Call for Consultancy Proposals
Strengthening Migrant Support Network in Southeast Europe

About Us:
Global Fund for Children advances the dignity of children worldwide by finding, funding, and strengthening grassroots organizations that work with children and young people. GFC’s flexible funding, technical assistance, and network development enables its partners to grow stronger and more effective.

About the Initiative:
In partnership with the Swedish Postcode Foundation, GFC supports a network of four community-based organizations in Southeast Europe. The goal of this initiative is to reduce violence, exploitation and discrimination among migrant children and youth in Southeast Europe. To reach this goal GFC is providing flexible funding and technical support to four local organizations in Serbia, Croatia and North Macedonia who work with migrant children and youth and who are currently part of an unregistered network/coalition called the “Coalition for Rights and Wellbeing of Forced Migrants along Euro-Balkan’s Migration Routes.” An organization in Italy is also a member of the coalition and will be a part of the technical support provided in the initiative.

These organizations support migrants by:
- Providing services and assistance, including legal and psychosocial aid, and improving access to safe shelter and medical care for migrant children and their families.
- Advocating for improved laws, treatment, and conditions for migrants, as well as greater social acceptance, by engaging government officials, school leaders, and community members.
- Harnessing the power of youth voices and empowering youth to become more aware of their rights and more visible in advocacy efforts and programs.
- Strengthening networks for advocacy and learning by uniting local organizations, increasing their capacity to influence long-term systemic change and to raise awareness about the situation of migrants in their communities.

In the long term, this project will contribute to a critically needed societal shift towards the acceptance and protection of marginalized children and youth in the larger context of migration and the world’s reaction to it. The project will also work towards harnessing the power of youth voices and act as a powerful tool towards creating a world that is safe and just for all children.

About the Consultancy:
GFC is looking for an experienced professional or organization to work with us to strengthen the Southeast Europe migrant support network over a 12-month period.

Key Deliverables
1. Co-design and lead facilitation of monthly meetings of the network. Through these meetings we are seeking to provide:
   - Space to explore different approaches to coalition-building and network weaving
   - Regular facilitated reflection and learning opportunities
• Youth participation in the network
• An opportunity to create a single strategic plan for the network, and/or communications and advocacy strategy for the network

2. Conduct individual assessments of the participating organizations’ existing communications, advocacy, and networking approaches

3. Co-design and lead facilitation of two in-person convenings of the network. If public health conditions do not allow for an in-person convening in late summer/autumn 2021, this convening will take place virtually. A second in-person convening is planned for late spring, 2022. These convenings will be an opportunity to bring together multiple staff from each organization, young leaders, and other relevant stakeholders to contribute to the strategic direction and planning of the network. GFC will organize the logistics for any in-person convenings.

4. Create a final project report, which includes a summary of activities and recommendations for further action related to the migrant support network

Preferred Profile of Consultant or Consulting Organization

• Currently residing in Europe
• Fluent English
• Familiarity with migration issues in Europe
• Ability to travel to Southeast Europe if in-person convenings take place
• At least three years of experience in network strengthening, social or policy advocacy, movement building, or coalition building
• Experience with workshop planning and facilitation

GFC will work with the consultant to provide content and co-facilitation support but we are looking for someone to project manage this initiative. You will work closely with GFC’s Senior Director of Global Grantmaking Joseph Bednarek during this initiative.

We welcome proposals from network and coalition-building specialists by March 29, 2021 for a start date in late April 2021. Please include:

1. A cover letter expressing interest and a summary of your experience in network and coalition-building (could be your CV)
2. A brief proposal summary
3. Consultancy fees and direct costs

For further information or to submit a proposal, please contact Joe Bednarek at bednarek@globalfundforchildren.org.

GFC is an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees.