# REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE **NOBODY'S CHILDREN FOUNDATION IN 2006**



#### MISSION OF THE NOBODY'S CHILDREN FOUNDATION

The Nobody's Children Foundation is a non-governmental non-profit organization working toward the goals of protecting children from abuse and providing help for abused children, their families, and their caregivers. The institutions run by the Foundation offer psychological, medical, and legal help to victims of abuse and their caregivers. We act for the improvement of the situation of children participating in legal procedures as witnesses. We run preventive activities to reduce threats to children on the Internet. We organize specialized training programmes in the area of child abuse for various groups of professionals and for interdisciplinary teams. We conduct research and analyses to expand the knowledge about the problem of child abuse and to provide basis for our activities.

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## History of Nobody's Children Foundation's selected activities

#### 1991

The Nobody's Children Foundation is registered in Warsaw on the initiative of Alina Margolis-Edelman, the representative of the Medecins du Monde (Doctors of the World) mission in Poland.

#### 1992-93

The Foundation carries out research programmes in Warsaw to determine the scale and nature of the problem of child abuse. The findings – which suggest that Polish professionals lack competence both in diagnosing child abuse and in helping children and their families – form the basis for the Foundation's strategy in the years to follow.

#### 1993

The Foundation publishes its first educational materials on children's rights and the problem of child abuse. In the subsequent years the publishing programme continues and develops. The Foundation publishes leaflets, brochures, posters, and books addressed to children, parents, and professionals.

The first training programme for pedagogic counsellors from Warsaw schools is launched. In the years that follow the Foundation's training programmes are attended by thousands of professionals representing various professional groups: police officers, judges, prosecutors, psychologists, social workers, teachers, medical doctors, nurses, and others.

#### 1996

In cooperation with Medecins du Monde the Foundation launches two specialized institutions for abused children and their families: Child and Family Centre and "Pociecha" ("Consolation") Centre. Both centres provide psychological and legal help for children, parents and caretakers, as well as for professionals who intervene in child abuse cases.

The newly opened Child and Family Centre offers the first child-friendly interviewing room in Poland.

The Foundation publishes the first Polish book on the problem of child abuse, *Dziecko krzywdzone. Próba opisu zjawiska* (Abused Child: Attempt to Describe the Problem).

#### 1997-2001

The Foundation joins the "Abused Child" programme carried out in Eastern Europe by the Open Society Institute. Within the programme representatives of the Foundation's team enhance their competences during training sessions run by American and European experts. In Poland the Foundation organizes two international conferences for child gynaecologists (1999) and social workers (2000) from participating countries.

#### 2001-2002

In cooperation with the State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol Related Problems and the "Blue Line" – a National Hotline for Victims of Domestic Violence, the Foundation carries out a social campaign "Childhood without Violence".

#### 2001

Within the Foundation's research programme the first national study on the prevalence of child abuse in Poland is designed and conducted in cooperation with a leading public opinion research company, OBOP.

#### 2002-2003

The Foundation carries out a programme "Child under the Umbrella of Law", aimed primarily at promoting the idea of child-friendly interviewing rooms and protecting child victims.

#### 2002

The first issue of the Foundation's quarterly *Dziecko krzywdzone. Teoria, badania, praktyka (Abused Child: Theory, Research, and Practice)* is published.

#### 2003

The "Mazowiecka" Child Advocacy Centre is launched in Warsaw, offering child-friendly settings for prosecution and court interviews, as well as therapeutic and legal assistance to child victims of crime. The "Pociecha" Centre terminates its operation.

The Foundation organizes the 9th ISPCAN Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect: "Promoting Interdisciplinary Approaches to Child Protection". The Conference is attended by 700 professionals from 70 countries, including 200 from Poland.

The first Polish research into children's risky behaviours on the Internet is conducted. The findings concerning threats to children on the Web form the basis for the launch and development of the Foundation's programme "Children's Safety on the Internet".

#### 2004

Two social campaigns are launched:

- "Child in the Web" targeted at adults and children in order to raise their awareness of the threats related to paedophiles' activity on the Internet.
- "Child: Witness with Special Needs" targeted at prosecutors, judges, police officers, court experts (psychologists) and politicians.

The Foundation is appointed the Polish Competence Centre in the area of child abuse and begins to perform the role of the National Contact Point for Unaccompanied and Trafficked Children within a programme of the Working Group for Cooperation on Children at Risk in the Baltic Sea Region.

The 1st National Conference on Helping Child Victims of Crime is organized by the Foundation in collaboration with the Office of the Capital City of Warsaw and the Ministry of Justice. The Conference is attended by 600 professionals from all over Poland.

#### 2005

The Foundation launches a five-year programme "Childhood without Violence: Toward Better Child Protection in Eastern Europe" in seven East European countries. The main goal of the programme is to develop a system of helping abused children in the region.

A new awareness-raising campaign begins – "Children are not for Sale" – addressed to boarder guards, police officers and social workers.

Within a European programme, Safer Internet Action Plan, the Awareness project is launched in Poland, aimed at reducing threats to children on the Internet. The Foundation becomes its national coordinator.

