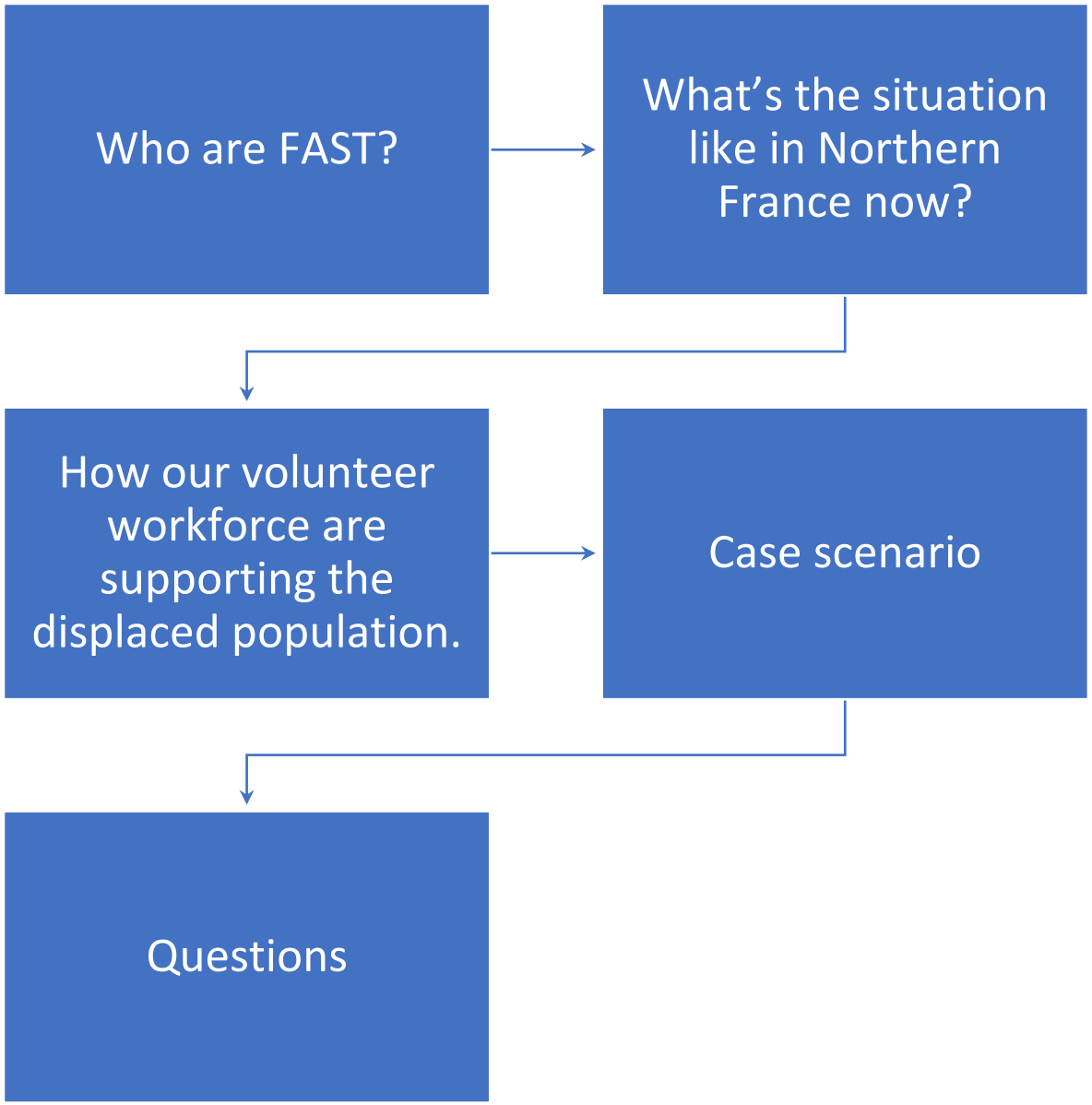
FAST

FIRST AID SUPPORT TEAM

Jackie Wood, Board Director
RGN
Alice Beal, Board Director,
RGN - Children

Aim of session



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Who are FAST?

