containers)
Agia Eleni LTAS	Approx 400 (according to participants)	462	4 km	Buildings, with most of the basic amenities (toilets and showers) in communal spaces.
Filippiada LTAS	Approx 400 according to participants	737	60 km	Iso-boxes (containers)

Transport from Filippiada LTAS

The buses provided by the camp management were supposed to have stopped at the end of June as ASB handed over their responsibilities to the MMA. Until the end of July people were only able to come to the city by taking the public bus, which costs €20 for a round trip. We continued to stay open on Friday mornings during this time. We managed to get in contact with camp services and they informed us that they had

⁵ Figures estimates from end of September 2023

⁶ All figures from <u>IOM</u> (March 2022)

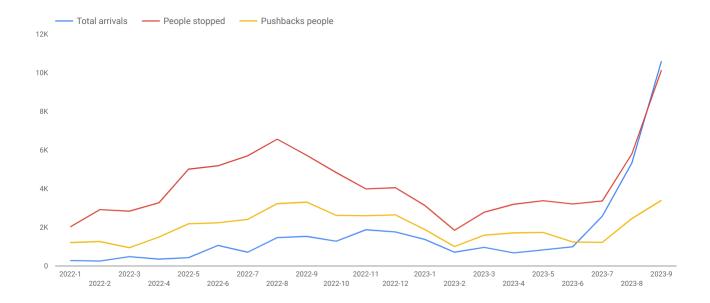
reinstated the free bus service as it was before. Now they are providing a fixed scheduled bus to loannina on Tuesday and Friday mornings, for people to attend asylum and hospital appointments.

Most Friday mornings are very busy in the Centre with between 20 and 40 people coming to relax, go to the Free Clothing Shop, collect diapers and for the children to play together in the safer space.

Context News

Massive increase in arrivals, preventions and push-backs on Aegean Sea

In August and September there was a large increase in the number of people attempting to arrive to the Aegean islands. As shown in the graph below, the number of people stopped and pushed-back also increased.



Recently 'push-backs' have been somewhat overlooked. In the last three months over 17.500 people have arrived by sea. During this same time at least more than 7.000 people were pushed-back and a further 19.300 people were 'prevented' by the TCG. Push-backs are <u>illegal</u> and for the most part are incredibly physically violent acts that have led to a number of deaths at sea.

Due to the very high volume of people arriving to the Aegean islands almost all of the camps have gone over their capacities⁷, as shown below. This in turn has led to accusations of rights violations, particularly regarding asylum procedures, by NGOs and CSOs working on the Aegean islands⁸.

Below is a screenshot of the number of people on the 30 September on the five 'main' Aegean islands hosting people on the move. You can find all of the MMA's statistics here in Greek and in English.

LESVOS CHIOS		SAN	лos	LER	OS	K	os	OTHER	ISLANDS	T	OTAL		
OCC.	CAP.	OCC.	CAP.	OCC.	CAP.	OCC.	CAP.	OCC.	CAP.	OCC.	CAP.	occ.	CAP.
4.944	3.840	976	1.014	4.250	3.659	2.355	2.150	2.352	2.923			14.877	13.586

Increase in reported number of people being asked to leave camps in Epirus

A number of people, who have got a positive decision on their asylum claim and have received their refugee passport, have been asked to leave the LTACs. People reported that they have been told by camp management that they must leave "in a few days time", with no support on what to do next, or where to go. Many people were, naturally, very distressed by these commands. Eventually some could negotiate that if they had a

⁷X (twitter) thread on manipulation of 'capacities' of various camps on Aegean islands https://twitter.com/rspaegean/status/1708844685605609611?t=YdFPuycFK-jOxFW3MwTQqQ&s=08

⁸ Ihaveriughts legal NGO joint-statement on situation at Samos CCAC <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid=MzRlODBiNWFlZA=="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/CxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/cxYKTSgspiD/?igshid="https://www.instagram.com/p/cx

⁹ Stats from 30/09/2023 https://www.scribd.com/document/675018310/NSP-Eastern-Aegean-30-09

plane ticket booked on an upcoming date, they could stay in the camp until then.

The <u>HELIOS</u> Programme run by IOM and funded by the MMA, is an integration project that can help people with rent supplements among other supports for recognised refugees who fit their criteria. The authorities however seem to be relying on people flying to another country in the Schengen, rather than trying to support their continued living in Greece.

