



Activities of the Organisation “Equal Society”

“Equal Society” was established in February 2010 as an independent and non-profit organization aiming at carrying out actions for combatting social exclusion, unemployment and poverty. Its primary objective is to support and inform citizens on the issues related to equal treatment and non-discrimination in all areas of social life.

More specifically, its interventions are related to the following areas:

EDUCATION:

- **“Studying with Scholarships”**: We offer full-time scholarships for undergraduate and postgraduate students, young and old, who cannot afford to pursue their studies. To date, the programme has provided more than 310 scholarships.
- **“E-Gnosis Programme”**: Provision of training in new technologies and English language that allows vulnerable groups to obtain accredited certificates. To date more than 15,000 people have been trained and certified.
- **“Education 4 all”**: Since 2017 we have been offering the opportunity to refugees and migrants to be trained in basic computer skills, Greek, English and French.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND PROTECTION:

- **Soup kitchens**: In partnership with the Municipality of Athens in Attica, the Holy Metropolis of Lefkada & Ithaca and the Municipality of Lefkada we have established two Soup Kitchens in the Regional Unit of Lefkada. Our structures to date have provided more than 950,000 portions of food. At the same time, they develop and implement multi-faceted social re-integration activities such as psychosocial support, job counseling and information on job opportunities, the first theater group of homeless people (“Walkabout”) in Greece, the Equal Cinema in collaboration with FeelGood Entertainment, book presentations, creative workshops and education scholarships for children from disadvantaged families.
- **Social Pharmacy**: In Lefkada and Corfu we have developed two social pharmacies serving 400 homeless and poor people.
- **Open Day Center for Homeless people**: The Organization's Open Day Center provides the opportunity for 220 people to meet their daily needs and receive psychosocial support and job counseling.
- **Social Housing**: In collaboration with the Archdiocese of Athens and Child's Smile, the initiative provided housing to 35 homeless people living in Attica. Their housing rehabilitation was accompanied by psychological support and job counseling.
- **Social Practice**: In Corfu, the medical and nursing staff provide on a daily basis primary care services to homeless and other people in need.
- **Street Work** actions to support homeless people in Athens, Corfu and Lefkada.

SOCIAL INCLUSION:

- **STEP UP:** The general objective of the project is to establish a new transnational network of adult education providers, who implement informal and non-formal educational activities for the promotion of the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. The Network will facilitate the cooperation and exchange of experiences among the partners, and promote the role of culture and arts, in the context of adult education, in facilitating the social inclusion of vulnerable groups.
- **ART & INCLUSION:** The main objectives of the project are to promote the social inclusion of adults with disabilities and mental illness, through the capacity building of professionals and organizations working in this field; the production of knowledge in the context of the use of artistic methodologies in non-formal education as an adjunct to the construction of the individual life project of people with disabilities and mental disorders; the exchange of good practices among professionals, aiming its transnational replication; and to contribute to the development of innovative practices in adult education, namely non-formal education throughout art.
- **ROM:** The project aims to establish the “Observatory for Advocacy and Protection of Human Rights of Roma” which will collect, elaborate and forward reports to competent bodies. The Observatory will contribute substantially in the protection of human rights of Roma community.
- **RTS+:** In collaboration with the Center for Dependent Individuals (KETHEA) we have developed an innovative initiative aiming at the integration of drug addicts through adventurous sports.
- **RePower:** In cooperation with the Hellenic Paralympic Committee, we are implementing Paralympic Sports activities for integrating refugees with disabilities into the Greek society.
- **Legal Counseling:** We provide legal assistance to homeless, socially excluded and other people in need.
- **STEADY:** European initiative to raise awareness on the issue of integration of migrant PwDs in Europe through sport.
- **Young Geeks:** The aim of the project is to enable a strong environment for the empowerment of young entrepreneurs in the field of agriculture, tourism and technology. The ultimate goal of the project is to promote sustainable development through the exchange of best practices in the field of youth entrepreneurship as well as a large-scale transnational cooperation.

EMPLOYMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP:

- **Counseling Center:** More than 840 people have been received services by the Counseling Center during the job search process.
- **Open Gate:** zhteitai.gr is a job search and education platform that stands close to the most vulnerable people. Beneficiaries of the Community Centers and of the social structures in the country will now be able to have instant access to advertisements,



training and educational programmes and information about their rights in order to reintegrate into the social and professional community.

- **Social Economy Support Center of Lefkada:** We provide counseling services to support and develop social enterprises.

RESEARCH – EVALUATIONS:

- **Social Value Network in Greece:** An initiative to develop a nationwide Social Value network in Greece and establish monitoring and evaluation methods for organizations as part of their daily operation. More than 50 Non-Governmental Organizations, social enterprises and private companies have been evaluated.

CULTURE AND ARTS:

The theater group of homeless people (“Walkabout”) in Greece: It is an innovative educational tool and a means of raising public awareness on issues related to vulnerable groups.

NETWORKS & ADVOCACY

Equal Society is an official member of FEANTSA (European Federation of National Organizations Working with the Homeless); the National Anti-poverty network; the National Network to Combat Homelessness; the National Register of Greek and Foreign Organizations active in matters of international protection, migration and social inclusion; the First Reception Register of the Ministry of the Interior. Equal Society is a certified provider of primary social care services and is a member of the National Register of Social Economy.

AWARDS

Equal Society has received the following awards:

- QUALITY AWARD 2013 by the President of the Hellenic Republic
- BRAVO SUSTAINABILITY AWARD 2015
- BRAVO SUSTAINABILITY AWARD 2019



EQUAL SOCIETY

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