The 2nd National Conference on Helping Child Victims of Crime is held.

#### 2006

The "Child Victim Advocate" project – targeted at children – is inaugurated within the programme "Protecting Child Participants in Legal Procedures".

During summer holidays the "Sieciaki [Web Kids] on Vacation" project is carried our across Poland.

The second stage of "Child in the Web" – a media and educational campaign concerning children's safety on the Internet – is carried out.

Within the "Childhood without Violence: Toward Better Child Protection in Eastern Europe", a social campaign "Childhood without Violence" is implemented in Lithuania, Latvia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Macedonia, and Moldova.

The 3rd National Conference on Helping Child Victims of Crime is held.



## INSTITUTIONS HELPING ABUSED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

In 2006 the Nobody's Children Foundation run two institutions in Warsaw, offering assistance to abused children and their families: "Mazowiecka" Child Advocacy Centre and Child and Family Centre.

#### "Mazowiecka" Child Advocacy Centre

00-048 Warszawa, ul. Mazowiecka 12/25, phone: (4822) 826 88 62, mazowiecka@fdn.pl

#### Child and Family Centre

03-926 Warszawa, ul. Walecznych 59, phone: (4822) 616 02 68, walecznych@fdn.pl

**The Child and Family Centre** was founded in 1996 thanks to professional support and funds provided by the French organization Medecins du Monde (Doctors of the World), at premises offered by the Welfare Srvices Centre in Warsaw's Praga Południe district. The Centre provides specialized services for abused children and their families, and for professionals dealing with such cases.

**The "Mazowiecka" Child Advocacy Centre,** established in March 2003, is a specialized institution pursuing the goals of applying and promoting innovative (in the Polish reality) ways of dealing with cases of crimes against children. The Centre operates in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration, and Warsaw institutions reporting to both ministries. It fills a gap in the system of law enforcement institutions, offering a child-friendly place for **prosecution** and **court interviews.** 

The Foundation's Centres undertake **crisis interventions** in cases of crimes against children, particularly sexual abuse and physical violence. Children and members of their families are offered **free psychological and legal assistance** (consultations, therapy, and support groups). Both centres' employees initiate, support, and consult the activities of professionals who deal with cases of child abuse. They develop **forensic psychological opinions** for courts and prosecutors' offices across Poland; they act as court experts or witnesses in cases involving crimes against children.

In 2006 the Foundation's centres accepted 138 **first-time** reports of children and 167 reports of adults. Out of this number, the centres provided regular care for 111 children and 147 members of their families. Throughout 2006 the centres provided:

– 1866 diagnostic and therapeutic sessions with children;

- 1425 diagnostic and therapeutic sessions with parents and caregivers;
- 486 legal consultations for caregivers and professionals;
- 487 psychiatric consultations;
- 82 forensic psychological examinations of children;
- 106 interviews and trials involving child participants;
- 196 personal consultations and 837 telephone consultations for professionals.

The "Mazowiecka" Child Advocacy Centre organizes training sessions and supervisions for professionals working with abused children. It holds regular meetings of the **Court Expert Club**, attended by psychologists acting as court experts in cases involving crimes against children. In 2006 six such meetings were held, focused on issues such as mediation, commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth, child sexuality, and selected aspects of psychiatric diagnosis.

#### The team of the Nobody's Cghildren Foundation's help centres:

**Child and Family Centre**: Katarzyna Fenik (coordinator), Beata Ciejka, Renata Kałucka, Mirosława Gogol-Bujalska, secretariat: Justyna Burczak.

**Mazowiecka Child Advocacy Centre:** Jolanta Zmarzlik (coordinator), Alicja Budzyńska, Beata Pawlak-Jordan, Małgorzata Szulik, Magdalena Zawadzka, secretariat: Kinga Traszewska, Maria Szczypińska.

**Consultants:** Irena Kornatowska, Ph.D., Joanna Krzyżanowska-Zbucka Ph.D, Justyna Podlewska, Jarosław Polanowski, Jowita Cieślik.

#### The Foundation's help centres were sponsored by:

- Office of the Capital City of Warsaw,
- UBS Optimus Foundation,
- Ministry of Justice,
- Mazovian Provincial Office,
- Praga Południe Welfare Services Centre,
- Auchan
- Donations by individual persons (including payments of 1% of income tax),
- Foundation's own funds.

