



October - November 2021

Training and Employment Creation in Kazakhstan

CSR Project Comes to a Successful Completion

Launched in March 2021, the six-month project to empower Kazakh women came to a successful conclusion at the end of September. Entitled: **“Education for All: Empowerment of Vulnerable Women”**, the project was implemented by *Zhurekten Zhurekke* Public Fund (Heart to Heart), and provided 100 underprivileged women with two-month practical training in various trades: social media, make-up artist, seamstress, beauty care, and culinary. All the participants received certificates of successful completion of the courses, followed with a series of workshops and meetings to provide them with soft skills training, and business management guidance for the development of their careers.



Career development included:

1. A three-day workshop on the basics of business, delivered by a certified business coach and an expert of the National Chamber of Entrepreneurs.
2. Meeting with the leadership of the Department of Justice on child support. Since many of the project participants are single mothers left to fend for themselves without financial support, the meeting provided the women with the needed information about their rights, and the legal obligations of parents and particularly of fathers.
3. Three motivational business breakfasts with the Association of Business Women at the Chamber of Entrepreneurs. The motivational meetings provided the women with the space to discuss their hardships, connect and network with businesswomen in various industries.
4. Soft skills and well-being workshop delivered by a psychologist from the Center of Family Well-being. The workshop empowered the women and decreased their psychological barriers and fears which prevented them from self-realization. The participants were also given the opportunity to meet individually with the psychologist to discuss issues that concern them.



Besides the building of skills, the career development workshops and meetings provided the women with increased self-confidence, greater knowledge in business management, improved their teamwork skills, and enhanced their decision making process. As a result of the project, 59 of the women were either able to start their own small businesses or find employment.

CCC Volunteers in Greece, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE Celebrate the World Food Day by Giving...

October 16 of every year, the World Food Day is celebrated around the world where hundreds of outreach activities are held to create awareness about those who suffer from hunger and about the need to ensure healthy diets for all. The theme for World Food Day for 2021 was “**Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow**”, is based on appreciating individuals who have contributed to creating sustainable surroundings where no one is left hungry. CCC volunteers in Greece, Saudi Arabia and the UAE have contributed to this theme by donating food supplies and committing a few hours of their time to benefit 2,302 people in need.



WORLD FOOD DAY VOLUNTEERISM AT CCC GREECE | SAUDI ARABIA | UAE

CCC's CSR engages employees to support the mission of Food Banks in Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Greece in their mission to reduce hunger, malnutrition and food waste.

36
Volunteers

Hours 100
Volunteered

2,302
Beneficiaries

GREECE



SAUDI ARABIA



UAE

Donation & Volunteerism



CCC Participates in Qatar's 2021 Sustainability Week Campaign

CCC projects in Qatar participated in Qatar's 2021 Sustainability week which was organized by the Qatar Green Building Council. The week-long national Campaign aimed to engage the community in a wide range of sustainability oriented activities and played an important role in raising awareness about the importance on how we can meet our needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.



From the 23rd to the 30th of October, CCC carried out various activities to promote the nation's sustainability vision and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals. These activities included:

1. Awareness-raising activities among its office and project staff by sending out informational videos, posters, and a toolbox on environmental sustainability and how to minimize the use of resources such as wood, steel, concrete, water, paper, as well as how to save energy, and tips on reusing and recycling of material.
2. Carried out a Paperless Day on all project sites, where all printers were switched off. By recycling 8 tons of paper and cardboard this year, CCC managed to save: 140 trees, 50,000 gallons of water, 3000 gallons of oil, 25 cubic yards of landfill, 35,000 kilowatt of energy, and 500 pounds of air pollutants.
3. Organized a photo session with staff holding sustainability-related posters.
4. Engaged employees in planting 100 trees and pruning existing trees on project sites.
5. Engaged staff in a beach clean-up in Qetaifan North Island, Lusail. Recyclable waste was segregated on-site and was sent for recycling.

Increasingly, companies are making public commitments to sustainability through actions like reducing waste, investing in renewable energy, and supporting organizations that work toward a more sustainable future. Through its participation in the campaign, CCC renewed its commitment and pledge to implement sustainable construction and workplace practices.

