



Solidarietà e Missione Onlus
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07 October 2014

Dutch Foundation for Children's Welfare Stamps
Schipholweg 73-75,
2316 ZL Leiden
Netherlands

Attention: Program/Project Manager

Dear Sir or Madam:

Re: Request for Assistance for Unaccompanied Minor Refugees

I refer to the above. My name is Antonio Gueli and my role is President for the Solidarietà e Missione Onlus.

The purpose of this letter is to enquire whether our program, "Assistance for Unaccompanied Minor Refugees", falls within your foundation's criteria and if our project could be considered for funding.

The recent inflow of the refugees arriving on the shore of Sicily, South Italy has caught the attention of the religious and political leaders of the nation. The Daughters of Divine Zeal community, "Istituto Spirito Santo" based in Messina opened its door to accommodate a maximum number of fifteen (15) minors for a period depending on the length of time needed to process their permit to stay in the country. The first group came from Egypt and Gambia arrived in December 2013 until April 2014, the second group from Gambia, Senegal, Nigeria, Somalia and Cameroon arrived in April until May 2014, and the third group from Gambia, Mali and Senegal arrived in May until September 2014.

The community of the Sisters has assisted these minors not only providing them free accommodation but all the necessary means to make them sane and ready to confront their future with serenity and hope. They were provided with food, medicines, clothes, possibility to call back home, toiletries and all other expenses to maintain their dwelling ambience.

These minors have arrived as boat people needing help for a better life in contrary to their violent experience and unsafe life back home. The Institute of the Daughters of Divine Zeal present in Messina has been the first welcome house for these minors.

Mother Diodata (Domenica) Guerrera, the Community Superior of the "Istituto Spirito Santo" in Messina furnished us with a testimony stating this urgent need.

These minors are directly supervised by the Sisters of the "Istituto Spirito Santo", other activities are supervised by the volunteers from the Community of San Egidio and a Social Worker from the local government making sure that they are in good shape and are safe from possible bullying.

The Estimated Cost for each minor is Euro30 per person per day.

As a newly born Onlus, we are commencing our mission to helping our needy brethren and at this initial stage we would like to extend support to the emerging need for assistance of the newly arrived refugees in Messina. We started collecting funds, clothes and others in kind to help sustain these young people and we would like to ask your Agency to be partners with us in fulfilling this mission activity.

If this program is within your foundation's criteria, we would like to request for your Application Guidelines.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time for further information or with any queries you may have.

Thanking you in anticipation for a positive response to my inquiry.

Kind regards,

Antonio Gueli
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