

# NEWSLETTER

The Official Bulletin of Caritas Turkey

## Caritas Turkey ODSS updates report

Caritas Turkey adopted CI "Children and Vulnerable adults Safeguarding Policy" and "Anti-Harassment Policy". In this regard the National Office organised a virtual training on the topic for Caritas Turkey staff -on National and Diocesan level -and that was presented and trained by CE Humanitarian and Safeguarding Offices Charel Krieps on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April.



Both mentioned polices were approved by the President on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April and Caritas Turkey employees will sign both policies soon.

Caritas Turkey finalized the development of the new "Statutes".

And it is approved by the ecclesiastical authorities and ready to be shared. The last statutes were developed in 1994.

It was scheduled to organise two training; one on MEAL and other on PCM with CRS Moldova until June; and two other separated training on two different topics in the second half of the year but very unfortunately an unfair war broke out in Ukraine that not only changed our plan but the lives of innocent people. Hence finally, CRS could arrange a trainer on from CRS Greece on MEAL to train Caritas Turkey staff face to face in Istanbul in July 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> and in this regard both organisations are communicating for the training arrangements.

The National Office is elaborating "data protection" and "sharing information" policies that is expected to finalized until the end of August.

The National Office submitted the CI MS self-assessment on 25<sup>th</sup> of April to CI. An external assessor has been already identified for the external assessment by CI and the visit scheduled for July 4<sup>th</sup>.



## Caritas Istanbul World Refugee Day Celebration

Caritas Istanbul Team together with participants from more than 8 different countries celebrated the World Refugee Day on 18th of June on Buyukada Island. The group which consisted of 20 people met at Kabatas Ferry Dock around 9:30AM and arrived to the island at 11:30AM after a long ferry ride.

The group then went straight to the Convent on Buyukada which belongs to Santa Maria Church, and a mini picnic was held. The group then took a mini tour of the island with the guidance of the Caritas Istanbul Team. After returning to the Convent the group ate together the refreshments prepared by Caritas team and the participants.

After eating, everyone had free time for various activities, some went swimming in the pool, some had group discuss, while others were relaxing and listening to music by the pool. At the end of the day the group attended mass at San Pacifico Church with Fr.

Duma and returned home happily with the Caritas Team.

Caritas team would like to thank every participant and specially the Fathers and Nuns of the church of Santa Maria for their support and contribution to the beautiful day!

On the side and below you can find some photos and sharings from our participants.

It was really a very wonderful day, the sightseeing, long walking on the island, talking, sharing new ideas with different people and swimming was very entertaining and relieving. Entering the church and praying made me feel peace and happiness. Thanks to the Istanbul Caritas Team for the wonderful organizing, now I feel more happy and positive.

May God be with you.

E\*\*\* G\*\*\*\*\* Iraq

It was one of the best day my family and I ever had in Turkey. Büyükada was really beautiful and the program Caritas Team have prepared was very entertaining. we ate food together, jokes, talking, and most importantly praying together. We would like to express our gratitude to Caritas Team for the wonderful and memorial day and for not leaving us alone in any situation.

V\*\*\*\*\* T\*\*\*\* Armenia

The Refugee day was very beautiful and full of memories. Thanks to Caritas Team for their tired less effort for such a colorful day. The walking on the island, meeting new people, swimming, and spending time on the island was really enjoyable. After all attending the Holy Mass was like a relieve and healing to my soul. May God grand more happiness, strength, and wisdom for Caritas to continue helping the needy.

N\*\*\*\* M\*\*\* South Africa



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