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"Safe Areas for Unaccompanied Migrant Children (Samos, Leros, Chios and Kos islands)"

PROVISION OF PROTECTION SERVICES AND HOLISTIC CARE TO UNACCOMPANIED MINOR CHILDREN PLACED WITHIN THE SAFE AREAS OF THE CLOSED CONTROLLED ACCESS CENTERS (CCAC) OF:

- SAMOS
- LEROS
- KOS
- CHIOS

Duration of the Program: 01.02.2024-31.01.2025

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SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

- PROVISION OF COMPREHENSIVE CARE 24/7
- MATERIAL PROVISION (SNACKS, NFIs)
- PSYCHO-SOCIAL AND LEGAL SUPPORT
- BEST INTEREST ASSESSMENT (BIA)
- FACILITATION OF ACCESS TO HOSPITALS/HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS
- MEDICATION
- EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES
- ESCORTS (4 TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES)
- INTERPRETATION

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TEAM COMPOSITION

56 members of staff on 4 locations

- 4 Coordinators
- 4 Administrative officers
- 4 Lawyers
- 12 Case Workers (Social Workers / Psychologists)
- 20 General duties/Caregivers
- 12 Interpreters / caregivers

Project team

- Project coordinator
- Scientific coordinator
- Administrative coordinator
- Liaison officer in the General Secretariat of Institutional Protection and Vulnerable Persons

(Other functions such as HR, accounting, monitoring etc)

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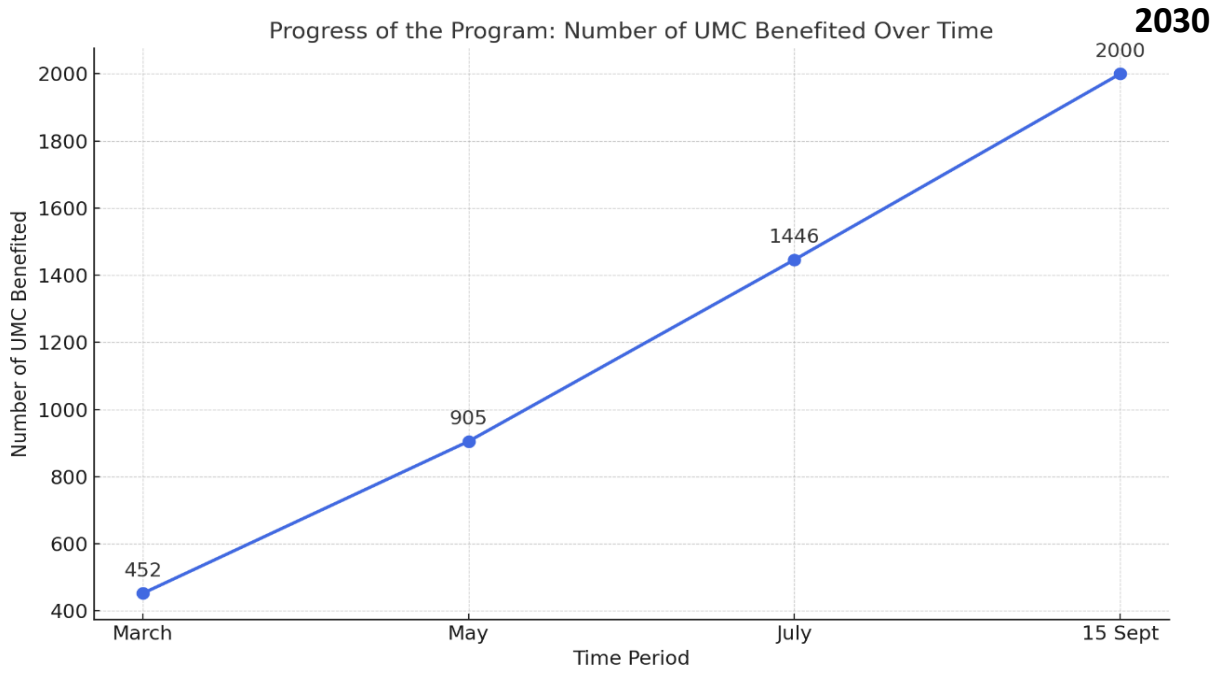
Progress of the Program



It was estimated that approximately 1.000 UMC would benefit from February 2024 to January 2025

Already surpassed initial projections by reaching **2,030 beneficiaries** in almost **8 months**, **doubling the annual target**

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ACHIEVEMENTS 01.02-15.09.2024

- **2.030** UMC supported
- **862** Best Interest Assessment (BIA) Forms
- **521** psychosocial, legal, and educational/recreational group activities including visits to museums and excursions
- **4.157** escorts to facilitate the UMC medical needs and administrative procedures
- **121** visits to private doctors
- Over than **2.000** hygiene kits and sets of clothing distributed
- Over than **70.000** snacks distributed

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CHALLENGES

- Increased UMC Arrivals (including also secondary flows from other locations)-381 arrivals only during August
- Overcrowding in the Safe Areas exceeding capacity-Increased demand burdens personnel and living conditions of the UMC-686 beneficiaries in total only in August
- Medical Resource Gaps in Public Sector (Child Psychiatrist, Dermatologists, Gastroenterologist, Dentists etc.) leading to delays in addressing urgent health needs.
- Delays in Transfers: Significant backlog for UMC awaiting placement in Long-Term Accommodation Facilities (*e.g*. over 2 months in Leros)
- Delays in Age Assessments Procedures (*e.g.* Two months in Kos)
- Delays in the appointment of the UMC Guardians (*e.g*. over 1,5 month in Leros)
- UMC with extreme vulnerabilities/need for specialized care