#### **Protecting Child Participants in Legal Procedures**

www.dzieckoswiadek.fdn.pl, phone: (4822) 826 88 62, mazowiecka@fdn.pl



#### **Child Victim Advocate**

The Nobody's Children Foundation implemented the **Child Victim Advocate** programme since December 2005. The goal of the programme is to improve the situation of children who have been victimized and who participate in legal procedures, such as interviews and court trials. The programme is targeted at child victims' parents and caregivers, who are provided with information on relevant legal regulations, the scope of competence of the police, the prosecutor, and the court, as well as interviewing



programme is documented.

procedures. They may also choose to be accompanied by the advocate in the courtroom and to receive psychological support for their children. The programme assumes that child victims and their families/caregivers should be supported throughout the legal process – from the moment of the case being reported to the Foundation, through the trial and psychological treatment, to the resolution of the crisis situation. Each case handled within the

In 2006 **information brochures and leaflets** were distributed among police stations, prosecutor's offices, and family courts. A **telephone helpline** was launched, providing information about victims' rights. Trained helpline consultants help the callers to determine what kind of assistance is needed by the child and his/her parent or caregiver. **In 2006 the programme was joined by 3 partner organizations from three Polish towns (Szczecin, Grudziądz, Białystok)**. These organizations will conduct the child advocate programme in their respective areas. Training sessions were organized for employees and volunteers of partner organizations who are to implement the programme in their towns.

A brochure "Child Victim Advocate" was developed and published, providing a description of the programme to facilitate its implementation by other organizations.

Another way to support crime victims and help them in the effective execution of their rights is through voluntary representatives and accompanying persons participating in criminal and civil procedures. This initiative reflects a practical application of existing regulations of the procedural law, which have been scarcely practiced in Poland. It ensures the equality of parties in legal procedures, especially when the victim does not have his/her own legal representative. The programme focuses on cases in which children and youth are victims of physical and emotional abuse, sexual abuse, child trafficking etc. As a voluntary representative, the Foundation has the right to speak up

during the trial, to make written statements, and to be present in the court room. Volunteers accompany the Foundation's clients in the court room. The Foundation's experience shows that their presence is important for the victims and supports them psychologically.

There are 20 trained volunteers in the programme – graduate students of law and psychology. Each case is supervised by a lawyer performing the role of the programme coordinator. Between June 2005 and December 2006 30 cases were qualified for the programme. The Foundation's volunteers participated in more than 70 court trials.

#### Programme team: Protecting Child Participants in Legal Procedures

Jolanta Zmarzlik – project coordinator: Child victim Advocate

Justyna Podlewska – project coordinator: Child Victim Advocate, coordinator of the voluntary representative and accompanying person projects,

Joanna Szczęśniak – coordinator of the voluntary representative and accompanying person projects

Project implementation team, Child Victim Advocate: Grażyna Laskowska, Katarzyna Pawłowska, Agnieszka Fedorczyk, Sylwia Kowalczyk, Agnieszka Pawłowska, Kinga Tarszewska-Budyta, Maria Szczypińska.

#### The programme was financed by:

- The European Commission *programme: Support to NGOs In the 10 New Member States EU*
- Batory Foundation
- Cooperation Fund, CFCU
- Civic Initiatives Fund (FIO)

### 3rd National Conference "Helping Child Victims of Crime"

Warsaw, 27-28 Nov 2006

The Nobody's Children Foundation, the Ministry of Justice, and the Office of the Capital City of Warsaw organized the 3rd National Conference on Helping Child Victims of Crime.

The 3rd National Conference on Helping Child Victims of Crime – under the honorary patronage of the Minister of Justice and the President of the Capital City of Warsaw – was held on **27–28 Nov 2006** in Warsaw, in the Palace of Culture and Science.

The conference focused on helping children who have experienced various forms of violence and abuse. Polish and foreign experts presented model solutions related to preventing offences against children, including sexual recidivism. Plenary sessions were accompanied by parallel lectures and workshop sessions. Projects and initiatives designed to provide practical help for child victims and their families were also presented, as well as professional publications in this area.

The conference was attended by a broad range of professionals helping child victims of crime, such as judges, prosecutors, probation officers, psychologists – court experts, personnel of help and care institutions, and representatives of NGOs working with child victims of crime.

#### The programme was financed by:

- Office of the Capital City of Warsaw
- European Commission programme: *Support to NGOs In the 10 New Member States UE*



#### **Safer Internet Academy**

www.sieciaki.pl, phone (4822) 672 65 86, bezpiecznyinternet@fdn.pl

Nobody's Children Foundation has run the Safer Internet Academy programme, comprising comprehensive research, educational, and media activity for children's safety on the Web.

In January 2005 the Foundation was appointed the national coordinator of the Awareness project implemented in cooperation with NASK (Research and Academic Computer Network) within the European Commission's programme – Safer Internet Action Plan (SIAP)

In 2006 the Foundation's major activities within the Safer Internet Academy included:

- 2nd stage of the "Child in the Web" campaign,
- "Sieciaki.pl" project,
- Conferences and training,
- Safer Internet Day.

#### "CHILD IN THE WEB" CAMPAIGN

The social campaign "Child in the Web" was launched in 2004. Since January 2005 until the end of 2006 the campaign was carried out by the Nobody's Children Foundation and NASK within the Safe IT programme. The main partner of the campaign has been the Foundation of TP (Polish Telecom) Group.

In September 2006 the second stage of the "Child in the Web" media campaign was launched under the slogan: "Internet in a window on the world. The whole world". Its main objective was to draw adults' attention to dangerous content their children may be exposed to when surfing on the Internet on their own (pornography, drastic scenes, xenophobia, racism). The campaign was developed in cooperation with McCann Erickson.