3. Team Update

Coordination Team







Ben Anderson & Maya Kerbellec **Project Co-Coordinators**

Jordan Gardener
Fundraising Coordinator

Volunteer Team

Community Volunteers

At the end of July, we recruited our second Community volunteer, Aseel, who has been coming to the Centre on a regular basis since March and had been helping out with various activities before joining the team 'officially'. At the beginning of August: Sulaiman officially joined our team. As well as working a full-time job he also supports other NGOs by translating for them and supporting events they hold. In the Centre he has fixed computers, printers, and is a general 'handyman'.

Having community volunteers in our team is very important for a wide variety of reasons, including outreach particularly as new people arrive to Katsikas and Agia Eleni, Sulaiman and Aseel have helped inform and even bring people directly to the Centre, to avail of our services.

Local Volunteers

Six local scouts continued to volunteer with us, as per the collaboration with The Scouts of Ioannina, with some coming for extra hours and continuing to support the project as

they return to University in September.



Kyriaki, a local woman who has just finished her studies in the University of Ioannina has also joined the team on a part-time basis.

Local volunteers help the project in a number of ways including reaching out to local contacts, informing family and friends where they can donate clothes and help connect the project to the local community.

Long-term local volunteer and social worker Alexandra has been with us since last June. Her expertise is a huge asset to the Centre and its daily functioning.

Loukia, who has been a volunteer with BAAS since November of last year and since then has also become an active member of the organisation and volunteers her time on Saturday's to do informal Greek lessons or work at one of the stations in the Centre.

Visiting Volunteers

Since June many new short and longer-term volunteers have joined the project.

Two Erasmus students, Arthur and Lucille, began volunteering part-time with us, before joining the project full-time in August before returning to France.

Visiting volunteers Dan, Tania, Chloe, Mascha all joined us between the end of July and beginning of August and stayed for one to two months each.



Arriving in September our new team of volunteers include Emma, who has a lot of experience working in humanitarian projects, Noeline who is doing her internship and Nikos, a PhD student from Preveza (Greece).

4. Partnerships

Carry The Future - Diapers

Be Aware and Share started cooperating with Carry The Future in 2022, and the grant agreement was renewed for 2023. After communicating the numbers of pieces and sizes needed, Carry the Future redirects the order to the local company - Oikon Diapers in Ioannina, who directly delivers to us.



Equal Legal Aid & Mobile Info Team

MIT and ELA are both based in Thessaloniki and provide legal support and information for people on the move both in person and via WhatsApp. They run a Facebook page where they update people on the move with any changes in asylum/residency law, or its interpretation, which may affect people on the move, as well as providing general information, such as how to apply for asylum, residency, citizenship etc.

Both organisations visit loannina approximately every 3 months to hold legal clinics. Our team also redirects participants in the Centre to both organisations by reaching to the Whatsapp hotlines.

Scouts of Ioannina

The <u>Scouts of Ioannina</u> approached the coordination team in May with the idea to support our team in the Community Centre during the summer months, after the exam period, in order to complete their hours of voluntary service, as part of their scouts

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be aware and share.

programme. This cooperation has been very mutually beneficial, with many staying on to support us part-time into the new university year.

Pads 4 Refugees

Pads4refugees is a US based NGO which collects donations to fund organisations like BAAS to provide "feminine hygiene products in humanitarian environments."

IHA

IHA run a large warehouse in Thessaloniki which supports numerous grassroots NGOs and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Northern Greece with donated items, including clothing, dry food and hygiene items.

They also run a community centre outside of Lagadikia camp, which is approximately 30 minutes from Thessaloniki.

Last, recently IHA have also been one of the main drivers in organising the North Greece Coordination meetings, which occur every six weeks. In these meetings coordination teams from between ten to twenty different organisations get together to share information, discuss project and general challenges together, network and ultimately find areas in which to cooperate and support one another.

Attika Human Support Warehouse

From their warehouse just outside of Athens, <u>Attika Human Support</u> supports numerous organisations on the mainland and Aegean islands with donated items, similar to IHA. We have been fortunate to be able to receive their support. Attika have been supporting us with diapers, clothing and hygiene items.

BachFlower Remedies with Tina

Bachflower remedy sessions, conducted by Tina, a Greek psychotherapist and volunteer are held with interested participants as well as team members. Tina also regularly gives information sessions about Bachflower remedies, what they are and how they work. In Q4 the sessions will be conducted online, as Tina will have moved to another part of Greece.



