ADDRESING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The LGBTQI+ community faces disproportionate levels of violence both in country of origin, and/or during movement. Through a set of interviews and assessments, UNFPA aimed to gain deeper understanding of the changes, circumstances and realities affecting this community. UNFPA has made great strides in ensuring that the LGBTQI+ community can access vital non-discriminatory protections within the host reception facilities.

UNFPA invited the Red Cross FBiH to partake in the Women and Girls Committee meeting in Temporary Reception Center Usivak, ensuring that the perspectives and concerns of women and girls are taken into account. In October, the focus was on establishing family contacts lost due to displacement, movement or conflict.
Kaan's story

The sense of belonging is a feeling all people yearn for, and Kaan is no different. Poverty and conflict in the country of origin forced Kaan to make a hard decisions and leave. Unfortunately, a set of misfortunes continued to follow Kaan throughout his journey towards a better life. For six months, Kaan was unjustly incarcerated in a detention facility due to false allegations and an unfair sentencing. These six months would leave a deep scar on Kaan’s mental and physical health.

"I learned here that there are still good people willing to offer a helping hand."

-Kaan

Today, Kaan regularly visits the UNFPA center, and goes from strength to strength thanks to the immense support of the UNFPA team. He loves to apply different artistic techniques in his paintings. The creative sessions within the UNFPA Boys and Young Men Centers allow Kaan to create something wonderful which brings a new, brighter element to his life. He also is very keen on helping other survivors in their recovery process. Kaan is looking forward to a better future and has the courage to put the painful past behind him.
Following up on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, UNFPA experts helped women & girls pave the way towards their goals of treating general exhaustion, anxiety & post-traumatic conditions regarding unwanted traditional and religious practices on women through individual and group sessions, focusing on young mothers.

“Sometimes it’s really hard because babies feel when their mother is sad. The mitigating circumstance is when we come to UNFPA Center and without hesitation show our emotions and say how we really feel. In return, we get no condemnation - only support.”

- participant of Young Mothers Club

UNFPA’s Boys on the Move sessions focused on fostering creativity, curiosity and important skills in adolescents and young men.

Aside from embracing various skills, participants also established valuable friendships.

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