Unite App: Connecting Refugees and Locals

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AN APP AIMING TO HELP INTEGRATE REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS INTO COMMUNITIES THROUGH SOCIAL CONNECTIONS AND ASSISTANCE

Essam
Country of Origin: Syria
Languages: Arabic, English
Bio: Hi! I am an elementary school teacher of 10 years from Raqqa, Syria. I escaped Syria with my wife and our two children. Our home is still unsafe and going back home would be life-threatening. I’m looking to connect with locals to learn about the culture and to better integrate to the community. I would also love to learn German.
Skills: Language teaching, painting houses, electrician work

Marvin
Country of Origin: Germany
Languages: German, English, Russian
Bio: Hi, my name is Marvin and I am a business consultant from Berlin. I would love to show around Berlin and teach you the language. I also have a spare room in my apartment if someone needs a temporary place to stay.
Skills: Teaching German

Manal
Country of Origin: Afghanistan
Languages: Pashto, Arabic, German
Bio: Hi, I’m Manal I am originally from Afghanistan but I’ve lived in Berlin for 5 years now. I was granted asylum after a long wait in 2012. I know German and Arabic pretty well, but only a little bit of English. Please let me know, if you would like to meet up, I could show you around and give you tips on how to start your new life here in Germany.
Skills: Looking after children, translating, tour guiding

NEW TO BERLIN
BERLIN RESIDENT
3 YEARS IN BERLIN

APP FUNCTIONS

THE PROCESS IN EUROPE TO RECEIVE ASYLUM AS A REFUGEE CAN TAKE UP TO 2 YEARS OR IN SOME CASES LONGER. DURING THIS WAITING PERIOD THE REFUGEES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE WORK OR LIVE ON THEIR OWN. THIS CAUSES RESTLESSNESS IN SHELTERS AND PREVENTS COMMUNITY INTEGRATION ON A PHYSICAL AS WELL AS A SOCIAL LEVEL.

IN 2018, 745,000 NEW ASYLUM APPLICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED IN GERMANY

434,000 ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS WERE PENDING WAITING FOR APPROVAL

THIS AMOUNTS TO OVER 1,000,000 WAITING FOR ASYLUM WITH NO POSSIBILITIES TO WORK OR LIVING ON THEIR OWN. BERLIN ACCOMMODATES THE LARGEST PORTION OF REFUGEES IN GERMANY.

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