

E-GUIDEBOOK FAMILY AND SOCIAL ADVICE



HINTS

Multidisciplinary approach to the social integration
of third-country nationals

project No: 2021-1-EL01-KA210-1E7DB4C4

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1st GOOD PRACTICE

Reception and care of unaccompanied migrant women with children

Caritas Belgium has opened the unique and first reception facility (shelter) for single migrant mothers in Louvranges in Wallon Brabant in Belgium. While they wait for a response to their application for international protection, the women can meet and share their often traumatic experiences and activities adapted to their family life.

[WEBSITE](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRACTICE:

- ✓ Partner presenting the practice: FCB asbl
- ✓ Organization who developed the practice: Caritas Belgium
- ✓ Belgium
- ✓ National level of implementation



SOCIAL PROBLEM

The objective of the project is to enable migrant women and mothers awaiting regularization to be able to benefit from both housing and activities adapted to their life as mothers. This strengthens them to have self-confidence and allows them to have a social life and receive training adapted to their constraints and needs (single mothers).

ELEMENTS OF INNOVATION OF THE PRACTICE

The structure set up by Caritas allows single mothers to access activities adapted to their family life. The team of volunteers is female and the initiative is run by women for women.

RESOURCES

- A solid team of female volunteers
- Qualified and trained gender trainers

TARGET GROUPS

Single migrant women and mothers

HOW TARGET GROUPS ARE BENEFITED

The reception/shelter facilities in Louvranges, Walloon Brabant, currently houses 24 women and 32 children.

- Children benefit from daily school support.
- For their part, moms have free time: they learn to sew, knit, have access to relaxation and yoga sessions and learn (improve) their French. Access to therapeutic activities is strongly emphasized.
- Information sessions are also organized around topics such as waste sorting, healthy eating or the discovery of the functioning of institutions in Belgium (civic training).



2nd GOOD PRACTICE

Neighbours in solidarity/Supportive neighbours:

Create a special neighbourly relationship with a refugee person or family living near you.

WEBSITE

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRACTICE:

- ✓ Partner presenting the practice: FCB asbl
- ✓ Organization who developed the practice: Convivial and the League of Families
- ✓ Belgium
- ✓ National level of implementation



Refugees arriving in Belgium face several destabilizing elements, including settling in new housing and a new living area, while having sparse relationships with their (local) neighbours. They want to be helped by citizen-neighbours but do not dare or do not know how to enter into relations with them. Since March 2017, the Ligue des Familles & Convivial has been offering Belgians and long-term residents the opportunity to get in touch with refugees living in their immediate neighbourhood. These citizens then offer various services according to their availability, their skills, their desires while respecting the needs and wishes of refugees. Help with homework or transportation, discovery of your neighborhood or the city, reading mails, conversation in French, sharing a meal... The support provided is different each time, depending on what the local neighbours and refugees decide to do together. Convivial and the League of Families supervise the recruitment, training and networking of Solidarity Neighbors with each other. They also offer remote mediation and collective support throughout the project.

Since 2017, a few hundred households have met their refugee neighbours, helped them, accompanied them or simply invited them to share a moment together. The objectives are :

- create bridges and moments of meeting between families and neighbours (Belgians and migrants)
- develop a mutual aid system that respects the specific needs of refugee families.
- break the isolation of the families of refugees arriving in a new country and a new neighbourhood
- offer personalized training and collective support to neighbours and citizens who wish to support refugee families.



SOCIAL PROBLEM

The practice aims to break the isolation of refugee families by allowing them to participate in the social life of their neighbourhood and to build links with their neighbourhood. The method developed in this project makes it possible to create a special relationship (between supportive neighbour and refugee neighbour) within a mutual commitment that is supervised by an organisation and a learning process. It is a question of creating exchange, reciprocity, the sharing of mutual aid and mutual enrichment.

