



Med'Equali Team



# Glasses Report

2020

# About Med'Equali Team

Med'Equali Team is a French Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) created in July 2018. It is a not-for-profit organisation and runs on donations from crowdfunding, personal savings, and other NGOs.

We aim to provide free health care for displaced populations, who often face barriers to this most basic of human rights. Issues of financial or legal ineligibility, as well as inaccessibly long distances to clinics and available physicians, can lead to serious health complications for adults and children alike.

Our first project is on Samos, a Greek Island in the Aegean sea less than 2km off the coast of Turkey. The Med'EqualiTeam clinic provides free primary health care, prescriptions, and referrals to the Greek hospital system for those who require access to secondary care. Our ethos adheres to a patient-centred care approach to medical care, while maintaining respect, dignity and confidentiality to those in troubled circumstances.

## Meet the Team



Nurses and Doctors  
**10-15 International  
volunteers**



Interpreters  
**15 Community volunteers**



Administratives  
**5 International  
volunteers**

## A typical day...

When a patient reports a vision problem to one of our doctors or nurses, they are given an appointment for the next Sunday - our glasses day ! An appointment lasts 20 minutes, so that each patient receives the care they need. Ahmed - one of our community volunteer - is in charge of testing the patients, with the help of an interpreter when needed. After establishing the needs of a patient, we look through all the glasses that were donated to us to find the best fit. Thanks to various NGOs, notably *Lunettes Sans Frontières* and *Pampairaki warehouse*, we now have a great variety of glasses. Most of the time, we can provide glasses with the right correction for them, sometimes leading to very emotional moments, when a patient discovers a clear world for the first time !

## COVID-19

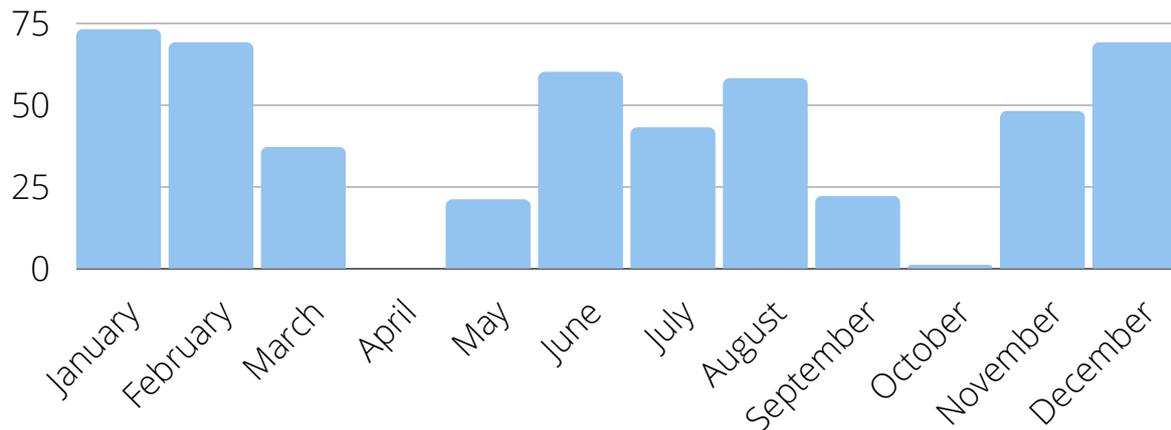
Sadly, Covid-19 restrictions on Samos forced us to stop our activities for a few days and our glasses appointments for more than a month. As the camp went in lockdown, we had to build a temporary clinic in the camp. After a few weeks, we built a clinic with more facilities next to the entrance of the camp, and our activities went back to normal gradually. We are now fully functional with two clinics, and Sunday is still glasses day !



# Our activity in 2020

From: January 2020 - To: December 2020

Glasses patients per year:



We collect statistics about our patients everyday while keeping their anonymity.

We normally have around 65 glasses patients a month, but COVID-19 forced us to reduce or totally cease our ophthalmological activity at times.



## What's next for us?

In January 2021, Italian ophthalmologist team led by Paola Pantaleoni - thanks to StillRise - donated an autorefractor. This new addition improved our ability to diagnose patients. It is especially helpful when examining children or others who have difficulty communicating.

# What can you do?

Even though our situation is getting better and better, we still could use your help !

Our ability to provide for our patients would be greatly improved with more :

- children's glasses
- sunglasses
- corrected sunglasses
- glasses cases
- cleaning cloths
- straps for glasses

