

# The Blue House Bridge Initiative

Building connections with communities to make a difference in the lives of children.

## Introducing The Bridge Initiative

Founded in 2018, The Bridge Initiative is inspired by our belief that education is not an isolated experience, nor does it have a beginning or end.

For young children in particular, they learn from every interaction they have from the moment they wake to the moment they sleep. They never stop learning.

Children deserve the greatest focus of our efforts. They deserve a world where we advocate for them, doing our best to make their world a better place.

Join us as we connect with organisations, initiatives and communities here in Singapore and across the globe to make a difference in the lives of the world's children.

“We will not only work to have a positive impact in the lives of children across the globe, but we will also make a difference in the lives of Blue House children as they see their teachers, staff and parents working to support others in the community. That is the true meaning of education.”

Shona Sanosi  
Blue House Founder



Ryleigh  
front view



# Bridge to: The Nest

Bringing play to the refugee camp in Lesbos, Greece

In 2015 during a professional development trip to the US, Blue House Founder Shona Sanosi, embarked upon a lifelong friendship with Alise Shafer, Director of the Evergreen Community School in Santa Monica. Now in 2018, Blue House is proud to be re-connecting with Alise in support of The Nest.

During a post-retirement holiday to the beautiful island of Lesbos, Greece, Alise and her husband Tom, were compelled to take action after witnessing the impact on the island of the thousands of refugees that had fled there.

A refugee camp in Moria was set up in 2015 to host up to 2000 refugees but now is home to up to 7000, many of these children.

When Alise and Tom visited the camp they were introduced to Michael Rabers who in 2017 had founded the One Happy Family Community Centre, the philosophy being 'With the People, not for Them'. Michael feels passionately that the centre should be always with the refugee community at its focus and to harness the expertise and skill set of those living there.

Alise and Tom's core observation was that there was nowhere for the children to play. It was then, as part of the One Happy Family Community Centre, that they created, The Nest.

The Nest is a welcoming space where children 2-7 can play. It is staffed by volunteers and supported by sponsors, partners and donations.

Blue House will participate as one of 20 schools who will work to send educator(s) for up to 2 week shifts annually to support children in their time at The Nest.

We will be fundraising to support the cost of the voyage for the educator(s) that will elect to embark on this journey. We may also become involved in supporting a collection of other resources and supplies that may also support The Nest's endeavours.

We welcome your partnership in raising funds to support our Blue House educators in making a difference in the lives of children who will share time with them at The Nest in Lesbos, Greece.

## GET INVOLVED

Please direct all enquiries to:  
[thebridge@bluehouseinternational.com](mailto:thebridge@bluehouseinternational.com)  
P +65 6734 0824.



“We've been open for two days now. Both days have been absolutely beautiful! For some it is a place to build relationships. For some it is a place for cognitive challenges. For others it is nothing short of therapeutic. For all it is a place of calm, peace and absolute joy. I'm out of words.”

Alise Shafer  
Founder of The Nest

