



***SAFE HAVEN***

***IN RISTI***

MARCH 2025



# PRELUDE

- **AD 2014:** WITH HOPE IN OUR HEARTS, THE RISTI CONGREGATION PURCHASED A CHARMING OLD SCHOOLHOUSE - BUILT IN 1929 - IN HARJU-RISTI, DREAMING OF CREATING A DIACONAL ELDERLY HOME FOR THE COMMUNITY. WHILE THE ORIGINAL PLAN PROVED TOO DIFFICULT TO CARRY OUT DUE TO HEAVY REGULATORY DEMANDS FROM THE AUTHORITIES, THE SPIRIT OF THE IDEA LIVED ON, AND WE BROUGHT THE VISION TO LIFE IN A NEW FORM - FOUNDING A DIACONAL CHARITY CENTER CALLED *SÕBRA MAJA (FRIEND'S HOUSE)*.
- **AD 2016:** THE CONGREGATION BEGAN RENOVATING PARTS OF THE HOUSE TO WELCOME SYRIAN REFUGEES IN NEED OF SHELTER.
- FOR SIX YEARS, WE OFFERED A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE HOME TO A SYRIAN FAMILY OF FIVE.
- **AD 2022:** THE START OF THE WAR IN UKRAINE BROUGHT A LARGE WAVE OF REFUGEES TO ESTONIA. WE PREPARED EVEN MORE LIVING SPACES FOR THE REFUGEES AND GAVE SHELTER TO MORE THAN 30.

# OLD SCHOOLHOUSE IN RISTI



# INTERLUDE

- **AD 2021-2025:** CURRENTLY THERE ARE 5 UKRAINIAN FAMILIES LIVING IN THE HOUSE WITH A TOTAL OF 22 MEMBERS.
- IN LIGHT OF RECENT GLOBAL EVENTS, WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE NEED TO CREATE A TEMPORARY LIVING SPACE FOR CHURCH MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN NEED. THAT IS WHY WE CREATED THE PROJECT CALLED **SAFE HAVEN**, SO THAT THE HOUSE COULD CONTINUE GIVING SHELTER IN DIFFRENT CRISES.
- SO FAR, THE CONGREGATION HAS FIXED AND RENOVATED THE HOUSE AS BEST AS IT CAN, BUT IT'S ROOF IS OLD, WORN OUT AND LEAKING IN MANY PLACES.
- **AD 2025:** THE ROOF NEEDS TO BE REPLACED TO ENSURE THE SURVIVAL OF THE HOUSE AND THE MISSION.

PEOPLE  
LIVING IN  
OUR SAFE  
HAVEN OVER  
THE YEARS

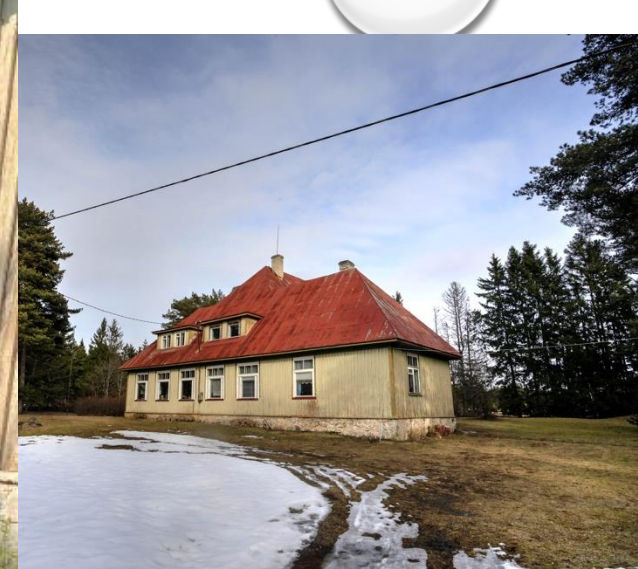


# RENOVATING THE ROOF

- THE RENOVATION OF THE ROOF OF THE SAFE HAVEN WILL BE COSTLY – **165 000€**. IT INCLUDES CREATING DOCUMENTATION, RENEWING ROOF STRUCTURES, INSTALLING NEW ROOFING SHEETS, REBUILDING CHIMNEYS, ELECTRICAL WORK, AND OWNER SUPERVISION.
- WITH GREAT GRATITUDE FOR A TIMELY OPPORTUNITY, WE RECEIVED **81,739** EUROS IN SUPPORT FROM THE EUROPEAN LEADER PROGRAMME.
- GUSTAV-ADOLF-WERK HAS SUPPORTED THE PROJECT WITH 8000 EUROS.
- THE CONGREGATION HAS GATHERED DONATIONS AND CAN CONTRIBUTE **17,500** EUROS.
- THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT HAS PROMISED TO ADD **20,000** EUROS.

CURRENTLY THE PROJECT IS MISSING **36,760** EUROS.

WITH DONATIONS  
AND THE SUPPORT  
OF OUR GOOD  
FRIENDS, WE HOPE  
TO RAISE THE  
REMAINING AMOUNT  
NEEDED TO ENSURE  
THE CONTINUATION  
OF OUR MISSION IN  
THE RISTI  
COMMUNITY.





# FILM ABOUT THE REFUGEES IN RISTI

IN 2023, MAALEHT AND LEVILA PUBLISHED DOCUMENTARY FILM ABOUT THE REFUGEES LIVING IN RISTI.

THE FILM (34 MIN) WITH ENGLISH AND GERMAN (DEUTSCH) SUBTITLES CAN BE SEEN BELOW:

- [REFUGEES IN OUR VILLAGE \(ENG SUB\)](#)
- [REFUGEES IN OUR VILLAGE \(DE SUB\)](#)

**!** To open the video please **hold** the **Ctrl** key on Windows or **Command** (⌘) key on Mac and then **Click** one of the links below.

YOUR DONATION IS MOST WELCOME:



[HTTPS://PAYMENT.LHV.EE/LP/ZPM275](https://payment.lhv.ee/lp/zpm275)

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**GOD BLESS YOU!**

**[WWW.RISTIKIRIK.EE](http://WWW.RISTIKIRIK.EE)**

