



# Good Practice of Inclusion

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### **House Scalabrini 634, Rome - program ASCD**

Casa Scalabrini 634 (Scalabrini house 634) is an asylum seeker and refugee shelter located in Rome with the aim of helping its residents to live an independent life.

Established by the Scalabrinian Agency for cooperation and Development (SACD), Casa Scalabrini is run by the Missionaries of St. Charles – Scalabrinians, a Roman Catholic religious order that has been active for 130 years serving migrants and refugees in 32 countries worldwide. The mission of the project is to promote a culture of hosting and integration among refugees, migrants and the local community.

Casa Scalabrini was opened in 2005 and it is located between two of Rome's outlying neighbourhoods: Tor Pignattara and Centocelle (where the Theological Seminary of the order used to be). Casa Scalabrini's activities are carried out without ministerial funds, and are fully independent thanks to support from the Scalabrinian Congregation, ASCD NGO, foundations, companies and voluntary contributions from individuals.

The accommodation centre hosts refugees, young people, adults and families who live semi independently, in order to encourage their gradual integration in the local community and to support them on a path of personal and professional empowerment.

Thanks also to the network of other partners involved in the same sector, for example Centro Astalli (Jesuit Refugee Service), 130 beneficiaries have been hosted in the first 3 operating years



(June 2016 – October 2019); 95 of these have already complete their journey with the Casa Scalabrini and they have left the House (even if a lot of them are still involved in the project activities).

Every resident in the Casa Scalabrini decides on a personal project with the team of specialists working in the house. Each project has micro and macro goals to achieve which are agreed at the start of the project and progress towards the goals is assessed throughout their time at the house.

Depending on the chosen project, and the needs of each individual, the hosting may last from 6 months to one year. The main work of the team is to create new opportunities for the guests of the centre, taking into account both the resources of the area of Rome where they are staying, and local opportunities to carry out some activities to improve the environment.

During their stay at the casa Scalabrini, guests can work on four main themes:

1. economic independence: Through a personalised action plan the guest is helped to find a job and by this means economic independence in the medium-term
2. employment independence: To help build long lasting relationships between guests and employers. So, even if the employment is terminated, the guests are able to use their relationship with their former employer to find a new job.
3. housing independence: when the guest leaves Casa Scalabrini it is important to help



her /him to look for the best housing solution for their needs

4. emotional and relationship independence: to foster a support network of friends and other relationships

The project activities are not solely limited to hosting. The project also seeks to help people achieve economic independence, employment, housing and emotional independence.

Over the years Casa Scalabrini has become a reference point for the district and for the whole local community. Among the various activities that work in this direction, "Dialogues" project encourage meetings and debates in schools, parishes and other meeting places with the goal of raising local people's awareness of migrant issues. So far, over 7500 children, young people and adults have been engaged thanks to these activities. Thanks to the valuable support of 40 volunteers working with other associations and groups in the area, Casa Scalabrini is encouraging wide range of free training courses (language courses, IT, driving classes, training for web radio technicians, dress-making, and growing food) to promote the benefits of collective community activity for everyone, for asylum seekers, refugees, migrants and local community.

Among all project carried out in the house, there is one that deserves special attention: "We give back" that includes clean up days in the district to encourage social interaction. In the same days the volunteers of Casa Scalabrini deliver clothes to the homeless of the area.

Casa Scalabrini 634, furthermore, thanks to web radio "On the Move", implements its



awareness activity on intercultural, integration and human rights issues.

### **Moltivolti project, Palermo**

The Moltivolti (Multi-faceted) project started in the multi-ethnic quarter called Ballarò in Palermo, the historic market of the city. The market is a meeting place for different languages and cultures stretching along tortuous and narrow lanes and dismal streets. A reality made up of a lot of issues and problems, but at the same time characterised by a lot of creativity and open mindedness. Moltivolti envisages a business sector consisting of restaurants, responsible tourist activities and a co-working hubs that will finance the activities of community and social engagement/services.

It is a well-structured setup in Palermo. The project has 28 employees with contracts for an indefinite period who come from different countries: Senegal, Marocco, Zambia, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, France, Spain, Gambia, Italia etc., including some refugees. "The project was set up in 2014 by a group of friends from different countries and with a range of professional experience and a passion for international cooperation, social science, and activities linked to hosting refugees, social inclusion and improving social conditions - explains Claudio Arestivo, Founding partner of Moltivolti. - With this project we want to create a meeting place for whole organizations and other associations active in the field of reception and inclusion, in order to



develop different competencies in the group. Our aim is to create a network of diverse organisations that work in the same city". The activities of Moltivolti are financed by income from the project activities (restaurants, responsible tourist activities and a co-working hubs),. Thanks to a staff made up of educators, psychologists and experts in integration with decades of experience, Moltivolti implements interventions aimed at social inclusion, increased interaction of cultures, and environmental improvements. The goal of Moltivolti is to create a permanent workshop. Although, co-working activity is quite widespread in Italy, in Palermo it has some difficulties taking off. It was for this reason that Moltivolti has decided to build a project in order to encourage a co-working experiment in the Third Sector / not-for-profit sector. It is a shared workspace with eighteen work stations for the organizations that work on important issues such as environment, migration, human rights, responsible tourism, etc....

The purpose of the project is to bring together the different organizations in Palermo so as to enable them to collaborate and create synergies, and to deliver projects together for the area.

The coworking workspace costs about 170,00€ per month. But, often, thanks to funds obtained from public tenders and funding appeals and competitions in which Moltivolti participates, it is possible to reduce the rate for organizations that are unable to afford these costs. Engaging local people and resources, the coworking of Mille Volti is a genuine community gathering space.

This social business model has attracted interest at international level. In 2017, Dutch royals visited this experiment in Palermo in order to understand the potential to replicate the project.



Without any subsidies, in fact, Moltivolti has become a local entrepreneurial activity, able to offer both concrete professional opportunities and community hosting that encourages integration, and ensures services to the community and to local associations.

The narrative thread of the project is cross pollination of cultures and skills. This aspect is evident on several levels: in the choice to develop this social business in the multi ethnic neighbourhood of Ballarò, in the linguistic and cultural diversity of the people that work in this project, in the choice of a food service that combines the flavours of traditional Sicilian cuisine with ethnic ones and in the implementation of the project activities, wholly orientated to the inclusion and integration of citizens.