TARGET GROUPS

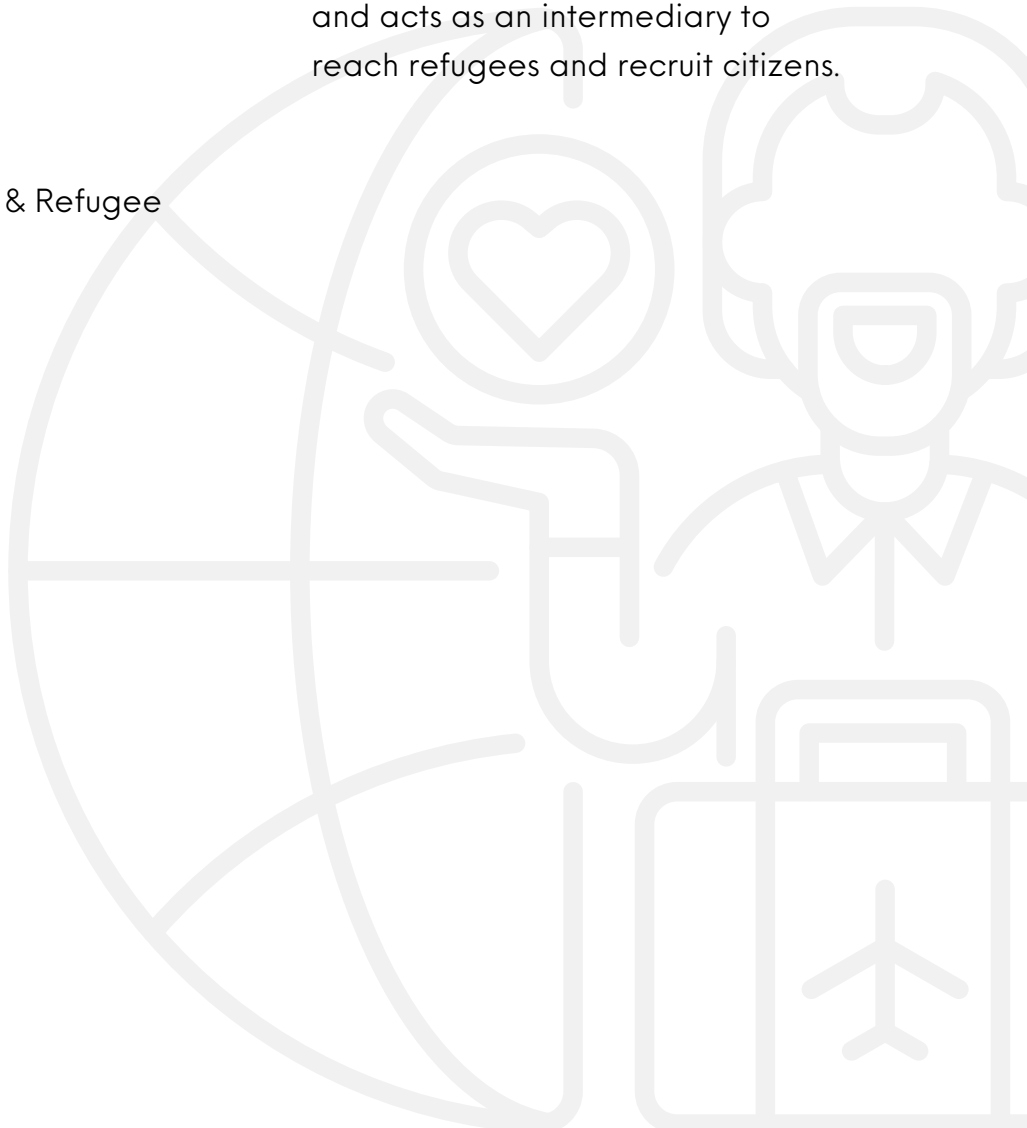
All citizens, the neighbours & Refugee families

HOW TARGET GROUPS ARE BENEFITED

The project allows citizens to better understand the situation of refugees while participating in direct solidarity activities that allow refugees to develop a social life and improve their living conditions in Belgium.

RESOURCES

- Funding
- A structure that campaigns the cities and acts as an intermediary to reach refugees and recruit citizens.



ELEMENTS OF INNOVATION OF THE PRACTICE

Within this project, a great freedom of action is offered to allow the relationship between local neighbors and refugees to evolve in a flexible and spontaneous way. It is an example of success, enabling the development of a mutual commitment which brings together two actors (solidarity neighbour and refugee neighbour) in the will to help each other, and which is set up and supervised by an intermediate organisation (Mouvement Convivial and the Ligue des familles).

Mutual commitment is developed through a quality personalized path:

An information session: The information sessions are an opportunity to present the project, to answer questions from interested citizens in the presence of people who have already participated in the project.

One day of training: Citizens who confirm their commitment participate in a training day, which is mandatory as part of the project. This training provides "Supportive Neighbours/Voisins Solidaires" with information and tools to understand the reality of refugees and to prepare them for the meeting with their future refugee neighbors.

Matches: Based on the information obtained from refugees and citizens (using a Form) as well as other criteria (geographical location, availability, languages,...), the Convivial team selects the Refugee/Citizen duos by ensuring the adequacy between the needs and expectations of each other.

The meeting: The first meeting is an opportunity to introduce oneself, to get to know each other briefly, to validate what the Neighbours are ready to do together and at what pace, to exchange contact details, to define a first moment of meeting between Neighbours and finally to sign the project charter. The Convivial referent worker is always present at this first meeting.

