



# For Immediate Release

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**BETHLEHEM, PA-February 8, 2018.** Bethlehem nonprofit Humanitarian Social Innovations (HSI) is pleased to announce a collaboration with **We Need Books** to aid the refugee and immigrant populations in Athens, Greece.

**We Need Books** is an Athens-based NGO that aims to encourage the growth of inclusive communities and serve the refugee and immigrant populations by opening libraries and facilities that promote education, safety and inclusiveness.

**We Need Books** has collected more than 2,000 books in English, Greek, Farsi, Pashto and Arabic. They have already built two libraries for refugees to use, and have collaborated with the Antigone and Melissa projects to provide books to women and children refugees. They have also spoken at several conferences. You can read more about their work on their website: [weneedbooks.org/english/](http://weneedbooks.org/english/)

**We Need Books** was founded by Ioanna Nissirou and Nadir Noori in 2015. Ioanna grew up in Athens, Greece with a Turkish immigrant grandmother. She left her job as head of production for MTV and Nickelodeon to help refugees in 2015. Nadir lived in Afghanistan, but fled at the age of 12 to escape Taliban recruitment. He learned to speak, read, and write five languages and works as a translator helping refugees in Greece.

By collaborating with HSI, **We Need Books** can provide tax exemptions for funds donated in the U.S. With these funds, they can expand to build more libraries and spaces that aid the refugee population of Athens. Their next goal is to build the Multicultural Space, a building which will feature a multilingual library with books and computers, a daycare center, a multipurpose venue for education and arts programs, and a cafe and store staffed by the refugees to aid them in gaining job experience.

HSI is pleased to support the work of **We Need Books**. Creating sustainable, humanitarian change is at the root of the cultures of both **We Need Books** and HSI.

Humanitarian Social Innovations is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a humanitarian mission to create social impact through fiscal sponsorship, incubation and mentorship of early stage nonprofits and grassroots movements. HSI's mission is inspiring and connecting social entrepreneurs with the resources necessary to empower them and to maximize their humanitarian impact.

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