### **Castel del Giudice, Isernia**

SPRAR/SIPROIMI1 was started in April 2017 in Castel del Giudice , a town of about 300 inhabitants in the Italian province of Isernia. But, it effectively began three months later with the arrival of 15 migrants from Nigeria and Ghana, including four families comprised of adult couples and seven children. Their integration was taken in hand by Isernia Nuova Assistenza, a non-governmental (NGO) charity organisation. Each family was placed in an apartment on two different streets in the town. The benefiting families have all been involved in different social and integration activities. All the adults have participated in an Italian course. The men have also taken one on shrub trimming and fire control while the women have done a sewing course. The adults have also become involved with a number of local businesses. Two of them

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<sup>1</sup> The Protection System for Asylum Seekers and Refugees is a service of the Italian Ministry of the Interior that manages integration and assistance projects for asylum seekers at the local level.





are currently working with a local engineering company and two on a local farm. All have regular fixed-term employment contracts. "The long-term goal is to ensure that the migrants can find their way and get an independent livelihood so they can become an active part of the community," says Alessio Gentile, President of the Legambiente Association of Castel del Giudice. In addition to managing the activities, SPRAR/SIPROIMI gets the municipality, businesses and local associations involved. Before starting the project, several public meetings were held and many locals from Castel del Giudice participated. All wanted to be involved in the start up of SPRAR/SIPROIMI and several have participated in the later collaborative management phase. "The cooperative, and three local women residents in particular, have assumed the work of the integration project," continues Alessio Gentile. "The double advantage of this was clearly and immediately evident. On one hand, it created new employment and a larger dynamic within the local community. On the other, it has meant that the migrants have become part of a community that, like most small Italian municipalities, has suffered decades of continuous and inexorable population loss. There is a new vitality in the town, above all since children can again be found on our streets. The migrants have also increased the number of participants in the activities of town associations." The NuovAssistenza Cooperative also manages another SPRAR/SIPROIMI programme in Pescopennataro, which is a few kilometers from Castel del Giudice, and currently hosts two families from Nigeria. "These families get together and help each other," comments Alessio Gentile. "It's an example of how one can build a sense of community. Last 31st of October, for example, the cooperative, the two municipal administrations and the organisation promoting



local cultural and tourism in Castel del Giudice organised a Halloween celebration for everyone. This promoted a sense of integration and the pleasure of feeling at ease together. In view of this experience, one cannot fail to absolutely recognise the close relationships and solidarity that have developed between the locals and the migrants helped by SPRAR/SIPROIMI.”

### **Welcome network, Benevento**

The idea for the “Manifesto for a Welcome network of Small Municipalities” stemmed between October of 2016 and February of 2017. At the moment we are witnessing a big wave of media attention on the “migration emergency”, which is stirring up hate speeches and information chaos on the ways and modes of receiving migrants, accompanied by the claim “they get and we don’t” winding its way. However, the experience of the diocesan Caritas of Benevento shows a completely different scenario in terms of numbers. Based on the numbers of income support measures given to Italian citizens, it’s clear that there’s money. The numbers of personalised therapeutic projects using the healthcare budget show an availability of 19 million of Euro in the Local Health Unit of Benevento alone. The reception numbers in the first three Systems of Protection for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (SPRAR) of the cooperatives collaborating with the Caritas of Benevento, tell the story of Hirpinian and Samnite families



meeting families coming from all over the world. They make known their exchanges, their interweaving tales, children voices and their different cuisine scents blending together on Sundays in the narrow streets of small hill towns that were slowly disappearing. The SPRAR data narrate of Municipalities that blossomed thanks to the funds, and of young citizens who don't want to leave. The latter join their forces with that of arriving young people, forming new community cooperatives, but above all, shaping new communities that lay the foundation for the future. The gambling numbers in Italy and in the Benevento and Avellino provinces are shocking and give reason to be alarmed about the millions of families and elderly people impoverished by waste of money due to gambling losses. The number of neet young people is increasing especially in small communities, while town squares remain empty.

Are migrants the real problem? We have been asking this ourselves and have decided to start a counter-information campaign by offering a provocation with the issue of a "Call for 7 billion Euro granted to Municipalities". This is the amount of funds for SPRAR, citizens' basic income and Health Budget readily available and gone unused by Municipalities. The Caritas of Benevento was at disposal, pro bono, of Municipalities that wished to present their projects. Therefore, small municipalities can make zero exclusion projects. If the citizens' basic income, SPRAR funds and health budget are combined, you can say to the weakest subjects of the territory that they are living in a "zero exclusion" Municipality.

In May of 2017, according to the outcomes of the SPRAR Call expiring in March, the Benevento province positioned itself at first place in Italy for the number of approved projects: 14 and with a return of almost 9 million Euro for the territory.



The number of signatory Municipalities increased, reaching fifteen Municipalities: Baselice, Castelpoto, Chianche, Pietrelcina, Roccabascerana, San Giorgio del Sannio, San Giorgio la Molara, San Marco dei Cavoti, Santa Paolina, Sassinoro, Torrecuso, Petruro Irpino, San Nicola Manfredi, Benevento, Vitulano. To these, other two Municipalities, Campolattaro and San Bartolomeo in Galdo, are to be added, that started the Welcome activities but still haven't signed the Manifesto. Then, there are other two Municipalities that expressed their willingness to join: San Martino Valle Caudina and Molinara.

Of the 14 SPRAR, the following were regularly activated: Baselice, for 12 ordinary beneficiaries and families, Benevento, for 15 unaccompanied minors, Castelpoto, Petruro Irpino, Santa Paolina Sassinoro for 20 ordinary beneficiaries and families, Chianche, for 25 adult beneficiaries, Pietrelcina and Roccabascerana for 30 adult beneficiaries, Torrecuso for 30 adult beneficiaries and families. The Municipality of San Bartolomeo in Galdo is still on hold.

For each SPRAR, each Municipality issued Notices of Selection for young people who would be in charge of managing the SPRAR activities. Obviously, the hiring process breathed new life into Municipalities. Therefore, they didn't lose their young graduates, who in turn found a reason to stay: in fact, of the 97 operators who are active in the project, 65 are locals.

In July of 2016, the Consortium "Sale della Terra" ETS was born. Nowadays, it is made up of 15 bodies among which there are social, farming and community cooperatives and one renewable energy company. It's a union of all Cooperatives managing the SPRAR and Health Budget of the consortium network.



The Welcome Municipalities were asked to offer uncultivated land so that community Cooperatives - consisting of young locals and migrants - could work to recover prestigious plants such as: the Aglianico, Falanghina and Greco di Tufo grapes for winemaking, Ortice and Leccino olive trees for oil production.

