

Athens, 30.10.2020

Minutes of the 85th MHPSS Technical Working Group at Babel Day Centre

Chaired by Nikos Gkionakis, Maria Ntetsika

Participants: Society of Social Psychiatry P. Sakellaropoulos, Network for Children’s Rights, MsF Swiss, MsF Belgium, EPAPSY, MdM, HR360, ARSIS, Lighthouse Relief, Babel Day Centre

Agenda:

- Updates from the field and the other WGs
- Discussion with Dr. Nikolaidis on “Public health during Covid_19: the protective measures and how they affect the rights of people”
- Discussion with Lighthouse Relief on future projects
- AOB

Discussion with Dr. Nikolaidis on “Public health during Covid_19: the protective measures and how they affect the rights of people”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The discussion was recorded and can be found in the following link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kYhoAa9ysiQVB-52mwhtGuewg_ZLZh0M/view?usp=sharing
Discussion with Lighthouse Relief on future projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• LHR was founded in 2015, at a time when thousands of refugees were arriving on the Greek island of Lesbos every day. For the past five years, the team continues to provide immediate humanitarian relief for those landing on the north shore of the island, as well as longer-term programming for young people and children in Ritsona refugee camp in mainland

	<p>Greece. Alongside the field operations, LHR see communication as a powerful way of amplifying the voices of our beneficiaries, drawing attention to the forgotten reality of Europe's borderlands with an increased focus on storytelling. More information can be found on the organization's website: https://www.lighthouse relief.org/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The emergency response operations on Lesbos had been paused since March, due both to Covid-19 and the increasingly difficult political situation on the Aegean islands. Thus, LHR is trying to explore potential operational gaps on the mainland (Athens, Thessaloniki e.t.c.) to plan and implement a new ER project based on the increased need for refugees to be integrated into Greek society. Therefore, they are trying to assess the best form for this and what the biggest gaps are. More specifically, two possible gaps that LHR is looking into are access to vital information (e.g. for their integration, such as the procedure and the necessary documents they will need to apply for having access to welfare, healthcare, employment, etc.) and NFIs distribution. • Currently LHR provides PSS services to minor and young people at Ritsona site. They are also examining the possibility to support through information and NFIs distribution to homeless people. The contact details of the members of the TWG will be shared with the LHR representative so that they can have private discussions with organizations that are interested in having any kind of collaboration.
<p>Updates on the current situation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MdM: The waiting list for psychological support is getting bigger every day. There are three psychologists that are providing services; however, the interpretation remains an obstacle. Therefore, the representative of the team of psychologists asked, if possible, the individuals that are being referred to the programme to be accompanied by an interpreter.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Babel: The webinars focused on the support of professionals that are working on the frontline during COVID_19 pandemic have started. More information can be found at the following website: https://www.frontline-covid19.com/
Agenda for the next WG	<p>-Discussion and updates on the current situation</p> <p>-AOB</p>

The next MHPSS WG meeting is going to take place on **Friday 13th of November** at **09:30 -11:30**.