

Important events in the activities of the Maltese Charity Service in October 2010

The Hungarian Maltese Charity Service rents flats for families that lost their houses in the red sludge catastrophe hit area. This decision was announced by Father Imre Kozma on 8th October 2010 following his discussion with Prime Minister Viktor Orbán and Minister of the Interior Sándor Pintér on the Charity Service's aid activity after the catastrophe. This aid programme is offered to families living in Devecser or Kolontár that due to any reasons have lost their homes until they can settle their living situation, at least for six months. Families suffering from the catastrophe are now given the chance to think over thoroughly their future without making any decision under pressure. For the co-ordination of moving the families an office has been opened by the Charity Service in Ajka. In parallel with this programme the Charity Service takes its share of the disaster management activities in the red sludge catastrophe hit area.

(Further details:

<http://maltai.hu/index.php?node=992>)

While the Charity Service provides help at the site of the red-sludge catastrophe, declared by the Prime Minister as an unprecedented ecological catastrophe in Hungary, the Charity Service continues its activity in the settlements flooded this May. The Charity Service was the only one among the charitable organizations which opened a co-ordination office at the site of the flood (Felsőzsolca), this office still receives the residents to help with their problems. The Charity Service helps furnishing the rebuilt houses with furniture and household appliances. (Further details: <http://maltai.hu/index.php?node=918>)



Meeting with members of parliament. Shadowed by the catastrophes less media attention was given to the background discussion on child poverty with MPs and professional representatives. A preceding action was launched this spring at the opening session of the new parliament, when the Maltese Charity Service addressed all the MPs asking them to join in the action of fighting child poverty by simply choosing a relating issue, institution or a community within their own area and get more deeply informed and involved. Further information: <http://maltai.hu/index.php?node=892>)

The Minister's remark. "The activities of all the volunteers have a special importance for the sake of the country too" - said Miklós Réthelyi, Minister of National Resources who was informed on the activity of the Charity Service during his visit to the catastrophe hit area on 8th October. The personal presence of our volunteers in the settlements was especially appreciated by local people. At the end of his visit the Minister said at a press conference:

“the widest publicity should be given to the voluntary and professional activity of the Maltese Charity Service”.

(More detailed information: <http://www.mno.hu/portal/741302>)

True responsables of the underpass

The programme targeting the “adoption” of the pedestrian subway at Western Railway Station continued in October. Within this programme the Maltese organisation in co-operation with the Public Foundation for the Homeless wants to demonstrate how the likely most busy public place of Budapest would look, if it had a person truly responsible for it (*in more detail: <http://maltai.hu/index.php?node=970>*).

The renovation works are going on in the tower block in Veszprém (*more information: <http://maltai.hu/index.php?node=931>*). Medical screening examinations were performed among Csángo Hungarians living in settlements (in Rumania) without primary care service by the medical team of the Charity Service (*please read the results: <http://maltai.hu/index.php?node=980>*).

