



Supporting young refugees in Lesvos

Lesvos in Greece currently has thousands of refugees arriving each day in overcrowded boats and in dangerous sea conditions. Some boats have run into trouble and some people have lost their lives trying to make this journey. We would like to send good quality children's clothes, vital for winter.

There are active volunteers all over the island working to support the refugees as the help from NGO's and European Governments is minimal and the situation is overwhelming for the island. The refugees are having to wait in overcrowded camps to register and get their papers before they can travel on. Sometimes they are having to queue for days and conditions are bad. It is cold and the situation is going to get worse as we move to winter.

We know that many children are arriving each day in Lesvos and clothes are needed to support the efforts of volunteers there. We will send these directly to the volunteer network in Lesvos to ensure they reach the children there.

We would like to ask for two things:

1. Donations to support postage and packaging. These will also be used for the purchase of some new children's underwear and some essential toiletries. It costs about £40 to send one package (10 kg's) so the more donations we get the more we can send.
2. Contributions of children's clothes for 7 to 14 year olds that are practical, clean & in good condition; fleeces, winter warm clothes, shoes and waterproofs are particularly needed. With each donation of clothes it would be good if you could contribute £2 as we will save all these collected and use them for more postage or to purchase more essential items. (please note they have enough clothes for children 6 and under currently)

It would be good to have all pledges of financial donations by Monday 16th November if possible (although still do feel free to contribute after but this would help us know how many parcels we can send). We then plan to have an open house on Saturday 21st November from 2pm to 5pm for dropping and sorting clothes.

To make a donation please visit www.chuffed.org/project/haringey-helping-hands

If you have clothes to donate and want to come along to the open house please text telling us this and we will confirm the address. Thanks for your support!

Wendy 07932 730477; Karen 07779 689022 or Susan 07847 625643

We also need volunteers to help sort the clothes so let us know if you can help.

To find out more about the situation in Lesvos please see Help for Refugees in Molyvos facebook page or see this article written last week by a journalist who ended up assisting people saved from a sinking boat - <http://mariennapw.com/2015/10/29/entry-iii-the-sinking-of-the-nameless-recollections-of-a-volunteerjournalist/>