

## UN REFUGEE RESPONSE COORDINATION IN ROMANIA

### Youth & Adolescents Sub-Working Group meeting

25 May 2023, 11:00 – 12.30 am

Venue- Hybrid (UN House/Teams)

#### 1. Agenda:

- i. Telegram channel – materializing the collaboration
- ii. Intervention presentations:
  - a. National Youth foundation
- iii. Sector updates

#### 2. Telegram channel

- a. A channel which is created only in Ukrainian, for young Ukrainian people
- b. It will be a way of structuring our work
  - i. It is better to have a single channel for integrated information at the national level, in order for the members of the SWG to disseminate all the activities and the opportunities that they are offering to Ukrainian adolescents
  - ii. Nobody else apart from Yuliia (UN Volunteer) will be communicating on the channel (it is only one way communication); The members of the channel cannot see who the other members are, **however**, they can get in touch with Yuliia if they would like to provide feedback about the functioning of the channel or if they have any issues at all;
- c. National Youth Foundation (FNT) is already using Telegram channels – it is based on topics (e.g. sports, sex education, German language classes etc.) => one topic: one sub-working group
  - i. Their channels are made for different local communities
  - ii. FNT recommends creating communities based on location (Insight: youngsters are not checking linktree)
  - iii. Add links to all local channels. (FNT Tulcea is working with translating bot)

#### 3. Sector Updates

- a. On 1<sup>st</sup> of June, **UNICEF** having an event in Senat. Invited Oleg and girl from CB. Tents for different organizations. Inviting volunteers. 2 activities with 12 children's rights. Looking for teens to interact with children and stickers. Volunteers – will be reimbursed with shifts,
- b. **Save the Children Romania** will have sport-based activities on 1<sup>st</sup> of June at the Senate – there will be activities for younger adolescents and children.

- c. On 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> of June, there will be a **Festival organized by Youth for youth Foundation (Tineri pentru Tineri) + National Youth Foundation (Fundatia Nationala de Tineret)** – many of activities are being created through the participation of the Ukrainian and Romanian adolescents and young people themselves. Focus: active citizenship, Multicultural activities, customs, traditions. This is a pilot of collaborating among NGOs on youth participation.
  - a. Romanian Angel Appeal is providing Romanian language classes with recognized certification.
  - b. The Red Cross and Save the Children are also providing language classes.
- d.

Presentation:

**National Youth Foundation** has 11 youth centers in the whole country. These are safe place for children and adolescents. We are creating and adapting methodologies to adapt to the local contexts. We have had a total of aprox. 3 000 activities with 18 600 attendances. Almost two thirds are young Ukrainians, 23% are Romanians (counting activities run by volunteers or employees). Having Ukrainian staff working helps to increase the numbers of participants. Adolescents prefer to be outside, thus summer brings new challenges. A medium of 200 unique beneficiaries are coming every month to Bucharest hub. Since July last year FNT got 800 subscribers in the telegram community in Bucharest.

- a. Needs from the focus group:
  - i. Language courses
  - ii. Income
  - iii. Social connection and emotional support
  - iv. Childcare options for young parents
  - v. Roma refugees – having similar needs with more discrimination.
- b. **Language courses** are done by young Ukrainian who speak Romanian. These are also done in online format. People joined activities because they like the activities – not for getting humanitarian help or similar incentives. 211 enrolled into language classes. We are now trying to adapt the methodology and provide Romanian language certification without paying extra cost.
- c. We are starting a **new project focused on employability/going to university**. We are at the stage of enrollment for young people. Ukrainians are non-EU students, which means they have to pay higher fees than Romanians. We are providing support for those who want to enroll to the Universities.
- d. **How to collaborate with FNT?** for Bucharest – contact Mihai Vilcea - [mihai.vilcea@rotineret.ro](mailto:mihai.vilcea@rotineret.ro), +40763661036. For other Hubs, contact the persons shown on website – usually they are fast in replying.

Conclusions:

- Send the monthly reports to [amavlea@unicef.org](mailto:amavlea@unicef.org) by 29<sup>th</sup> of May.
- Complete the short [Survey](#) for having centralized information about who does what
- Share with us posts to be shared on Telegram channel.

**Next meeting: 29 June/Thursday, 11:00 am, face-to-face (UN House, Blvd. Primavera 48A) & online (MS Teams)**

\*please confirm attendance in person to [amavlea@unicef.org](mailto:amavlea@unicef.org) by 27 June.