

# CULTURAL RELIEF PROGRAM WITH SOCIAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

## FOUNDATION AND DEVELOPMENT A CORE GROUP OF 50 YOUNG PEOPLE AS TRAINER

The program is designed for a long-term care and support of multiethnic refugees living inside Turkish refugee-camps near the Syrian border and in major cities of the neighboring countries of Syria.

The implementation is resource-oriented and includes both educational and therapeutic procedures. The goal is to stabilize minors, prepare them for school education offers and help them to help themselves. The methods and tools are the possibilities of the performing and visual arts.



May 2015, Nusaybin, Turkey, Refugee Camp, Stilts Workshop

The project was initially designed for three years. It is based on the multiplying effect of turning teenagers that we got in touch with into coaches and let them teach and help even smaller children. This way we can work more efficiently with a small group of teenagers, which then can reach out to





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more teenagers and kids, which we could never help due to the enormous language barrier. This way many children and teenagers can be reached out to the "trainers" realize that they are strong by themselves and can even help others in need.

In December 2014 there lived at least 115,000 refugees just in the region of Mardin, of whom more than 50,000 are children and young people. Given the large amount of people in need, an effect must be looked for in the width, which can reach many and motivate them to carry on self-employed.

In the first year or part of the project, the goal is the qualification of at least 50 adolescents and young adults that are, after a year of training and education, considered coaches with art and theater pedagogical knowledge taking care of children and young people in the camps. They should be able to share knowledge and experience, and act as initiators for contact and activities in the refugee camps.

## GOALS

- artistic expression in the performing arts: theatre and especially theatre on stilts
- additional skills like the production of costumes, props, games and the work with educational material, i.e. Painting, plastic design, handcrafts.
- Introducing games and game forms to others, guide and accompany as part of a daily routine.
- dissemination throughout the snowball effect of training trainers and qualifying them to work with others in the times between workshops.

## TUTORIAL FOR TRAINERS

- Learn social, mental, communicative skills and experience
- Basic knowledge of educational work with groups
- Learn medical basics to recognize emergencies and limits
- Applying the learning content to work independently
- Game-defined shapes (communication, socialization, conflict solving)
- Moderating, directing and controlling group dynamics by interventions
- Experiencing a new visual medium: theatre and design techniques
- Evaluating and reflecting processes
- Documentation of results with film, photo and reports- Documentation of results with film, photo and reports



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### RESOURCE-ORIENTED TRAUMA PEDAGOGY - STABILIZATION

The resource-oriented trauma pedagogy is divided into several phases:

Stabilization phase, realization of the traumatic experience, grief work, re-integration of the traumatic experience.

In this project to stabilize the youngsters it's the main goal. Individual care at this point seems impossible, facing thousands of children and adolescents with urgent need for therapy in the camps. But it is possible to build a stable foundation, the prerequisite to participate in educational opportunities and daily life in general. Not all children and young people have been traumatized in a strict sense.

However, they are all hopeless, uprooted, displaced, disturbed and disillusioned by their experiences and their apparent unforeseeable temporal stay in the camps. Therefore, the resource-oriented therapy is also effective and beneficial there where it's all about the relief of bleakness of everyday life in the camp and a refugee's daily life in general.

At this point, the trainers can start to lead a group of other youngsters, direct and help them help themselves.

### BENEFITS OF ACTION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUPERVISED

The adolescent refugees have as "trainers and multipliers" direct and unfiltered access to their compatriots. There are little or no language barriers and there is a high degree of confidence due to the similar living conditions. The trainer can directly or indirectly generate and strengthen incentives, impulses and motivations.

Thus, despite trauma-related behavior problems, distress or disability play and artistic expression at least in these time periods can be lived carefree and contribute to mental stabilization.

These habits have at least a softening effect. They allow to open interests and perspectives and to give impetus to their own initiatives. The self-expression and the experience of strength due to the change of perspective on stilts are the first step to overcome the crisis situation.