The Consortium currently offers employment to approximately 180 people, among which there are clerks, psychologists, social workers and cultural mediators, but also housekeepers, cooks, bar tenders, legal advisors and solidarity market operators.

The Welcome activity as a whole has thus become a brand for products of network cohesive economics.

Three are the contracts stipulated with the Sale della Terra E.T.S Consortium within the framework of social farming. Overall, the migrants received in the "Sale della Terra" SPRAR of the #Welcome Small Municipalities are currently 113.

Two new community cooperatives have already took off in Chianche and Petruro Irpino, consisting of young migrants and locals living in the Welcome Small Municipalities. Other 8 community cooperatives are in the stage of being born.

Over 50 personalised rehabilitation therapeutic plans using the Health budget have been activated to support people in precarious psychic, personal and physical conditions. The takeovers within the "Liberare la Pena" (Release the punishment) project were 99. This ensured the reception and reintegration process of ex-convicts, detained according to Art. 21 of the Italian civil code and of people signed to alternative measures programmes.

However, the most astonishing result was the hiring of 7 people, completely extraneous to any welfare scheme, as farmhands for the Consortium Cohesive Farming activities.

Finally, there are 21 active internships, of which 15 at the Network SPRAR and 2 at one of the oldest pastry shops of Benevento, the Pasticceria Russo.



## **Agape project, Chiusano D'Asti**

Chiusano d'Asti is a leading partner institution of the SPRAR2 project Agape, which also includes the municipalities of Castellero, Cortandone, Monale and Settime. Since 2015 the project has hosted about 200 refugees and asylum seekers. Agape was started by the mayors of the respective municipalities who, working in synergy and having to respond to the needs of the prefecture sought to find a decentrelise way to host migrants; indeed the refugees were welcome throughout the territory in small-scale facilities and apartments and in this way conflicts were avoided in the local community. The SPRAR project builds on the experience gained during the CAS3 (Extraordinary Reception Center) project where four refugees in Chiusano, from 2014, and the SPRAR in Settimo, the first in the Italian region of Piemonte.

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<sup>2</sup> System of Protection for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (SPRAR) that ensure "integrated reception" activities to asylum seekers and holders of international protection.

Any local project within the Protection System, under the provisions of integrated reception measures and besides supplying accommodation and meals, provides for social assistance activities to gain a better knowledge of the territory and access actually to local services (i.e. social and health assistance). In addition, activities are conceived to ease the learning of Italian, adult education, access to schools for minors subject to compulsory education, further legal guidance activities on the procedure for the recognition of international protection and on the duties and rights of the beneficiaries according to their status.

<sup>3</sup>Extraordinary Reception Centers (CAS) conceived to obviate the lack of available places in the ordinary reception facilities or in the services provided by local organizations, in case of massive and frequent arrivals of migrants. To this day, they are the customary mode of reception. Such facilities are designated by the Prefectures, in agreement with cooperatives, associations and hotels, in accordance with public contracts regulations, with the local authorities being informed. Accommodation should be limited to the time strictly necessary for the transfer of the applicant in second reception centres.

<https://openmigration.org/en/glossary-term/extraordinary-reception-centres-cass/>



The project manager is the association Piam onlus. In the both the launch and management of the project, a fundamental role was played by the former mayor of Chiusano d'Asti, Marisa Varvello, both as loanch and the project management a political mediator and in participatory processes with citizenship. The relationship of trust with the population is seen in a fundamental state having seen the mayor in the front line can be very "convincing" to local homeowners and entrepreneurs respectively, in order to rent a house and ensuring a training internship to a SPRAR beneficiary.

The Agape project started in 2015 with 21 places for the beneficiaries (18 is the minimum number of places to ensure participation in the SPRAR call for tenders); today, the Agape project has 45 places distributed in 5 municipalities reserved for single men and women who entered the country through illegal trafficking. Compared to the big reception centres, reception in small-scale facilities and apartments is the key aspect in normalizing everyday life of asylum seekers and refugees.

In the municipality of Monale the project beneficiaries are hosted in an apartment for 4 people; in a hamlet of Chiusano – thanks to an agreement with Ferrovie dello Stato (the national railway service) an abandoned railway station was transformed into an apartment for six people. In the municipality of Settime there are three accommodations in three different hamlets.

The idea of the Agape project is aiming at assisting any individuals to the (re)gaining of their independence and the social integration, and inclusion in the local community. Different strategies are implemented in order to reach these goals: learning italian is fundamental; courses take place two afternoons per week do not even stop during school holidays. In the



first stage of the project, the mobility are ensured by the Piam association. In the beginning, mobility is ensured by the Piam association. Bicycles can be provided upon request. Furthermore, the guests of the project are guaranteed: room (including heating and service costs); board (for which a certain weekly amount is provided); a card with which migrants can purchases clothing in affiliated stores and pocket money of two and 50 per day, each of pocket money.

Generally, women with family do not work and they take care of their children. For single women, there are two hostels, in Cortandone and Castellero in farmsteads that host women with children under the age of three.

All beneficiaries are involved in various activities such as cutting and sewing courses or learning how to become an assistant cook. In the Terre di Monale workshop, they make homemade dishes: reviving an old craft from the area, this project has become very successful. At the end of 2017 an Italian restaurant in Japan ordered 700 dishes; a success that continues with important orders from France and England.

The men, on the contrary, are engaged in training apprenticeships. Priority is given to apprenticeships in small companies, craft workshops and agricultural local businesses in order to create, wherever possible, to maximise their chances of getting hired. Alternatively, the apprenticeships are carried out in the Municipality, The main aim is to carry out environmental maintenance projects , with work crews where both local road workers than migrants, work together.

For these tasks, the municipality technicians organize a tutorial course for the local road





workers., In addition. the migrants are given training in : security, and how to use small mechanical tools for cleaning and maintaining roads, ditches and lands. This apprenticeship is not a real job because the Municipalities cannot hire them. Despite this, trainings are very important for the beneficiaries in order to improve their curriculum and help them to become more competitive in the job market.

The Agape project lasts 2 years. When it ends, many migrants leave for other cities or countries. Some of them remain if they have been lucky enough to find work on local farms. Although not everyone gets a job , all beneficiaries have achieved their independence.

