



Year report 2018

From short term to sustainable projects

2018 was the year of consolidation and further professionalisation. Always practical, always looking closely at what is needed with a focus on what we are good at. What is going well, what can be improved? Professionalising without losing decisiveness, by remaining flexible and above all by connecting head and heart. Then, you get sensible developments which do justice.

Boat Refugee Foundation exists for four years now. At the start of 2019 we are entering our fifth year. Four years of providing medical and psycho social assistance, with more than 3000 professional volunteers, has made us an important and expert 'player' in the field of foreign voluntary work and crisis relief efforts.

The way we do this makes us unique. We work according to strict protocols and efficient workflows, but we continue to use the possibilities to respond ad hoc and flexibly to the ever-changing requests for help from our target group; vulnerable people seeking refuge. For us, professionalism does not mean unwieldy and rigid, but competent, warm and flexible. This combination of professionalism and always working on a human scale makes our way of working so pleasant, accessible and appealing. We find it important to bring light and hope where there is darkness and where despair threatens to take over. To go against the tide and do justice to people to thus bringing back humanity into a deeply de-humanizing system.

We have noticed that the short-term aid of the first years has unequivocally changed. We have now focused all our attention on our work in Greece.

We do this in different places, inside and outside the walls of camp Moria as well as investigating where else in Greece Boat Refugee Foundation can provide a meaningful contribution. We invest in contact with fellow NGOs with whom we work, in improving and perpetuating the places where we work, in the continual professionalization of the teams and in expanding our activities. In this way, a stable long-term vision and focus can be created in Greece.

This also means that we want to invest in a sustainable relationship with our volunteers, donors, funds and partners. Our supporters are of great value and enable us to continue our work.

Sometimes it seems that the refugee crisis in Greece has disappeared. You don't hear about it in the news anymore. But nothing could be further from the truth. People in dinghies are still arriving daily, looking for a place to take refuge. And because we believe that a helping hand and a friendly word can make the difference in knowing that you are not invisible, Boat Refugee Foundation continues to do her work faithfully. Far away from the delusion of the day, being faithful in both the big and small things. This is what we stand for!

Annerieke Berg - de Boer



patients per day

The medical clinic is open 7 days a week. The medical team sees about 80 patients a day. The majority of patients are treated for both physical and mental health problems.



of these are children

Many children have gastrointestinal problems. Due to a lack of healthy food and hygiene, children become ill much more often.



pupils per week

At the only school in Moria we teach an average of 120 children per week. They are aged between 6 and 10 years old and wouldn't be able to go to school otherwise. In addition, we teach English to 120 adults every week.



volunteers joined our team!

The year in numbers

A year summarized in figures. Figures that represent real people. Real people with real faces and their own story. Stories that deserve to be heard.

At the end of 2018, according to official figures, there were 4.919 people living in the Moria refugee camp, mostly in tents or self-built huts. Last summer, the numbers even rose to almost 9.000 inhabitants. Moria is overcrowded and almost twice as many people reside here than is allowed according to official capacity (3,100). We see these people, and extend them a helping hand. Thanks to the support of our loyal supporters, we will continue to do so in 2019. Because every person matters.

"Our mission: to care for the most vulnerable refugees."

Missions in Moria

Help is still badly needed in Greece. In 2018, Boat Refugee Foundation provided medical and psychosocial care in the Moria refugee camp on Lesbos. Moria is a registration camp for everyone who applies for asylum on Lesbos. The camp is run by the Greek police and is led by the Greek authorities in cooperation with the UNHCR. In everything we do, we stick to our mission: to take care of the most vulnerable refugees.



Medical mission

At the beginning of 2018, we temporarily halted our medical mission in the Moria refugee camp. We had the hope and expectation that the Greeks, with the support of the EU, could take care of this concern themselves. Unfortunately, there was a lack of capacity on the part of local aid workers to meet the long-term demand for health care in the camp.

