

TRAMPOLINE HOUSE 2017

"TOGETHER, WE CAN CREATE A NEW PARADIGM"

By Morten Goll, Founder and Director of Trampoline House

Let me begin with a confession: It's hard to go to work these days. Hard for our skilled volunteers, our interns, our staff and myself. It's easy to catch a feeling of powerlessness in face of the many restrictions against asylum seekers and refugees that our politicians keep enforcing despite a dramatically decreasing number of asylum applicants in Denmark.

In her <u>column at altinget.dk</u>, Lisbeth Vibe Utzon, manager of the Integration House Kringlebakken, writes: "The consequences of the practiced integration policies are the opposite of integration. People become demotivated and are pushed into poverty, which creates greater inequality, marginalization, isolation from society, and polarization."

In contrast to what we constantly hear from the parliament, integration does, according to scientific studies, work out really well: Fewer refugees and descendants of refugees end up living off benefits, and if we take a look at the refugees that I know from Trampoline House, the picture is similar. They want to participate in society and pay their taxes.

Integration succeeds thanks to diverse collaborations between civil society, municipalities and companies. In 2017, we started two big collaborations that we are particularly proud of: Next Practice, and the People's Movement for Asylum-Seeking Children's Future.

Next Practice

Recently, we helped a café owner with the IN6 form, which needs to be filled out in order to apply for a work permit for an asylum seeker and to approve their workplace. We also helped him figuring out how to pay an asylum seeker, who doesn't have the right to a bank account, and how to pay their taxes. It's not only asylum seekers and refugees that find integration difficult.

Therefore, with the support of <u>TrygFonden</u> and <u>Tuborgfondet</u>, we launched <u>Next Practice</u> in 2017, which is an innovative, employment-focused method of integration that builds on our experiences with direct democracy and active citizenship, and on our knowledge of the wishes and needs of all actors in integration. The project extends much further than Trampoline House, building on close collaborations with municipalities and companies.

One close partner in this ambitious initiative is the consultancy firm <u>LG Insight</u>, who for years have delivered solutions for Denmark's municipalities. Another partner is Roskilde municipality, whose citizens will be participating in the project from March 2018. Next Practice ensures our new citizens' access to the jobmarket one job at a time. This is an example of the hard work that civil society, municipalities and companies carry out every day. It's the kind of work that unites and develops Denmark and the Danes.



Torch light march for asylum-seeking children's future on December 16, 2017. Photo: Philip Davali

The People's Movement for Asylum-Seeking Children's Future

Trampoline House is also here for the rejected asylum seekers. In the spring of 2017, Immigration Service started allocating families in deportation center Sjælsmark, where more than 50 children now risk spending their entire childhood in dire and prison-like conditions because their cases, according to the police, are completely deadlocked. And it's not only in center Sjælsmark that the living conditions are unbearable. Approximately 2,900 children live in Danish asylum centers.

Therefore, on the initiative of worried parents from the asylum centers, Trampoline House and 24 other organizations founded the <u>People's Movement for Asylum-Seeking Children's Future</u> in the fall of 2017. It's a politically independent movement that unites humanitarian and democratic organizations and citizens around the goal of securing children in the asylum system the right to a safe childhood and upbringing.

On December 16, 2017, as part of the People's Movement, we arranged a big torch light march for asylum-seeking children's future in Copenhagen. In the spring of 2018, we will invite for a big public meeting about the People's Movements' future ambitions.

Together, we can create a new paradigm

Next Practice and the People's Movement are two great projects that show that Trampoline House is changing. As we become wiser, we specialize our work and expand our partnerships. I'm immensely proud of all of our staff, interns and volunteers who work hard and undauntedly to create a society of cohesion, solidarity and mutual respect. Through 7 years of experience, Trampoline House has acquired a knowledge and developed a practice that can create a new paradigm for Denmark's asylum and integration policies. But we will need each other in order to succeed!

