

Faros: Report to Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Schweiz

The current situation unaccompanied refugee children in Greece

In the months before the COVID-19 outbreak, we saw a substantial increase in the numbers and needs of unaccompanied children in Greece. There are now more than 5,000 unaccompanied refugee children in Greece with the majority being from Afghanistan and Syria. Three out of four without access to a shelter; and one quarter missing, homeless, or living in precarious conditions. Many of these children have fled conflict and war, lost family members, and been away from home for months, even years.

About Faros

Faros is a Christian NGO that started in collaboration with the Greek Evangelical Church. We serve vulnerable refugee youth and unaccompanied children in Athens, Greece. We help unaccompanied children and refugee youth find safety, discover their worth, and build a future perspective. We work holistically and take responsibility for each refugee child and youth and provide individually tailored care. Through this, we wish to see every unaccompanied child and refugee youth live with dignity and hope and to be equipped to make a positive change in society. Our activities include an outreach program, a shelter for 22 unaccompanied refugee boys, and an educational center.

Support from Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Schweiz

We received the generous support from the Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Schweiz at a special time just before the COVID-19 lockdown in Greece. The lockdown left refugee children and youth particularly vulnerable and affected in a number of complex ways as asylum services, schools and many other formal and informal services were no longer available to them. We used the grant to support the children in our shelter and educational center with activities. We used the grant to increase the indoor activities, including games, gym equipment, and educational materials. Furthermore, the part of the grant is being used after the lockdown to arrange day-trips, where we take the children on outings to the mountains and sea.

Thank you for your generous support and for partnering with us to serve unaccompanied refugee children in Greece.

Links

Faros website: www.faros.org

Faros information video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrmGfLxu0Ho&t=2s>

Faros awareness video for COVID-19:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgMT14FdKU&fbclid=IwAR2yR2iuLaNI_WSdb6zq71iAMLCIPAT8exViyd-IZ8VWvaj3Dun04iuCE

Faros portrait article from Redeemer City to City: <https://www.ctcsnapshot.com/athens/>