



One Happy Family News

April 2018

Situation on Lesbos

The current situation on the Greek Islands is not improving. There is still a higher amount of people arriving, than people being transferred to the mainland. The transfers were even stopped for a certain period due to a lack of accommodation possibilities on the mainland.

At the moment around 7,500 people are stuck on the island of Lesbos – around 500 more than last month.

2 years EU-Turkey-Deal

It's been two years that the EU-Turkey-Deal was signed. It's a shame that this inhumane deal is still being seen as a success by the EU, due to the massive decrease of arrivals in Europe. This deal has not been a deterrent. People are still trying to seek safety in Europe; smugglers are still sending the boats. One boat, trying to reach the island of Agathonisi in Greece from Turkey, sunk this month. 16 dead (among them 7 children) have been recovered, 3 people are still missing and only 3 people survived. Again we call for the safe passage and the right of movement for Refugees seeking safety.

Strike of the Asylum Offices

There have been strikes of the workers of the Asylum Offices and EASO (European Asylum Support Office) due to several months of missed pay. Many asylum interviews are postponed on a daily basis. Their interviews are rescheduled, sometimes up to December 2019.

Tensions inside Moria

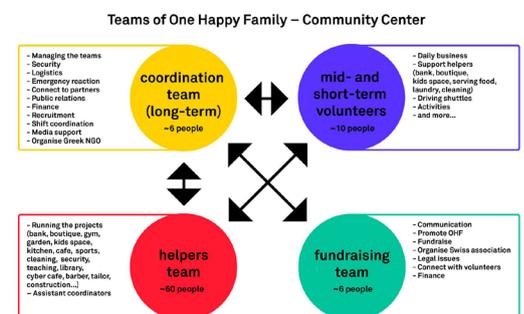
Due to heavy tensions and fights inside Moria, we decided to close our Community Center the whole day on the 5th of March because we were not sure that we could provide the safety our Center stands for, since the tensions are often as well brought from Moria to OHF. The fights are becoming more regular in Moria. The

Quote

“Put yourself in their running shoes”

Motto „Sports for Refugees“

Picture of the Month



How does the OHF-Team operate?

Our OHF team consists of around 60 helpers from the refugee camps, which run the projects in the Center. The Coordination is a team of six people that share responsibilities on the ground, and a small team in Switzerland who fundraises and promotes OHF wherever they can. At any one time, there are around 10 short and mid-term volunteers from all over the world that support the teams on the ground in daily tasks.

Impressum
 Inhalt: Jael Tobler
 Layout: Nicolas Perrenoud

main source is the hopelessness and the feeling of having nothing to lose of the refugees residing there. At the end of March, there are around 5,500 people stuck in Moria. Several public suicide attempts have occurred this month in Moria, due to the desperation of the situation here.

Interesting links:

- EU-Türkei-Deal: <http://bit.ly/2pWyQ0D>
- “Europe does not see us as human”: <https://n.pr/2H4WM9N>

News from the Community Center

One Happy Family is a “happy bubble” with around 500-600 visitors average on a daily basis: People come and enjoy the peacefulness and happiness of this place. Many of the visitors come early in the morning and stay until the evening.

International Women’s Day – 8th March 2018

Together, with the Mosaik Support Centre, we celebrated the International Women’s Day. Messages from all over the world reached the Women on Lesbos.

Persian and Kurdish New Year

This month was full of celebrations: We celebrated Nowruz on the 21st of March.

Including our daily activities, we had special celebrations to ring in the new year! The Centre was decorated; Qabali Palaw (Afghani food) was cooked with the amazing help of three of our visitors. The tradition of Nowruz was explained and translated into the mainly spoken languages of our visitors. The day ended in a multicultural dance party outside. It was a very special and successful day with around 800 visitors.

Sports program at OHF

Sport is a very good way to reduce stress. Thus it’s very needed in this environment. Our wonderful and dedicated Sports helpers as well as our partner organisations Sports for Refugees and the Lesbos Yoga Project put together an amazing schedule. Some of the activities include:

- Table Tennis
- Yoga for Women, Kids and Men
- Coaching and Personal training
- Break-dance for Teenagers and Kids
- Fitness, Muay Thai, Taekwondo and Running

Of course there are the favourite options of playing volleyball, football and basketball, or joining the OHF gym. We proudly want to tell you about our new OHF-football team.

One Happy Family: Arda



My message to you ...

You cannot blame people to have been born in other parts of the world. Please remember to always think, feel and act as a human being before you think, feel and act as a European etc.

My wish ...

I wish for freedom and that someday everyone realizes that God may have created the earth, but not the borders. God may have created people, but not cultures and religions.

Let’s treat each other respectfully

- Just be Human!



OHF has its own football team!

Thanks to the initiative of our helper Laith, more than 20 of our visitors and helpers have formed the very first OHF football team! Everyone is welcome and is invited to become part of the team. They train every Saturday at the football ground between Moria and OHF. We are already excited about their first official game!

Please contact us, if you would be willing to sponsor the team with their own jerseys.