### **SAWA**

<https://www.icja.de/content/Freiwilligenaufnahme/Internationale-Freiwillige/SAWA-Bundesfreiwilligendienst-mit-Gefluechteten/#tab1>

SAWA is a project of the ICJA carrying out a voluntary service program with and for refugees and migrants predominantly in Berlin. It emerged early 2016, just after the number of asylum seekers in Germany has increased from 2014 to the end of 2015 by about seventeenfold<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.bpb.de/gesellschaft/migration/flucht/265708/asylantraege-und-asylsuchende>.



Having emerged as a reaction to the increased need in the society for inclusion, tolerance, social awareness as well as exchange between newly arrived persons predominantly from the Arabic speaking countries and local communities, SAWA is a dynamic, process-oriented project.

The national voluntary service programme run by ICJA with refugees and migrants consists of three important parts, namely, volunteering at an accredited non-profit civil society organisation, attending a German course, and active participation in workshops e. g. on socio-critical and political topics.

SAWA is the facilitating body which coordinates all these parts in the most appropriate manner according to the needs and competencies of the volunteers and the partner projects. It also offers continuous pedagogical accompaniment for the volunteers and the CSO's and local communities in which they are volunteering.

SAWA, a facilitating body for volunteering service, currently works with 27 partner projects (among them NGOs, projects and the two Berlin district administration offices Neukölln and Pankow) and 31 volunteers (over 100 Volunteers since 2015). Through organizing/coordinating volunteering service in districts/neighbourhoods with a complex population texture and promoting the exchange not only between new arrived people and local communities, but also between people with migration background and the majority society, SAWA goes beyond the minority of refugees/migrants-majority society and makes



use of the different population textures of the districts. Therefore, the practice of SAWA in Neukölln and Pankow, two historically and demographically different districts, is of a particular importance. The cooperation between the two district administrations and the project INVOLVE intends to build on this good practice. Main aim is to create more space for a bias-free interaction and exchange between refugees/migrants and citizens the local communities. This will contribute to the emergence and development of a sustainable network for volunteering activities involving the respective district administration offices, inhabitants and civil society organisations.

SAWA's resources has been sustained differently during the last few years. In the first two years the project was fully supported by Lotto Stiftung until 2017. At the moment SAWA is partially financed by the German Federal Volunteer Service programme. Some of the projects have also financial contributions.

**Start with a Friend**

<https://www.start-with-a-friend.de/>

Start with a friend (SwaF e.V.) is a charitable organisation that establishes contact between newly arrived migrants and locals in Germany based on friendship. People from different countries with various experiences are paired up in mutually beneficial partnerships with local partners: SwaF tandems. The vision of the association is a society which is shaped by all citizens



equally and in which everyone feels at home – no matter where they are from. Start with a friend (SwaF e.V.) is founded in 2014 by a small team of friends which tries to bring more awareness and destroy bias in the society through friendship tandems among locals and refugees.

The focus of SwaF is to provide rooms for friendly idea exchanges and encounters through regular events. At the moment there is a small community build up in whole Germany who celebrates, discusses together and learns from each other. At the moment there are 20 cities involved and there exists more than 5000 tandems. Since 2018 they even started the project in Vienna.

The project functions as an online platform for both locals and refugees, who can apply for tandems in different cities. There is usually a capacity and awareness building event for locals, before being able to be a tandem for a refugee. Tandems' activities are organised individually. In order to prevent conflicts everyone should agree on a code of behaviour. A team of 11 employees, 25 fellows (people who organises events in different cities) and over 300 volunteers, partners and friends are in this project.

### **Refugio**

<https://refugio.berlin/>

“Refugio is where new and old Berliners live and work together. Refugio is a project of Berlin City Mission, established in the summer of 2015.”



It is a "share house" located in the Berlin District "Neukölln" where new and old Berliners living together on 6 floors. The first two stories is a public space with Refugio Café, a hall for events and a catering kitchen. The next floors is are private rooms for people who are living there. The idea of Refugio is to live, work and share together. At the moment there are forty people living together, twenty of them refugees, some of them still waiting for the decision of German authorities on their Asylum process. There is an application process for the people who wants to live in the house. Everyone can only live here for 18 months. People here don't only live there together, but also they cook and share their free time together. There are programmes for the new comers to learn German, there are volunteers who visit the house regularly and give different courses and organise artistic activities with the residents of the house. Everyone in house can bring up their ideas and talents in the district such as Newsletter for the district, gardening etc.

**Global New Generation Berlin**

<http://www.gngberlin.de/>

Global New Generation Berlin e.V. was founded in January 2008 from a parents' initiative and has been a non-profit association since 2009.

The parents saw their multi-ethnic children exposed to constant racial discrimination, the physical and psychological damage is fatal and hardly recognized. School education in 2008 was not sensitive to discrimination. Black people in Germany are always and everywhere



exposed to racist hostility, unfortunately this often begins with entering kindergarten. Due to the negative image of the African continent by the media in Germany, the mostly Afro-European adolescents as well as the rest of the German society were given a completely distorted picture. The parents have founded an association on their own, so that all people have the chance to become equal members of the society. Also today this association is led by all linen-educating mothers of all nations, which engage themselves in schools, also organising events focussing on tolerance and environment care etc.. Fathers are not excluded, but are less often entrusted with the care of children.

In the last 10 years, the association has implemented countless workshops and further education courses in schools and for people with an educational mission, as well as events and excursions. Main topics of the activities: German colonial history, neo-colonialism, empowerment and sensitisation, environmental education, peace education, etc. Art, sport and music are used as instruments. The association is also one of the co-founders of the KeNaKo Africa Festival at Alexanderplatz Berlin, which attracts over 10000 visitors annually. Many other events of a similar nature in Berlin have been created in cooperation with the association or are supported by it.

Since May 2016 the Global New Generation Berlin (GNGB) is located in Pankow in the leisure center "Upsala". Especially children from Afro-European families with their relatives and acquaintances belong to the network of the GNGB and thus now to the new visitor circle of the FZU. This is where worlds meet: the association's diverse network and the FZU network



from Pankow and neighbouring districts, which until now had little to do with EineWelt and anti-racism issues.

"The population with a migration background in Pankow has grown by 53 percent in the last six years, but the district with 15.7 percent is still one of the Berlin districts with the lowest number of inhabitants with a migration background (Amt für Statistik Berlin Brandenburg), which unfortunately leads to verbal and physical attacks.... In 2016, the specialist and network unit against right-wing extremism, for democracy and diversity (Moskito) registered a total of 229 incidents based on group-related misanthropy and/or a right-wing populist, right-wing extremist to neo-Nazi attitude. ...Compared to 2014 this is a strong increase ... Everyday racist incidents were reported only sporadically, but played a far greater role in personal conversations with actors in Pankow. These incidents are often not reported because they are unfortunately part of everyday life. Nevertheless, it was reported that everyday racism has increased in its perception over the past two years and has become more aggressive ("fucking foreigners", "You don't belong to Germany!")."

