

ERASMUS+ 2024 - Partner Information Form – IFSS

Partner Organisation Details					
Legal Name of Organisation	Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Family and Social				
Organization ID	Services 940257279				
Acronym, if applicable	IFSS				
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Previous projects with European Union grants

Program	Year	Code of the project	Name of the applicant
Wise Mind Project	2019-2021	2019-2-TR01- KA205-078707	Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Services
Empower Project	2020-2023	2020-1-TR01- KA204-094078	Governorship of Istanbul
Stronger Women in the Digital World	2021-2023	2021-1-TR01- KA122-ADU- 000018231	Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Services
Beyond the Doorstep	2022-2024	101093772	YOUNET
DigiMind4Youth	2023-2026	KA220-YOU - Cooperation partnerships in youth	CLUB FOR UNESCO FOR EDUCATION, SCIENCE & CULTURE
Wellbeing of YOU(th) in the Digital Age	2023	KA1 mobility of young people	Youth for Equality
Improving the Foster Family Process with Innovative Training Models	2023-2025	2023-1-TR01- KA220-ADU- 000165706	Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Services
Increasing the Well-Being of Disadvantaged Youth with Permaculture	2023-2024		Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Services

Background and Experience

Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Services is a local body of Ministry of Family and Social Services which is responsible for establishing and executing policies for women, children, elders, disabled and families. We perform, implement and execute social services for disadvantaged groups who are in need of and/or seek for protection, care, examination, education, guidance, rehabilitation mentioned above.

It renders social services to these groups through 5122 personels and 249 instutions; Social Service Centers, Orphanages, Child Homes, Child Support Centres, Preventing and Monitoring Domestic Violence Center, Women Guesthouses, Disabled Care- Rehabilitation and Family Consultancy Centers, Elder Care and Rehabilitation Centers/ Resthomes, Youth Center for Unaccompanied Children (children refugees).

Non-formal trainings are provided by professional staff to adults who benefit from our services in our establishments. Family education, fight against addiction (substance, technology, etc.), prevention of early marriages, pre-marital education, family education for individuals benefiting from probation, financial literacy are some of these trainings.

1. Children and Youth

IFSS performs, implements and executes social services for children & young people between the ages of 0-18 in Istanbul. These include services provided to children and young people who need protection and guidance due to negligence, abuse or any other cause. These are; homestay care, foster family, adoption and institutional care. We have 166 Foster Care Institutions with the capacity of 2146.

The majority of these children are children whose families have passed away, who have been abandoned by their families or who have been placed in institutional care due to financial difficulties. Besides these, IFSS also deals with the Children in Need of Rehabilitation, Children Victims of Sexual Abuse, Children whose Substance Addiction Treatment has been Completed, Children Driven to Crime, Mothers of Pregnant Children and Children, Children Living on the Street, Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers/Refugee Children.

In our institutions, the physical, educational and psycho-social development of children is supported, it is ensured that they acquire a healthy personality and good habits, have a job or a profession, and grow up as useful people to the society. Various social and cultural activities are regularly organized in our institutions.

Young people who are aged 15 and over served in Youth Homes/Youh Campus and CODEMs. The number of Youth Campus in Istanbul is 3 and total capacity of them is 192. There are 140 homes and 270 teenagers stay at these homes. Young people stay in Youth homes/campus are going to school the state support all their needs but usually their academic success is not high and some leave school because of their traumatic life experiences, lack of family support and their self confidence problems according to their peers. These young people are supported by youth workers in our instutions. If he/she goes to school to increase his/her academic success they organize study hours after school according to indiviual needs of Youth. And also they mentoring she/he for determine his/her future career. If the teenager leave the school Youth worker lead him/her to go open high school. Youth workers guide also these young people some vocational courses according to their interests and capabilities.

2. People with Disabilities

Our Directorate performs, implements and executes social services for disabled people (vision Impairment, deaf or hard of hearing, mental health conditions, intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorder, physical disability etc.) in Istanbul.

