

#4. YOUNG REFUGEES AT KRAAINEM FOOTBALL.

KRAAINEM FOOTBALL Since 2016, Belgium

<http://www.kraainemfootball.be/jeunes-refugies-a-kraainem-football/>

All information in this entry is sourced from the link above and contact mentioned in the document.

Topic relevance

INCLUSION / PLAYING TOGETHER / YOUTH ORIENTED / FOOTBALL

Factor of success CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Type ACTIVITIES

Language French

Target population

Young refugees living in Belgium.

Further information / Contact

www.kraainemfootball.be

www.facebook.com/Kraainem-Football-247358362005100/

Contact, Guy Brackman, Technical Director. Tel: + 32 (0) 488 208

Synthesis of the good example

Young refugees between 14-18 years are given the opportunity to play football with local players of the club by forming a team. Next to that, the club offers them the language courses, as well as common meals. In March, the club organised an evening with the team players and politicians, journalists and sports officials. After a friendly game between Kraainem players and refugees, the evening continued with a meal, where the refugees were able to speak out about their experiences and share their plans for the future. In total, 20 young refugees participated in the project.

Context and approach

The project is organised in partnership with the refugee center of Woluwe Saint-Pierre, who is in charge of bringing the children for each session. Ran by volunteers and donations, the Club is appealing to the solidarity of its members.

Highlights and outcomes

This article shows one specific practice, taking place in Belgium, in a community, where the refugees are being integrated, and the community is working in solidarity to the cause. Using football as a way of recruiting and calling attention for gathering, the project offers also community meals and language courses to the participants. It is a perfect example of an effective system of inclusion and integration of refugees at a local level. This good example will help you to understand: how children learn best when they are experiencing lessons through play / how football can create positive interactions between refugees and host-children / how to break down the barriers of social isolation and even depression they may experience as newcomers to a new country, community, culture and life/how to create a safe environment where they can share their thoughts and feelings openly with their host-city peers.

Information about project/organisation's holder

Close to Brussels, Kraainem football has been created in the early 80s as an European young football club "Europa United". Nowadays, the Kraainem football club is welcoming over 300 young people from varied areas and provided a soccer training with a focus on education and responsible approach.