CCC Donates Van for Emergency Medical Services of the Goodwill Caravan



In October 2021, CCC donated the 7 seater Mercedes van of its late Chairman; Mr. Hassib Sabbagh, for Goodwill Caravan's humanitarian medical and emergency response projects in Athens. The Goodwill Caravan (GWC) is a non-profit humanitarian charity which carries out global refugee protection projects including emergency aid distribution, shelter for the most vulnerable, as well as providing them with legal and medical support in the UK and Greece.

"On behalf of the board of Goodwill Caravan, myself and our beneficiaries, I would like to take this opportunity to thank CCC for their continued support of Goodwill Caravan projects."

We are beyond grateful for CCC's generous donation of the van which will be paramount in furthering our reach to vulnerable displaced populations, for our emergency medical project, and all other emergency response efforts. We are proud of our continuous collaborative efforts and our joint humanitarian goals." said Hanan Ashgh, Founder and Executive Director of Goodwill Caravan.

The medical services of GWC assisted more than 320 beneficiaries in the first 6 months of 2021 by facilitating access to the Greek Healthcare System, coordinating care of beneficiaries with complex medical needs, providing emergency medical aid, arranging vaccinations for children, and hosting weekly Outreach Clinics at GWC's Al-Sallam Centre in partnerships with Doctors without Borders and Medical Volunteers International.

The donated van will immensely facilitate the work of the NGO in many ways, especially in its emergency medical service as they usually transport their beneficiaries who need immediate medical attention via multiple taxi rides to take them to and from hospital appointments.

The van will also be used on a daily basis by the medical coordinators to visit families, respond to emergencies, and distribute aid, as well as to transport families and furniture for the shelter project of GWC; thus reducing the cost of having to hire trucks.



Partnership for Volunteering with Education above All - Qatar



In October, CCC donated 20,000 Qatari Riyal to Education Above All; an umbrella organization which focuses on providing educational opportunities to communities stricken by poverty or crisis. The donated funds went to support the organization's fundraising campaign which aims to provide access to quality education for marginalized youth and children worldwide.

In the future, CCC through its Corporate Volunteering Program aims to engage its employees in renovating old schools and provide the required material and manpower resources needed for the required renovations.

CCC Volunteers Help Cyclone Victims in Oman

In October, tropical cyclone Shaheen struck Muscat with strong winds and heavy rains flooding streets and prompting evacuations of coastal area residents, especially those living in Al Suwaiiq and Al Khaboura.

CCC volunteers were quickly mobilized to help the community and CCC employees. They helped in cleaning CCC employee houses from mud which had infiltrated into their homes, and helped Nidaa Charity in the distribution of 450 boxes of food supplies to those affected by the cyclone.



Recycling for a Good Cause - Kazakhstan

On the occasion of the International Day for the eradication of poverty, CSR in Kazakhstan, donated 340 mattresses and 296 carpets to families living in poverty. CCC's volunteers coordinated and delivered the mattresses and carpets from CCC's project in Tengiz to *Zhurekten-Zhurekke Fund*, the Zhan Yerkemai public foundation, and the Society of Disabled in Atyrau; all of which serve and cater to the needs of low-income families.



On-line Translation that serves the needs of the homeless in Athens



After the successful cooperation with Emfasis in the Bake4Good Easter initiative, two of CCC's volunteers, **Dimitra Ntalachani**, and the mother of CCC employee **Eleanor Bonanos** translated various documents (from Greek to English) related to the NGO's Life Therapy Program for homeless people living on the street. The program includes such activities as listening to music, learning of a musical instrument, presenting live music performances, and creative activities such as painting, collage, and theatrical plays. These activities aim to provide the homeless some mental relief, upgrade their quality of life, and improve their physical, social, emotional and spiritual condition and health.

In addition, Dimitra Ntalachani translated a PowerPoint presentation which describes the difficulties faced by the elderly homeless people who are above 60 years old, the difficulty in helping them, and the benefits of collaboration between civil society organizations to better serve those who are considered the most vulnerable social groups of the population.

The translation will help Emfasis in soliciting international funding for their homeless relief programs, as 80% of their annual funding is coming from overseas foundations and donors. In addition, the translated material will be used in manuals and journals for their overseas networks, as well as their website, blog, and social media, to spread information about their work among English-speaking communities.

***Note:** EMFASIS is a humanitarian NGO that caters to the needs of the homeless, the unemployed, families who live below the poverty line and supports socially excluded families who live in very difficult conditions.

