



HANDS ON GLOBAL

annual report 11/20-11/21



Kara Tepe 2 Camp, Lesvos, Greece

Another very difficult year for refugees. In September of 2020 the Moria camp, with 27,000 refugees burned to the ground. It took several weeks for a new, hastily constructed camp to be built. It was on an old military firing range along the shore of the Aegean Sea. It is referred to as Kara Tepe 2. Thousands of summer tents were set up and offered no barrier to the bitter cold wind coming off the Sea and the camp flooded with each rainfall. Water for bathing took months to be set up. A makeshift COVID isolation unit was truly dismal. Many refugees were moved after the fire and the camp population was now 12,500. There was now a heavy police presence in the camp.



Our team arrived early November to work with **Critical Management Association** providing chronic care and **Medical Volunteers International** providing Primary care. **AIRLINK** granted our volunteers airfare which allowed us to bring more medications and supplies.



Always flooding after the rains

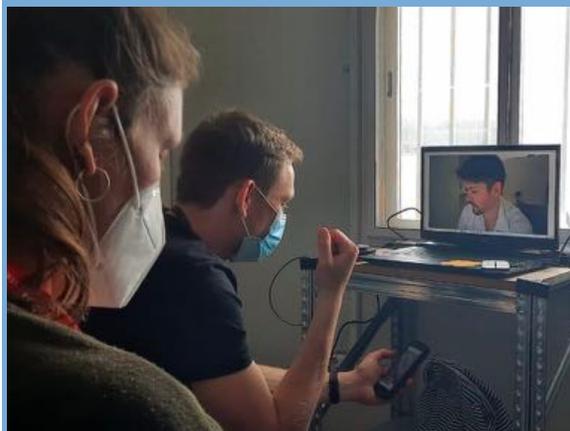
The camp was still under construction creating many challenges to health care delivery. A main medical tent was set up however the triage was being held outside. The refugees, including children had to wait many long hours in the unsheltered cold.



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Despite the complications of COVID, the shortage of adequate PPE supplies and the difficulty of lockdown our team worked 6 days a week and accomplished a lot.

PHARMACY - We set up and maintained a pharmacy for 5 1/2 months. Through collaborative efforts we secured funding for chronic medications, children's seizure medications and connected with Pharmacy without Borders in Austria.



TELE-HEALTH - Collaborating with the University Medical Center of Vienna, we set up and monitored this very useful program





MEDICAL SUPPORT - Our support team member worked with **Refugees 4 refugees** and **Home For All**. This collaboration enabled us to easily and quickly source the many needed items for the vulnerable refugees in our care.

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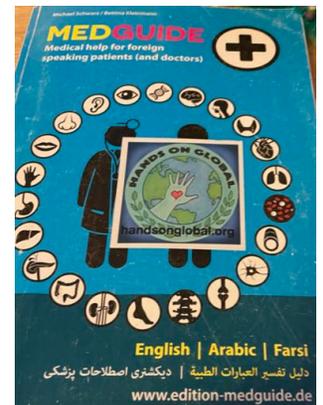
CASE MANAGEMENT - We initiated a case management program for the medically vulnerable. Collaborating with MVI, we did medical checks on people in their tents and also visited those being housed outside the camp.



Wheelchairs - We organized the purchase of multiple wheelchairs, including specialty wheelchairs.



Hands On Global made many donations to these projects. Our Doctor donated an ultrasound which was used constantly for diagnosis. Medications and medical supplies were purchased when needed. Our team researched and sourced free supplies like the colostomy equipment. We provided medical translation books for our translators



A few of our dedicated translators

HARRT - Helena Afghan Refugee Resettlement Team, Hands On Global has been working with the International Rescue Committee(IRC) in Montana to resettle Afghan refugees. Members of the HARRT team have been training with the IRC and are prepared to welcome these refugee to resettle in Helena, Montana. The team is committed to provide and guide access to services within the community as well as providing affordable housing. We in Helena welcome them to our community.

