

## March 2018 Italy Appeal and Opportunities

This week's Carelink is an appeal for prayerful support and involvement in the wonderful work ongoing in Italy. The following message is also available as a PDF

from <http://www.carelinks.net/docs/CarelinksItalyAppeal2018.pdf>

Please feel free to download it and share it with your ecclesia or others who aren't online. Please pray for the work there and our plans to continue it

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks

### CARELINKS ITALY APPEAL 2018

#### *Background*

Some years ago we baptized brother Joseph, after a long period of discussion and study and having firmly accepted and grasped all our basic teachings about the nature of God, the Lord Jesus, the lack of an orthodox 'Devil', the Kingdom on earth, no immortal soul, hell fire, etc. etc. He is ethnically African but a long term established resident in Italy with a stable job. Joseph has spoken at our Carelinks UK conference and is just a jewel of a brother. He began stopping his car whenever he saw African migrants wandering around, offering them our literature. And so began our involvement over the past few years, which we seek to continue this year God willing. Hundreds of thousands of Africans have arrived on the beaches of Italy over the last few years. All of them crossed the Sahara, were all abused in Libya, and then risked their lives crossing the Mediterranean Sea. Most of them were rescued by coastguards and saw people dying around them. They arrived traumatized. Most of them are nominal Christians [the slant that this is a Muslim invasion of Europe is simply wrong and fake news]. Many of them relate how whilst in the sea or in the infamous 'migrant prisons' of Libya, they promised God that if they survived, they would seek Him and His Son in truth and dedicate their lives to Him. And then by the hand of providence, they meet us. For Italy doesn't provide much for them- just temporary accommodation in camps for a maximum of three months, with provision of food and clothing left to the local authorities or charities. And so we have providentially set up an ideal situation for providing food and clothing, as a back up to our preaching of the true Gospel.



We've produced multiple videos of the work there, an introductory one is

at [https://youtu.be/hgXfm\\_kz75Y](https://youtu.be/hgXfm_kz75Y)

and there's an entire playlist of such videos

at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgXfm\\_kz75Y&list=PLqHWDPHDmR\\_wOb7Avvh--Gazp\\_ii1Xm8l](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgXfm_kz75Y&list=PLqHWDPHDmR_wOb7Avvh--Gazp_ii1Xm8l)

#### *What We've Done*

Carelinks have done multiple trips to Italy to progress this work over the past few years. Brothers and sisters from ecclesias in the UK, Australia and Canada have experienced wonderful opportunities for preaching, feeding and caring around the beach areas of Italy. Over 100 people have been baptized and many of them continue strong in faith despite their desperate situation. The folks are very humble and absolutely open to Bible teaching, and they nearly all speak English so there's no language barrier. They find our explanation of the nature of evil and the love of God in His Son to be very compelling.

Dave & Liz handing out hot food in a camp:



Teaching the folks in the camps and at Brother Joseph's apartment:



Roy cooking African stew:



Steve with a grateful brother he's just baptized:



### *The Plans*

This is a wonderful window of opportunity and Carelinks are fully set to use it in 2018 God willing.

God willing, Brother Duncan is leading trips to Italy May 14-20 and July 1-7; and to Sicily in August, as well as some shorter visits as needs arise.

Already booked are folks like Dave & Liz Hemingray, Steve & Robin Jones, Russell & Dawn Skinner; and then Peter & Dae Ventresca from the Kitchener-Waterloo ecclesia in Canada hope to make an extended trip starting late September 2018.

The July trip would be particularly child friendly as Cindy and the children will be coming along too.

### *The Needs*

Please pray for all this work, for blessing, for wisdom to provide appropriate help, and for further response to the Gospel and strengthening of those already baptized, to the glory of the Lord we serve- who clearly is so active in this work.

Come over and help us- if you at all can. This will without doubt be a fruitful and encouraging experience in your walk to the Kingdom.

Please consider donating if at all you can; donations from the UK and USA are tax efficient.

- 1500 pound towards food and water purchase
- 300 pound towards buying local 2nd hand clothing appropriate for their needs
- 1000 pound to cover hire of vehicles and fuel so we can pick up the folks from their various camps and bring them a central place for feeding and Bible teaching, and also to take supplies out to them. Many of the camps they are placed in are disused buildings in rural areas with no public transport going to them.

- 1500 pound Rental of accommodation

Given the various welfare needs which can't be predicted ahead of time, a total figure of say pound 5000 [AU\$ 9000, US\$ 7000 ] would be a realistic total figure.

Bank account details at <http://carelinks.net/doc/donations> or PayPal to [tiybible@yahoo.com](mailto:tiybible@yahoo.com)

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