Apart from messages targeted at adults, concerning children's exposure to dangerous content on the Internet, advertisements for children were developed within the campaign. The slogan: "Give secure answers to dangerous questions" was supposed to remind children about the safety rules in online interactions.



The following advertisements were created within the campaign: three TV ads, two radio spots, a press ad (three designs) and a citylight. The campaign was joined by 8 TV stations (including all the channels of the public TV), 22 radio stations, and 16 newspapers and magazines. The citylight was displayed in Warsaw, Cracow, Łódź, Poznań, and Toruń.

One of the radio spots – warning against racist content present on the Internet – won a prestigious award in the "social advertising" category of the "Golden Eagles" National Advertising Festival. The ads were displayed in the media until the end of 2006.

In 2006 the educational part of the campaign was continued. The organizers distributed by conventional mail more than 4200 class scenarios addressed to students of primary and secondary schools. The educational materials were also available on the Internet.

By the end of 2006 teachers from all over Poland reported having conducted classes for more than 70 thousand students and nearly 17 thousand parents.

#### "SIECIAKI.PL": educational project for children



Sieciaki.pl is an educational project run by the Nobody's Children Foundation since February 2005. The project comprises two major elements: a website (<a href="www.sieciaki.pl">www.sieciaki.pl</a>) and a desktop application to be installed on registered users' PCs. Additionally, the project involves meetings with children, open-air events, concerts, and educational sessions. Films, songs, and multimedia materials are also developed.

The Sieciaki.pl project pursues the following major goals:

- to educate children on safety on the Internet,
- to educate children on how to use the Web,
- to promote safe Internet use,
- to certify and promote safe websites.

The website was initially designed for children aged 9–15, but its registered users include younger children and older youth as well. The website's storyline is based on characters called Sieciaki (which could be loosely translated into "Web Kids") – children knowing the principles of safe Internet use and fighting with the Web evil embodied by black creatures called Sieciuchy ("Web Goblins"). Endowed with special powers, Sieciaki have the fundamental task of promoting knowledge about safe, efficient, and constructive use of the Internet. Designed to be attractive for children, Sieciaki are supposed to encourage the website user to become one of them. Children are asked to help NetRobi, a robot constructed to fight with the Web Goblins. The robot

communicates messages, gives instructions, and looks after the team of Sieciaki and all the children wishing to join the team. The robot can communicate with Sieciaki, thus helping the website characters to fight the evil powers in the Web, and conveying guidelines and task instructions related to safe Internet use to all users of the website.

By the end of 2006 <a href="https://www.sieciaki.pl">www.sieciaki.pl</a> had 50,142 registered users (including over 27 thousand registered in 2006). In 2006 the website was accessed more than 2 million times. The website administrators sent 405 messages and 82 guidelines, and organized 51 competitions.

In 2006 Sieciaki.pl assumed patronage over several children's competitions and events, including:

- 9th "Mały Jaś" Festival, Yach Film 2006
- 37th International Artistic Competition "Pentel"

Furthermore, in 2006 the Sieciaki project involved the production of three episodes of a **cartoon** titled *Sieciaki* and two **songs**: *Sieciaki na wakacjach* (Web Kids on Vacation; by Mamma Selita) and *Ruszamy w misję* (We go on a mission; by W Dobrym Świecie). These cartoons and songs were broadcasted in the media and played during educational events for children.



In July and August 2006 a summer campaign was carried out within the project – **Sieciaki** (**Web Kids**) on Vacation. A group of professionals and volunteers working for the Nobody's Children Foundation organized a series of 17 educational picnics in popular holiday resorts at the sea, at Mazury lakes, and in the mountains.

The campaign was inaugurated in the Pola Mokotwskie park in Warsaw. The events

organized within the Web Kids on Vacation campaign were attended by more than 5000 children.

The "Web Kids on Vacation" campaign was closed with an exhibition of photographs from the picnics, which was held in the Jabłkowski Gallery in Warsaw between 20 August and 30 September 2006.

Main partner: Foundation of TP Group Partners: Gemius IM Partner Jetix NASK





On 24 September 2006 the Nobody's Children Foundation, in cooperation with the Office of Warszawa-Praga Południe District and the local Welfare Services Centre, organized an **Internet family picnic – Sieciaki (Web Kids) in Praga** – in the Skaryszewski Park in Warsaw. **The event was attended by more than 1500 people**. For the whole day music bands performed

live on stage and competitions and games were held related to Web safety.

The picnic inaugurated the educational campaign "Web Kids in Praga" (Sieciaki na Pradze), within which all the children attending elementary and secondary schools in the Warsaw district of Praga Południe participate in classes on Internet safety (there have been more than 12000 children participating in the programme).

#### 2006 SAFER INTERNET DAY



Initiated by the European Commission, the Safer Internet Day (SID) has been celebrated since 2004. This initiative aims at drawing the public's attention to the issue of children and youth's safe access to Internet resources. The organization of SID is one of the tasks faced by the national coordinators of the Safer Internet programme.

