

## Municipality of Budapest

The Municipality of Budapest has no authority over the reception and integration of refugees and asylum seekers, so all our activities are voluntary, based on identified deficiencies and unmet needs.

At the outbreak of the war, the first responders were charities and NGOs, and the central government was not present at the railway stations of Budapest, so for the first 4 days **coordination of the assistance given at the railway stations** was provided by organisations of the Municipality. Organisations of the central government took over the task of coordination on the 5th day.

From the first day of the crisis, the Municipality prepared **shelters to receive refugees** who need temporary accommodation when they arrive in Budapest. Those who wish to return to Ukraine after the end of the war and need help with permanent shelter until then are transported to holiday resorts outside the city. Until now, over 1400 refugees have spent about 63 thousand guest-nights at shelters maintained by the City of Budapest. Those who need assistance and shelter mainly belong to the poorer sections of Ukrainian society and have Hungarian or Roma origins and arrive in large families with 10 to 20 members, over half of them are minors and there are twice as many women amongst the adults as men.

The Municipality provides **food** not only at the shelters that are maintained by us but at several other locations as well for over 5-600 people daily. The overall number of meals provided is currently above 180 thousand.

**Public transport** in Budapest was made accessible **for free** for people fleeing from Ukraine and the City provided **extra buses** needed in the transfer of refugees between railway stations and the central transit point.

The Municipality created a **dedicated web page** (available in Ukrainian, Russian, English as well), email address and phone number for those who need help or wish to help and opened 2 **Information Points** in cooperation with IOM and UNHCR in which we provide information in person. We received and answered well over 6 thousand requests, offers or inquiries.

In cooperation with CrisisReady, an international NGO, the City also organized a **workshop** 43 representatives of city governments, international agencies, non-profits, private sector technology and telecommunications companies, and researchers **to develop solutions to improve city-level analyses of refugee dynamics, needs, and investments** prompted by the war in Ukraine.

In the first month of the conflict the City of Budapest provided **financial aid and material donations** to our sister city, Beregszász (Берегове) and in September the mayor invited 2 groups, overall, 122 children from Kyiv to spend 10-day holidays in lakeside camps.