We have 22 institutions in Istanbul that serve disabled people between the ages of 0-18. On average, 400 disabled people receive boarding services from our institutions every year, and 2100 disabled people benefit from our daytime services.

In our institutions, it is aimed to eliminate the loss of function of disabled individuals and to provide them with skills that enable them to be self-sufficient in society. Accordingly, psychosocial support, rehabilitation and access to various courses are provided. We also work for physical and digital accessibility of disabled people.

Disabled Care Service Models:

- 1) Official Institution Maintenance Services: Within the framework of this model, care and rehabilitation services are provided to individuals with disabilities, who need care, in official centers, as boarding and daytime care.
- 2) Disabled Life Centers: In these centers, there are units such as individual and group study rooms, work-occupation rooms, physical therapy hall, which are necessary for the rehabilitation of disabled individuals. Through these units, studies are carried out to develop the existing abilities of disabled people and to adapt them to social life.
- 3) Visually Impaired Rehabilitation Center:: They are boarding centers where educational, social and vocational rehabilitation programs are applied periodically to visually impaired individuals, aiming to ensure full participation of visually impaired individuals in social life.

Our Ministry is the authority for executing laws, regulations legislations in social services. Due to that reason all private centers must be licensed and monitored by the Provincial Directorates of the Ministry. In Istanbul 38 private care centers with a capacity of 2885, providing care to 2425 disabled persons. For increasing the social life and encouriging the participation for socializing with other care takers various social and cultural activities are regularly organized in the care centers.

3. Elderly

Our Directorate performs, implements and executes social services for senior citizens. In İstanbul all private and public senior centers are linked to our institution and approximately 500 senior citizens are accommodated in these institutions. Our institution accommodates elderly people in need in a peaceful environment and meets their social and psychological needs.

Our social workers provide various social activities while aiming active-aging for our residents.

4. Women

IFSS combats violence against women mainly in two instution; Preventing and Monitoring Domestic Violence Center (SÖNİM) and Women Shelters.

ŞÖNİM provides services to protect women and their children from all kinds of violence they are exposed to, to take necessary precautions, to prevent violence against women and to investigate its causes.

Women's Shelters are institutions affiliated to our ministry where women who have been subjected to physical, emotional, sexual, economic and verbal abuse or violence can stay temporarily in order to protect them from violence, to solve their psycho-social and economic problems and to strengthen them. Women receiving services are generally women who have experienced traumatic processes. Approximately 3594 women between the ages of 18-65 stay in our women's shelters in Istanbul annually.

One of the areas of expertise of our institution is the training given to women who receive service from Women's Shelters. Some of these trainings are Women's Health, Privacy Education, Financial Literacy and Gender. Financial Literacy and Job Application trainings were given to 280 women in women's shelters in 2021.

5. Families

Family Education Program (FEP)

The Family Education Program (FEP) is an adult education program prepared by the General Directorate of Family and Community Services to be implemented throughout the country. This program has been prepared so that family members can acquire comprehensive knowledge, skills and attitudes towards basic family life skills required by the age. The program consists of 28 modules prepared in the fields of education and communication, law, economics, media and health, which are considered essential for family life and encompass the whole of daily life.

Family Counseling Service

Studies on family support services such as counseling, guidance, education, etc. are carried out for possible problems that may arise before and after the crisis periods such as divorce. The services provided for families who have come to the point of divorce due to communication problems within the family but apply for family counseling with a joint decision can be listed as follows:

- To gain intra-family communication skills,
- Conflict resolution and family support,
- To direct individuals who are thought to have a psychiatric disorder to health institutions for health treatments.
- Counseling the families who came to the point of divorce due to communication problems in the family, in the process of restructuring their systems, as well as solving the problems they experience with their children,
- To provide anger control and counseling services for families sent through the courts,
- Counseling on the problems experienced by single parents after divorce and the regulation of their relations with children

Roma Citizens

Institutional capacity building activities will be carried out together with all parties (Public Institutions, NGOs and Academicians) responsible and interested in the Strategy Document and Action Plan for Roma Citizens.