Monitoring the relationship: Depending on what has been defined at the first meeting or depending on how things are put in place, the relationship between citizens and refugees takes shape, evolves, strengthens or will be stopped by mutual agreement. Activities are regularly offered by Convivial and the Ligue des Familles to promote interactions between Neighbours as well as with other duos.

The evaluation meeting: Unlike evaluation meetings, supervision is a moment of sharing and exchange where the primary objective is to take a step back from the relationship with one's refugee Neighbour(s), to decipher the situations experienced and to find support from other Neighbours. These supervisions are led by an external professional.

Supervision: At least once a year, an evaluation meeting is organized to allow the new Solidarity Neighbours to meet, exchange experiences, communicate their good practices and share the difficulties encountered during the process.



3rd GOOD PRACTICE

Empowering migrants by using audiovisual techniques and broadcasting

ZIN TV is an audiovisual pedagogy project aimed at trainers, adult citizens and migrant audiences born in Brussels in 2017. It's also an online media project. This dual project allows the construction of a participatory communication model.

ZIN TV offers workshops in video creation, social reporting and documentaries. It seeks to free the audiovisual language from television, institutional or commercial formatting. The video workshops are conceived as a space for liberation from the language of cinema.

ZIN TV pushes participants to create videos creatively in groups using the means at their disposal in a context of "poor cinema". The audiovisual workshops are weekly over a period of two months. They are intended for motivated people. To participate no diploma is required beforehand, only punctuality, regular attendance and a symbolic contribution to the costs is required.

[WEBSITE](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRACTICE:

- ✓ Partner presenting the practice: FCB asbl
- ✓ Organization who developed the practice: ZIN TV- The League of Domestic Workers
- ✓ Belgium
- ✓ National level of implementation



SOCIAL PROBLEM

ZIN TV is an audiovisual pedagogy project aimed in Europe, we note that there is little initiative to train vulnerable audiences in the audiovisual tool, which is an excellent tool for social cohesion. There are many reasons why the audiovisual tool is a great tool to use with migrant audiences. Audiovisual creation is a powerful tool to free the voice but also to create social cohesion in a group. Audiovisual creation when you are working with migrant audiences is powerful because it's essential to let the other speak, to let the other express himself freely on issues that concern him. Collective audiovisual creation makes it possible to give legitimacy to the experience of the other and recognize him a place in our society. Nowadays, it's very easy to access a simple editing software like i-movie, or to shoot with a phone or an inexpensive camera of quality. The "poor cinema" experience advocated by ZIN TV is accessible to all. You need of course the presence of one trainer who masters audiovisual techniques and sometimes a translator. This experience with women migrants in Belgium shows that, in addition to language learning and traditional education, an introduction to audiovisual creation is a very concrete way of telling one's story, relieving one's daily life and freeing up speech.

TARGET GROUPS

- Trainers/Associative and Activist Organizations
- Migrants and unemployed

ELEMENTS OF INNOVATION OF THE PRACTICE

Create video workshops accessible to all (done collectively) at the service of the vulnerable audiences and migrant audiences.

RESOURCES

A team of trainers introduced to audiovisual techniques.

HOW TARGET GROUPS ARE BENEFITED

thanks to the project set up by ZIN TV, citizens have the opportunity to attend workshops free of charge to create social reports or documentaries collectively. Thanks to ZIN TV's video workshops, domestic women workers (undocumented) made an entire documentary about their living conditions and struggle. These workshops of several hours allowed the women to take charge of the audiovisual tools and to create together a very beautiful 40-minute documentary.



4th GOOD PRACTICE

How to help migrants in Belgium?

The overall objective of the project is to provide a comprehensive guide to help migrants in Belgium in a concrete way. The guide was born in 2019, accompanied on Twitter by the Hashtag #Aujourd'hui je me bouge (= today I am moving it) and is re-provisioned twice a year. The idea is to provide advice for every citizen to act concretely and effectively to help migrants. The guide among thirty tips, proposals and detailed addresses includes the following sections:

- I offer a meal to exiled and vulnerable people
- I check if my municipality is hospitable/welcoming city
- I'm going to see a show on a solidarity stage, I support people in closed centres
- I have an unoccupied room or mattress and I make it available
- I buy solidarity masks to fight against the Coronavirus
- I help families get together by donating my "frequent flyer miles" or voucher for a cancelled trip

[WEBSITE](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRACTICE:

- ✓ Partner presenting the practice: FCB asbl
- ✓ Organization who developed the practice: CIRé asbl -
Coordination et Initiatives pour Réfugiés et étrangers
- ✓ Belgium
- ✓ Regional level of implementation



SOCIAL PROBLEM

It is sometimes difficult to centralize information on solidarity actions that citizens can carry out in Belgium to show solidarity with migrants.

