



PRESS RELEASE

Psychosocial assistance mobile service "PIDTRIMKA" for Ukrainian refugees:

"Helping concrete people"

The refugees from Ukraine, children and adults, may consultations a psychologist, social worker or lawyer directly in the refugee centres or in the communities hosting them, due to the multidisciplinary mobile team's "PIDTRIMKA", created by the National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention (NCCAP).

The mobile teams have started their field visits during the first week of March and they are currently active in three regions of the country – North, South and Centre, visiting the temporary placement centres for refugees or the communities where refugees found accommodation. The goal of the mobile teams is to provide first psychosocial aid to migrated persons, a community mainly consisting of women and children, who arrived on the territory of the Republic of Moldova as a result of the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.

With the help of the mobile service "Pidtrimka", the refugees are provided with information crucial for their safety both physical and mental in migration conditions. The specialists of the mobile teams engage in activities with children in order to decrease the impact of stress on their health, provide parental support, examine each case individually from the point of view of potential social risks for children, but also assist in referring specific cases to other services available for refugees.

Creation of the mobile service "PIDTRIMKA" was a response to the needs of the persons fleeing from Ukraine. "The main goal of these teams of specialists is to respond to the needs of refugees related to their safety, their children's wellbeing, a certain degree of social stability and integration in our society. In other words, we came to help the refugees with information and support – aspects that cannot be neglected! As any human needs food and a warm blanket, similarly it needs adequate information to help it take good decisions, support for overcoming the difficult situation that occurred overnight, at the same time respecting their rights and dignity", declared Daniela Sîmboteanu, the initiator of this project for psychosocial assistance for Ukrainian refugees.

Thus, the psychologists from the multidisciplinary teams have a goal to inform the refugees, mainly women and children, about the safety and security risks for children and adults during migration but also to guide the parents in the identification of stress symptoms in children and adults. They also provide the necessary immediate assistance to adults, adolescents and children, if it is necessary.

Besides psychological support, there is a high demand for consultations with lawyers in the framework of the mobile service "Pidtrimka", who provide counselling on issues related to migration and asylum. The questions addressed to the lawyers mainly refer to: crossing of the border, obtaining a permit of

stay, applying for asylum, reestablishment of personal identity documents, issuance of temporary documents etc.

The social assistant from the group offers information about available social services, facilities or support and, if necessary, performs more complex interventions.

Another task of the mobile teams is to identify other needs among the beneficiaries and to help them solve the respective issues also referring them to other support services if necessary.

Mobile team CENTER arrived for the first time in a refugee centre on March 7. Until now this team has visited 18 refugee centres in the districts Hîncești (Cărpineni, Sărata-Galbenă), Telenești (Zahareuca, Sărătenii Vechi, Căzănesti), Strășeni (Cojușna), Orhei (Ivancea) as well as 9 centres from mun. Chișinău.

Mobile team SOUTH provided support to refugees from 9 localities, visiting 3 centres from Cahul as well as the refugees' communities in the villages Alexandru Ioan Cuza, Andruşul de Sus, Manta, Larga Nouă, Bădicul Moldovenesc, Slobozia Mare, Vadul lui Isac and Zîrneşti.

Mobile team NORTH has visited, since 23 March, 10 localities, providing support to refugees from 12 accommodation centres in mun. Bălți, Dondușeni, in districts Edineț (Zăbriceni), Ocnița (Călărășăuca), Florești (Varvarăuca), Glodeni (Fundurii Vechi), Fălești, Singerei.

Certain centres were visited repeatedly due to numerous requests.

According to official statistics, currently on the territory of the Republic of Moldova there are circa 50.000 children from Ukraine accompanied by their caregivers.

The mobile service for psychosocial assistance in humanitarian crisis context "PIDTRIMKA", was created by the National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention (NCCAP), with financial support from the partner's "Plan International" and "War Child Holland".

The mobile teams "PIDTRIMKA" may be contacted directly!

Telephone numbers: North - 079 806 498 / Centre - 079 801 798 / South - 079 802 398

Email: <u>echipamobila@cnpac.md</u> | Anonymous chat for adolescents: <u>www.12plus.md</u>

For representatives and other persons interested in the mobile service "Pidtrimka", please contact us at: 078 80 55 87 or 069 52 66 82.