



Monthly Impact Report

JUNE 2025



JUNE in PLAY



We are a grassroots organisation supporting children and families on the move in northern France through **play**, **parental support** and **casework**. This month:

WE FACILITATED

32

SESSIONS

WE WORKED WITH

211

CHILDREN

WE PLAYED FOR

82

HOURS

In June, we worked at **six locations**, including independent safe houses, community centres and informal living sites - including one new location. It was a very busy month, with high child numbers.

Session Spotlight!

This month we talked a lot about how our work can create community. One way through which we do so during our sessions, is by actively encouraging and facilitating collaboration between children from all ages.

A particularly nice moment of community emerged during the collective decorating of a big cardboard dinosaur! The children exchanged ideas on how to design the dinosaur, making space for their creativity to unfold.



see the gallery pages at the end for our finished dino!

Parental Support & Casework



In June, we handled **four case files** for families in need of specific support.



We made **25 referrals**, mainly for tents or sleeping bags, accommodation and medical care.



We also referred **two unaccompanied children** to dedicated services run by ECPAT & La Croix Rouge.



June Impact Report

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NEWS and UPDATES

From the border:

June was a challenging month on the border, with a large increase in the number of children and families present, coupled with the presence of aggressive right-wing groups from the UK. This reflected increasing attention in UK politics, and was accompanied with heightened media presence - often, families spoke of invasive interactions with journalists. Simultaneously, June saw an intensification in the rate of police evictions, particularly in living sites in Dunkirk.

At Project Play:



This month families have spoken of invasive encounters with journalists and the media. We often see identifying content published without consent. This endangers children's rights to privacy (A.16 UNCRC), dignity and can give rise to child protection concerns.



The lack of state-provided support and resources means that many families struggle to access the items they need. This month, we observed a **significant increase in demand for tents, sleeping bags, clothes, shoes and other essential items.**



Whilst organisations, including partners at Calais Appeal, work hard to fill these gaps, it can be hard to sustain demand - particularly for children's sizes. This threatens children's rights to health (A.24 UNCRC), an adequate standard of living (A.27 UNCRC), and dignity.

Both the UK and France are signatories to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). This means they are obligated to respect, protect and fulfil the rights it enshrines - for every child, regardless of their background or status.

In the News:

This month was Refugee Week - a celebration of Community as a Superpower. In a space that is so hostile, it was welcome to hear some positive news stories! From **theatre performances** and **exhibitions** led by people on the move and supported by their communities, to the sharing of **moving and inspirational stories**, it's been a powerful reminder of the strength to be found in communities.

At Project Play, we facilitated **our own Refugee Week webinar**. We explored how play can be a vehicle for resistance, community and empowerment, discussing how we use play and sharing ideas to be used by others.

If you'd like the recording of our webinar, please email katie@project-play.org!



GALLERY

some favourite moments this month! 



Community-themed artwork was a highlight this month - promoting collaboration and creativity!

Our dinosaur!!



One child chose to replicate our emotions cards during free play!

Another favourite activity from dinosaur week - build the skeleton! Promoting problem solving and gross motor skills.



VISITOR SPOTLIGHT!

This month we welcomed the fantastic Changing Stories, who ran wonderful, interactive theatre sessions for the children. We absolutely love working with them, and can't wait to welcome them back in the future. **Thank you!**

CHANGING STORIES





Thank You!

ENGAGE

[Follow](#) Project Play and our partners in northern France to stay informed, and [sign up to our newsletter](#) to receive our updates.

VOLUNTEER

Join our [team of playworkers](#) in northern France, or join us remotely - we're currently recruiting a [French-speaking trustee](#).

SUPPORT

We rely on our community of supporters to run our service. [Click here](#) to find out you you can [help us keep playing](#) - and keep fighting for change.

