I
nternational House NY
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The Lisbon Project
Lisbon, Portugal

Description of Project
As of 2019, Portugal had 590,000 immigrants out of 10,300,000 inhabitants, an increase of almost 23% from 2018. While roughly a quarter of legal immigrants are Brazilian, the majority of the other seventy-five percent consists of groups that do not speak either Portuguese or English. For immigrants in Lisbon to have a language barrier poses a huge problem in their hopes of finding employment. Possessing fluency in either Portuguese or English is the only way immigrants can hope to make money in hopes to sustain themselves. This makes people coming into Lisbon for a better life find themselves not being able to enter the job market. Adding on to this, with the storm of COVID-19 ravaging the world, these past years have not been without their novel challenges. The pandemic has only aggravated the vulnerability of immigrants in Lisbon due to social isolation and growing unemployment.

With this project, I plan to help beneficiaries by providing free CV editing and teaching them how to build a successful resume in order to showcase the skillsets they may struggle to communicate to their potential employers. I would also be helping with the English Course instruction as well as providing learning material for students, which includes reading material, utensils, and notebooks. Life as an expatriate is already hard as it is, someone who is for whatever reason uprooted from their home country, leaving behind their customs and traditions they have known for what is most likely their whole life is hard enough, I hope this project will make their transition to their new home easier.

Proposed Activities
During my six-week stay in Lisbon, I will conduct one on one training sessions with immigrants from various countries in Lisbon and teach them how to construct an impactful resume. I will be in contact with a local NGO that will help me reach out to relevant individuals that either need help with their resumes or English. The main objective of the CV building lessons is to help the participants tell their unique professional narratives. The segment categories making up the session are:

- Length
- Format
- Layout
- Brainstorm
- Identify Transferable Skills and Accomplishments
- Research
- Write and Revise
Once I’ve covered the general topic points I will address more individual specific problems that might arise such as help explaining employment gaps, what to put in and what to leave out in relation to chosen career paths, as well as optimizing resumes for applicant tracking systems.

**Results and Goals**
One of the goals of the Lisbon Project is to help immigrants in Lisbon showcase their skillset through their resumes. Participants will come in with little to no knowledge of creating a CV and be able to both have a completely finished copy of their resume they can begin to apply to jobs with, as well as the skills to build future resumes if they find themselves needing to edit their CV for one reason or another. Another goal of the Lisbon Project is for participants to gain the language fluency required to be competitive in the Portuguese job market. The project will also be providing additional English lessons for immigrants seeking to better their competence in the language, as well as notebooks, utensils, reading materials any other relevant purchases for immigrants in Lisbon studying English.

**Indicators of Success**
Indicators of success will first and foremost be employment. The best indicator of success for any participant that comes in unemployed during either taking their English course or CV lessons will be if they can find a job within four months of either course. For employed individuals, indicators of success will be feedback from participants.