



METROPOLITAN CITY OF TURIN

MORUS: HOSTING ASYLUM SEEKERS IN URBAN PERIPHERAL COMMUNITIES

ABOUT METROPOLITAN CITY OF TURIN:

- 2.28 million people
- 10% foreign born (10,000 asylum seekers in Piedmont region)
- located in the Piedmont region, and has competence over an area that comprises the City of Turin and other 314 municipalities

Valli di Lanzo: Village of Ceres: 1000 residents,
Village of Pessinetto: 600 residents and 60 asylum seekers

WHY:

Refugees can represent an opportunity to revive and resettle rural areas. These smaller communities can also have advantages regarding the opportunities to host newly arrived migrants and asylum seekers. In this instance, the metropolitan city can serve as a bridge to help coordinate between communities and actors engaged in the support and management of asylum seekers.

This is the case in the Valli di Lanzo area where initiatives were established to help asylum seekers and extend support to those no longer eligible for mentoring programmes (that expire after 18–24 months).

WHAT:

Founded in 2016, Morus is an association that:

- provides additional housing opportunities for asylum seekers, outside of the initial hosting offered by the cooperatives
- supports migrants in finding appropriate employment opportunities, through innovative solutions such as enterprise creation
- fosters their integration in the local community, through social and cultural activities

Morus volunteers work with recent arrivals to build a profile that maps their needs, skills and aspirations. By focussing on the individual profile, Morus can support migrants more efficiently.

WHO:

- Morus – an association focusing on migrant inclusion and supported by local volunteers
- Metropolitan city of Turin
- Municipalities
- State agencies

AIMS:

Supporting migrants to enter the private housing and labour market and fostering integration in local communities

FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

Morus activities are self-financed and so far did not receive subsidies from local authorities. Activities and sponsorships generated 48,000 Euros

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS:

- 15 placements for migrants in local enterprises
- access to permanent housing and employment for 51 refugees
- Nationally-acclaimed “CoroMoro” – a choir that connects migrants with local residents in Ceres
- “MoroStyle” – a fashion enterprise initiated by refugees emerging as a unique brand and style in the region

