

Athens,13.11.2020

Minutes of the 86th MHPSS Technical Working Group at Babel Day Centre

Chaired by Nikos Gkionakis, Maria Ntetsika

Participants: UNHCR, Network for Children’s Rights, MsF Swiss, MsF Belgium, EPAPSY, MdM, HR360, ARSIS, Lighthouse Relief, Chamomile Housing Project, ADDMA, IRC, Medical Volunteers International, IOM, GCR, Babel Day Centre

Agenda:

- Discussion and updates on the current situation
- AOB

<p>Discussion and updates on the current situation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MVI: MVI is currently working through an appointment system, carried out via triage of Whatsapp messages. The appointments are carried out in the spaces of 6 partners spread in different locations in the city centre, as well as the camps in Lavrio. They are currently looking for a Greek medical doctor to supervise clinical activities on the ground. More detailed information will be shared by email with all the members of the MHPSS TWG during the next week.• MsF VoT: MsF continues the provision of services as usual. New referrals are accepted. Sessions are provided remotely for PoCs that they prefer not to come in the clinic.• HR360: The organization continues the provision of services in Elaionas or Skaramagas site. The face to face operations in Integration Centre in Kypseli were ceased since one of the partners was obliged to do so according to the Ministerial
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	<p>Decision on Education. However, the services are being provided online.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LHR: They are starting a pilot project from 30th November to 24th December focused on supporting homeless people with NFIs and 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.). An MoU is to be elaborated for the collaboration with other organizations.• IOM: Two psychologists were added to the staff of IOM in Pyrgos and Andravida. An increase was noticed at the voluntary and involuntary hospitalizations. There is a difficulty in the communication with police in order to arrange the involuntary hospitalizations. Drug users and people that attempted suicide or had psychotic symptoms were the majority of individuals, that were hospitalized. After the hospitalizations, people return in the camps.• MsF OCG: The provision of services continues as usual. The staff is working on rotations so that the law is respected. There was a fire in the camp of Samos due to electricity issues. The camp is being decongested little by little, since 200-300 people are moving to mainland per week and there are no new arrivals.• IRC: 800 people were affected by the fire in the camp. IRC helped with the distribution of NFIs in the camp. IRC also supported the community volunteers and staff to deal with the stress of the earthquake. The PoCs that are being moved to mainland are not aware of where they are going and this creates an extra issue on organizing the referrals. The criteria for transfers of COVID_19 vulnerable refugees are not clear for Chios island. IRC provides services in person and remotely. The group activities were suspended for now.• EPAPSY: The psychiatric services for people residing in Estia programme are ending by the end of December. The
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	<p>continuation of the programme with the Community Psychosocial Workers is being discussed with UNHCR. The discussions also involve the inclusion of a French speaking community worker as well as the way that this service could build synergies with municipalities and health services, so not to create a parallel system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IOM: TdH has also launched a programme with helpers that are trained to PM+ and provide services in the sites. This programme is promoting the community-based approach and is being conducted in collaboration with IOM and DRC. • Spyros Koulocheris: The first decision came out from the Appeal Court that do not accept Bulgaria as a safe country for this asylum seeker to be returned there. This asylum seeker was tortured in Bulgaria. • Babel Day Centre: More seminars for frontline workers during COVID_19 pandemic can be found in the following link: https://www.frontline-covid19.com/seminaria/ <p>The difficulty to find a shelter for emergency cases, such as homeless families, was increased during pandemic.</p>
<p>Agenda for the next WG</p>	<p>-Discussion and updates on the current situation</p> <p>-AOB</p>

The next MHPSS WG meeting is going to take place on **Friday 27th of November** at **09:30 -11:30**.