PRESS RELEASE	
Date	2 ta' April 2020
From	Malta Council for the Voluntary Sector
To	All Media
No.	PR/MCVS/02/2020

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TITLU: Sitwazzjoni tas-Settur tal-Volontarjat waqt il-COVID 19

Il-Kunsill Malti għas-Settur tal-Volontarjat, nieda diversi inizjattivi sabiex fiċ-ċirkostanzi eċċezzjonali preżenti tal-COVID 19, li bħal setturi oħra f'pajjiżna qegħdin jolqtu wkoll lis-Settur tal-Volontarjat, sabiex ikun f'posizzjoni li jassisti kemm lis-Settur kif ukoll lill-pubbliku in ġenerali.

Minkejja dawn iċ-ċirkustanzi xejn faċli l-Kunsill baqa' f'posizzjoni li jkompli jagħti s-servizzi tiegħu anke b'mod virtwali biex jimxi mar-rakkomandazzjonijiet maħruġa mill-awtoritajiet tas-saħħa.

Bħala servizz miżjud, tnieda Hot Line bin-numru 79481120 li huwa numru li jista' jintuża 24/7 sabiex jassisti lill-għaqdiet volontarji kif ukoll Help Desk online li wieħed jista' jaċċessa kemm direttament permezz tal-**link: http://support.maltacvs.org/** jew billi jidħol fis-sit tal-Kunsill www.maltacvs.org. Dan is-servizz jilqa' kemm mistoqsijiet ġenerali kif ukoll speċifikament fuq il-fondi u s-servizzi li joffri l-istess Kunsill. Dawn il-mistoqsijiet jgħaddu direttament lill-uffiċjal responsabbli b'mod awtomatiku fejn ikunu mwieġba f'mhux aktar minn 24 siegħa.

F'dawn iċ-ċirkustanzi s-settur tal-volontarjat qiegħed jagħti kontribut mhux zgħir f'dawn ż-żminijiet kemm fuq bażi lokali kif ukoll fuq livell nazzjonali. Oħrajn qegħdin, sfortunatament, jiffaċċjaw diffikultajiet kbar peress li waqfu mill-kontribut tagħhom ġewwa l-komunitajiet tagħna.

F'dan ir-rigward il-Kunsill talab lill-Gvern sabiex dan is-settur jingħata għajnunijiet meħtieġa ħalli jkompli jiffunzjona fejn fost l-oħrajn talab li:

Jitwaqqaf "Fond ta' Emerġenza" biex tappoġġja operazzjonijiet miżjuda tal-komunità li jkunu qed isiru minn VOs speċjalment dawk li joperaw fis-Saħħa (inkluża s-saħħa mentali) u dak,Soċjali imma ukoll jassisti lil dawk il-VOs kollha li kellhom jagħlqu l-operazzjonijiet tagħhom bħala riżultat tas-sitwazzjoni attwali.

Il-Kunsill jinnota b'sodisfazzjon illi wara l-intervent tal-istess Kunsill u bis-support tas-Segretarju Parlamentari għaż-Żgħażagħ, Sport u Għaqdiet Volontarji, il-Gvern estenda l-benefiċċji mogħtija lill-kumpaniji privati u lil min iħaddem għas-Settur tal-Volontarjat, liema settur jibqa' kommess bħala l-ewwel prijorita tiegħu li jibqa' jgħin fil-ħarsien ta' saħħet il-Poplu Malti u Għawdxi u fil-ħidma tat-tisħieħ tal-komunitajiet.

Il-Kunsill jibqa' il-ħin kollu f'diskussjonijiet mal-Gvern sabiex iwassal il-prejokupazzjoni u l-problemi tas-Settur Volontarju filwaqt li jgħin sabiex jinstabu s-soluzzjonijiet.

Kunsill Malti għas-Settur tal-Volontarjat

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TITLE: ***Situation of the Voluntary Sector during COVID 19***

The Malta Council for the Voluntary Sector has launched several initiatives in the current exceptional circumstances of COVID 19, which situation is affecting the Voluntary Sector like other sectors in our country, in order to be able to assist as much as possible both the Sector as well as the general public.

Notwithstanding these circumstances, the Council remained in a position to continue to provide its services even in a virtual way to comply with the recommendations issued by the health authorities.

As an added service, a Hot Line number **79481120** has been launched which can be used 24/7 to assist voluntary organisations as well as an online **Help Desk** which can be accessed either directly via the link: http://support.maltacvs.org/ or by accessing the Council's website www.maltacvs.org . This service welcomes both general questions and specifically about the funds and services it offers. Council. These questions will be sent directly to the responsible officer automatically where they will be answered in no more than 24 hours.

In these circumstances the voluntary sector is giving a considerable contribution both at locality level and at national level. On the otherhand some Vos are, unfortunately, facing great difficulties as they have stopped operating within our communities.

In this regard, the Council called on the Government to provide this sector with the necessary grants to continue functioning where it called for an "Emergency Fund" to be set up to support increased community operations being undertaken by VOs especially those operating in Health (including mental health) and Social, but also assisting all those VOs who had to close. their operations as a result of the current situation.

The Council notes with satisfaction that following the intervention of the same Council and with the support of the Parliamentary Secretary for Youth, Sport and Voluntary Organizations, the Government has extended the benefits granted to private companies and employers to the Volunteering Sector, which sector remains committed as its first priority to continue to help safeguard the health of the Maltese and Gozitan people and strive to strengthen the communities.

The Council shall stay constantly in discussions with the Government to convey the concerns and problems of the Voluntary Sector while helping to find solutions.

Malta Council for the Voluntary Sector

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