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RED CROSS: FINANCIAL AID AND REFERRAL IN AMSTERDAM

The Red Cross have started an experiment to provide financial help by means of vouchers on the phones of undocumented migrants who are on the waiting list of the Amsterdam LVV. Paper vouchers are available for people without phones. This financial aid is only available for undocumented migrants who have registered at the Loket Ongedocumenteerden Amsterdam [Counter undocumented migrants Amsterdam] and who were placed on their waiting list.

In addition to this an app has been produced with information about addresses where undocumented migrants can obtain help in Amsterdam. Subjects are: legal help, medical help and sheltered accommodation. You will find more information here.

BASIC RIGHTS

<u>Central Court of Appeal: still social assistance benefit for the mother of a Dutch child for the period before her residence permit had been granted</u>

In May 2017 the Court of Justice of the EU decided that parents who care for a Dutch child are entitled to a residence permit (Chavez ruling). This case concerns one of the mothers who initiated this case. In June 2017 she was given her residence permit.

Before 2017 this mother had applied for social assistance benefit which application was denied. During this time she did receive child benefit and housing benefit. She is now applying for acknowledgement that during that period she was entitled to social assistance benefit as a single mother. The court agreed with her in this respect. The child benefit she received for her child will be deducted from her social assistance benefit that has been granted her as yet. You will find more information here.

Court of Appeal: no entitlement to child benefit during stay in women's shelter

This Surinam woman and her Dutch child came to The Netherlands in order to live with her partner. After they split up in December 2018 she ended up in a women's shelter. She had a residence permit, received social assistance benefit and applied for child benefit. The Social Insurance Bank (SVB) were of the opinion that she was not entitled to that because she had no sufficient bonds with The Netherlands. She did not live on her own and was unemployed. The Court agreed with this. Only as of the summer in 2019 when she lived on her own did she become entitled to child benefit. You will find more information here.

ADMISSION POLICY

Court of Appeal: residence permit for mother of two children of 10 and 11 because of interests children. This case concerns an Iraqi mother who has resided in The Netherlands since 2005. She had a residence permit that was revoked with retroactive effect. She has three children, 11, 10 and 1 years old respectively, who were born here. The children and her husband do have residence permits. The mother has currently applied for a residence permit on the grounds of family life (8 ECHR, European Convention on Human Rights) and for exemption of the obligation to submit the application from her country of origin (MVV requirement).

The central issue for the Court is the interest of the children to live together with their parents. According to the Court the IND has not considered this sufficiently. Moving to Iraq would be too difficult for the oldest children. And separation from the family is not in their interest either. The mother meets all the requirements apart from the MVV. Therefore the Court are of the opinion that the IND should grant this woman a residence permit. You will find more information here.

Court of Appeal: Nigerian victim human trafficking with PTSD can return to Nigeria

This Nigerian woman has lived in The Netherlands for over 20 years. She was expelled once but was helped by a human trafficker to return and ended up in prostitution. She suffers from PTSD, depression and is treated by a lung specialist and a gynaecologist. She uses several different types of medication. According to the IND treatment and medication are available in Nigeria.

According to the woman medical care is not actually accessible for her. She is mentally retarded and her self-sufficiency is very limited. She cannot provide for herself and has no financial means to pay for her essential medication.

However, according to the IND she could find employment (with help from IOM or support organisations) or restore the relationship with her family and thus pay for her medication. Therefore her return would not result in a medical emergency. The Court agree with this. You will find more information here.

ACTIVITIES

24 hour demonstration against the EU Migration Pact, Utrecht, 15th - 16th November

With this 24-hour action, we want to draw attention to the terrible situations which are already being created by failing European migration policies which will only get worse with this new migration pact. We are going to set up a camp by putting tents on the Neude. There will be a 24 hour program where we will provide a platform for refugees and citizens to share their stories.

YOU can also let your voice be heard and show your solidarity by:

- 1. Stand with us and register for a timeslot to join the protest (https://forms.gle/ZtAxdX1ds7811bjL6)
- 2. Share your message in a video (https://fb.watch/1DMEEF0Z2o/)
- 3. Join the protest with your tent. Contact the organisation to see where you can help (send a message to MiGreat via Facebook or mail to sofie@migreat.org)

Read and share our statement and join our protests https://de.europemustact.org/.../our-wave-of-solidarity... OR https://walk-of-shame.eu/joint-statement/

Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport: appeal to municipalities to start providing sheltered accommodation to undocumented migrants again

Because of the new corona measures, which appeal to everyone to stay at home, the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport have asked municipalities to reopen the night shelters for homeless people who have no rights and to see to it that they can be inside during the day to keep warm, for their sanitary needs and to eat a meal.

The appeal remains in force up to and including 18 November. You will find more information here.