- FAST provide first aid, first aid kits and assist displaced people to access appropriate (emergency) healthcare when needed.
- We believe in the basic human right to being treated with dignity and respect and apply this to our day to day efforts when helping people forced from their homes.

Northern France: current challenges

Schengen Area & impact on volunteers

Evictions and police brutality

Unpredictable and harsh weather

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Medical supplies

Limited access to health care

La Pass

Discriminatory practice

Health when they reach UK

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Police evictions and the hostile border Policy

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Impact of evictions:

Psychological

Anxiety, depression, exacerbation of existing MH issues.

PTSD - retraumatisation

Physical

Loss of shoes and shelter.

Forced to wear plastic bags as only means of protection against the elements

Increased cases of trench foot

Waterpoint confiscation

Lack of hygiene options

Preventable illness and injuries seen in northern France

- High prevalence of dermatological disease – some are easily transmissible ie scabies, impetigo
- Dehydration - lack of access to water, water for all campaign
- Trench foot - poor standard or loss of footwear, very wet conditions, no access to dry shelter
- Burns – desperate attempts to keep warm around campfires
- Wound care – attempts to board lorries or boats, razor wire, police violence, infected insect bites, poor living conditions
- Older wounds – sustained due to torture in Libya or other border violence
- Tear gas injuries – during evictions
- Diabetes and Asthma (other life long conditions) that become critical with no access to management treatments or doctor reviews.
- Respiratory Infections- TB

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What do we do?

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A day in the life of a FAST volunteer

- Field coordinator supporting team of short term volunteers
- 365 day service
- Container with medical supplies at warehouse
- Mobile clinic – car
- Clinic at a community centre
- Outreach missions
- First aid training and BLS to non medical NGO’s
- Coordination with other NGO’s and participation in local meetings

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FAST activity 2022 – Annual Report

Requests - We are able to provide a range of items to support people's health and well-being including Vaseline and skin creams, multivitamins, tissues, condoms, face masks.	**4268**
Coughs and Colds – Symptomatic relief and advice provided for coughs and colds. VapoRub, Olbas oil, lozenges	2053
Dermatology – General term to reflect treatments (ointments, dressings) for insect bites, rashes, and moisture-associated skin damage	854
Gastrointestinal – Refers to over the counter diarrhoea and constipation remedies	212
Wound Care– Refers to cleaning, dressing, and ongoing support of wounds	864
Locomotor – Refers to advice, creams such as deep heat, and supports given to those suffering from joint aches and pains	559
Trauma – Refers to recent wounds, fractures, and serious MSK complaints	92
Other – Multiple presentations fall under this. Including eye conditions, dehydration, ear complaints etc	210

FAST activity 2023…. so far

26,000 supported by FAST with 13,500 receiving treatment!!!!!

Average contacts per day 108

1378 triaged to other services

Respiratory/Cough/colds	4352
Headache	1078
Allergy/Dermatology/fungal	1820
Feet	382
Gastrointestinal	672
Wound care	2594
Locomotor	1427
Dental Pain	662
Mental Health	59
Other	292

Case scenario

- Unaccompanied young Sudanese adult
- Travelled on foot independently from Sudan over many months
- Small wound on the foot
- Cellulitis tracking up the leg
- Signs of sepsis – potentially fatal
- Urgent transfer to ED with admission for treatment

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Case scenario

Women & children

Hypothermia

Emergency treatment

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Supporting our work

FAST completely rely on donations to operate.

Medical supplies and over-the-counter medication are extremely expensive in France (check out the website for specification on what donations we accept).

Volunteer with us!

Share what we do with friends and family, follow us on Facebook and Instagram

Check out our website at- www.F-a-s-t.eu

Support and follow the work of other charities that provide humanitarian aid in France and Europe (don't underestimate the power of engaging with your local MP's.

Use your **voice** and **choose love.**

Pictures by
@mattiaflip
108
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justtogs
QUECHUA | TENT | 100

Any questions?

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SCAN ME