In 2006 the Safer Internet Day was celebrated on 7 February. From the very beginning of 2006 information about SID was published at <a href="https://www.dbi.pl">www.dbi.pl</a>. Just as in the preceding year, the University Library in Warsaw hosted a conference for the media and the partners of the Safer Internet programme in Poland. During the conference the project team presented its achievements and plans for 2006. The 2006 SID celebrations involved promotion of local efforts for safety on the Internet. Such initiatives were implemented between the beginning of January and the end of February 2006. Detailed descriptions of those actions were available on the SID website.

**Partners of SID 2006:** British Embassy, University Library in Warsaw, Gemius S.A., Polish Educational Portal "Interklasa", Children's Ombudsman, Association of Polish Consumers, Telekomunikacja Polska S.A., Office of Competition and Consumer Protection and others

#### **National Coalition for Safer Internet**

The National Coalition for Safer Internet (OKBI) is a platform of cooperation between government agencies, NGOs, schools and other educational institutions, and business organizations for children and youth's safety on the Internet. The launch of OKBI was announced during the Safer Internet Day celebrations, on 7 February 2006.



The Coalition's main goals include:

• To raise public awareness of Internet threats;

- To exchange experiences related to efforts to improve safety on the Web;
- To publicize problems related to Internet threats;
- To cooperate in the implementation of initiatives aimed at raising the level of Internet users' safety;
- To distribute information about activities undertaken in Poland and in Europe within the *Safer Internet* programme.

Information about the National Coalition for Internet Safety (OKBI) and the application form are available at **www.saferinternet.pl**.

Members of OKBI have a chance to promote their initiatives for Web safety, are invited to conferences and specialist training organized within the project, receive a monthly bulletin and have access to a discussion forum.

By the end of 2006 the Coalition had 127 members, mostly schools, but also representatives of the media and business organizations.

#### The programme was financed by:

- European Commission: *Safer Internet Action Plan* programme
- Telekomunikacja Polska S.A.

The team of the "Safer Internet Academy": Łukasz Wojtasik (programme coordinator), Agnieszka Wrzesień (coordinator of Safer Internet Action Plan), Julia Pietkiewicz (coordinator of educational programme), Andrzej Piękoś (programme assistant), Marcin Sołodki (coordinator of Sieciaki.pl project), Piotr Sajkowski (programme assistant), Małgorzata Piasecka (editor of Sieciaki.pl website), Katarzyna Fenik (coordinator of Helpline.org.pl), Alicja Puchała (consultant of Helpline.org.pl).



#### Childhood without Violence: Toward Better Child Protection in Eastern Europe

www.canee.net, phone: (4822) 616 16 69, europawschodnia@fdn.pl

In 2006 the Nobody's Children Foundation continued the programme "Childhood without Violence: Toward Better Child Protection in Eastern Europe". For the second consecutive year, the Foundation – in cooperation with NGOs from East European countries (Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, and Ukraine) – pursued the goal of improving the child protection system through raising the competence of professionals responsible for interventions and for helping child victims and their families, and through activities focused on abuse prevention.

2006 was the second year of the project implementation and was **devoted to the assessment and treatment of abused children.** 

#### "Childhood without Violence" campaign



In 2006 the six countries participating in the programme carried out a campaign against violence toward children: "Childhood without Violence". This was the biggest and most significant development in the programme in 2006.

The campaign used the materials presented in Poland within the "Childhood without Violence" media campaign in 2001, which was extremely successful in raising public sensitivity to the problem of physical and emotional abuse in the Polish society. The TV spot, two radio spots and posters were translated and adapted to eight languages (the six national languages and, additionally, Russian and Albanian). The media messages were complemented with leaflets, postcards, calendars, stickers, and other types of material conveying the campaign's communication. The campaign

materials presented both information about the problem of child abuse, and messages promoting good parenting. In most of the six countries it was the first nationwide campaign concerning the problem.

The campaign achieved high visibility in all six countries. Media messages were presented on non-profit terms by several TV and radio stations – in the first few weeks of the campaign there were more than 1000 spot displays (on average) in each of the participating countries. Thousands of posters and several thousand leaflets and other small publications helped the campaign to reach a significant proportion of adults in the six countries. Precise data on the campaign visibility will be collected after its conclusion, in early 2007, through studies conducted on representative samples in each of the six countries, and the findings will be published on <a href="www.canee.net">www.canee.net</a>. Broad coalitions supporting the campaign were successfully built, comprising NGOs and government agencies. Furthermore, the campaign won support and active engagement of politicians, who contributed substantially to the organization of the inauguration events. In Latvia the campaign was supported by the President, who took part in the inauguration ceremony. In Macedonia and Moldova inauguration ceremonies were held in these countries' parliamentary halls.

National campaigns were launched in September 2006 and carried out into the first months of 2007.

The "Childhood without Violence" campaign was developed on non-profit terms by McCann Ericsson Polska and was later prepared and translated on similar terms by McCann Ericsson's offices in the six countries participating in the project.

