EmpowerHer

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EMPOWERING REFUGEE WOMEN FOR SUCCESS IN HOSPITALITY CAREERS

About EmpowerHer

EmpowerHer is an Erasmus+ project dedicated to uplifting refugee women by providing them with tailored vocational and language training, digital tools, and a supportive community framework. This initiative aims to break down barriers to employment in the hospitality sector, empowering women to gain independence, skills, and confidence in their host countries.

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EMPOWER HER

Our Mission and Vision

Our mission is to empower low-qualified refugee women with the essential skills, language abilities, and community support needed to achieve meaningful employment in hospitality.

We envision a sustainable inclusion model where women thrive in new environments, create professional and social networks, and bring diversity to the workforce.

Project Objectives

- Provide high-quality training for hospitality roles by preparing participants for roles like kitchen assistant, stock management, housekeeping, and front desk operations with targeted, practical training.
- Support language acquisition by enabling women to learn job-specific language skills, moving from beginner (A0) to intermediate (B1) levels, so they can confidently communicate in the workplace.
- Create community and mentorship opportunities by fostering a peer-to-peer support network where participants can share experiences, learn from each other, and navigate their integration journey together.
- Utilize digital and VR tools by integrating Virtual Reality and digital resources to offer immersive learning experiences, enabling practical skill development in a simulated environment.

Target Groups

- Low-qualified refugee women facing employment barriers due to language and skills gaps.
- VET professionals who will be trained to support the learning and integration of refugee women.

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Core Activities and Training Model

Training Toolkit for VET Professionals

- We provide a comprehensive toolkit for Vocational Education and Training (VET) professionals, equipping them with innovative resources and culturally sensitive training methods.
- Key Features are best practices, trauma-informed teaching strategies, and VR-enhanced materials for hands-on learning.

Profession-Specific Language Curriculum

- A specialized language training curriculum to help participants learn essential terminology and phrases for hospitality roles, improving job readiness and workplace communication.
- Language goals include transition participants from A0 to B1 proficiency, enabling them to handle job-specific interactions with confidence.

Peer-to-Peer Mentorship and Skill-Sharing Model

- We foster a supportive community network where experienced participants mentor newcomers, creating bonds that enhance social integration and cultural adaptation.

Key Components

- Skill-sharing workshops with small group sessions focused on core hospitality skills.
- Success story sessions whereby participants share achievements to motivate each other.
- Language buddy system, pairing participants to practice job-specific language skills in supportive, informal settings.
- Expected impact is increased confidence, cultural understanding, and social support.

Community and Professional Networking Events

- Hosting networking events where participants can connect with local hospitality employers, VET professionals, and community members.
- Event goals are to build professional connections, enhance employability, and promote awareness among employers of the talents within the refugee community.

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Expected Benefits

For Refugee Women

- Increased employability due to the gained skills and confidence for hospitality careers.
- Stronger social connections due to supportive relationships within a network of peers, mentors, and community allies.
- Empowerment and independence to thrive economically and socially.

For VET Professionals

- Enhanced training skills due to a toolkit with innovative, culturally responsive training resources.
- Cultural sensitivity due to the gained trauma-informed teaching approaches for more effective and inclusive training.
- Sustainable training practices, e.g. VR and digital resources that enable effective, scalable training.

For Employers and Community Organizations

- Skilled, diverse workforce due to motivated, well-trained refugee women ready to bring their unique perspectives to hospitality roles.
- Community Engagement due to opportunities to support integration and benefit from a more inclusive workforce.

Get involved

Are you a VET professional, refugee woman, or hospitality employer? Join us to support EmpowerHer's mission. Contact us: Werner Fuhrmann info@gewerkstatt.de Phone: +49 234 925639-11

QBS Gewerkstatt gGmbH (Germany) www.gewerkstatt.de

Asociación Egeria Desarrollo Social (Spain), www.egeriadesarrollosocial.org

BEST Institut für berufsbezogene Weiterbildung und Personaltraining GmbH (Austria), www.best.at

Ekpedeftiki Paremvasi KDVM S.A. (Greece), www.kekepa.gr

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