

**Group on Health**

Group moderator: Mariann Balogh

***Topics/issues raised:***

- How Ukrainian-Roma refugees get proper health care
- How prepared are Hungarian health workers for Roma-Ukrainians?
- Human trafficking among Ukrainian refugees
- Prevention

Healthcare is an extremely difficult and sensitive issue. And the health of refugees, and Roma refugees in particular, is an even more pressing issue. The pandemic has further deepened the gap and confrontation between people and the health care system.

**Problem:**

There is no communication between health workers and patients, between the health service and the Roma population.

**Solution:**

- Education and sensitization needed for health workers
- Education and sensitization for the majority society, as soon as in the primary education system
- Adequate information and education of Roma people

**Problem:**

Roma are afraid of doctors and do not accept advice and suggestions from non-Roma.

**Solution:**

- More Roma health professionals, midwives
- Adequate information on (women's) rights
- Anonymous complaint handling facility, so that the previous problem does not come back to haunt the next visit; feedback should not cause harm later
- Make Roma people believe in the importance of health check, because they only see a specialist when it is too late, so another platform for humiliation, no possibility of help - need of credible information from credible people who are acceptable to them
- Need for more channels of communication, in more languages, to help illiterate people, situations arising from language, cultural differences
- Sensitization

**Problem:**

- The health care system is not transparent

- Inadequate information

**Solution:**

- Developing cooperation at local level
- Initiatives from the bottom - the institutional system cannot move, but by building personal relationships, new and well-functioning processes can be established (Doula Service in Alsózsolca - dialogue and cooperation between the labor and delivery department of the hospital in Miskolc and Roma women and women through the Doula Service)
- Restoring the active participation of Roma municipalities, mediating between Roma and non-Roma, providing the necessary information; two-way communication between Roma and non-Roma of sufficient quality and quantity

**Problem:**

- Human trafficking - newborn babies without papers; long, opaque administration, birth certificates, citizenship; "long queues for undocumented children".

**Solution:**

- Transparent processes, predictable deadlines, proper administration

**Problem:**

- Prostitution - services provided by Roma Ukrainian refugee women to local men
- The likely cause of prostitution is the lack of basic needs

**Solution:**

- In Paszab, Hungarian-Roma women chased Ukrainian women away from their husbands, according to locals
- A proper, transparent registration system for people coming from Ukraine, as the presence of foreigners in the country is not only a disadvantage for them, but also a national security issue for Hungary

## 17.05.2023 - Open Space

### Group on Fundraising

Participants: Boglárka Bata, Éva Merenics (International Visegrad Fund), Zsuzsa Szikszay (United Way), Anastasia Nagy (UNHCR) and others

#### Topics/issues raised:

- fundraising opportunities
- other than asset acquisition/infrastructure development, in what areas is support needed?

#### Problem:

- Mental support for helpers - many people have been volunteering for more than a year, there is a need for mental support for individuals - lack of human resources

#### Solution:

- compensation (vouchers, team building, etc.)
- United Way - application with the possibility of compensation (deadline 05.30) They are very flexible on the budget. Grant must be used by 30 November. Main areas: education, housing, health
- Preference: promoting women into employment or programs for young people aged 16-18.
- Housing: it is very difficult for Roma refugees to find accommodation. Even if they do, the landlord is not likely to be able to provide an invoice. How can this be charged to the project? It is perfectly fine if the landlord can not provide an invoice.
- International Visegrad Fund, it will soon be possible to submit grant applications to them for larger amounts, from 2 June, with a small-scale proposal coming out on 15 June. Both need a foreign partner country from V4.

#### Problem:

- The lack of donors is making it increasingly difficult to find supporters.

#### Solution:

- Civil Round Table- Eger- are happy to help with refugee-related issues in Eger.

#### Problem:

- SZSZB county civilians are few, there are no supporters

#### Solution:

- approaching companies for support
- Building a National NGO Network - UNHCR list to be published soon!

17th May, 2023.- Open Space

## Group on Cooperation

*Group moderator: Katalin Galyasné Dósa*

### Topics/issues raised:

- **How can citizens and the state work together?**
- **The role of the Government Commissioner for people fleeing to Hungary to escape the Russian-Ukrainian war**
- **Communication and liaison with the public social sector**
- Now that the country has a Government Commissioner for people fleeing to Hungary to escape the Russian-Ukrainian war, it becomes relevant how we can strengthen the link with local actors!
- **What questions/facts would you take to the Government Commissioner :**
- What is the current legal status of refugees? Refugee, asylum seeker or 3rd status
- Will there be new legislation on the legal status of refugees?
- We would be happy to share our experiences, present good practices, possibly make policy suggestions
- Some legislation that has a positive impact on refugees may create a conflict situation with Hungarian citizens
- Gathering figures to support the current situation, in particular with regard to the situation of the elderly, people with disabilities and marginalised groups
- A social worker assigned to refugees - unfortunately, in the current social situation, this is not even a solution for Hungarians; this is a municipal task
- INFORMATION GAP - in many cases there is insufficient information either for the institutions or for NGOs or the communities and groups concerned
- Lack of capacity? human resources? Contacting local authorities, establishing good relations