"It is our duty as parents and residents of this One World to ensure that the next generations can live well on this planet. Not only do we have many opportunities, but it is vital to survive to act responsibly locally. It is up to us to develop measures that make us and our environment resilient and give us the tools to be self-determined creators of our own world. In doing so, it is essential to exchange ideas and work together with other people and organisations who



pursue similar goals." Sonja Prinz, Chairwoman of the Global New Generation Berlin Association.

All activities of the association promote the self-confidence of the participants and provide through a transcultural dialogue the desimilation of prejudices. In addition, employees of the association support migrants arriving in Germany in dealing with authorities, health and legal issues.

The association is financed by project financing, membership fees and donations.

In 2018, 1 full-time employee, 1 student assistant, 23 volunteers and 19 honorary employees participated in the implementation of the following activities:

- EMPLOYEE TRAINING COURSES, SDG Multipliers, Diversity Training
- HOMEWORK HELP
- GLOBAL YOUTH RADIO
- INTERCULTURAL MUSICAL Focus Ghana
- SHORT FILM HOME
- GLOBAL KIDS CINEMA
- UPSALA-AFRO-DAYS
- Mothers help mothers

**Fermes d'Avenir companion program, Groupe SOS**





Farm of the future (Fermes d'avenir) is an association that aims to accelerate the agro ecological transition, taking inspiration from permaculture, with respect for humans and nature. They develop agricultural projects, train transitional actors, finance farmers and influence different audiences. "Fermes d'Avenir" estimated at 25,000 the need for small-scale farms (1 to 4 ha) in agroecology by 2030 in France to accelerate the ecological and solidarity transition in agriculture. Reaching this number of farms would feed 33% of the French population (against 5% today). To meet this training need, Fermes d'Avenir launched in March 2017, on an experimental basis, a program of itinerant training in small-scale agro ecological market gardening of the "companionship" type, with a recognition of skills by peers. Quickly "Fermes d'avenir" decided to integrate in this program some refugees people, many of them already have an experience in agriculture on small surfaces in their country of origin and wish to work in this field. Activities of the program:

12 refugee companions are spread over 12 farms, in pairs with a non-refugee companion, mostly men aged from 19 to 40, who have experience in gardening and market gardening and the desire to work in the agro ecology sector. Every two months, the companions change their farm within the same region, for a training period of 8 months maximum.

The 12 farms are spread over 3 regions: Ile de France (semi-urban), Nouvelle- Aquitaine (very rural), Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur (very rural). The companions reinforce, on the ground, through practice and in pairs, their skills in small-scale agro ecological market gardening in 4 farms in the same region, in which they've already lived before starting training.



The pair of companions works alongside the tutor (farm trainer), whom they accompany in all the tasks necessary for the good management of the farm : preparation and maintenance of places of culture, culturing, harvesting and conditioning, use of the material and equipment, administrative management, marketing, etc ...Every 2 months, the companions leave their host and their buddy to a new one in one of the 4 other farms, the objective being to make them discover different environments, projects and methods of work. On the pedagogical level, this is a training action that focuses on learning in a professional situation, based on a dedicated business reference - "agro ecological market gardening on a small surface" - and on the use of a "digital badge" for the construction of a personalized path and a recognition / valorisation by the peers of the skills acquired. The weekly contribution of the companions is fixed at 35h/week, 5 days a week. They are lodged and fed by their guardians, in an independent flat. In exchange for this hosting and their educational involvement, farmer trainers are defrayed. The travel of the companions is also supported by the program. Companions are not paid but benefit of social assistance (small amount) from the state (Active Solidarity Income or Youth Futures program). They have different collective training: a first time in the 1-week welcoming phase and several times during the year over 2 days. Pairs get together during collective times of training, exchanges and feedback: collection of complaints and suggestions for improvement, exchanges and analyses of practices, academic and practical contributions on the farm, pedagogical works, informal exchanges between peers. A social worker hired by "Fermes d'avenir" oversees the socio-professional support of the refugee companions from the program (accommodation, administrative procedure, support to the professional project,



development of the network of local partners, learning the language, etc...) The first session of training is ongoing and will end in November 2019, the next one will start in March 2020. This program is experimental, the association seeks to improve some points for future sessions: avoid isolation of companion living in a very rural environment, allow companions to be paid during training (approach to recognize training as vocational training), increase the duration of training in order to have more time to work on a life project, develop a consequent network to solve accommodation difficulties, improve language learning.

As the first session isn't completely finished, evaluation is only partial. However some positive results can be mentioned: progress in the control of the French language due to French lessons with volunteers teachers and the many exchanges with tutors and pairs, practical of leisure activities with the pair of companions and volunteers in the farms, work on professional project in agro ecology, entry into vocational training course in agriculture for some refugee companions, better knowledge of the French system and its regions, development of a network for refugee companions, desire to set up in rural areas, recognition and acquisition of skills in agro ecology, valuing people.

"The program enables companions to seek their way, to define professional and social objectives after training. In which region do they want to establish themselves? For which occupation? Market gardening, farming? "But it also goes far beyond allowing them to experience human encounters in a specific territory, to share their knowledge of small gardening, to build relationships and a network and a better understanding of their host country."



Funding: public subsidy and private foundations

### **Youth program JRS (Jesuit Refugee Service) France**

The JRS France association fights against the isolation and social exclusion of asylum seekers and refugees. The objective is a successful integration based on 4 pillars: decent housing, learning French, opening to the welcoming culture and recognition of cultural law, and support in the search of a training or job. Beyond this mission, the association defends the rights of asylum seekers and refugees through a national and European advocacy program. JRS France has, among other things, a JRS Youth program in Paris. This program enables young people, whether they are asylum seekers or refugees, students or young French professionals or residents in France, to meet and get to know each other in common actions that they co-run. The members of JRS Youth are either PARTICIPANTS, either ACTORS of the program that they build together. This program aims to respond to the isolated situation of refugees and asylum seekers and the difficulty they may have in meeting young people of their age. In addition, they move from beneficiary status to actor status, which allows them to regain self-confidence and feel useful. For French young people (students or young professionals) this program allows them to volunteer according to their constraints (availability in the evening and weekend), to break down many prejudices, to meet refugees and get to know each other around common and creative activities that they co-run and build on equal terms. By promoting "doing with",



rather than "do for", the association allows members to regain confidence in themselves and in life and is committed to reciprocity by highlighting the capabilities of each.