This kind of initiative and pedagogical tool informs, raises awareness and identifies small daily actions that can be carried out by everyone

ELEMENTS OF INNOVATION OF THE PRACTICE

CIRé has enabled the edition of a guide of citizen gestures and solidarity actions towards migrants by identifying daily and concrete activities, achievable by all. This tool promotes living together and social cohesion.

RESOURCES

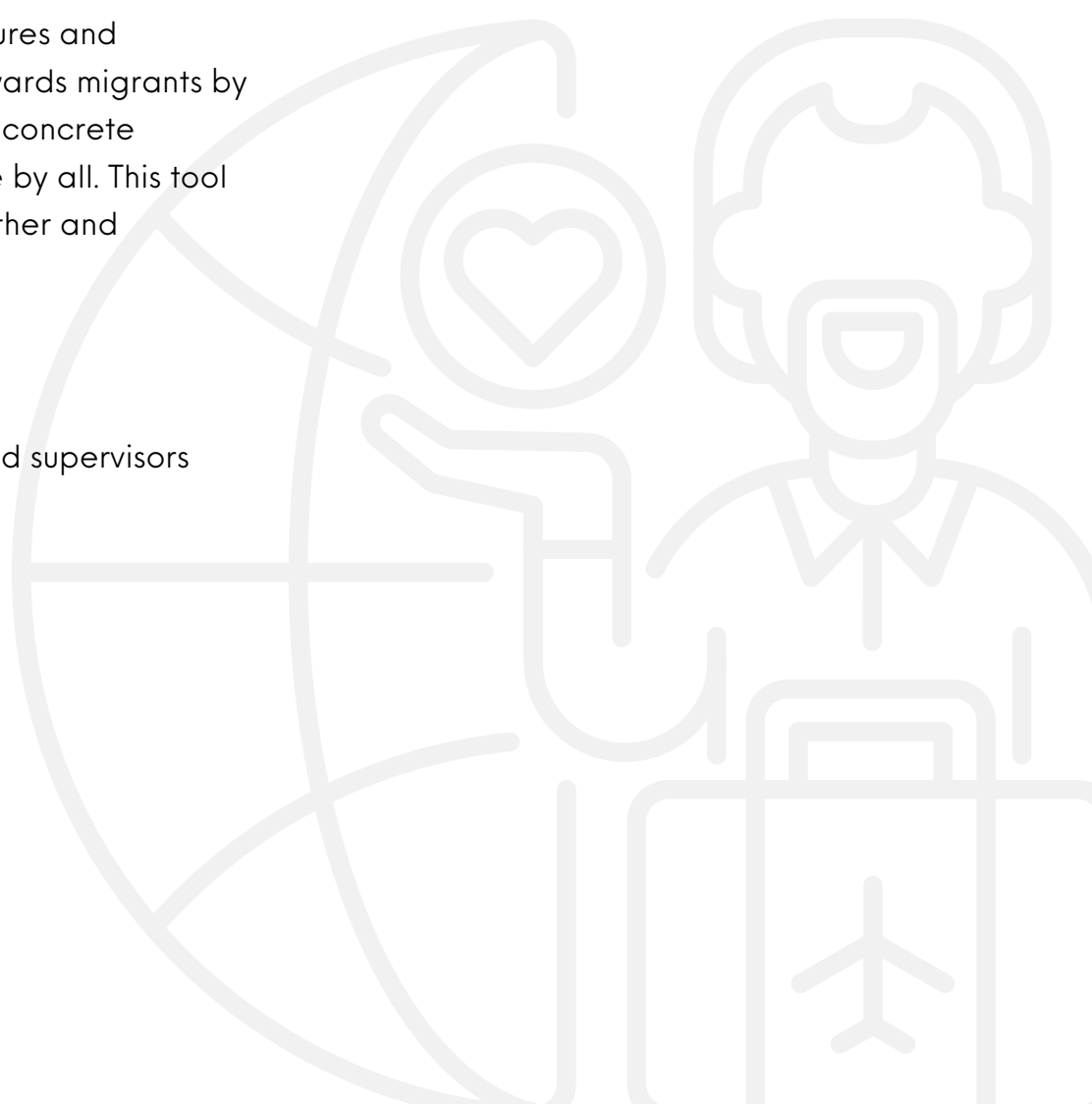
A team of trainers and supervisors

TARGET GROUPS

All citizens wishing to get involved in solidarity actions towards migrants.

HOW TARGET GROUPS ARE BENEFITED

- Migrants: they are the final beneficiaries of solidarity action
- Belgian/Local Citizens : they carry out solidarity actions and benefit from a training session





HINTS

Multidisciplinary approach to the social integration
of third-country nationals



Co-funded by
the European Union



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