

Arrival infrastructures and informal providers of healthcare assistance for migrants. The Healthcare Community Centre (Sportello Medico Popolare) developed by the Ex-OPG in Naples

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As literature skilled through policy analysis about migration in Italy increasingly mainstreamed, a still less investigated dimension is how immigrants accessing to healthcare welfare provisions, formally recognized by the Italian legal system, should frequently deals with those substantive franchises the system upholds, especially at local level.

Healthcare assistance, as already stated, must be considered a main arrival infrastructure working out by ‘routing’ immigrants within a path to social integration. As well as for other partitions of Italian immigration system, the access to healthcare assistance seems to be affected by a remarkable policy-gap.

The paper’s aim is to investigate how immigrants’ healthcare integration may be achieved, at local level, also through grassroots community processes, i.e., by urban common-based social policy agencies serving as informal providers of healthcare assistance for migrants. To address these points, it will be highlighted the experience built up by the Healthcare Community Centre (HCC - Sportello Medico Popolare) embedded by an urban common placed in Naples, the Ex-OPG. The paper design blends institutional frame analysis with some insights emerging from the interviews administrated to the immigrants hosted by Ex-OPG and accessing to grassroots healthcare assistance provided by the HCC.

The findings will try to highlight how this urban commons-based experience is succeeding as an informal arrival infrastructure, by subsidizing the Public System healthcare welfare coverage at urban level.

Keywords - immigrations, Italy, urban commons, healthcare assistance, grassroots social policy, arrival infrastructure

References

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