

**Child Protection Sub-Working Group**  
**23.02.2022 Minutes of Meeting**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday, 23 February 2022 at 10.00-12.00 a.m., via Webex</b>	
<b>Participants:</b>	Special Secretary for the Protection of UAM/ MoMA, MoLSA, EKKA, UNICEF, GCR, SOS Children’s Villages, Amal Alliance, Caritas Hellas, IOM, Praxis, Zeuxis, NCR, Terre des Hommes, Safe Passage, Velos Youth Center, The Home Project, METAdrasi, Arsis, Faros, ELIL, RIS/EUAA, RIS HQ - Directorate of North Greece Facilities, Intersos, DCI	
<b>Chair:</b>	<b>UNHCR: Theodora D. Tsovili (<a href="mailto:tsovili@unhcr.org">tsovili@unhcr.org</a>)</b>	
<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Opportunities for CP referrals/collaboration: Health, Education, Legal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Zeuxis: ‘Hygeia’ Guesthouse for families accompanying their children for hospital treatment.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Amal Alliance: Presentation of their emotional learning project <a href="#">“Colours of Kindness”</a>.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Safe Passage International: Family reunification of unaccompanied children with family members in the UK, after Brexit.</b></li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Amal Alliance: Presentation of their emotional learning project <a href="#">“Colors of Kindness”</a>.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Amal Alliance is a non-profit, Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) dedicated to empowering displaced children through social development programs at refugee camps and informal settlements around the globe.</b> They were selected in June 2020 to participate in the Humanitarian Education Accelerator ‘s (HEA) Rapid Response COVID-19 Cohort, run by UNHCR and other partners.</li> <li>➤ <b>They have been present in Greece since 2018 forming synergies with various and different locations in the country.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>They work around four pillars of support:</b> Social emotional learning, early childhood development, psychosocial support, peacebuilding.</li> <li>➤ <b>As part of the HEA, they designed ‘Colors of kindness’, a tec solution using a skills-based approach to emotional learning.</b> They provide PSS in line with the Education in Emergencies guidelines aiming at easing the transition back to the classroom.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action Points:</b></p>

- **The project is covid friendly and adjusted to the current situation as it works even without internet connection and it's easy to navigate.** Its aim is to teach the children how to manage and express emotions in a healthy way; also, promotes social integration.
- **By providing a short training to the teachers/facilitators, the trainees will be able to teach social emotional learning skills to the students.**
- **During the pandemic, the project was piloted in Bangladesh, for children aged 6 to 12, for 10 months.**
- **In Greece, Amal Alliance partnered with the Ministry of Education and 6 NGOs for the initial pilot phase.** In this period, they will assess and gather the data to optimize the programme and once its ready for scale will be looking for more actors to integrate it in their work. For those who wish to do so, they will train their staff.
- **Actors who are interested, can reach out to Amal Alliance directly in case more information is needed.**

**Zeuxis: 'Hygeia' Guesthouse for families accompanying their children for hospital treatment.**

- **Since 2019, ZEUXIS has been offering protection services for unaccompanied minors in the Safe Areas of the Reception and Identification Centers** in Leros and Kos, and from June 2020 to November 2021, it undertook the protection services for unaccompanied minors in the Safe Zone of Malakasa, as a partner of the International Organization for Migration.
- **In 2021, ZEUXIS, identified the lack of provision of health services to refugees and migrants in the islands and in particular the problem of access of children to hospitals.** In particular, access of refugees and migrants to health services (in the islands and elsewhere in the Regions) has been a challenge for a number of reasons. The challenges of access to healthcare services are further augmented by the restrictions imposed because of covid-19 prevention measures has obstructed access to healthcare services even more.
- **This resulted in the creation and operation of the "Hygeia" Guest house in July 2021 in the center of Athens, with funding from KINDERNOTHILFE.**

- **There is provision of psychological, social support in the guesthouse as well as educational and recreational activities for children and transportation services.**
- **They receive people regardless of their asylum status.** Their capacity is up to 12 persons; so far they haven't encountered any space issues as families usually don't stay long.
- **Families are provided with personal hygiene items and extra material support, if necessary,** (such as crutches, diapers, baby milk etc.) and receive a monthly cash allowance if they are not entitled to other forms of financial assistance from various sources. ZEUXIS also provides public transport tickets or cards depending on the length of stay.
- **Actors can reach out to Zeuxis to refer any relevant cases.**

**Safe Passage International: Family reunification of unaccompanied children with family members in the UK, after Brexit.**

- **Safe Passage is specialized in Family reunification cases with the UK.** As after Brexit, the Dublin III regulation is not applicable in the UK, many UAC could not be reunified with their families in UK.
- **Any cases for family reunification should follow the domestic legislation.** Safe Passage already had two successful reunion cases.
- **A significant change is the fact that the BIA form used until recently by the Dublin Unit for the Best Interest Assessment for the child will not be used anymore.** The UK authorities are using a different one that inquires more detailed information on the general conditions in Greece, the social services provision in the country, the medical condition of the child, etc.
- **Safe Passage is looking into having a presentation about the procedure in the end of March.** The discussion will be around the legal framework but would also like to focus on how the social services staff can provide evidence and how to draft these new social assessments.

- **They will share with the participants in due time the invitation, the documents, the referral pathways and anything other related.**

**AoB**

- METAdrasi informed the participants that an ARUAM will be based in Evros, to work in RIC Fylakio from 01 March. They are open to referrals. Additionally, they run with their own funds accompaniments from RICs on islands & Evros to the shelters around the country.
- METAdrasi will organize a conference on the challenges of the transfers of UAC in the framework of Dublin III regulation. Details will be shared with the participants soon.