

NEWSLETTER

STATELESS PROGRAM
 JANUARY- MARCH 2024

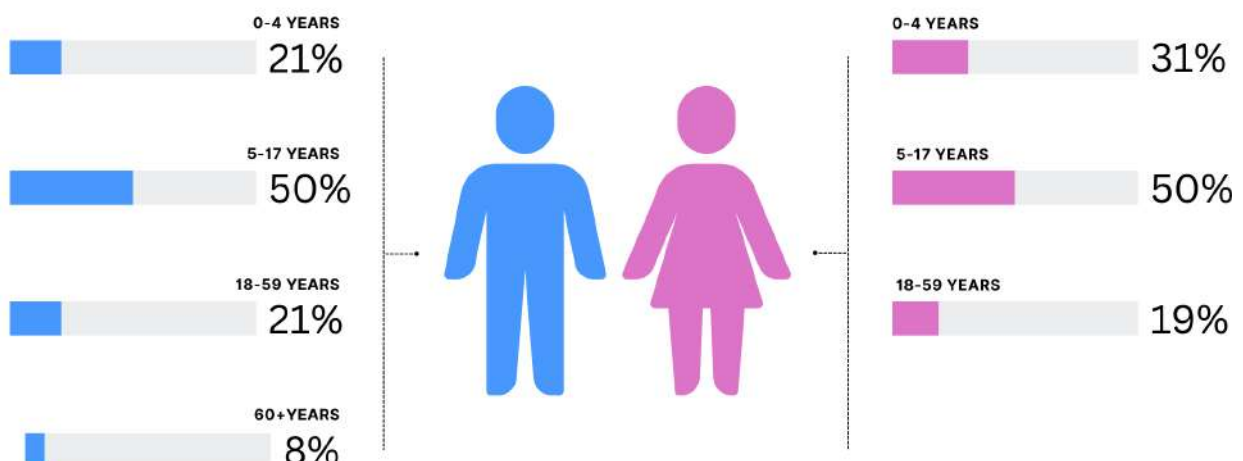
Provision of the Free legal aid to vulnerable persons lacking legal identity remains the ultimate goal for Civil Rights Program Kosovo (CRPK). By enabling informed access to administrative and judicial procedures positive changes are brought to the lives of legally invisible people.

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF PERSONS AT RISK OF STATELESSNESS/STATLESS JAN-MARCH 2024



- 144 individuals **OUTREACHED**
- 29 identified in **NEED FOR LEGAL AID**
- 30 provided with **FREE LEGAL AID**
- 2 individuals **REPRESENTED IN JUDICIARY PROCEEDINGS**
- 2 targeted **AWARENESS SESSIONS** with affected populations and authorities held.

THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF ASSISTED INDIVIDUALS JANUARY - MARCH 2024





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Awareness session held in Viti/Vitina

ENHANCING THE INSTITUTIONS CAPACITIES AND RESPOND

Comprehensive integration is one of our biggest goals in 2024. Through the support of UNHCR Kosovo and fruitful partnership with the Department for the Reintegration of Repatriated Persons and the Integration of Foreigners (DRRPIF)/MIA, we enabled a direct contact between persons with recognized legal status and authorities from various municipal departments, including the DRRPIF, Municipal Office for Community and Returnee, Employment Office, and the Health Department of **Viti/Vitina Municipality**.

In a spirit of collaboration and understanding, the session for a very first time provided these individuals to voice out their concerns about accessing rights and services, sharing their experiences and obstacles in accessing essential rights and services. Feedback from relevant authorities was constructive, acknowledging the concerns raised and committing to work towards solutions.

This meeting marks a positive step towards inclusivity of stateless persons, emphasizing the importance of open communication between authorities and affected persons. It's a powerful reminder that when voices are heard, change is possible.



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In our efforts to tackle late birth registration, we teamed up with municipal institutions and UNHCR Kosovo and organized an outreach in **Fushe Kosove/Kosovo Polje**.

Attendees shared their struggles with challenging economic situations, emphasizing the crucial need for legal aid, particularly for unregistered children and adults.

We stand committed to ongoing support with free legal aid for those in need and working with authorities to create a systematic approach for identifying and assisting unregistered individuals.

This activity marks progress in fostering inclusivity, ensuring everyone's right to identity. The journey continues with collaboration to leave no one behind.

COLLABORATION WITH THE RELEVANT ACTORS

By working together with relevant actors, we are advocating for the right of every individual to a legal identity, a crucial step in accessing fundamental human rights.

In March, we had a fruitful meeting with the **Center for Social Work (CSW)** in **Kline/Klina** municipality, focusing on the importance of coordinating activities to prevent and reduce statelessness.

A significant part of our conversation highlighted the **CSW's** role in supporting unregistered children with the registration of their births and equipment with civil status documentation.



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XH.B during the application for the temporary residence permit

CLOSE COOPERATION WITH PEOPLE IN NEED

CRPK is open to free legal aid requests of vulnerable communities in need for a legal identity, which they could not solve on their own due to lack of an adequate information on the procedures, complexity of procedures, need for a legal support and unavailability of the evidential documentation.

CRP/K provided support to **3** individuals in need for establishment of the legal status. All of them, with the decision issued by Ministry of Internal Affairs are equipped with the temporary residence ID cards which enables them an access to rights and services.

In a significant step towards addressing statelessness, CRPK has completed the translation of two key documents into Albanian, Serbian, English, and Arabic. These documents, the *"Information Leaflet on Stateless Determination Procedure in Kosovo"* and the *"Information Brochure for Stateless Persons in Kosovo - Know Your Rights and Obligations,"* are designed to provide essential information on the procedures for statelessness determination and outline the rights and obligations of stateless individuals.

This initiative ensures that a wider audience can access critical information, thereby supporting the needs of individuals and communities affected by statelessness in Kosovo. The documents are now available on our help webpage, enhancing their accessibility and utility. This effort is part of CRPK's ongoing commitment to provide valuable resources and support to those impacted by statelessness issues.

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