Who are the participants?

- 80 active VOLUNTEERS (animators, project leaders, coordinators, facilitators ...): these volunteers are French or resident in France but also refugees or asylum seekers
- about 200 PARTICIPANTS regular to the activities: these participants are refugees (or asylum seekers) but also French and non-refugees.
- about 800 people involved in the meetings (partner associations, collaborative evenings, etc.)
- between 30 and 40 opportunities to meet each month.
- 28 different nationalities

What are they doing?

According to the desires, knowledge, volunteers who participate will be able to organize and lead workshops or simply participate in a proposed workshop. Regular activities (weekly or monthly):

- to meet and get to know each other (get together in evenings time, snacks, coffee-debates),
- to relax and express yourself: yoga, football, dance lessons, knitwear classes, theater and improvisation, hiking, writing, bodybuilding, cultural visits, "come and dine at home", etc...
- to learn: French conversation workshops, presentation of different languages of young JRS members



- One-off proposals with partners and other youth networks: Scouts and Guides of France, Ignatian youth networks (La Plateforme & Co, MT-Solidarité, MAGIS, Inigo), Saint Guillaume Center, Campo Bosco, Taizé, CERAS, Center Laennec, Faculty of Dental Surgery
- A summer school: a hundred participants, 3 weeks, in July.
- The LABO: 4 days of reflection with the most active members to reflect on the program for the following year.

The program started in 2015.

Partnership with high schools and schools, associations of support for asylum seekers and refugees, student organizations. The program continues to evolve according to the commitments of each of the young people who participate. Today it is deployed in other regions of France where the association has offshoots (7 cities).

Funding: public subsidy, private donations and private foundations. One person is employed to coordinate the program. "JRS Youth has changed my vision of things: I feel like leaving my will to be" useful "in favour of a desire to discover new people and enrich myself. I do not go to JRS Young to "serve" but because I really need it, "a young JRS volunteer. "The moments I spend at JRS are important: they allow me to meet people, and to be just" together ", a young JRS volunteer.



### **Association SEM et Vol, Project**

Sem&vol is an association of non-formal education based in Nouvelle Aquitaine. It was created in 2016 by a group of volunteers who wished to develop locally an international dynamic. The association organizes international work camps of volunteers (repairs of laundries, bread ovens, old halls, development of wetlands, tree planting, etc...) exchanges of young people on social themes (eco-practices, interculturality, etc...) and local meetings (festival, meals, etc...) on the rural territory of Saint Rabier and its surroundings, in the department of Dordogne.

Characteristics of the territory: very rural, group of villages of Saint-Aulaye composed of 2 villages of approximately 1000 inhabitants each, spread habitat in the countryside, agricultural and forest territory, rather aging territory and little touristic. Fishing activity and small industry. High Votes for the Rassemblement National (far right political party).

The Project: The aim is to emphasis the reception of refugee/ asylum-seeker volunteers leaving on the territory during the activities carried by Sem et Vol (international volunteer work camps, one-day volunteer work, festivals, meals, ...), to create synergies between the partners of the territory, to create the link between the populations and host populations by doing working together. Sem et vol is in connection with the town hall of La Roche Aulaye in the last 4 year for the establishment of international work camps in the community of the municipality. The municipality is very supportive for the specific participation of refugees on the work camps organized with the association. Sem et vol is in direct contact with one of the mayors of the 2 villages that supports the project, as well as the general director of services, and the president



of the group of villages. These relationships have increased thanks to an international volunteer work camp that was set up at La Roche Aulaye in partnership with AMIS 24.

Two main axes in the framework of the project:

- Development of participatory projects with partners throughout the year with local people and refugees or asylum seekers (walking club, local fishing association on the banks of the river, etc.)
- Participation in local community life: volunteers of local associations are running out and becoming scarce, people who are staying in PRADHA are bored and don't know what to do while waiting OFPRA.

Sem et Vol wants to accompany them to these local associations, so that they can be part of the local life (fishing association, parents, students, world music, handball, football, etc.)

Partnership:

- AMIS24Ouest: Association of inhabitants of Saint Aulaye created in 2015 in order to accompany the resettlement of refugee families on the territory (5 families from Iraq have been welcomed since the creation)
- PRADHA: (Program of Reception and Accommodation of Asylum Seekers, French Ministry of the Interior)

managed by the association ADOMA, which manages a home that opened in 2018 in the town of Saint-Aulaye. The center welcomes families with children, single parent or two-parent, from around the world in 7 apartments in a former gendarmerie of the village. There are 9 to 10





families who stay from 6 months to one year, waiting for their asylum procedure to be processed. The director of PRADHA is very invested in the territory.

- Connection with DDCSCP: departmental directorate of social cohesion and personal protection, they want to be part of the project
- The Mayor of Chaulay is involved in the project

A youth in civic service (youth French voluntary program funded by the state) is responsible for coordinating and organizing meetings and connections, to accompany individual refugees or asylum seekers to local associations to help break the ice and coordinate the establishment of a festival on the territory. He is from one of the families from Iraq, hosted by the association AMIS 24. Example of a voluntary path of a young refugee on the territory: participation in an international work camp in France, the year following participation in two international work camps organized by Sem et Vol, then international work camp in Spain. At the end of his studies he commits himself to Sem et vol as volunteer for one year in civic service. Project participants are volunteers, for a day or 2/3 weeks. Work camps concern the repair of small local heritage and/or environmental maintenance (banks river, etc...) and are always composed of international volunteers and local volunteers who work together voluntarily. Friendly and international meals are organized. Refugee volunteers are hosted by partner associations (AMIS 24 and PRADHA). There is no social support, psychological or language courses (AMIS 24 and PRADHA handle these aspects).

Activities:



- Sem et vol organizes 9 international work camps, 2 work camps on which people from AMIS24 and PRADHA participated.
- 4 young people welcomed by AMIS 24 took part in international projects on the territory
- 20 to 25 people from AMIS 24 and PRADHA participated in the two international meals which bring together 60 people each time.
- Between 4 and 6 people/day hosted at PRADHA participated in volunteer work camp days on the Roche Alaye.
- participation in the organization of the science festival organized with schools
- Participation and voluntary help for the organization of a festival around participatory workshops and concerts of local groups.

