

TFN Impact Report

Name of your Organisation:	Refugee Support Europe Limited
Name of the project TFN funded:	Paul Hutchings
Date Funded by TFN:	1 st December 2016
Were you able to undertake your project as planned?	Yes
Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?	<p>The problem we identified was a lack of consistency, normality and dignity on refugee camps in Greece. This made vulnerable people feel like second-class citizens with no control over their lives.</p> <p>Consistency: We provided supplementary food distribution via a mini market with fixed and reliable opening times.</p> <p>Normality: each resident was given points to be spent on a weekly shopping trip so they could choose what they wanted from the essential food items, fresh fruits, and vegetables they asked us to provide. This process has evolved so they are now given tokens so they can visit the shop anytime during opening hours to spend as much or as little as they like. We also maintain boutiques where they shop for essential shoes and clothing.</p> <p>Dignity: The shops and boutiques were central to the wellbeing of the camps and also enabled us to create a community kitchen offering 200-400 hot Syrian meals a day, 2 cafeterias, a school for 200 students learning 4 languages, 2 top quality playgrounds and 1 outdoor gym, a football pitch, to fund key celebrations and provide emergency heating during harsh weather.</p> <p>Over 450 volunteers from 34 nations have served around 6,000 camp residents, some for a few weeks, some for 18 months. In our first year, we distributed about £250,000 of aid plus 20,000 nappies, 35,000 items of clothing, 5,000 pairs of shoes, and invested about £430,000 in Greece by buying locally.</p>
What portion of the project did TFN fund?	15% of our food purchases over a year
How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	2,000
How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	0
Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?	No
Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the	No

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event?	
How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?	We would have found it difficult to achieve our objectives without TFN funding
Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?	Many. We expanded to other camps and broadened our services. We have a more stable team of volunteers supporting our activities.
Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?	It's fine but very tightly controlled. The process feels mass-produced so either rely on written applications or rely on verbal presentations to qualify - the verbal element is rushed and feels random. I can see why you would want to manage carefully how and what people present at the event but would allow them a little more freedom. Everyone we dealt with was friendly and supportive.
Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?	Here is a testimonial from someone on the camp. We have more: https://youtu.be/v8ncRkGppiA This is about the shop: https://youtu.be/CF6VFhbz-iM