#### **EDUCATION**

In 2006 the Foundation organized several training sessions and supervisions designed to raise the skills and competence of professionals responsible for helping abused children. The central theme of this educational programme was the assessment and treatment of sexually abused children. The educational events included 14 training sessions at the local level, local supervisions, regional training projects for representatives of two neighbouring countries, and meetings with international experts. Treatment techniques and their specific applications were presented during those

sessions. The professionals participating in the workshops emphasized the importance of opportunities to exchange experience – both with professionals from other regions in their countries, and with those working in other countries and other child protecion systems.



In October 2006 an international conference was held in Druskininkai, Lithuania, attended by representatives of all the countries participating in the "Childhood without Violence" project. The conference focused on the theme of child victims of crime, with much time devoted to the assessment of sexual abuse within criminal procedures and to interviewing children. Workshop sessions

were organized, presenting Polish and European experiences in this area, to facilitate the process of preparing the child for the witness' role and interviewing children in a child-friendly manner.

Furthermore, in 2006 a new version of the <u>www.canee.net</u> website was developed. The website serves as a platform for exchanging experiences and information among organization in Central and Eastern Europe.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

In 2006 several publications related to child protection were developed and produced in seven national languages.

Apart from materials published directly within the "Childhood without Violence" campaign, the Foundation's **booklet** *I'm going to court* was adapted and published in two languages: Lithuanian and Latvian.

#### The programme was financed by:

- OAK Foundation
- Foundation Open Society Institute
- European Commission AGIS programme

The team of the programme "Childhood without Violence: Toward Better Child Protection in Eastern Europe": Maria Keller-Hamela (coordinator), Maria Kukołowicz (programme assistant), Gabriela Roszkowska (programme assistant), Agnieszka Morawska (maternity leave)



## PROGRAMME FOR UNACCOMPANIED FOREIGN CHILDREN AND VICTIMS OF CHILD TRAFFICKING

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Since 2004, upon an agreement with the Ministry of Education and Science, the Nobody's Children Foundation has run the national **Contact Point for Unaccompanied and Trafficked Children** within the collaboration of the Working Group of Baltic Sea States. In 2005 the following activities were undertaken as part of the Contact Point's operation:

- ➤ Just like in the previous years, based on the Agreement with the Office for Repatriation and Aliens, the Foundation's specialists assisted in interviews of unaccompanied foreign children applying for the refugee status in Poland. In 2006 the number of such application decreased. The analysis of cases of disappearance of children applying for the refugee status is the focus of a newly established module of the programme, concerning the prevention of child trafficking.
- ➤ The Foundation offers psychological (diagnostic and therapeutic) help to unaccompanied children. It provided care for children from Ukraine, Africa, and Armenia.
- ➤ The Foundation offered consultation to NGOs and professionals working with foreign and unaccompanied children, and monitored the reported cases. Consultations and interventions legal, psychological, and social were provided for 62 professionals. Consultation were offered on the phone, through the Internet, and personally. The consultations were most likely to be sought by police officers, municipal security guards, employees of residential care institutions, lawyers, translators, members of foster families, social workers, teachers, psychologists, and consuls. The consultations concerned subjects such as assistance to be provided within interventions, legal and psychological help, and medical care.
- A publication was developed, targeted at professionals and people involved in child trafficking prevention, titled *Problem handlu dziećmi w Polsce i na świecie* (The problem of child trafficking in Poland and in the world). It provides information on child trafficking, on ways of preventing and combating the problem, and on organizations working against child trafficking.

#### The programme was financed by:

- Ministry of Education
- British Embassy

#### The team of the programme for foreign Unaccompanied and Trafficked Children:

Katarzyna Fenik (coordinator), Maria Kukołowicz (programme assistant), Gabriela Roszkowska (programme assistant), Agnieszka Morawska (maternity leave)



#### **RESEARCH PROGRAMME**

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The main goal of the Nobody's Children Foundation's research programmes is to determine the prevalence and nature of child abuse and to examine social attitudes toward the problem.

In 2006 the Nobody's Children Foundation conducted research on social attitudes toward the problem of child abuse in Poland and 6 other countries participating in the programme *Childhood without Violence: Toward Better Child Protection in Eastern Europe.* Two studies were conducted: one on a representative national sample, and the other one – among primary school teachers. The findings were presented in seven national reports and a comparative report. All the reports were translated to English and to the national languages, and are available at <a href="www.canee.net">www.canee.net</a>.

Furthermore, in 2006 two studies were conducted regarding children's risky behaviours on the Internet and their exposure to dangerous content on the Web. Both research projects were conducted within the *Safer Internet Academy* programme. Both studies were conducted online, and the respondents were children ages 12–17. Some of the questions in the survey were also addressed to child Internet users' parents. The findings were used for planning educational programmes and media campaigns, and proved helpful in the evaluation of projects.

The first research programme, conducted in January 2006, concerned children's risky behaviours on the Web, especially online and real-world interactions with persons met on the Internet (N = 1779 children, N = 687 parents). The other research project was conducted in September 2006 and focused on the problem of dangerous content present on the Internet (N = 2559 children). The reports from the studies are available at <a href="https://www.dzieckowsieci.pl">www.dzieckowsieci.pl</a>.

