

DISABILITY TASKFORCE REPORT

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All in total NGOs supported 88 refugees with disabilities this week for their better accommodation and social inclusion.

Keystone Moldova provided support to 64 refugees with disabilities, of which 37 were adults, 21 - elderly and 6 – children. The beneficiaries were placed in hosting families (17 cases) and in shelters (47 cases). Women represented 77% of the total number of refugees with disabilities assisted by Keystone and men – 23%. 17 persons had a severe disability degree, 11 - an accentuated disability degree, 21 – a moderated disability degree and in 15 cases the disability degree was not formally established. The main services delivered were as follows: informational support - 9 persons, health care support - 50 persons, including medical consultation for 15 persons, medicines for 32 persons, medical equipment for one person and assistive devices for two persons. Hygiene packages were offered to 3 persons, 4 persons received nutrition packages and assessment of needs was conducted for 36 persons (new cases).

Voinicel Center provided services to 10 children with disabilities, of which 4 were girls and 6 were boys. The disability degree was not established, but 6 children have autism spectrum disorders and 4 have developmental delays. All of them are living in apartments rented by their own parents. The main services delivered were as follows: assessment of needs- 10 persons, accommodation within the organization for examination and therapies – 2 persons, psychological counselling – 10 persons, medical consultation - 10 persons, early intervention services -10 persons, informational support on other available services - 4 persons, hygiene packages- 10 persons.

Tony Hawks Center provided assistance to one girl with disabilities such as kinesiotherapy, hydrokinetotherapy and free speech therapy sessions.

CDPD (Center for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) worked with 13 new cases, of which 6 adults with severe disability degree and 6 adults with accentuated disability degree. Women represented 54% of the total number of refugees with disabilities assisted by CDPD and men – 46%. 7 persons had a visual disability, 3 persons had a physical disability and 3 persons had an intellectual disability. The CDPD beneficiaries received the following type of services: needs assessment was conducted for all 13 persons, who received also nutrition packages, 5 persons were supported to identify accommodations, 5 persons received hygiene packages, 4 persons were assisted with transport services, 6 received legal assistance and other 3 were informed about the refugee status .

The discussions with NGOs representatives show that the main issues to be addressed in regards to persons with disabilities refugees are as follows:

- limited access to **cash assistance program** due to limited accessible information, lack of computers and internet, and need for support to fill the requests and to receive finances
- limited access to **accessible information regarding the legalization of the refugee status** in Moldova, as well as limited support for personal documentation
- limited access to **adapted shelters** for persons with limited mobility, and sensorial disability

- limited access to **medications** of persons with chronic diseases, mental health and epileptic syndrome, due to lack of financial resources
- limited access to **assistive equipment** of persons with severe mobility problems and sensorial disabilities (particularly visual impairments of children)
- Limited access to **adapted transportation** due to lack of adapted cars and limited financial resources of NGOs to buy fuel
- Limited access to **hygienic and nutrition packages (gluten free nutrition)**
- Insufficient **human and financial resources to assist persons with mental health problems** within Mental Health Community Centres.
- Limited access to **specialized services for children with autism spectrum disorders** (the services are available only in Chisinau and Balti municipalities; the staff of Centres can provide services only to a limited number of children).
- **Lack of access to hearing aids** for people with sensorial disabilities.