### Solution:

- the state should provide additional resources, e.g. from EU funding
- setting up and building a country-wide civil network
- thus stronger advocacy
  - towards the state,
  - towards donors

## Group on Those who stayed after the war

*Group moderator: Zsanett Bitó-Balogh*

### Topics/issues raised:

- **When the war is over, is there a strategy for what happens to the refugees? What help can we offer?**
- **Tell us! How can we help?**
- **Presence/role of civilians after the war**
- **Expanding the civilian circle**
- **Creating a national network**

### Solution:

- Legal situation, situation of asylum-seeking newborns
- Legal training for civilians
- International networking – Suggestions for civil – public programmes
- Resettlement of refugees in depopulated villages. Proposal to rural development organisations, state, municipalities (TÖOSZ)
- Supervision, group meetings, mental help, help from psychologist – make it a common practice to include it into applications
- The conclusion of the group work was that the National Refugee NGO Network is the solution to most problems. Simply because most of the issues raised are simply beyond us, requiring state intervention to solve them. Among other things, the network would make suggestions on how to provide sustainable help
- It is important to underline that the network would be a community that helps its members through continuous exchange of experience and knowledge
- It is also important to provide continuous legal training for organisations, as post-war situations are likely to arise that are impossible to resolve without accurate knowledge

**Group on Communication and integration**

Team moderator: Gábor Prokaj

**Topics/issues raised:**

- Good forms of social inclusion
- Winning local community support to help Ukrainian refugees
- Taming propaganda
- How to support and communicate well
- How to communicate how to help Ukrainian Ukrainians

**Problem:**

- Negative perception of refugees
- Public media brainwashing
- Charity is in short supply
- Personal stories: e.g. doctors from Eger
- Civilians mentoring families one-on-one. Communication problems – since Hungarian is not a Slavic language, integration is difficult in Hungary
- Scapegoating
- Helpers are apathetic and tired
- Situation is bad in small villages – people have relatives in Ukraine
- Roma in Transcarpathia are more backward. Propaganda – communication should also work towards refugees
- Exploitation of refugees

**Solution:**

- Fundraise by inviting ambassadors to the task, even famous people, athletes
- Make more videos on personal stories
- Organise a local ball or concert to help refugees
- Fundraising from the EU
- Education of donor organisations
- Civil Network-Lobbying-Suggestion (e.g. repopulation of dying villages -Regional integration)
- After the war many refugees will stay here - Give nets, not fish
- Integrate professionals into social cooperatives, e.g. masons
- E.g. 21st Century Roma Women+ Somnakuno Drom Association works very well with refugees, but it would be more effective paired up with experts

## 17th May, 2023.- Open Space

### Group on Education

**Team moderator:** Irén Lázár

**Participants:**

- Norbert Havasi, Mercédesz Németh (Carpathian Foundation), Andrea Percze Bocsiné, Edina Pál (Kindergarten of the Suburb, Eger) and the others
- (Carpathian Foundation), Andrea Bocsiné Percze, Edina Pál (Kindergarten of the Suburb, Eger) and the others

**Topics/issues raised:**

- Methodological and language preparation of teachers for teaching Ukrainian children
- Most of the Ukrainian women have a degree (Kistályai street, Eger), they would like to undertake retraining (to make a living, to do useful activity)
- bullying in schools
- exclusion, segregation

**Problem:**

- Ukrainian children arriving to schools are often segregated, excluded, bullied or even humiliated
- Hungarians turn towards refugees with fear
- there is no trust between the two nations
- the system is not prepared for integrate refugees
- Hungarian (kindergarten) teachers are unable to communicate with children because of language barriers. Similarly, children cannot communicate with each other
- refugee children in kindergarten are only supervised, not taught, because teachers are not able to do so.
- only a temporary solution for the integration of the children has been found, no long-term strategy has been developed, despite the fact that many of them want to stay here
- there are no refugee specialists
- Hungarian people are no longer interested in the war
- refugees often don't want to be officially registered, so we don't know what qualifications they have, it is harder for them to find a job for this reason

**Solution:**

- Assess the capacities and competences of incoming refugees
- involvement of Ukrainian kindergarten teachers
- Providing language training
- involvement of mediators between the two ethnic groups
- integrating work with refugees into teacher's training
- simplifying registration