

“TEMPORARY HOUSING FOR HOMELESS YOUTH”

EMFASIS was founded on April, 2013, as a Non-Profit Organization, and is the brainchild of a team of Greek citizens living overseas who work hand in hand with social experts and volunteers based in Athens, providing a humanitarian response to Greece’s dire needs during one of its deepest socio-economic crisis in history.

A. ORGANISATION’S HISTORY

A1. The goal and main activities of the Organisation

EMFASIS FOUNDATION was founded to address the holistic needs of all vulnerable and socially excluded groups of people, who live in “street condition” or have to deal with possible homelessness. It uses the principles of Social Street Work as its main way of approach and identification of such groups. Its volunteer teams are daily present on the streets of Athens providing psychological and humanitarian support, while, at the same time, we stand by them, in order to develop trusting relationships with them and a full care program to cover the needs for each case (homelessness, unemployment, psychological disorders, health problems, social exclusion etc).

Without using bureaucratic procedures, Emfasis acts according to the international principles of Social Street Work, direct and innovative methodology during which we approach the vulnerable population groups in its own environment (streets and neighborhoods), on their own terms and conditions. At the same time, we produce valuable scientific recordings and mappings through observation and research.

A3. The Volunteers

Emfasis’ operation and activities are based in the volunteerism.

We believe strongly in the individual contribution of each one of us towards addressing the social, economic and environmental challenges, as it is deeply needed in order to overcome the cracks identified due to the weakness of the State systems and the existing social organizations.

The main body of volunteers consists of 30 people, mostly young graduates of psychology and sociology background, as well as social workers. The larger group hosts a significant number of volunteers who participate in special projects/campaigns or support our administration. The 3rd volunteer nuclear is the “ambassadors” of our vision in Greece or overseas, consisting mainly of various supporters of Emfasis who contribute significantly in spreading the

word about our vision in all kinds of environments and bridge the communication between third parties and the organization.

Today, the volunteer body reaches 78 volunteers, whilst the Organization has trained more than 120 candidates. We provide all of our volunteers with an individual development and training assessment plan. We also present them with the opportunity to participate in our annual award “VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR”, which recognizes their selfless dedication and extra effort. The award features a trip overseas, including cross-exposure with one of the many co-operating agencies within our network.

A4. The target groups of Emfasis

Since June 2013 until today, **the volunteer groups of Social Street Work** are present daily on the streets of Athens and wider areas of Attica, in order:

- to map, to verify and identify the findings of the areas
- to identify cases which require immediate attention and support, (medical, psychological or humanitarian i.e. food, clothes, etc.)

Till today we have come into contact with approximately 2.500 people.

Most of them are:

- **homeless or at the brink of homelessness**
- **unemployed**
- **illegal substance users and former substance users who participate in rehabilitation programs**
- **working children on the streets (and their family members)**
- **single-parent families living below the poverty line**
- **asylum seekers**
- **victims of human trafficking**

We have addressed and continue to address requests related to:

- **food**
- **clothing**
- **personal hygiene items**
- **basic healthcare benefits**
- **temporary shelter**
- **school reintegration**

All along, we provide **psychological counseling, employment and legal advisory**, as well as share **expertise according to their needs and requirements.**

B. SUPPORT PROGRAM

B1. The Program "Temporary Housing for Homeless Youth"

Emfasis Foundation, within the framework of continuing its pledge to stand next to people who live in street conditions, is launching its new project "**Temporary Housing for Homeless Youth**".

Landscape: Unfortunately, there is absolutely no provision for housing by any government or other public service. The existing facilities account for less than 1% of the total homeless population currently registered in Athens.

A humanitarian disaster is looming ahead, due to the constant influx of migrants and/or asylum seekers who have recently flooded the Capital, already heavily strained to the bone by its domestic crisis. Temporary housing facilities would provide an instant relief for this dramatic shortfall.

We are trying to offer a solution to this problem, by providing, on a weekly basis, the homeless and needy with temporary hospitality in hotels, which are located in the center of Athens.

B2. Target Groups

The project "Temporary Housing for Homeless Youth" is addressed to men or women, who are forced to live on the streets, or in "street condition".

More specifically, it is addressed to our homeless young fellow citizens, who lack housing for various reasons:

- Lack of basic economic resources
- Lack supportive family or friendly environment
- Psychological disorders, leading to social exclusion
- Use of prohibited substances, which leads the person not to be fully aware of his situation

B3. The main Objectives of the Program

Emfasis is trying to achieve the elimination of the social exclusion, based on its experience, operation period, the knowledge and experience of our volunteers, as well as the contact we make with vulnerable social groups such as homeless, immigrants and drug users.

The main objective of our program is the temporary hospitality of the people who live on the streets and have to cope with:

- **extreme weather conditions (low temperature, rain)**
- **the absence of the necessary personal hygiene**

- **lack of feeling secure**
- **lack of personal time**

The homeless youth, who will be chosen to participate in the program, will have the opportunity, for one day per week:

- to find a **shelter**, where they will be protected from the harsh weather conditions
- to take care of their **personal hygiene and aesthetics**, in order to obtain more self-confidence regarding the way they look
- to **escape from the hustle and bustle of the crowded streets of the city**, in order to feel more **secure** and gain a **sense of personal space**, where they will be able to relax, allowing themselves some basic comforts such as simply listen to their favorite music, read a book, watch TV.

To conclude with, they will enjoy privileges that are considered given for the rest of the world.

B4. Duration of the Program

The period of implementation of the program shall be **6 months** and consists of **2 phases**:

- The **1st Phase** will begin on **June 8th, 2015** and will be completed in **July 31st, 2015**. With the completion of the first stage, after we have taken into account all the factors that have contributed to the program's evolution, we will proceed with a total evaluation of the results achieved. As soon as we have the evaluation, we will publish a detailed report on all the progress and the exact cost of the action.
- After the end of the 1st Phase, a **summer break** will follow, benefiting from the good weather condition and being able to resort to other options that are offered by other social establishments.
- The **2nd Phase** will begin on **October 1st, 2015** and will be completed by **January 31st, 2016**. During this period, we will shape the way of action depending on the evaluation results of 1st phase. Our special groups of psychologists, sociologists and social workers will carry out the final assessment and create statistics of the program, which will be published in the social media.

B4. Implementation Procedures of the Program

- Our social workers / experts will pre-select the candidates/beneficiaries of the program, as a result of their mapping and screening during the daily Social Street Work shifts.
- Then their homeless status will be verified and will be asked to produce any type of official I.D.
- After the approval of the Program Co-ordinator, the participant will sign a **formal declaration**, in which he will accept the rules of participating in our program, for enjoying temporary hospitality at our Partner Hostel **once a week**.

In case that he does not meet his obligations during the scheduled days and hours, or demonstrates inappropriate behavior in hospitality, he loses the right to participate in the program and his position is offered to the next candidate.

B4. Budget of the Program

S/N	SUPPORT KIND PER MONTH	AMOUNT IN \$ PER MONTH	AMOUNT IN \$ IN 6 MONTHS
1	30 Survival Kits for the Homeless (<i>sleeping bag, submattress, water & juice – for summer season, packaged sandwich, wooly gloves & socks – for winter season, personal hygiene items</i>) X 10,00\$ per month	300,00	1.800,00
2	Temporary Accommodation for 30 homeless young people (1 night per week for 1 homeless) X 25,00\$ per month	750,00	4.500,00
TOTAL AMOUNT IN \$		1.050,00	6.300,00