

# Refugee Health Provision

Overview

# Balseskin Reception Centre

- ▶ Is the largest Reception centre (temporary 1<sup>st</sup> phase e.g. Emergency Accommodation) opened in 2001 for newly arrived asylum seekers / specific migrant cohorts.
- ▶ Direct Provision System - Dept. Justice Equality & Law Reform (Reception & Integration Agency).
- ▶ Health centre opened in April 2002 - Health Service Executive support centre on site - - HSE PCCC, HSE Social Inclusion -
- ▶ Maximum number of residents: 369
- ▶ It is situated on a 7 acre purpose built site (North Dublin beside airport)
- ▶ NOT detention centre - freedom of movement
- ▶ Refer to Mc Mahon Report (2017)



# Health Screening Assessment

- ▶ voluntary:
- ▶ T.B. Check - Questionnaire / CXR referral
- ▶ VRL Blood test - HIV, Hepatitis B&C, VZV, Rubella (others)
- ▶ Child health / Dev. - e.g. Vaccination Hx, Polio Stools (if indicated)
- ▶ Midwifery Ante-natal / post natal assessment / Referrals
- ▶ Psycho/social assessment / Referrals - Trauma ? Type
- ▶ Specialist Referrals (ID / GUIDE, Psychology / Psychiatry Paediatrics / Child Dev / Dental/Drug Tx Service)
- ▶ GP Practice referrals from screening team / self - referrals
- ▶ Initial screening in Baleskin Health Centre Dublin to be followed -up in new locations.
- ▶ Patient advocacy role (health services, legal / humanitarian)
- ▶ Public health role

# HSE Primary Care Services provided at Baleskin

## Health Screening Assessment (HSE PCCC - CHO9)

- ▶ Community Nursing & Midwifery
- ▶ Area Medical Officer / P.H. /
- ▶ HSE Social Work
- ▶ HSE Psychology
- ▶ HSE Children's services (pre-school, play therapy)
- ▶ HSE PHN Visiting Child health Clinic
- ▶ HSE / Community Partnership with NGO / Voluntary Agencies
- ▶ Visiting GP Clinic



# 2017 HSE Refugee Clinic Baleskin

- ▶ No. of people accommodated: 2,738
- ▶ No. invited for health screening assessment: 1,955
- ▶ No. attended health screening: 1,544
- ▶ Reviews / Recalls / Emergencies: 2,370
- ▶ Total No. of Interventions (MDTs): 3,170
- ▶ Overall total 7,084
- ▶ 80+% Total uptake of voluntary health screening

## Cohorts Accommodated:

Asylum seekers, Convention refugees, Programme Refugees, Victims of Human Trafficking.

## Countries of Origin: :

Nigeria, D.R. Congo, Zimbabwe, Albania, Algeria, Malawi, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Georgia, Ukraine, Myanmar, Syria\*

*\*Most Syrian Protection Applicants are through IRPP (resettlement programme)*

# Medical Programme Refugees

- ▶ Government Commitment to take Medical Cases each year from Refugee Camps
- ▶ Cases identified by UNHCR medics in Country of Origin / Temporary Resettlement Camps
- ▶ Dept. of Justice (OPMI) forward data to HSE for consideration.
- ▶ M.T.D assessment group convened - Liaison with Director HSE Acutes & PCCC and consultants & hospital CEO.
- ▶ Medical / Nursing Pre-departure MAF + /- Escorts
- ▶ Significant role also for Baleskin Health Centre , HSE Primary Care, GPs , Health Screening Team etc.

## Case Examples:

*Paediatric Oncology, Paediatric Haematology, complex intellectual, disability, Adult acute surgical, neurology, cardiac, renal, etc.*

# “Ordinary” Asylum Seekers

- ▶ Current number of residents in DP (nationally) including Reception **5,528** (adults & families)
  - ▶ **1,647** refugee applications to IPO 2018 (June 2018)
  - ▶ **34** DP centres nationally in 17 counties
  - ▶ Breakdown of population for each HSE area available in reports.
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- ▶ Further statistical information:
  - ▶ [www.inis.gov.ie](http://www.inis.gov.ie)
  - ▶ [www.ria.gov.ie](http://www.ria.gov.ie)

# Migration means of access...

- ▶ **Protection System - Asylum Seeking / Refugees (International Protection Office) - International Refugee and Humanitarian Laws**
  
- ▶ 6 ways of getting access into the Irish protection system:
  1. Existing Refugee Programme - “Programme Refugees”
  2. Medical Programme Refugees
  3. “Ordinary” Asylum Seekers - Refugee Applications (convention)
  4. Family Reunification Programme / other mechanisms
  5. ‘No status’ - e.g. ‘undocumented’
  6. IRPP programme - “ EU Relocation & Resettlement”



# Understanding Migration

- ▶ 'Push & Pull' Factors
- ▶ Socio-Political Factors
- ▶ Experiences prior to arrival, en route, current - regardless of migrant status
- ▶ Cultural adaptation
- ▶ Physical / Psychological
- ▶ Biological Variations
- ▶ At risk sub-groups
- ▶ Loss & Bereavement
- ▶ Trauma / Torture
- ▶ Security / Safety / Trust
- ▶ Access to services
- ▶ Effects of asylum process
- ▶ Future Prospects

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## Health Provision in Community General Practice

- Vulnerable group - Medical card provision

Free prescriptions Direct provision  
IRPP

- Healthcare provision Hospital based - No limitation on care HIV / Hepatitis C
- NGO care provision - Spirasi victims of torture  
IFPA Specialist FGM  
Ruhama Trafficking  
/Prostitution

## Refugee Profile

Number of refugee / asylum seekers , countries of origin, where they are housed ....

<http://www.ria.gov.ie/en/RIA/RIA%20Monthly%20Report%2006-2018.pdf/Files/RIA%20Monthly%20Report%2006-2018.pdf>

.....evident from the figures that numbers of people seeking asylum are increasing , the largest group comprise single males, a youthful profile...

IRPP 4000 Families - 4000 refugees from Syria into the country  
family groups for the most part  
cohort has differing entitlements to that of the asylum  
group supported into resettlement into communities as  
soon as possible after

Safetynet care Provision

2<sup>nd</sup> Strand to IRPP programme - family reunification with members who are already in Ireland may be facilitated arrival...

[http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/irish-refugee-protection-programme-humanitarian-admission-programme-2-\(ihap\)](http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/irish-refugee-protection-programme-humanitarian-admission-programme-2-(ihap))

## The Future

### The McMahon Report

<http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Report%20to%20Government%20on%20Improvements%20to%20the%20Protection%20Process,%20including%20Direct%20Provision%20and%20Supports%20to%20Asylum%20Seekers.pdf/Files/Report%20to%20Government%20on%20Improvements%20to%20the%20Protection%20Process,%20including%20Direct%20Provision%20and%20Supports%20to%20Asylum%20Seekers.pdf>