Financial support: public subsidy

Impact: Synergy between territorial structures not used to work together. The associative commitment within the different structures of the territory and the voluntary participation in work camps help to build relationships, to create a network, to find a place on the territory, to practice the language, to become an actor of its territory, to lower the fears and prejudices, boost the territory, acquire skills and knowledge on environmental issues (fishing regulations, safeguarding riverbanks, etc...)

Futures objectives:

- set up a long-term work camp with PRADHA, AMIS 24 and the Youth Reception Point (shared garden), integrating the school
- work more with the adults welcomed by AMIS 24



- to allow associative structures that do not work together to sit down at the table and create a common culture around welcome issues (associations specializing in refugees - AMIS 24, PRADHA and associations for the leisure and preservation of environment)

### **AMIS24ouest**

Territory of AMIS24Ouest: village of Chenaud of about 300 inhabitants. Very rural area of Dordogne, rather disadvantaged population, agricultural territory, depopulation phenomenon. AMIS 24 started with one local guy, who wanted his village to receive migrants as part of the resettlement program. Supported by the mayor of the village, about twenty inhabitants of Chenaud organized themselves as an association to receive refugee families (housing, furniture, help network, etc ...). In August 2016, AMIS24Ouest welcomes a family (a couple and five children). Today, AMIS24Ouest welcomes 5 families (24 people) settled on two villages (Chenaud and Saint Aulaye). The association is exclusively supported by local volunteers, 30 active volunteers from 25 to 80 years old. Volunteers are organized in a cluster (housing, introduction to the French language and culture, food, schooling, mobility, socio professional support, etc...), they meet once a month. The aim of AMIS24Ouest is to welcome and support families who arrive in their village. Families are housed either in social housing or in private housing. When they arrive, the association will pay for housing, clothes, food, etc. As the steps are taken, the association withdraws in favor of the financial autonomy of the families,



when they are able to pay their rent. Volunteers support family's in administrative procedures, travel, installation in apartments, language workshops, job search, support for children's schooling, etc.

They organize 3 intercultural evenings every year, bringing together 100 to 150 people per evening. Young people welcomed by AMIS24Ouest participate in voluntary activities (work camps- valorisation of the local inheritance) with local volunteers of the association (through Sem et Vol activities). Some workshops of restoration houses and collective kitchen bring together the people welcomed and the active volunteers of the association.

Partnership: municipal council support, social landlords, social workers, Périgueux food aid, Ribérac high school for schooling, village schools, Ribérac resource area (workshops for employment), Sem and Vol.

Difficulties: non-professional association (on the contrary it is what allowed a true welcoming and meetings between village and refugees), sometimes they want to do everything and don't have the capacity to. Only few spaces for people welcomed in the organization and governance of the association.

Local impact:

- Relationships between local volunteers and families welcomed, strong links that go beyond the framework of the association,
- Families hosted by AMIS24Ouest suffer less racism or fear from the rest of the population than people in a more formal hosting center such as PRADHA (reception in large numbers and quite isolated from a local dynamic).



- Integration was simplified, and families felt welcome.
- All the families still live on the territory today, whereas at the beginning they did not think to stay in such isolated territory.
- Better school integration of children
- Citizen initiatives of similar inhabitants were inspired by the work of AMIS24OUEST.
- Citizen engagement of people welcomed by AMIS24Ouest
- Mutual understanding of cultures, lowering of prejudice, the meeting allows a better mutual understanding.
- Dynamization of the village.

Finance:

One volunteer in civic service (state program), assistance to the reception within the framework of the program of resettlement (sum allocated per person welcomed by the State), mainly donations of private individuals.

### **CARACOL, mixed and solidarity flat sharing**

Caracol wants to use temporary vacant places by the deployment of multicultural and solidarity roommates. Caracol deploys a network of flat sharing in a participative approach and priority is given to the local anchoring of each place, in order to transform empty places into common



history. It's a Pilot project of the first model of participatory and autonomous housing between refugees and local people in France. Activities:

- creation of temporary roommates in vacant places, made available either by communities or private owners. The flat sharing is composed of refugees and local people who invest the premises after a participatory process. The roommates are chosen for their social situation, the interests they share and adherence to the values of the project, they pay rent (lower than the conventional private market).

- identification of local and national solidarity networks that can provide the materials, tools and furniture needed arrange flats. Residents are involved and connected to these networks for the routine maintenance of their living spaces

- integration of flat sharing in the neighbourhood by embodying conviviality and mutual aid. Organization 'urban explorations' to take a new look at the neighbourhood, walks that involve newcomers and neighbours of longer date. Gift basket of local producers (AMAP). Reflections on how to reinvent his consumption and think about his autonomy.

Caracol flat sharing is:

- Low-cost housing
- A multicultural & creative environment
- A roommate referent for a constant bond
- A participative habitat
- A period of stability, known in advance
- An opportunity to set up projects



- A link with local self-help communities
- A reduced ecological footprint
- Support for sustainable housing

Different ways to involve as roommate:

- Participate in meetings with roommates regularly to organize the common life, resolve tensions and plan events together
- Become referent: Every roommate needs a referent. This is the link between the collective and the association, up the projects of residents or potential problems that cannot be managed directly by the inhabitants. The referent is elected by the other residents with a role that allows him to be at the heart of the operation of his roommate.
- Involvement in the neighbourhood: learn about what is happening in the neighbourhood. Who are the neighbours? What are they doing in the neighbourhood? What is organized? Organize meetings open to all the neighbours! (meals, movies, craft workshops, games, sports ...)
- Association: Participate in General Assemblies or Commissions

The project started in 2018. Two roommates have been set up: one in La Perreux sur Marne in Ile de France (33,000 inhabitants) and one in La Roche sur Yon in Vendée (55,000 inhabitants). 4 people are living in each flat. (2 refugees, 2 non refugees). Roommates are being opened in other French cities: Marseille, Toulouse.



Partnerships: Plateaux urbains, habitat et humanisme (social work), Association de maintien de l'agriculture paysanne, Société du grand Paris, Fondation de France, DIHAL, SINGA, Enercoop

Finance : subsidies and public support, private foundations. Housing is provided by the owners (public or private), rents allow the maintenance, development and support of collective projects.

