

A SOLIDARITY PROJECT BETWEEN CAMPO DE LORCA AND THE RED CROSS IN LORCA TO OFFER FOOD AID TO HELP FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AT RISK OF MALNUTRITION

Location: City of Lorca

Duration: 6 months

Justification:

In 2013, the Red Cross Assembly in Lorca, through the Program to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion, assisted 575 families in situation of social vulnerability.

The profile of these families includes several cases with the same degree of concern: 252 families with no income, and other 224 with lower than average incomes, far below the legal minimum wage.

The interviewed families stated that the lack of incomes prevents them from affording the basics, which resulted in a serious deterioration in their quality of life. This distressing situation affects especially children, the most vulnerable group.

From the helped families, 448 have dependent children. They live in the most distressing situation not being able to provide their children with adequate food. So far, most of the families have covered the basic food needs with the school meals grants, and through this scheme, children are able to have a proper meal at least once a day.

Due to the difficult economic crisis situation we are experiencing, there has been a decline in social benefits grants, and many of these families have been deprived of those. There is strong evidence that if this situation does not change, the health of those children could be seriously affected.

Data:

At risk of poverty in the región. Percentage of children aged 0-17 (2010)

Murcia: 39,4 (compared to national baseline of 26,2) 33,6 (compared to regional threshold)

Participants: 8 families, according to estimated forecasts.

Identification of participating families: The Red Cross insight diagnostics, referral to other institution's programmes, identification by educational institutions.

Identified problems:

- Children at risk of malnutrition.
- Households that include children with low or no income .
- Bad eating habits.
- Childhood in situation of social difficulty.

Method: Monthly food grants or school meals assistance for these families, economic remuneration for participation at least in one of the following educational workshops: food and nutrition, positive parenting , infant care and compulsory education. Average monthly amount: €100

Budget: 100% of the profits from the solidarity auction held by Campo de Lorca S.C.L Supplementary grants are likely to be available for books and school supplies, and also the participation of the children in the project for academic success for young people in children in social difficult.

Monitoring: Red Cross Spain in Lorca, Department of Social Intervention.

Justification: Spanish Red Cross is committed to delivering a final report with the activities undertaken in the project, as well as any supporting documents.

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