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UMC with extreme vulnerabilities

ZEUXIS' Urgent response and holistic support to specialized needs:

- UMC with acute mental health issues was referred for hospitalization at a Psychiatric Hospital and was placed immediately at an Accommodation Center in Athens
- UMC suffering from leukemia receiving necessary dietary support and prioritized for accommodation in the mainland
- Urgent housing prioritization for one pregnant girl due to traumatic circumstances
- Personalized services provision for one infant (including DNA test, equipment and medication for his specialized nutrition and sleeping needs)
- UMC-Shipwreck survivor losing his mother and siblings-Psychosocial support and liaison with the General Secretariat for addressing his specialized needs including reunification with his father in Austria

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BEST PRACTICES

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- Close Cooperation with the General Secretariat of Institutional Protection and Vulnerable persons:
  - √ Timely information sharing for special vulnerabilities
  - √ Effective prioritization of the UMC for accommodation to the mainland
- Support/ supplement the authorities:
  - √ Infrastructure Improvements: Provision of essential supplies to enhance living conditions (e.g., doors, shower valves, internet access)
  - √ Support in conducting Psychosocial Assessments for the UMC to complete the necessary procedures for their transfer to the mainland
- Continuous staff training (*e.g.* First Aid seminar in all 4 islands)

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Educational visits to museums

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Recreational Activities

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Staff Training

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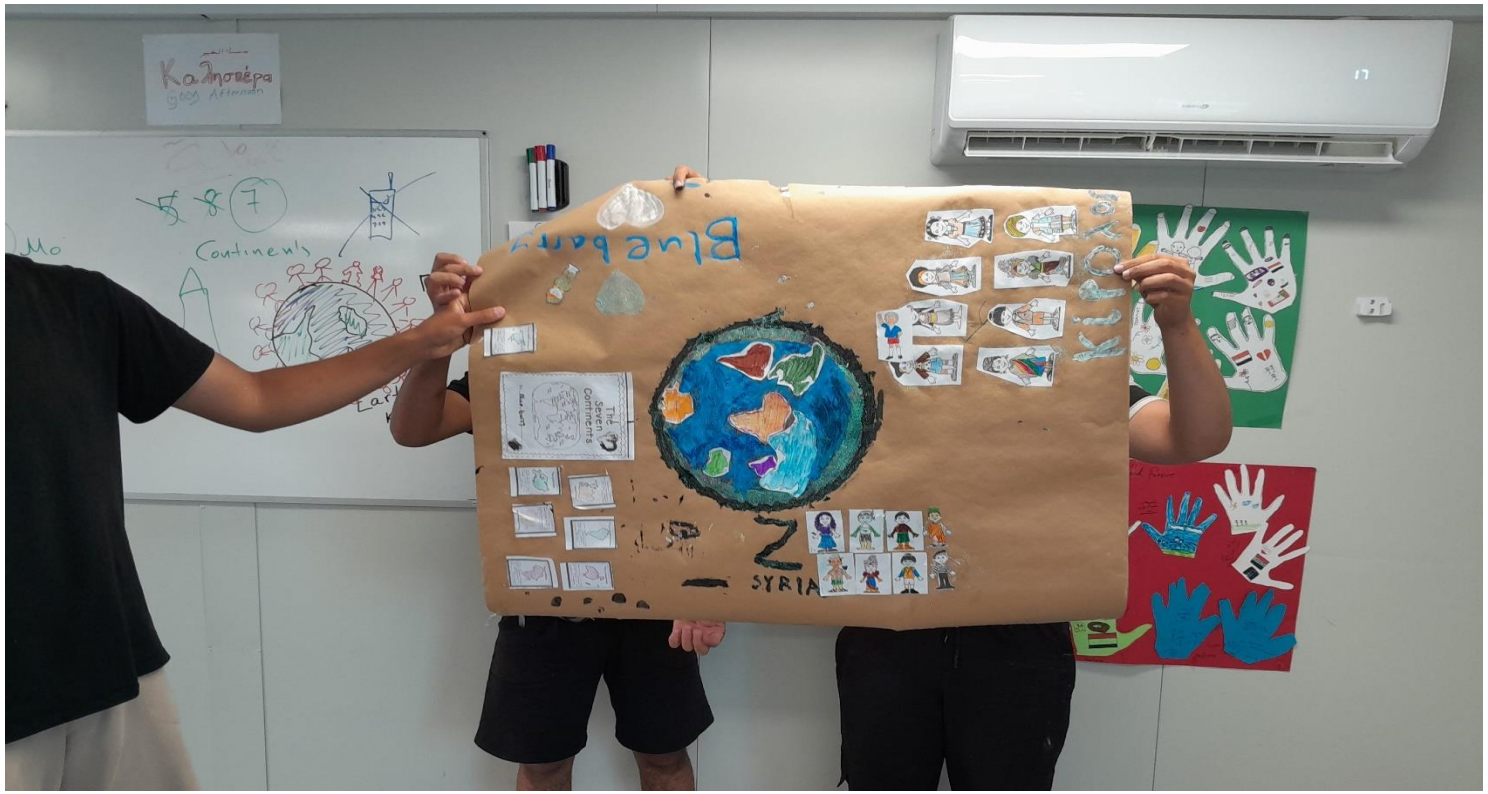
Intercultural activity-The 7 continents



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Sports and activities

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Thank you!

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