### **Parcours d'engagement citoyen et volont'r**

Since March 2019, Concordia and Solidarités Jeunesses associations offer in 10 regions in France volunteer service missions in collective and in an intercultural context for 30 refugees with a reinforced support (French lessons, tutoring, support towards the professional insertion with the national union of local missions). The volunteers will participate in manual work, international workcamps with other French and international young, training (conduct a workcamp, nonviolent communication, traditional construction techniques, collective time). They will be volunteering for 6 to 10 months, immersed in the living areas of the two associations with international and French young people from different backgrounds. They participate, as other volunteers, in the activities of the association (4 hours per week of language course, animation of international workcamp, workshops in the partner structures, participation in local life, renovation project, vegetable gardens, community life, meetings with





other volunteers of the country, citizen formations, etc...). The projects take place in rural (Solidarités Jeunesses) and urban (Concordia) environments. Follow-up of the progress of the mission by a guardian experienced in coaching young French and international volunteers. Some of them will be housed in the association with other volunteers, some have their own house.

This program started in april 2019, 16 refugees are participating.

Finance : state subsidy, volunteers received 577 euros per month from the state.

### **Starter to employment, collectif 05**

The "collective 05" brings together the Structures of Insertion by the Economic Activity (SIAE) of the Hautes Alpes. Solidarity enterprises in associative form, the SIAE act for the development of employment and activity serving the territory and people. Collectif 05 is a space for sharing and exchanging practices for professionals in this field. It allows the development of its network and reinforces the know-how of the sector related to the territory. 9 associations are members of the Collective 05, organizing 9 "chantier d'insertion" (professional project for social inclusion: offer support and a professional activity to unemployed people who have particular social and professional difficulties. They will be employed for 8 to 12 months and will worked and be trained.



Members organization of Collectif 05 start in 2018 a specific project to integrate and follow refugees' people in its professional project for social inclusion (environment, heritage renovation, carpentry, recovery and resale of objects, environmental education, gardening, etc...). 15 refugees participated in the project; they should live in Hautes-Alpes region. 30% are young people (between 18 and 25 years old). They are employed with French people. Aims of the project:

- welcome newcomers to a job allowing them to discover the world of work in France
- allow the newcomers to develop the know-how and skills expected in a professional environment
- identify the barriers to employment and set up an integration path to remove these barriers
- promote the practice of French language in a professional setting, to facilitate their access to employment
- build a career adapted to the rural labour market in Hautes Alpes, develop skills and a professional network Newcomers will have a special support:
  - collective readiness for employment: rights and duties, work contract, workplace safety, clothing, teamwork, vocabulary, posture, etc... These workshops prepare newcomers to work in the association, so that they can then adapt to work in companies. the workshops allow to carry out a first assessment of the level of the person and his needs.
  - social and professional support: from the social and professional diagnosis made during the recruitment and the beginning of work, setting up of a complementary global social support



in link with what is done by the prescribers (CADA, France Terre d'Asile, Mape Monde, OFII, etc...).

The objective is to identify the obstacles to employment (health, language, housing etc...).

Support on the professional project:

- support for the recognition of foreign diplomas, help in the definition of a training project, etc...

- Support in work situation: this support is led by the technical supervisors in work situation. It will be reinforced by internship time in companies, missions to discover a sector of activity, confirm a project or initiate a recruitment. Some newcomers can be tutoring by sponsors from the world of business.

This program started in January 2018, it's still going on. The specific support allows to take into account specific issues related to refugee status. This program allows close networking between the participating associations of the territory. Finances: public subsidy



### **Über den Tellerrand e. V.**

<https://ueberdentellerrand.org/about#kitchen-hub>

### **Building Bridges (Amif)**

The aim of this project of the association Über den Tellerrand e. V. is to support refugees arriving to their new hometown through a buddy-programme.

Each team has three members; one refugee, one person with "migration background" and one without. So that a refugee could get support from two persons by arriving in Berlin and starting a new life. Each team meets up once in a week for individual activities, there are also group activities twice a month such as cooking together, team-building, visiting cultural events or pick nick in parks.

The capacity of this project is 10 tandem teams planning within 6 month activities for 2 to 3 hours a week. The content of programmes are Kick Off and introduction meetings and over 6 meetings included leisure activities, supervision and workshops.

The target group of this project are only people between 18-27 years old speaking either German, English or Arabic.



### **Kitchen on the run (Amif)**

<https://kitchenontherun.org/>

Kitchen on the run is another project of Über den Tellerrand started in April 2015. Since then the two founders Rabea Haß and Jule Schröder travel with different Teams with their container around Germany and Europe introducing their idea of an open and diverse society in new places. The project encourages conversations and encounters between residence of different cities with or without "migration experience" on an equal level. The project is seen as an impulse for a sustainable intercultural coexistence in Germany and in Europe.

The team travels through Germany and Europe with a kitchen, built up out of a ship container. They organise cooking events, where people with or without "migration experience" sit at the same table and get to know each other, share recipes, tell their stories and become friends. In 2016 Kitchen on the run travelled through cities like Bari, Marseille, Duisburg, Deventer, Goteborg and Berlin.



### **KommMit (Amif) (Also SAWA Project 2018-2019)**

KommMit is a project of BBZ centre. (the vocational training institution in the centre of berlin)

<http://www.bbzberlin.de/projekte/familiennachzug/75-familiennachzug.html>

In the last 10 years, BBZ were mentor of many migrants coming from 52 countries. BBZ tries to support refugees and migrants through different participatory policies in youth field in order to make resources like education and work accessible for this social group. BBZ also assists migrants in complexity of bureaucracy in different German authorities.

KommMit offers mentally disturbed migrants and refugees in different part of Berlin and the federal state Brandenburg simple psychological group therapies. By attending these group projects participants could gain their stability back again or will be introduced to more advanced psychological therapy. In some part of the town KommMit is offering refugees children psychological care and art therapy.



**Community integration centre in Vilnius (AMIF Project)**

<http://esf.socmin.lt/index.php?-1066060705>

This project aims to integrate third country nationals (TCNs) into Lithuanian society by providing them with new knowledge and helping them learn the Lithuanian language, because this will help them to enter the labour market, improve their social life and be included in the local community. The objective is to provide common and specialised services for TCNs in order to facilitate conditions for their integration in Lithuania while also satisfying their physical, spiritual, social and educational needs. The community integration centre, which focuses on solving TCNs' problems, provides social, psychological, legal, employment and vocational orientation consultations and Lithuanian language and civic orientation courses, and also organises events. The results will help TCNs integrate into Lithuanian society and Lithuanian society to become more responsible and open. The centre not only provides services for TCNs, but also the local community is invited to come and work together, encouraging people to accept each other.

