

Athens, 02.10.2020

**Minutes of the 83<sup>rd</sup> MHPSS Technical Working Group at Babel Day Centre**

Chaired by Nikos Gkionakis, Maria Ntetsika

**Participants:** Society of Social Psychiatry P. Sakellaropoulos, Network for Children’s Rights, GCR, ADDMA, DRC, Chamomile, MsF Swiss, MsF Belgium, EPAPSY, TdH, MdM, IOM, HR360, Babel Day Centre

**Agenda:**

- Updates from the field and the other WGs
- AOB

<b>Updates from the field</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>MsF VoT:</b> MsF VoT has started receiving referrals. The PoCs must have an appointment in order to enter the clinic.</li><li>• <b>ADDMA:</b> The collaboration with the psychiatrist in the clinic of Petralona has reached an end. The two psychologists continue to provide services in the programme of accommodation. The exit plan continues as it was scheduled; however there are some PoCs that received an extension due to certain vulnerability criteria.</li><li>• <b>GCR:</b> There is a difficulty in accessing psychiatric services for the UAMs that are in lockdown in Elaiona’s safe zone. Some of them conduct sessions through skype and some of them are being followed by EODY’s psychiatrist. However, EODY’s psychiatrist is for adults. The COVID-19 positive cases have been increased the last days and that creates a tension in the site on a daily basis.</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>IOM:</b> The PoCs that were residing in tents in the sites of Attica were transferred to TAE KWON DO in Faliro for the IANOS hurricane and then back to the sites. The majority of the sites remain in lockdown. IOM provides psychiatric services to people in need by an agreement with private psychiatrists. The psychologists that are in the sites focus on outreach and the psychologists that working from house use a lot the what's up to keep in touch with PoCs. IOM needs to pay the medicaments in cases that these cannot be provided by the social pharmacies or the hospitals.</li><li>• <b>HR360:</b> The organization faces a difficulty with the provision of psychiatric services, since the psychiatrist that was offering services voluntarily in the organization, died unexpectedly the last week.</li><li>• <b>MdM:</b> The programme for the support of elderly people during COVID_19 pandemic continues. Kits with hand sanitizer and other useful material were shared to different sites.</li><li>• <b>TdH:</b> The psychologists continue provide services in Schisto, Skaramaga and Lavrio sites. PM+ sessions keep being conducted.</li><li>• <b>Network for children's rights:</b> The staff is working by turns in the office and by the house. There is a great delay for the COVID-19 tests for the UAMs that are to be placed in a shelter. Due to the emergency situation in the centre of Athens, the clinic in Sarantaporou 4 can only provide tests in rare cases if the person does not present any symptoms of the virus.</li><li>• <b>DRC:</b> DRC continues to provide services in Schisto, Skaramaga and Lavrio sites. An effort is being made so that some activities can be continued even during the lockdown.</li><li>• <b>MsF Clinic in Solonos:</b> On Monday the clinic opens again for drop in. The psychosocial groups have started again.</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EPAPSY:</b> The provision of mental health services to the Hestia programme, the help line as well as the project with the community psychosocial workers continue until the end of the year. A collaboration with “Avli tou kosmou” in Peristeri was initiated. The provision of interpreters was a prerequisite for the collaboration. Nancy Baron was informed about the feedback that the organizations were sent to EPAPSY for the ToT PFA and she is to respond during the following days.</li> <li>• <b>Babel:</b> The site for the support of front line workers during COVID_19 pandemic is ready and can be found in the following link:  <a href="https://www.frontline-covid19.com/">https://www.frontline-covid19.com/</a>  The members of the WG are encouraged to share the news where they believe it might be of help.  Babel works on the creation of a network of organizations which will be focused on the provision of services to refugee families with new born children. EPAPSY, One child – one world participate as well in this initiative.</li> </ul>
<b>Agenda for the next WG</b>	-Discussion and updates on the current situation  -AOB

The next MHPSS WG meeting is going to take place on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> of October** at **09:30 -11:30**.