



# One Happy Family News November 2018

*“We have far more in common with each other than things that divide us.”*

*Ross, volunteer at OHF since June*

## Situation on Lesbos

Autumn has officially arrived on Lesbos. The days are getting shorter and colder and we've experienced our first rainy days in a while! Winter is on the minds of many. Like last year, OHF has started implementing our “winterisation” plan.

As far as we know there is no plan for Winter in Moria from the Greek Ministry, Military or the UNHCR.

### Update: 30 days to clean Moria

As reported in the last Newsletter; the Regional Authority of the Northern Aegean gave the Ministry of Migration Policy 30 days to improve conditions in Moria, otherwise it would face closure.

Now, at the end of October, we have to state that there haven't been any major improvements. Moria is still overcrowded with more than 7,300 human beings residing there, with the hygiene situation is still inhuman. There is one functioning toilet per

72 people and 84 people per functioning shower. Sometimes there is no water, and the electricity supply is sporadic.

Around 1,182 people have been transferred to the mainland in the past month (with the promise of transferring 3,000 people not fulfilled). In that same time period, more than 800 people have arrived to the Island (as of the 21st of October 2018).

### Education

Around 170 from the 3,000 child refugees residing on Lesbos are now able to join the public school. This is a great step into the right direction since the education that NGOs provide only fills the gaps, and is not formally recognised. Most of the children living on Lesbos will most likely be staying in Greece, therefore, receiving education in the Greek system is necessary.



## Health

Unfortunately, the health situation is deteriorating more than we can imagine. ERCI has suspended all their operations indefinitely. This means that in Moria, the Greek Ministry of Health (KEELPNO) now holds responsibility for providing the majority of health care to the refugee population. KEELPNO often refers people to NGOs for medical support that should be provided by them. This results in NGOs who are continuously trying their best but struggle a lot with their funding, supplies and human resources.

## News from the Community Centre

### Yoga and Sport for refugees

Our partners from Yoga and Sport for Refugees do an amazing job every day at the Centre. They



host Basketball, Muay Thai, Boxing, Yoga, Dance, Fitness and Running; and these are only some of their daily activities!

The team of Yoga and Sport for Refugees are preparing for winter, so that all of their programs can be continued in all kinds of weather. Please support them for a professional tent that will protect certain activities from the wind and rain. Check their Facebook page or their Instagram account to get more information on how you can support them. Thank you in advance!

<https://www.facebook.com/sportforrefugees/>

### Sponsorships 2019

The New Year is fast approaching, and we want to start it with a bang :-). Running an Organisation with around 900 people daily (both visitors and volunteers) requires a lot of stability. This is what our Coordination team manages to achieve day in and day out. This is also why we would like to ask you to become a sponsor for our coordination team members and spread the word about our sponsorship program.

More information and registration:

<https://ohf-lesvos.org/en/sponsorships/>

Even if you've been a sponsor during 2018, you'll need to register again for 2019. Thank you for your understanding.

### Reminder: Blog

We try, whenever it is possible, to upload new stories onto our blog on our website.

Please find out more about Ross and why he is working at OHF in our most recent blog entry:

<http://bit.ly/2yFVmPR>



## #MeetTheFamily: Sabah



Sabah from Syria is a regular visitor of WISH, our Women in Solidarity House. She especially enjoys the legal and medical sessions that have recently started, and also the English classes.

‘This is a good place. I enjoy spending my time here. I come all the way from Moria to be far away from all the problems and tensions there. In One Happy Family I can feel safe and make myself busy.

In the women’s house I love to study English, do crochet and other art works. Also, that we have a special place only for women, where we can relax and talk with each other about problems that only women face in those circumstances, is very helpful.’

Thank you, Sabah, for being part of One Happy Family. We love to hear that we can provide a little bit of safety for the Women that have to live in Moria.

Find below our current Women’s House schedule:

Activities at the women's space   Activités dans l'espace des femmes					
Time Temps	Monday Lundi	Tuesday Mardi	Wednesday Mercredi	Thursday Jeudi	Friday Vendredi
12:30 – 2:00	Tailor Tailleur	Hygiene and beauty	Crochet Crochet	Dance party and crochet Fête de danse et crochet	Tailor
2:00 – 3:00	English Class Cours d'anglais	Hygiène et maquillage	Yoga Yoga	English Class Cours d'anglais	Tailleur
3:00 – 4:00	Yoga Yoga	Health advice Conseils de santé	Legal advice (Advocates Abroad) Conseils juridiques (Advocates Abroad)		Yoga Yoga
5:00 – 6:00	Open Space - come sit with us Espace Ouvert - Venez vous asseoir avec nous				

On Monday, for example, the women can place an order at our tailor, or get active themselves on the sewing machine. Two times a week, English class takes place. Of course the women can also participate on all other days in courses offered at our adult school. On three days, Yoga classes especially designed for women are offered. It’s nice to see that many of our visitors find calmness and peacefulness during that time. On evenings, the women house becomes an Open Space: a room for talking, dancing, ..., what ever is needed at the moment.

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