Therefore, on 1 May 2018, we restarted our medical mission on Lesvos. Since then, our medical care has gone from strength to strength, with more stable finances, an improved registration system, ensuring the privacy of patients and a larger team in the Netherlands and on Lesvos. We work together with other Greek organisations, such as Keelpno and Kitrinos. Every day, a team of doctors and nurses was ready to offer medical care to refugees. Every day doctors and nurses of Boat Refugee Foundation were ready to provide medical care in the evening and at night. During these hours they were the only medics in the camp. Eighty to one hundred patients appeared at the clinic every day.

Approximately one third of these patients were under the age of 18, half of whom were between 0 and 4 years old. The help ranged from handing out paracetamol to treating people attempting suicide. Due to mutual tensions among refugees, injuries resulting from riots, fights and other physical abuse were also treated.

In 2018, Boat Refugee Foundation also started keeping records of patients, with the aim of gaining more insight into the real medical necessity. This data is for internal use and is also shared with partner NGOs to use the resources where the need is greatest.

PSS mission

The psychosocial programme in Moria ran extremely well in 2018. Some 400 children and adults took part in the activities each week. Boat Refugee Foundation makes a big difference in the field of education for children and adults and in offering professional psychological help.

Children were taught at the Moria School of Hope. Some 120 children took part in the lessons five days a week. The teachers' team consisted of six committed and experienced teachers who live in Moria. At the School of Hope, children are prepared in their native language for formal education in Greece, or elsewhere in the world. For many children, this is their first school.

At the end of 2018, we opened a new community centre just outside camp Moria. Here we provide daily English language and literacy classes and computer education to adults living in Moria. In addition, we give workshops that provide support in case of stress and other psychological complaints. The community centre also offers space for relaxation. In the weekends it is open to refugees who like to read a book, play a game or have a cup of tea.

Two or three times a week there is also a social round through Moria. In our social rounds we lend an ear to the residents of Moria, to talk about what is important to them. Social workers and psychologists from Boat Refugee Foundation listen, think along and provide people with the necessary information about activities or facilities.

Almost all activities in the Moria camp were set up and carried out with and by refugees. Our teachers, handymen, carpenters, librarians and interpreters are all refugees from the camp. Together we strengthen each other and make a difference.



Fardin* | Teacher

'I fled because my family was threatened by ISIS. In my home country of Yemen, I taught English, but I really wanted to continue studying. That's why I fled to Europe. I ended up here in Moria via all kinds of detours. To give something back to the community, I started teaching at the School of Hope.

Because I was an English teacher, I could easily teach English and Arabic here. Teaching is fun, but working in Moria is also very challenging. The students sometimes don't behave according to their age, which makes you feel like a babysitter from time to time.

They have been through so much and all need a psychologist. That sometimes makes it difficult in the classroom. The students prefer to have fun rather than learn. Sometimes I try to meet them in the middle: one minute I'm joking with them, and the next I'm serious again.

Moria is not a nice place; I'm glad I can do something to help the children. If you live here for a long time, it will do strange things to you. People quickly lose their temper and struggle with anger. Because the children come to school, I can see them and keep an eye on them. And here they have a place where they can have fun.'

*This is a fictitious name

An impression of our work



Cooperation partners, f.e.





Roos | PSS volunteer

'I worked in Moria from January to June. At first, I wondered whether we, as aid workers, were really useful. What difference does it make that there is a library if the circumstances in which you live are so minimal? **But the longer I was there, the more I saw how much we can still mean.** For example, the parents of the pupils of our School of Hope were so grateful that we taught their children English.

The stories that people tell about why they have fled and what they have experienced are very moving. The most intense moment was when I walked through the camp with a colleague and someone came up to us and said that he wanted to commit suicide. You feel like there's very little you can do for anyone at a time like this. You don't want to give someone false hope by saying that he can be helped by a psychologist, because he probably won't end up there anyway. That's when your heart really breaks. Luckily he didn't do it.

It is nice to be home again, but I miss the work, the people and the positive atmosphere in the volunteer house and would like to move on to another mission. My dream for the future is to keep working on improving the quality and safety of refugee camps around the world.'