Texas/Mexico Border - A memeber of our team worked with **Global Resouce Managment** in Reynosa, Mexico. Medical care was provided in the Reynosa Plaza and the Senda Del Vida Mission. Medications and supplies run out quickly. There are many thousands in dire, unsanitary and dangerous conditions WAITING IN MEXICO.

Misc Projects and Support

Ladakh Heart Institute - In response to COVID the LHI became a designated COVID Hospital. Due to the remotness of the area Lama Chogyal, founder of LHI faced grave challenges in getting support for supplies. HOG donated funds for his use in running the hospital.

Crisis Managment Association - Financial support was given to provide necessary medical supplies and equipment to provide chronic care to refugees in the Kara Teppe 2 camp.

Refugee 4 Refugees - We continue to support this NGO as it delivers needed clothing, hygiene items, bedding and general necessities to refugees in multiple camps in Greece.

Home For All - We continue to support this NGO as it delivers hotmeals to vulnerable refugees, women and children. Through their EU donation network they are able to distribute medical equipment, clothing, food and other needed items.

Translator Support - Our team is dependant on translators to provide medical care. We pay them a stipend and assist them with legal issues, housing issues and food. We are committed to assisitng them through the very difficult asylum process.

Buddhist Nun Menstral Pad Project - We funded a nunnery in Nepal to make menstral pads.

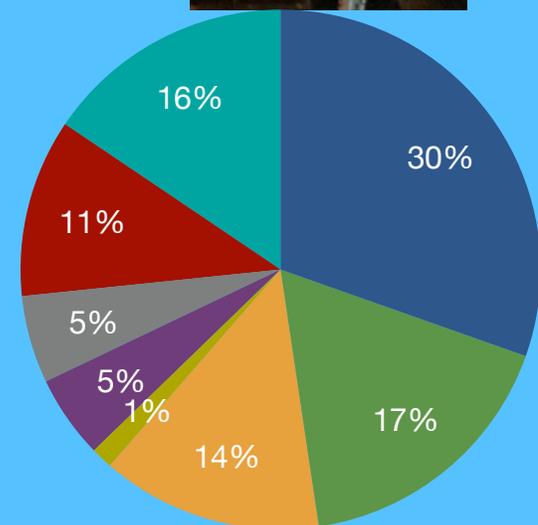
A Hands On Global team returned to Greece in September 2021. The Greek Government had initiated a program of “Decongesting “ the island camps. In September, the Kara Tepe Camp was reduced to less than 3000 refugees and the Kara Tepe 1 camp was closed. Many refugees had been given temporary (6 months) residency in Greece and many received second rejections to their asylum cases. The geographic restrictions were lifted for these refugees and they could go to the mainland. Those with second rejections had 10 days to leave Greece or face detention and deportation. But they have nowhere to go. No country will take them. They are forced to seek smugglers who will attempt to take them illegally across borders. When they are caught they are beaten and robbed. Many have had countless unsuccessful attempts and remain trapped in makeshift shelters near borders to the EU.

They could also file an appeal in Greece but need a minimum of 1000 euros per person to start the process. The success rate for the appeals are very low. Only 1% of all asylum seekers are granted asylum. Those with temporary residency are given no support and have to find and pay for their own food and housing. Employment prospects were practically nil.

As a result there are MANY homeless refugees particularly in Athens. Sadly, once a refugee has either of these designations they cannot go back to the camps for shelter and if they stayed in the camp they were no longer eligible for food and risk forced removal. Greek medical care is only for emergencies, again the NGO’s fill the gap.



Homeless refugee in Athens



- Medicine/Medical Supplies
- Case Management in Field
- Field Expenses
- Office Supplies
- Equipment in field
- Taxes
- Payroll
- NGO support

Please continue to support the work of Hands On Global. Our work is only possible with your support. We thank all of you who have trusted us with your donation. We are returning to Zanskar in June 2022 to continue our work at the Sowa Rigpa Hospital. Preparations are underway for a medical team to work on the Texas Mexico Border. We have several new refugee projects under discussion for 2022. We need your support.

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