Network Anthropia

Our partners Network Anthropia have supported the Community Centre in so many different ways, from connecting BAAS with people & organisations locally, nationally and even internationally, to driving donations all the way from Attika warehouse to donating items. Network Anthropia used to run activities in Lavrio, where there was an established camp for Kurdish refugees and asylum seekers which was recently disbanded and evacuated by the Greek government.

Youth Centre of Epirus

The Youth Centre of Epirus is a housing and informal education project for UAMs, here in loannina. We started a collaboration with them this quarter. Their premises are in Perama, a few kilometres outside of loannina. They collected and donated clothing for our Free Shop. Further during this quarter they would bring five or six UAMs to the centre one to two times per week, so that they can avail of the Free Clothes Shop and also discover the other services in the centre and connect with other participants! This is an important collaboration, as while UAMs receive more protection from the state, namely; there is a strong effort to house UAMS in protective shelters away from camps, where this is not possible, there is effort is made to host UAMs in protected so-called 'safe-zones' within camps, they are provided with informal (as well as

formal) education, food and basic hygiene needs are supposed to be met and they have a supposed to have a social worker assigned to their case. From the state they only receive approximately €1 per day to support themselves. In this way their freedom is restricted and they can be somewhat isolated from society/ their community.

African Cultural Festival Ioannina

The founders both of <u>Camara Market</u> and the NGO <u>Tα Παιδιά του Κάσμου (The Children of the World)</u>, Elizabeth and Mohamed, organised their 3rd annual <u>African Cultural Festival</u> in Ioannina, which took place on 1 & 2 July. The aim of the festival was to bring people on the move together with locals, and for everyone to participate in and learn

about various African cultures. The festival consisted of many diverse and interactive dances, traditional live music, food, fashion and artwork.

BAAS supported the festival by renting the sound system for the festival as well as by participating on the second day, conducting activities with the children, including face painting, which was very popular, as well as some dancing!



Further, in September, the team participated in an event at their market, which included West African dinner and music outside.

5. Outlook

Perspectives for the next quarter of 2023

Project & Team Outlook:

★ Long term team members

We are fortunate to have a relatively long-term team going into the final quarter of 2023, until Christmas we have three long-term visiting volunteers, in addition to one short-term, one local and two community volunteers as part of the project as well as a number of part-time local volunteers. This secures the Centre's operation over this time.

★ SET UP BARBER AREA

Upon request from many participants, we plan to create a new barber shop space in the centre. We plan to have it as an open space, with a daily sign-up sheet, where friends can cut each other's hair. We are also open to the possibility of having a 'volunteer barber' at certain hours during the week.

★ Greek and English classes

Nikos will restart English, and potentially Greek, language classes in the Centre during the next quarter.

★ Clowns visiting in October

Clowns without borders (Sweden) are visiting Ioannina in October. They will do a show in the Centre, as well as at Habibi.works near Katsikas LTAC and with Second Tree outside Agia Eleni LTAC.

★ Mothers And Midwives Beyond Borders visit in November - December

Once more Mothers and Midwives without Borders will visit Ioannina for approximately two weeks in November and December. This is following the success of their visit last spring where they did workshops with women on the subject of women's health in our Centre and at Habibi.works' space. We look forward to welcoming them here

Risks Outlook:

★ Increase in Populations of the Camps

- Free Shop Donations
- Team Capacity
- o Financial Strain

The number of people on the move in the area, as already discussed, will likely remain very high for the next quarter and almost certainly into the new year. More people attending the Centre means more people will use our vital services such as the Free Clothing Shop, Diaper Distribution and Washing Service as well as our more social areas such as the Coffee Corner, Computer Lab and Creative Atelier. For the Free shop this means collecting NFI donations is crucial to ensure the delivery of the dignified service which the Free Shop has been providing for over one year now. This increase will likely mean higher running costs and adds to the fact that we need to have a large enough team to keep the Centre operating.

★ Closure for Christmas

The Centre will close for the Christmas break, meaning that the few people who use our most basic services; namely showers and laundry service, as well as the warmth of the space in the winter months, will go without during a bitterly cold time.

To mitigate any disruption we will seek to inform participants of the break with plenty of notice and ensuring that additional diapers and menstrual pads are distributed to cover the weeks when the Centre will not be open.

The next quarterly report will be available from 24 January 2024.