

## AREAS FOR INTERVENTION ACTIVITIES OF THE SOLWODI ASSOCIATION:

1. Human trafficking
2. Domestic violence
3. Children programme
4. Emergency funds for beneficiaries



## INTERVENTION MEANS:

### 1. Prevention and raising awareness campaigns

- Informing campaigns in high schools from Onești, in collaboration with the Institute for the Study and Treatment of Trauma;
- November 2013 – awareness campaign on human trafficking, at Beiuș, Bihor county, with 800 students;
- December 2013 – partnership with the Adventist Church, for the 16 Days Campaign against violence on women; intensifying collaboration with local authorities, police and other NGOs.

#### Conclusions of the campaign:

- the need to equip youth with an appropriate understanding regarding healthy relationships, non-violence, access to information and support in need;
- the difficulty of implementing certain violence prevention methods because of the multitude of different opinions regarding its causes;
- the problem of focusing resources on interventions in crisis situations and less on prevention measures.

### 2. Services in the recovery centre

The centre for recovery offers a pleasant and harmonious environment, founded on important values: respect, empowerment, safety, trust and confidentiality.

**Infrastructure:** a house from a confidential location, with 4 bedrooms, one living room, dining room and stores.

## Characteristics of the beneficiaries assisted in the programme:

Category	Cases in December 2012	New cases January-December 2013	Total number of cases from the programme January - December 2013
Victime of human trafficking	1	22	23
Potential victims of human trafficking	0	4	4
Victims of violence and abuse	12	35	47
Children, accompanied by their mothers	5	45	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>124</b>

Beneficiaries from 2013 are women and girls who have suffered forms of human trafficking and/or domestic violence, as well as their children.

- regarding the cases of domestic violence, 10 children from the programme are orphans who have lived in orphanages; 16 cases come from families with divorced parents, while only 10 cases come from normal families.

## Services:

### - Advocacy

- improving the support offered to the cases from the shelter, in different situations, in collaborating with different agencies

### - Services of assisting victims

- increasing quality, intensity and diversity of individual and group support services, through collaborating with a new social assistant and a psychologist;
- education for community, creating and maintaining relationships with other communities who offer similar services;
- individual and group psychosocial counselling, with a multi-disciplinary team (case manager, social assistant, psychologist, shelter manager).

**Objectives of counselling:** increasing self-esteem and self-trust, rehabilitation to an independent lifestyle, oriented to responsible decisions, healthy relationships, recovery towards an independent life style oriented to responsible decisions, healthy relationships with children, solving conflicts and relaxation techniques, awareness about own desires and personal qualities, awareness on alternatives and future perspectives.

- Children assistance programme

- Programme of socio-psychological assistance for children and youth in order to understand the trauma they have been exposed to, to develop an adequate answer and to recover;
- Programme of art therapy for children aged between 3 and 12 years old, with the purpose of healing from previous exposing to family violence;
- Parenting sessions based on: the necessity of positive limits that simple and healthy for children discipline, adjusting limits while the child is growing up and entrusting him with more independence as a response to him taking more responsibility.

- Support groups

- Support group for women from Butea, Iași county

**Purpose:** connecting women with similar experiences, group learning and beginning of the healing process

- Training programme for a duration of 3 months, for improving mutual support between beneficiaries and general improvement of the quality of assistance services that are offered

**Partner in the programme:** Touched Romania

**Programme timeframe:** 3 months

**Training topics:** parenting, household economy, hygiene and nutrition, implementing strategies that would diminish the effects of the traumas and favour the development of healthy development models.

- Activities generating outcomes for beneficiaries

- **Purpose:** developing life competences and spending free time, in a variety of ways
- a course of tailoring, with a specialised trainer (March)

### 3. Investing in Solwodi personnel

• Teaching programmes:

- Rehabilitation services for victims of human trafficking (Trainer: Gina Stoian, ADPARE);
- Techniques and challenges in team development (Institute for the Study and Treatment of Trauma - ISTT);
- Domestic violence, services for survivors (Trainer: Daniel Pagu, psychotherapist);
- Sexual abuse of children (Trainer: Iulia Feordeanu, psychologist).

- Monthly meetings of counselling for Solwodi team, with an external psychologist;
- Monthly team meeting regarding the progress in the case management of the beneficiaries;
- Teambuilding with all the Solwodi team.

### 4. Working places for beneficiaries

- Premises:

- 1 out of 3 women in Romania are victims of domestic violence;
- The lack of a financial stability is one of the reasons that keep victims near their aggressor;
- Discrimination, the stigma from the community and the fear that leads to the problem of maintaining a working place;
- The difficulty of finding stable and legal working places, that pay for the social and health insurances.

- Results:

- Partnership with the National Agency for Employment;
- 2 from the beneficiaries of the centre have followed specialisation trainings for cook and caretaker for elders.

### 5. Post-monitoring interventions

- One year monitoring of the victims, after they leave the shelter:
  - psychological assistance, spiritual counselling, training in domestic financial management, offering personal care products, food and clothing

## FROM OUR STORIES...

Beyond the services offered by Solwodi Association, the shelter brings together family stories as a result of the time spent together, with daily, domestic activities: doing small, necessary repairs in the house, celebrating anniversaries and feasts, watching films together, winter games, crafting decoration objects for Christmas.

In addition, among the daily battles that we fight are the integration of youth in new schools/high schools, diverse forms of therapy (through art, theatre, crafting various objects), offering support for building healthy moral and spiritual foundations (Bible lectures, learning the value of good deeds).

### Fragments from the letters to Santa Claus, from children from the shelter:



*Dear Santa,*

*I know that you are old and very busy and that every time you reached my place your bag was almost empty because you have given presents to children who needed them more than me. I know I am almost 15, but could you, please, bring me that remote control car that I have always wanted?*

---

*Dear Santa,*

*I wish you could bring me a journal in which I would write all my thoughts about this life. I know I am but a child (N.B. 10 years old), but I have gone through so many things ...*

**Thank you for your support!**