



SUMMER REPORT

This summer HELPING HANDS did not go on ... holiday. It was present in Pendeli, in Omonia, in Koumoundourou square, wherever there are foreigners, refugees and persons in need. We have tried to remain faithful to our God-given vocation and to be useful to our fellow humans, working as quietly and methodically as possible. Our aim is to offer ourselves rather than to give alms.

Our gratitude goes to the Lord of the work for the blessings that accompanied us. Our esteem goes to the recipients for their cooperation and response in our common effort for their economic, social, psychological and spiritual rehabilitation.

IN PENDELI

We visited on five occasions this mini...Kurdistan of Pendeli, bringing a total of two tons of staples, hundreds of New Testaments and leaflets in Arabic. Along with us came brothers and sisters of various nationalities and races, all attracted and united by the example of Jesus Christ. Others too assisted through their work, financial contributions and prayers. Useful as all these efforts were, they are not sufficient to solve the problems. Greater efforts are needed, further help, more substantial participation. The reason is there are only two toilets for seven hundred people, insufficient water in tanks (and therefore dangerous to health), and limited electricity. The tents do not have any secure base or covering in case of rain. Furthermore, winter is already upon them with freezing nights and bad weather. The construction of the school and the kitchen is still unfinished and cooking is done in a rudimentary way using pieces of wood which could start a fire in the Pendeli forest. The children wander hungry and barefooted here and there under their mothers' hopeless stares. Nearby, the men do not hide their concern for colder days. As humans and as Christians, we need to do a lot more for these precious souls who surely deserve a great part of our love.



part of our activities will be held.

It consists of a small, well-lit space on the fifth floor. This is being prepared to be used as «Refugee Center» with a cafe-restaurant, a place of social contacts and special events, a classroom for the free teaching of Greek and English, a library and an office to receive refugees and assist them with finding jobs and other needs.

We hope the center will soon be ready to provide for the refugees of central Athens a place of rest and hope. It will also provide an opportunity for all the friends who support our cause to offer participation and service.

The address of the «Helping Hands» REFUGEE CENTER is:
47, Menandrou str. (5th floor),
Omonia square
Athens 104 31 - tel. 52.36.812

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

1) Offering food (oil, rice, beans, sugar, tea, flour, canned milk), and health care products (toilet paper, soap etc).

- Food donation reception points:

- «O LOGOS» bookstore, 28 Emm. Benaki str., Athens

«The Lord watches over the alien ...and gives food to the hungry» (Psalm 146: 9,7)

- HELPING HANDS, 47 Menandrou str., Omonia

2) With financial support:

- Bank account

81/92003/50 (ERGASIAS BANK) - Helping Hands

- Bank account

10094627915 AB (NATIONAL BANK) - 3 names

- check by mail at the address:

HELPING HANDS, MENANDROU 47, ATHENS 104 31

- In the USA :

International Teams, P.O. Box 203, Prospect Hts, IL 60070, (for: Helping Hands)

3) Through your personal visit to Pendeli refugee camp:

CAMP B, Agiou Trifona str, Palea Pendeli

(opposite the turning for Nea Makri).

4) With prayer:

- of thanksgiving for God's continuous provisions and blessings in our lives and in this ministry

- for the solution of the refugee problem in Greece and worldwide

- for the salvation of souls and for the expansion of His kingdom to the refugees

- for the completion of our construction work in the «Refugee Center», its full equipment and its successful functioning

- for the increase of the weekly meals

- for the increase of the volunteer help in this and similar ministries

- for the outpouring of Christian love which will remove

xenophobia in Greece.

We Thank ...

- The ATHENS CHRISTIAN CENTER for offering the use of the «Refuge» hall

- The GREEK INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP for their financial support of this work

- For all those who supported us during these difficult summer months

- But above all our thanks goes to the Lord, who has sustained and encouraged us with His presence, guidance and blessings!

ABOUT MEALS

Refugees are not only in Pendeli, but also in the heart of Athens, where they do not even have tents to stay in. Kurds, Iraqis, Iranians, Romanians, Russians and homeless Greeks were our guests in the weekly «Meal of Love and Hope», which this summer was offered in the «Refuge» hall. Every Tuesday evening about 120 persons received a tasty cold meal, warm Christian hospitality and artistic program, which revived their interest in living, and especially a true life. Our aim for this winter is to continue and increase the number of meals to two or three a week. The needs are increasing along with the response, and we see new possibilities which can be created with God's help...

«HELPING HANDS» WEEKLY SOUP KITCHEN
NEW OPENING: SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER 1997, 12:00
47, MENANDROU STR. (5th floor), OMONIA

REFUGEE CENTER

The third important event which took place for us this summer, was the renting of our own center near Omonia, where the main