

## Project Prevention a friend of immigrant women in Milan



An alliance between local institutions to offer long-term prospects and integration to women living in vulnerable conditions as a result of their migratory experience.

The project is focused on a crucial stage in the life of a woman and child: pregnancy. The tools used are focused conversations and preventive and screening services to avoid foetal and neonatal harm and to trigger a process of reducing the risk of uncertainty and to promote social inclusion. A booklet created in six languages (Arabic, Chinese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish and Tigrinya) as well as Italian, provides a useful tool to remind all women of the importance of prevention and the adoption of daily precautions to safeguard health during pregnancy.

Since the start of the initiative some 505 women have joined the project, sharing a journey with the Health Assistant. The project has and is accompanying 182 women through their pregnancy.

The Bracco Foundation has enlisted the expertise of the Bracco Group companies by offering free blood tests to find out the serum immunological status of the pregnant women (CDI-Italian Diagnostic Centre), and promoting iodine supplements, vital for cognitive development in children, thanks to Bracco SpA.

The project "Prevention a Friend of Immigrant Women", presented at the Oscar of Health 2016, claimed Second Prize out of 42 candidate projects with special Mention on the relevance of the activities, reflecting the fact that health promotion is an effective strategy for integration and social inclusion.