Integration activities for BIPs & asylum seekers by the Refugee-Migrant Service of the Bulgarian Red Cross

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RAC COMBAT
15th of May 2019
Agenda

I. Refugee-Migrant Service of the BRC

II. “Improvement of the Reception & Integration conditions for refugees and asylum seekers in Bulgaria” – 2019, project funded by the UNHCR

III. Integration-Information Center:
- Integration program for refugees by the BRC
Refugee-Migrant Service of the BRC

- Established in 1993
- Financial partner - UNHCR & private financial donations
- Potential clients:
  - 2016 – **19,418 asylum seekers** / **2,876 UASCs**
    1,351 persons granted international protection
  - 2017 – ↓ **3,700 asylum seekers** / **191 UASCs**
    1,704 persons granted international protection
  - 2018 – ↓ **2,536 asylum seekers**
    730 persons granted international protection
Main project

• “Improvement of the Reception & Integration conditions for refugees and asylum seekers in Bulgaria” – 2019, project funded by the UNHCR:
  – Monitoring of the reception conditions/quality of the international protection procedure/;
  – Providing humanitarian/in-kind and financial aid;
  – Social work in the SAR RRCs;
  – Support to the Afghan school in the RRC-Harmanli.
Integration-Information Center for refugees - I

• **Education:**
  - enrolling children at kindergartens/schools
  - additional tutoring on the school lessons

• **Labour market:**
  - help with CVs and motivation letters;
  - getting in touch with employers depending on education & previous work experience;
  - career fair.
Integration-Information Center for refugees- II

- Translator/ interpreter services
- Consulting on state institutions & NGOs
- **Administrative procedures:**
  - Civil and address registration, applying for Bulgarian identity card/ passport;
  - Access to social benefits for children, social pension and pension for persons with disabilities;
  - State health insurance status, enrolling with a GP;
  - Applying for Bulgarian citizenship.
Social events and getting to know the Bulgarian traditions
Integration program for refugees by the BRC - I

- Bulgarian language courses – A1, A2, B1 level → public transport cards
- New special Bulgarian language course focused on vocabulary needed to get a driving license
Integration program for refugees by the BRC - II

• Vocational training focused on new skills needed on the Bulgarian labour market;
• Translation & legalization of documents
• Interpreting
• Health insurance
Volunteers

• Course on Europe’s history
• English language course
Thank you for your attention!