Online Mentoring Provide Support to Vulnerable Beneficiaries of two NGOs in Athens

In coordination with two NGOs in Athens; Odyssea and the Social Hackers Academy (SHA); CSR engaged volunteers from Qatar, UAE, Kazakhstan, Greece, Algeria, and Saudi Arabia, to mentor, support, guide and develop the soft skills of beneficiaries of the two organizations and prepare them to join the workforce and improve their living conditions.

While the mentees of the Social Hackers Academy included vulnerable Greeks, migrants and asylum seeker students of a Front End Web Development course, the mentees of Odyssea included migrants from Iraq, Afghanistan, Cameroon, Congo, Pakistan, Gambia and Sierra Leone who are all seeking equal opportunities and jobs in various fields.



Mechanical Site Engineer in Kazakhstan, Mounir Kassem who recently finished his mentoring of 3 mentees said: *“My team was committed and excited, I believe that they will achieve their targets as all of them are goal-oriented. It was a great experience of bonding and building a good productive relationship throughout our weekly meetings.”*



The mentoring sessions empowered and enhanced the mentees' digital skills, and helped them in defining their career path. Specifically, the mentors helped the mentees in identifying their goals, boosted their self-confidence and self-presentation skills, improved their professional digital footprint on social media, and provided them with guidance on creating good resumes as well as tips on job interviewing.

Financial Officer in Qatar, Christos Vyltaniotis who also completed his mentoring sessions said: *“I thank CSR for providing this mentoring opportunity. The interaction was an eye opener on*

the tough situations that refugees and war refugees are facing away from their home countries. Each one of them is living an “odyssey”, a trip towards their dreamland. My mentee was a very polite, emotionally intelligent person with great energy and dreams for a better future.”

Louay Othman, who works in the Human Resources Department in Kazakhstan and who also recently finished his sessions said: *“I appreciate this experience that was given to us as mentors as it has positively impacted me and the mentees. I had a great experience not only by mentoring the group of students assigned to me, but also by building a well-balanced bond between the mentees and myself.”*

***Note:** Odyssey is a Greek non-profit organization founded in 2016 with a mission is to empower excluded and vulnerable refugee, migrant and local communities in Greece, enable self-reliance, accelerate efforts towards a more inclusive society and democratize access to technological advances.

Social Hackers Academy is a non-profit organization that offers tech courses to socially vulnerable groups in order to help them obtain quality tech education that leads to employment.

Mental Health Wellness Awareness at Riyadh Metro Project

Between July 5 and September 16, 19 mental health wellness awareness sessions were held at Riyadh Metro Project to empower CCC supervisors' ability to identify the early warning signs of stress and depression amongst workers; foremen, charge hands, and others. The Covid-19 pandemic has had negative effects on staff and workers leaving many with signs of stress such as panic attacks, confusion, and uncertainty.

It was observed that CCC workers were undergoing tremendous stress due to locked downs, travel restrictions, and other protective measures. It was also noticed that workers were having insomnia, with reduced functionality causing an increased amount of absenteeism and reduced productivity.

The sessions were delivered by CCC's project welfare officer and were designed to enable leaders on site to identify warning signs of stress and depression in order to address issues and take the appropriate supportive measures. As a result of the sessions, and in addition to improving the team morale, some cases of mild depression and acute stress were identified and were provided with the needed support to address and thus to overcome their problems.



Digital Race for the Cure 2021

On October 1, 2 and 3, 28 CCC employees and their families in Athens and Beirut participated in the biggest Race or walk for the Cure. The race is organized on an annual basis all around the world and in Athens by the Hellenic Association of Women with Breast Cancer "Alma Zois". It aims to increase awareness about breast cancer and to raise funds for its prevention. Some of the employees who couldn't actually participate, supported the cause by buying T-shirts to help the Association in its mission to raise public awareness, promote prevention and early diagnosis of the disease and support those who are currently living with breast cancer.



Saudi National Day | Saudi Arabia

On September 23, 2021, CCC's Al-Khobar office organized the 91st Saudi National Day celebration, with the participation of several leaders and employees, including Mr. Khalil Yafawi, Mr. Sulaiman Al-Qahtani, Mr. Muhammad Kawash and Mr. Khalid Al-Saiari. During the ceremony, many events were held with the participation of all colleagues in the Al-Khobar office.



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KEEP IT ON THE SCREEN!