Creating a Haven for the Real War Victims

Developing Syrian Refugee Camps in Turkey

Alana Guilbault (ME), Sydney Yeaw (IE), and Evan Murphy (ECE)

Abstract

Syrian refugees in camps are faced with horrible living conditions and have been enduring these conditions for over six years. For our project, we want to improve a refugee camp by designing a structurally stable shelter, creating a close community, and offering opportunities for the refugees as they live out the ongoing war.

Objectives

Design a refugee camp which:
- Provides a safe, clean, livable shelter
- Brings organization and freedom to the camp
- Provides job opportunities, education, and a medical center for refugees
- Allows as many refugees as possible to live in the camp safely and comfortably

Background and Motivation

- War began in 2011 following the Arab Spring
- 5 million registered refugees
- Turkey houses the most refugees (3 million)
- People are living in crowded tents, vulnerable to hot summers and cold winters
- Limited opportunities for education or work

Shelter Design

- Octagonal shape
- Made of paper tubes
- Insulated for heat
- Distinct bedrooms for males and females
- Locking doors
- Shared kitchen
- Slanted, polycarbonate roof

Dimensions

Whole Length: 92' 3 1/16”
Octagon Length: 38' 7 ½”
Kitchen: 20’ x 16’
Ceiling Height: 6' 8”

Pros to Octagon Center

- Greater volume with less surface area compared to rectangular buildings (20% more)
- More windows = more interior light
- Reduces heat loss and gain

References


Conclusion

This community design will provide a safe place for the Syrian citizens seeking refuge from the violence in Syria as well as create job and community opportunities when they are living there. We hope that other refugee camps will take inspiration from the changes we make to the camp in Turkey and begin to make improvements to the living conditions of other camps like this one.