#### The programme was financed by:

- OAK Foundation
- Gemius S.A.



#### **PUBLISHING PROGRAMME**

> Phone: (4822) 616 16 69, wydawnictwo@fdn.pl

In 2006 the Nobody's Children Foundation published several materials – books, brochures, posters, leaflets/booklets, stickers, etc. – which have been described earlier, while presenting particular programmes.

Moreover, in 2006 the Foundation published four issues of its quarterly, *Abused* 

#### Child: Theory, Research, and Practice:

Nr 14 Child abuse and neurological disorders and mental health

Nr 15 The problem of child abuse in Central and Eastern Europe

Nr 16 Children's sexual behaviour: norm vs. pathology

Nr 17 Children in residential institutions and foster families

#### The programme was financed by:

- Cooperation Fund
- Foundation Open Society Institute
- OAK Foundation
- Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

**Editorial team,** *Abused Child* **quarterly:** Monika Sajkowska (Editor in Chief), Maria Keller-Hamela (Deputy Editor in Chief), Maria Szczypińska (Editorial Secretary), Anna Ossowska (maternity leave).

## Portal conveying knowledge about child abuse DZIECKOKRZYWDZONE.PL

Within its educational programme the Nobody's Children Foundation developed a portal presenting knowledge on the problem of child abuse.

Dzieckokrzydzone.pl is an educational and information portal devoted to the problem of child abuse. The portal's target group are professionals who deal with child abuse in their practice. The portal is also addressed to



parents/caregivers seeking information on what to do if their children have been victimized, and on how to prevent child abuse.

The portal is an educational and information one, i.e. it provides knowledge on theories and research findings about various aspects of child abuse and on the effects of practical programmes designed to prevent and reduce child abuse. The portal presents "good practices", which may be reproduced by child protection institutions, as well as theories

and research findings that may help professionals in expanding their knowledge and become more effective in helping victims of child abuse.

#### The programme was financed by:

• Civic Initiatives Fund (FIO)

**Editorial team of the dzieckokrzydzone.pl website:** Monika Czyżewska (*project coordinator*), Ewa Sadowska (*editor*)

#### TRAINING PROGRAMME

> phone: (4822) 826 88 62, szkolenia@fdn.pl

Development and implementation of training programmes and conferences related to the problem of child abuse for various professional groups constitute a significant component of the Foundation's activities. Most training sessions and conferences are organized within the Foundation's particular programmes, hence their description has been provided in the sections presenting the programmes related to promoting safer Internet and other projects carried out by the Foundation. Furthermore, in 2006 the following training series have been conducted:

- Study of methods of working with sexually abused children, their families and caregivers.
- Training for police officers working at juvenile departments across Polsand, organized within 30-hour courses carried out in cooperation with the Police Training Centre in Legionowo.
- Training for graduate students of social faculties, delivered within the Child Victim Advocate programme.

Furthermore, the Foundation conducted several other training courses for various groups of professionals, such as psychologists, educators, teachers, social workers, probation officers, prosecutors, and judges. The courses focused on the assessment and treatment of abused children and on approaches to working with child victims of crime.



#### "GOOD PARENT" Program

In 2006 the Foundation performed a range of activities to promote parenting without violence, such as distributing leaflets for parents: 10 Steps to Better Parenting and Your Child's Appeal.

Cooperation with the staff of House of Skills led to the development of a website where each parent can listen to *Your Child's Appeal*. Drawings for the website were created by a famous Polish graphic artist, Edward Lutczyn, while the studio RPM Sound & Voices prepared and recorded the sound version of the website content.

#### MASTER'S THESIS COMPETITION

In February 2007 the 7th edition of the competition for the best master's thesis concerning the problem of child abuse was adjudicated.

The jury awarded the following prizes:

#### 1st place

**Katarzyna Dachowska** for *Theory of mind as a factor influencing the quality and suggestibility of young children's testimonies,* written under supervision of Szymon Draheim, PhD, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań.

#### 2nd place

**Agnieszka Izdebska** for *Early sexual experience and partner collusion*, written under supervision of Prof. Maria Beisert, at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań.

#### Special awards

**Joanna Strzelecka** for *Offender's empathy and social competence and child sexual abuse,* written under supervision of Prof. Maria Beisert, at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań.

**Marika Nowicka** for *Ifluence of early childhood experience on sexual offenders' aggressive behaviour*, written under supervision of Prof. Maria Beisert, at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

The 7th edition of the competition for the best master's thesis concerning the problem of abuse, defended in the academic year 2006/2007, was also announced.

#### PLANS FOR 2007

In 2007 the Nobody's Children Foundation will continue the **Safer Internet Academy** programme. In cooperation with the Research and Academic Network (NASK), the Foundation will implement a European programme *Safer Internet Action Plan Plus*. Furthemore, the Foundation will continue its educational activities targeted both at professionals – an international conference will be organized, focused on preventing child abuse via the Internet – and at the youngest Internet users – another edition of *Sieciaki [Web Kids] on Vacation* will be organized, a new website, www.przedszkolaki.sieciaki.pl (for pre-school children) is to be developed, and more training sessions will be provided for teachers and for children about how to use the Web safely.