Financial overview

Balance sheet

per December, 31 2018 (after processing of result)

Amounts in euro's (€)	2018	2017
Assets		
Tangible fixed assets		
Inventory	10.883	12.885
Receivables		
Other receivables	13.038	10.336
Liquid assets	<u>396.078</u>	<u>277.352</u>
	419.999	300.573
Liabilities		
Equity		
Special-purpose reserve	125.000	-
Other reserves	<u>276.213</u>	<u>260.885</u>
	401.213	260.885
Current liabilities		
Creditors	3.535	7.486
Tax	4.991	7.446
Accruals and deferrals	10.435	24.819
Other current liabilities	<u>-175</u>	<u>-64</u>
	<u>18.787</u>	<u>39.688</u>
	419.999	300.573

Donations

Amounts in euro's (€)	2018	2017
Donations	<u>568.495</u>	<u>811.517</u>
	568.495	811.517



We can only do our work thanks to donations from individuals, churches, funds and companies. In 2018, for example, a number of great fundraisers were organised, such as Lastminute Lesvos, various presentations by former volunteers and several marathon runners wearing our shirt.



Various funds support our work, sometimes for several years. EO Metterdaad and the Fred Foundation, among others, made our work possible in 2018 with a number of beautiful donations.



Advocacy

In the summer of 2018, Moria was bursting at the seams. The situation in the camp reached a new low. Several NGOs drew up an open letter directed at the camp management. Since then, Boat Refugee Foundation has been investigating the possibility of advocacy, strategies to promote the interests of refugees. **After four years of experience as a crisis counsellor in Greece, we think it is important to get more involved in campaigns that can bring about structural change.** For example, we joined the Advocacy Working Group in Athens and set up a database for serious illnesses and failing (psychosocial) care on the island.

In March 2019, on the three-year anniversary of the EU-Turkey deal, we and other NGOs sent an open letter to political leaders in Europe. In this letter, we urged political leaders in Europe to put an end to the unfair and unnecessary detention of asylum seekers in the Greek hotspots.

In 2019, we want to further professionalise our data collection and strengthen our advocacy role. We want to support campaigns that are in line with our work. We also want to investigate what else we can do in the Netherlands and the EU to inform politicians about the situation in Greece.



Donations per category



Expenses

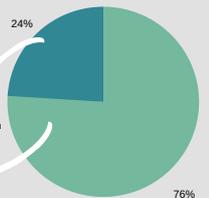
Amounts in euros (€)	2018	2017
Program expenses Greece		
Personnel expenses	186.036	298.904
Other program expenses	<u>124.813</u>	<u>213.564</u>
Subtotal program expenses	310.849	512.468
Organization expenses		
Personnel expenses	58.930	94.683
Depreciation expenses	3.338	2.918
Housing expenses	13.573	17.265
Office expenses	8.409	9.847
Promotions expenses	22.643	61.493
General expenses	<u>10.426</u>	<u>15.607</u>
Subtotal organization expenses	117.319	201.813
Total expenses	428.168	714.281

Staff costs

Working on Lesvos: 3 ft in the NL: 4,1 ft

HR, fundraising, communication, administration

Direct commitment to the missions



Noteworthy affairs

Purchase of a cabin for our new **community centre**, which has been in use since winter 2018



The winter campaign **This could be your child** drew extra attention to the harrowing conditions in the winter months.

Recap

Amounts in euros (€)	2018	2017
Donations	568.495	811.517
Expenses	<u>428.168</u>	<u>714.281</u>
Total	140.327	97.236
Appropriation of result		
Special-purpose reserve	125.000	-
Other reserves	<u>15.327</u>	<u>97.236</u>
Total	140.327	97.236

Appropriation of result

Special-purpose reserve
Amount required for rounding up the commitment entered into in the event of the dissolution of foundation and/or the work.

Other reserves
These reserves absorb the expenses during the year when incoming donations are low.



