

# International Department of Welfare

International Protection Team (UAV)



# **International Department of Welfare**

#### **International Protection Team**

- a service provider to asylum seekers on behalf of the Directorate of Immigration
- provides social services to people with pending applications for International Protection, or denied International Protection status in Iceland
- those who are granted status are referred over to the refugee department

#### Refugee department

 Service provider to people that have received International Protection in Iceland, have Icelandic ID numbers, and rights to social benefits and other government subsidies



Reykjavík Municipality is a service provider to the Directorate of Immigration in Iceland

International Protection Team (UAV Team) provides services to asylum seekers

Current contract has been expanded to 300 people

Continuous flow of clients in and out of service. Weekly assessment of availability



# Demographic

#### Middle East, North Africa

Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Kurdistan, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Morrocco, Egypt, Iran, Yemen, Afghanistan,

#### East, West and South Africa

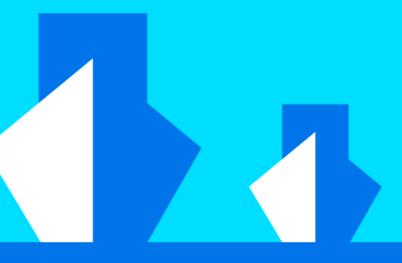
Nigeria, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Sudan, Guinea, Somalia, Uganda, Gambia,

#### **South and Central America**

Colombia, Venezuela, Chile, El Salvador, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Bolivia

#### **Eastern Europe**

Belarus, Mongolia, Macedonia





#### **About us**

- Team leader
- 15 members of staff
- Operating since 2014, started with 50 clients
- Five different nationalities
- Speak 10 different languages
- Icelandic, English,
  Arabic, Spanish,
  Turkish, Farsi, French,
  Croatian, Norwegian
  and Swedish

#### **Team assets**

- Cultural diversity
- Diverse educational background
- Great flexibility
- Combined experience allows for creative solutions
- Knowledge build-up
- Ability to provide excellent client support
- Opportunity to advance services within the sector

#### **Team challenges**

- Limited access to resources
- Systematic restrictions
- Racism & prejudice (public and within system)
- Infrastructure, lack of operational adjustments
- Contrasting roles serving client interests while cooperating with authorities (Immigration, Police)



Case Managers (8)

Housing Team (3)

Client Support (4)



# **Areas of Service**

#### **Housing Team**

Manage over 60 apartments around the Reykjavik area. Oversee maintainence and furnishing of apartments.





#### **Case managers**

Case managers are the primary contact to set up necessary services, e.g. emergency health & dental, enroll children to schools & kindergartens. Overall counselling to clients, mapping of interests & need for support, assist with work permit applications

#### **Client support**

Support personell assists case managers according to results of client mapping, e.g. with weekly client meetings, assisting with transport, groceries, etc.

#### **Financial subsidies**

- Weekly payments
- Access to public transport
- Icelandic courses
- Study books (16-18yrs)
- Gym membership
- Access to local swimming pools
- leisure activities for children



#### **Example of weekly payments:**

- 1. Family w. 6 children
  - = ISK 39.400 / **€262**
- 2. Individual
  - = ISK 10.700 / **€71**
- 3. Single parent w. 2 children
  - = ISK 22.700 / €151



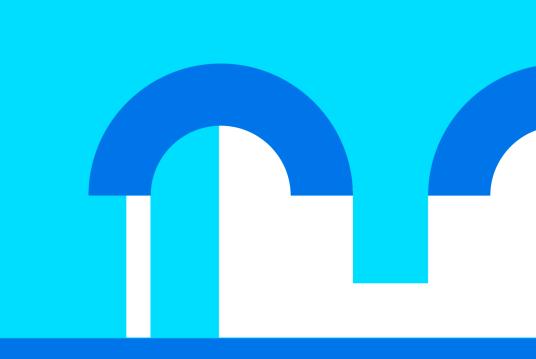
### Our focus as a team

Be a leading service provider in Iceland

Continue to build knowledge and expertise in the field

Strategic planning of service and adjustment according to changes in the sector

Developing programs that benefit clients in terms of improved health and well-being





Map of approach

Mental health

Self Help + Yoga

Walking group

Men's group

Women's group

Social activities

**Psychology services** 

Well being **Gym membership** 

**Swimming pool access** 

Theater & music workshops

Variety of groups & activities (Red Cross)

Sewing courses (Salvation Army)

Personal development

**Parenting courses** 

**Icelandic courses** 

Youth Programs

(in development)

Exercise

Work permit applications



## **Our mottos**

Respect

**Mindfulness** 

Approach with kindness and positivity

Always lead with client's best interests at heart while maintaining professional standards and integrity

