

Workshop and Multicultural Event

CHILDREN on the MOVE - DESTINATION UNKNOWN: Approach and Protection

PRESS RELEASE

ARSIS, Association for the Social Support of Youth, in the framework of the events of “Thessaloniki - European Youth Capital 2014”, and in the honor of European Day against Trafficking on Human Beings, organizes on

Thursday, 16 October, 2014

a workshop and multicultural event:

Children on the Move - Destination Unknown: Approach and Protection

The workshop will take place at Alexander Hall, 1 Ethnikis Aminis St., from 9.00 to 15.00. Speakers from organizations and city agencies with many years of direct experience with children on the move will talk about the phenomenon of unaccompanied minors and minors seeking asylum, as well as children who are victims of trafficking and exploitation.

The definition of children on the move refers to all children who have left home and are on their way to a new destination or have already reached it. These children move within their own countries or across borders, either accompanied or unaccompanied. They may be victims of trafficking, children living on the street, kidnapped children who have been forced to emigrate, refugees, asylum seekers or nomads.

The objective of the workshop is to inform both the general public and services about the particular characteristics of the phenomenon, and make them aware of



the rights and needs of these children, the risks and the problems they face, aiming to their being interested and taking care of these children.

The participants in the seminar will share their experiences, knowledge, opinions and suggestions with a view to positive action for activation and coordination of all stakeholders and services as well as citizens who often perceive these children in their own environment, yet do not know how to react.

The ARSIS representatives will present their experiences acquired from working in temporary shelters of minors asylum seekers, and of social street work. Representatives of the international organization *Terre des Hommes* will present the International Campaign “Destination Unknown”, while speakers from national organizations will refer to structures and operations for unaccompanied minors and children asylum seekers. Representatives of authorities and institutions of the country will show their initiatives taken to assist and support children on the move. After each topic, a discussion follows.

Admission is free and at the end of the workshop there will be given certificates of participation. (The working languages will be Greek and English without interpretation).

Multicultural event will follow in the patio area in front of the Alexander Hall, in the Ethnikis Aminis - Pavlou Mela Park, **from 16.00 to 19.00**. Food and music from the countries of origin of children accommodated in ARSIS’ shelter, dance, photography exhibition and cultural events are included.

The objective of the event is for the public to meet those young people who benefit from ARSIS’ activities, have fun together in a celebration without discrimination, under the common denominator of multiculturalism, cooperation and the joy of creation.

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