Marit | Planner

Three years ago, I was an intern at an NGO. A colleague there went to do voluntary work for Boat Refugee Foundation. Via her LinkedIn I saw that the foundation needed a planner. I was in a gap year and was looking for volunteer work. Since then I've still been involved with the foundation.

I keep track of the planning of the psychosocial activities. I maintain contact with (potential) volunteers and make the planning for the PSS team. **Occasionally this is one big puzzle, but I like puzzles, so that's all right.** Sometimes it's busy doing this in addition to my studies and other jobs, but I like being able to contribute in a concrete manner. I think that Boat Refugee Foundation does a good job and I'm glad that I can do my bit.

In addition to planning, I will soon be going to Lesvos as a media volunteer. That fits well with my background and it seems very informative to me to see with my own eyes what I have been working for in the Netherlands for so long. Among other things, I am allowed to interview people and share my experiences with the supporters. I hope to make people, from behind my desk, more aware of the necessity of our work. Exciting, but I'm also looking forward to it!

BRF-dreams

At Boat Refugee Foundation we like to dream big. To make sure we turn our dreams into reality, we are sharing our wish list for 2019 with you. Is there something which gives you itchy fingers? Help us to make a difference!

School of Hope

- Water tapping point
- renewal of the curriculum

Community center

- Shelter against sun and rain
- Beanbags
- Farsi books for the library
- Eight laptops with Microsoft Office for the computer classes

Medical clinic

- Curtains in the consulting rooms
- Water tapping point
- Fans for the computer classes

ICT-partner for...

- registration and planning of volunteers
- a practical SharePoint device for all our working documents

Mr. Fixit for...

- database work
- making movies of our psychosocial and medical training courses on Lesvos

Do you want to help? Do you have any ideas? Mail us: acties@bootvluchteling.nl

The team

Members of the board



René Berg
Chairman



Arjan Fennema
Treasurer



Iris van Irsel
Secretary



Pieter van Essen
Board member

Employees | The Netherlands



Annerieke Berg
Director



Annet Storm
Finance & fundraising



Myrna van der Veen
Project employee & HR



Rebecca van de Kar
Communication & press

Employees | Lesvos



Caroline van Kooten
Project manager



Femke
Medical coordinator



Marijke Menninga
PSS coordinator



Renée Spruit
Field coordinator

And many thanks to our former employees...

medical coordinator



Fons Stribosch



Linde Mollers



Hanaâ Benjeddi

PSS coordinator



Anke Messiaen



Asha Fleerackers



Beitske Kooistra

field coordinator



Noraly Schiet



Ellen Spoelstra



Anna Farrow

former employees The Netherlands



Evita Bloemheuvel
Communication & press



Charlotte Buitenkamp
Project manager



Margriet van der Woerd
Communication & press



Elke Jacobs
Medical supporter

...and many volunteers in the Netherlands and on Lesvos

In the media

Boat Refugee Foundation actively sought out the media in 2018. Conversely, we were also regularly approached by the media. Publicity is important. After all, the refugees must not be forgotten. But publicity also helps to arouse the interest of potential donors and volunteers.

Below you will find a selection of the publications and broadcasts in the past year. Click on the circles to see or hear more.

Magazine **De Nieuwe Koers** published in December an article by Felix de Fijter who was on Lesvos. He wrote about suicide attempts among children in the camp.



ND-journalist Ruth van der Kolk was also on Lesvos and described the tensions in the overcrowded camp.

Greek correspondent Thijs Kettenis wrote this impressive report in the newspaper **Trouw**.



He was also interviewed about this by **Radio 1**, for the programme **Bureau Buitenland**.



Guda Scholten, who was a doctor for us on Lesvos, could also be heard on **Radio 1**.



Het tv-programme **Hallo Nederland** interviewed doctor Myrte about the inadequate health care in Moria.



Broadcasting station **Omroep Gelderland** spoke to former volunteer Jurrien ten Brinke about his findings when he returned to Lesvos after three years.

