**ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS IN LIVADIA**

In 2016, **Municipality of Livadia** was asked to contribute to the management of refugee crisis and undertake its share of responsibility in compliance with human values such as solidarity and humanism.

Municipality of Livadia took the initiative to implement an alternative Accommodation Programme by hosting Asylum Seekers in rented apartments scattered through the town and thus, facilitating Asylum Seekers’ access to Public Services, Health care Structures and Educational Units. The implementing actor has been the **Public Benefit Organization of the Municipality of Livadia (K.E.DH.L.).**

K.E.DH.L. is a municipal body which implements programmes that provide support and care to vulnerable social groups of the Municipality of Livadia. Since November 2016, K.E.DH.L. has been running the Programme “Accommodation and assistance to asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection in Livadia” in rented apartments in collaboration with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Greece.

The successful implementation of this pilot Programme during the last two months of 2016 contributed to the extension of the Programme until today.

The Municipality of Livadia has been recognized as an example of good practice in accommodating asylum seekers and the implementation of a similar project by other municipalities justifies our opinion that this kind of accommodation must be extended as an essential part of our national planning.

**BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROGRAMME**

The beneficiaries of the Programme are vulnerable families of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection who await their family reunification to other countries of the E.U. or their recognition as refugees in Greece.

Their referral to Livadia from various accommodation facilities, where they were hosted, is conducted in cooperation with UNHCR.

**FUNDING**

The Programme “Accommodation and assistance to asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection in Livadia” has been implemented in collaboration with UNHCR and the funding of the E.U.

**ACCOMMODATION**

The number of the rented apartments as well as the accommodation places are designated by the Agreement signed between the two partners (K.E.DH.L. – UNHCR). In particular, there are:

**480 accommodation places in 80 apartments**

**SERVICES AND PROVISIONS OF THE PROGRAMME**

The Programme falls in line with international standards and offers PoC the following:

* 80 equipped apartments (6 accommodation places / apartment)
* Financial assistance through a cash card provided by UNHCR for the daily needs of each family
* Psychosocial support
* Healthcare in collaboration with local healthcare structures
* Education for refugee children and adults in cooperation with local educational organizations and associations
* Sports and cultural activities

**PROJECT PERSONNEL**

The personnel, who implements this Programme and supports PoC in their daily life, is composed of 32 specialized members:

* 8 Administrative executives
* 7 Social Scientists
* 6 Accommodation Supervisors
* 5 Accompaniment Focal Points
* 5 Interpreters
* 1 Vehicle Driver