Thus, the following effects result:

- Resource-oriented, pre-therapeutic, pedagogy help
- Social, mental and moderated contact and conflict training
- Mediation of emotional, social and individual presentation and expression
- Strengthening the self-awareness and self-determination
- Strengthen the self-healing powers





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### SIZE OF THE PROGRAM - 2,500 CHILDREN REACH

The program aims to reach out to up to 50 teenagers in the first year. Increasing the number of participants within six visits and workshops from a group of initially 10 to up to 50 youngsters to be trained directly in the refugee camp.

These trainers will then work out each with two groups of 25 children in their own workshops. Thus every coach could reach out to another 50 children in the camp and organize diverse programs: Theatre on Stilts, time-handcraft courses, playing, developing simple games for themselves and others and a variety of other attractions (music, dance, costume, craft activities).

The coaches are alone, but also in smaller teams, supervising these groups regularly and, as support, collaborate with internal or external employees of the camp in the field of medical and psychological care.

Thus could be done with 2 x 25 children a care for up to 2,500 children a regular job after one year working with 50 coaches.

Only the equipment for about 50 children each is required in the work of the groups.

### THEATRE ON STILT AS A DRIVING FORCE

The access from the "Theatre on Stilts" allows a very special and rapid contact between coaches and the youngsters or children.

The art of stilt walking is so much to learn, as a rule within three days, that first hands-free walking is possible.

The advantages are:

- quick achievement
- overcoming fear, training of social skills
- increase self-awareness and self-expression
- pride and recognition by the environment
- pleasure and joy of movement, acting out and playful experience of emotions
- physical training with a variety of positive effects on balance, strength, respiratory, cardiovascular, muscle coordination

Plus, of course just the fun and excitement that make the traumatized children on stilts immediately forget about their everyday life.



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### SCOPE AND SUPPLIES

For the proposed training to come, working conditions are needed as a minimum in the first section:

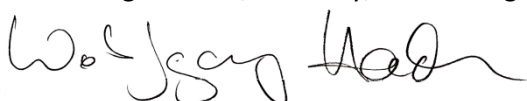
1. Six workshops of three to five days every 6 to 10 weeks are required for the stilt-walking training and qualifications related. Based on the temperatures in the camp training can only be held from March to June and from September to November outside. So arise six working visits. The breaks in between the stays and workshops should not be too large in order to maintain contact with the refugees and react to changes.
2. Additional trainings for theoretical and practical knowledge will complement the workshops. This includes courses and training in different genres like, music, dance, language, mediation, general-education courses.
3. Accompanying measures and offers can integrate the coach from the Camp into other environments and events in the cities around, such as festivals, performances or excursions. Also the contact to the civilian Population of the region will be an aim, as in the production of new stilts, costumes and tools.

Craftsmen, both from out and inside the camp could work together and build more equipment, as the group size is expected to grow fast in the next few months.

### MATERIAL

The material requirement was initially designed for a group of 30-40 participants. Following events can be carried out later with self-made equipment on a much larger scale.

Landsberg am Lech, Germany, 12th of August 2015



Wolfgang Hauck





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IMPRESIONS MARCH – JULY 2015

MARCH 2015: FIRST TURKISH FEMAL STUDENTS IN MARDIN

They are trained to work later with girls and woman in the camp. We started with three Turkish students. And the group is growing by themselves.



March 2015, Mardin



June 2015, Mardin, Post on Facebook

MARCH/JUNE 2015: THE TRAINERS FORM THE REFUGEE CAMP PERFORMING FOR EVENTS

They already are invited for performing shows in other camps and city's.



March 2015, Mardin, Art Anywhere Association



Post on Facebook, June 2015





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JUNE 2015: TRAINING REFUGEE CAMP NUSYABIN, TURKEY

40 boys – stilt walkers and «musicians» with baskets are trained. There are only sun and 40°C.



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STILL THEY PERFORM AND TRAIN INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CAMP

Art Anywhere Association helps and organizes possibilities to perform outside the camps.



The «birds-show» for kids is on the road.

Correct to 15/8/2015

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