A large part of our funding currently comes from big foundations and companies. However, Trampoline House's work also depends on the support we receive from our citizens. Your support is both moral and financial, as it shows us that there is backing for a version of Denmark where the local democracy is perceptible in the daily interactions between citizens, and where everyone takes responsibility for the community.

Thank you so much for that!

OUR 2017

HIGHLIGHTS



SISTERS' CUISINE COOKBOOK

In March 2017, Trampoline House's catering service Sisters' Cuisine published a cookbook about migration politics. The book collects asylumseeking women's best recipes and life stories from different places, including Eritrea, Thailand, Palestine, Morocco, Afghanistan and Iran.

The cookbook is available in Danish and English and can be bought for 99 kr. in Trampoline House's gift shop: trampolinehouse.dk/shop

GOURMET DINNER SUPPORTING TRAMPOLINE HOUSE

In the spring of 2017, Cooking for a Cause fell in love with Trampoline House and decided to create a pop-up restaurant, where 8 skilled chefs served an exquisite 8-course gourmet menu with a wine menu.

All profits were donated to Trampoline House, corresponding to the approximately 10,000 meals that are served every year at communal dinners in Trampoline House.





DEMOCRACY CLASS AT THE PEOPLE'S MEETING 2017

Trampoline House's democracy class shared their experiences and advice at the People's Meeting 2017:

"For me, People's Meeting was so different from my own country. There were politicians who came and spoke with local people, something that is the opposite of in my country, and I think Danish people should be proud of their democratic culture."

Click here to read more about the People's Meeting.

SISTERS' CUISINE FOOD COURT AT ROSKILDE FESTIVAL

Trampoline House's <u>catering service Sisters' Cuisine</u> opened a food court at Roskilde Festival 2017. Eden Girma, one of the women behind Sisters' Cuisine, wrote about the experience in a reportage:

"The feedback of the customers was encouraging for our future – Sisters' Cuisine is dreaming of opening a permanent restaurant where we can share our cooking skills and make our own money."

Click here to read the whole reportage.





5.2 MILLION FOR A NEW EMPLOYMENT PROJECT

With the support from TrygFonden and Tuborgfondet, and in collaboration with the consultancy firm LG Insight, Trampoline House has developed a new method for integration: Next Practice.

It's an entirely new, employment-focused and holistic effort that gives refugees better and quicker access to the job market.

<u>Click here</u> to read more about Next Practice.

PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT FOR ASYLUM-SEEKING CHILDREN'S FUTURE

At the request of worried parents in the asylum system, Trampoline House and a group of other organisations founded the People's Movement for Asylum-Seeking Children's Future in the fall of 2017.

The purpose of the People's Movement is to secure all children in the Danish asylum system the right to a safe childhood.

<u>Click here</u> to read more about the People's Movement.





STAY UP TO DATE WITH TRAMPOLINE HOUSE'S WORK

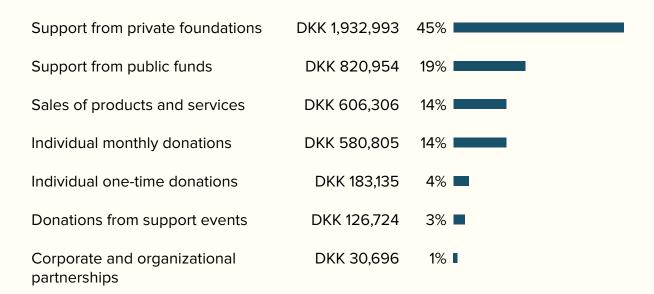
Remember that you can always stay up to date with Trampoline House's work by <u>signing up for our newsletters</u> or by following us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.

You're also always welcome to visit us for a cup of coffe, a game of chess, a movie night or a lecture!

<u>Click here</u> to see Trampoline House's calendar.

ACCOUNTS 2017

REVENUE 2017 DKK 4,281,613



EXPENSES 2017 DKK 4,262,508