Psychosocial Support Services in Case of Disasters

Carrying out psychosocial support services for the prevention of psychological maladjustment and disorders that may arise after disasters and emergencies, re-establishing/developing relations at the family and community level, recognizing their own capacities in the process of returning to their 'normal' lives and ensuring their empowerment.

Refugees

Our organization supports immigrants in our province by cooperating with UNHCR. In total, 52 of our personnel are working towards the needs of the immigrants in our province. IFSS provides economic support and individual consultancy services to immigrants in Istanbul.

Our Provincial Directorate, in coordination with the Provincial Directorate of Immigration and UNHCR, is conducting efforts to enhance collaboration with the Provincial Directorate of Immigration aimed at increasing cooperation for the professional staff working in the field of refugees at our Social Service Centers.

Unaccompanied asylum-seeker children who enter our country are taken into institutional care in order to carry out care and sheltering measures within the Ministry of Family and Social Services, in accordance with the Implementation instruction of the Ministry of Internal Affairs dated 22.06.2006

and numbered 57 and on the basis of the Child Protection Law No. 5395. In our Child Support Centers, we provide services to children aged 13-18, who are neglected and abused by their parents and who are left unprotected against all kinds of dangers and who live on the streets, and unaccompanied refugee children aged 13-18 who have left their countries.

Key Person

- -Mr. Ömer TURAN is the Director of our organisation. organization. He was born in 1977 in Düzce. He completed his primary and secondary education in Düzce. Abant İzzet Baysal University Faculty of Education. He graduated from Classroom Teaching in 2000. In 2000, he was appointed as a Classroom Teacher at Istanbul Küçükçekmece Tepe Primary School. In 2003, he was appointed as deputy principal of the same school. In 2005, he was appointed as a classroom teacher at Düzce Avni Akyol Primary School. In 2008, he was appointed as assistant principal of the same school. In 2010, he was appointed to Düzce Provincial Social Services Directorate as Deputy Provincial Director. He was appointed as Provincial Director in April 2011.
- -Mr. Halis KURALAY is the Deputy Director of our organisation and he is responsible for EU Foreign Relations, Projects and R&D Branches and he has worked for many projects in social services. He graduated from Boğaziçi University, Bachelor of Science, Department of Psychology in 1992. He started to work as a Teacher and Psychological Counselor in the Ministry of National Education in 1993. He worked as Special Education Branch Deputy Director (2005 2012), Deputy Head Teacher(2015-2017). He was appointed Istanbul Deputy Provincial Director in 2012 and he has worked for Disability Services and Accessibility btw (2012-2020).

Due to his visual impairment he himself experiences the needs, of disability and accessibility in the first hand and make him an avid volunteer for creating awareness in public by giving trainings, lecturing on Disability and Accessibility. He also worked in projects about disability (Education Overcomes All the Obstacles Project, Turquoise Nor Boundaries Disableds, Breaking the Boundaries of Blindness)

-Ms. Emine ÜZÜM TAN Mrs. Emine Üzüm Tan is Family and Social Services Expert. She graduated from Political Science and Public Administration Department in METU (2003) and had MA in Social Anthropology in Ankara University (2010). She had been worked in Foreign Relations Department in General Directorate of Family and Social Researchers of Prime Ministry until 2011. She worked on youth in her two thesis (expert and master thesis) and worked in many national social research projects of General Directorate. She completed Ankara University EU BasicTraining Programme with the thesis titled 'Family Support Services in context of EU Social Policies' in 2007. She has been working as EU and Foreign Relations Branch Manager since 2012 and she has coordinated local, national and international projects of Directorate for 10 years.