Expanding the range of services offered to children and adults, on 7 Feb 2007 a new project will be launched, Helpline.org.pl, designed to improve the protection of children against Internet-based abuse. Children and adults may use a free line (0800 100 100),

where they will be offered help and advice concerning disturbing situations a young user may encounter on the Web.

2007 will be another year of implementing the programme *Childhood without Violence: Toward Better Child Protection in Eastern Europe*. The efforts undertaken in 2007 will focus on issues related to legal aspects of child protection. In each of the participating countries a campaign will be launched, targeted at judges and prosecutors – *Your Honour, I am scared*. The campaign concerns the special situation of a child in court procedures. An activity book for children, *I'm Going to Court*, will be adapted and translated to 5 more languages: Moldavian, Macedonian, Albanian, Ukrainian, and Bulgarian.

In Poland, the continuation of the programme "Protecting Child Participants in Legal Procedures" will involve the launch of the campaign's second stage and the publication of a brochure *I'm Going to Be a Witness*, targeted at adolescents and their parents. A book for judges and prosecutors will be published, providing comprehensive knowledge about the psychological and legal situation of a child victim. In 2007 the 4th National Conference on Helping Child Victims of Crime will be held, and the Coalition for Child-Friendly Interviewing will be established. In 2007 another group of 18 volunteers will be trained to accompany clients in court as voluntary representatives and accompanying persons.

In 2007 the Foundation will carry out a national **campaign against physical abuse of children: "See It, Hear It, Say It"**. The campaign will be targeted at adults and will serve educational and awareness-raising purposes, informing adults about how to react when they suspect or know that a child is a victim of abuse. The goal of the campaign will be to enhance adults' sensitivity to violence against children and to show them available ways of helping abused children.

One of the 2007 efforts designed to improve child protection in the Warsaw district of Praga Południe will be a pilot programme aimed at creating effective cooperation of health care providers, social workers, and NGOs in the area of early intervention in cases of children threatened with violence.

In 2007 the Foundation will further develop the portal focusing on the problem of child abuse, **www.dzieckokrzywdzone.pl**, which is expected to become a platform for exchanging information, experience and good practices among professionals working with abused children.

The services provided by the "Mazowiecka" Child Advocacy Centre will be expanded through an extension of hours of accepting reports on child abuse.

Moreover, in 2007 the Foundation will continue the following programmes:

- "Mazowiecka" Child Advocacy Centre
- Child and Family Centre
- > Protecting child participants in legal procedures
- > Safer Internet Academy
- "Safer Internet: Toward Better Child Protection in Eastern Europe"
- ➤ Contact Point for Unaccompanied and Trafficked Children
- > Training programme

- Educational programme
  Publishing programme
  Research programme
  Master's thesis competition

## **2006 Financial Statements**

Funds collected in 2006 by the Nobody's Children's Foundation for its statutory activities:

OAK Foundation (funds distributed to 7countries participating in the project)	631 029
Fundacja Grupy TP	534 700
European Commission (Child Fitness Support Project)	369 345
Revenue from non-for-profit activity	273579
European Commission (Safer Internet Action Plan)	256 612
Donations from companies	217 483
Office of the Capital City of Warsaw (help centres)	210 327
Telekomunikacja Polska S.A.	165 863
Donations: 1% of income tax	141 491
UBS Optimus Foundation	126 090
Fundacja Open Society Institute (Zug)	79 022
Ministry of Labor and Social Policy	64 083
Ministra of Justice	59 125
Office of the Capital City of Warsaw (education, prevention)	57 700
Court-awarded exemplary damages	47 744
Fundacja TVN	43 895
British Embassy	36 514
Donations by individual persons	30 699
Ministry of National Education	24 000
University College Cork	23 900
OPS Praga Płd.	23 880
Mazowiecki Urząd Wojewódzki	20 000
Kerten Capital Sp. z o.o	19 000
InfoAudit Sp. z o.o	18 000
Stowarzyszenie La Voix de L Enfant	11 615
AUCHAN	10 000
Fundacja im. S. Batorego	9 000
British Council	6 828
Towarzystwo Ubezpieczeniowe EUROPA	5 000
Bank interest	3 670
Other	9 110

Total 3 529 309 PLN

**Expenditures:** 

Statutory tasks: 92,8% Administration: 7,2 %

#### **Non-cash contributions:**

Agencja Wydawnicza Aga Press

Agora S.A. Bank BGK

Bank Drugiej Ręki

CD Projekt

Deutsche Bank

Fundacja "Bank Żywności SOS

Fundacja Grupy TP

F-secure

Gemius S.A. (badania)

G+J Gruner + Jahr Polska Sp. z o.o

House of Skills

Microsoft

MKS\_vir

PLAY.pl

Studio Tworzenia Mediów

TV Jetix

Wydawnictwo Egmont Wydawnictwo Media Service Zawada Związek Producentów Audio Video