



EMPOWERING
CHILDREN
FOUNDATION

Formerly
Nobody's
Children
Foundation

2016 Activity Report



The Empowering Children Foundation (formerly Nobody's Children Foundation) works toward making sure that all children have a safe childhood and are treated with respect for their dignity, as full-fledged human beings.

We protect children and support those who have experienced abuse to help them know their rights, believe in themselves, and enjoy their lives.

In carrying out our mission we:

- Offer psychological and legal help to abused children and their caregivers
- Teach children how to avoid violence and abuse
- Teach adults how to treat children and what they can do to protect them from abuse
- Tell adults what to do when they suspect a child might have been abused
- Influence the Polish law to insure the best possible protection of children's interests.

2016 was a special year for the Foundation. On the 25th anniversary of the Nobody's Children Foundation we decided to change the name. As a result of identifying new social needs and broadening the scope of the Foundation's activity, the old name no longer captured the area and purpose of our new activities. Today we work as the Empowering Children Foundation. The new name accurately conveys our goals, and the effects and multidimensional nature of our work. The Foundation's mission remains unchanged: to work for children. We protect them from abuse and we help those who have experienced abuse.

Another reason why 2016 was an important year was the opening of the Foundation's first regional branch in Pomorze (Pomerania). The Crisis Intervention Centre in Gdańsk and the Crisis Intervention Point in Starogard Gdański are our new facilities that implement the Foundation's mission in the Pomerania region.

In 2016 the Foundation carried out the following programmes and projects:

Child Advocacy Centre

programme carried out since 2003

Goals: To provide interdisciplinary help for child victims and their families or caregivers.

Main activities: Psychological, psychiatric, and legal help for child victims and their families, supporting professionals who help child victims.

Programme activities in 2016:

- Psychological and pedagogical counselling, psychiatric consultations, legal advice, and individual therapy for child victims, their parents, and caregivers; crisis intervention in cases of suspected crimes against children (especially child sexual abuse and other forms of abuse)
- Consultations for professionals (psychologists, pedagogic counsellors, health care professionals, and social workers) in cases involving child abuse
- Individual supervisions for graduates from the course on preparing forensic psychological opinions in cases involving children
- Training for students of the Warsaw Medical University on child abuse prevention (51 hrs., 350 participants)
- Training for police officers (16 hrs., 24 participants)
- Running two groups for parents (psycho-educational and Trauma-Focused CBT) and a support group for mothers
- Running a Trauma-Focused CBT group and a socio-educational group for children and young people
- Conducting individual and group meetings for children and parents: Preparing child victims and witnesses for interviews (110 participants)
- Consultations for mothers of immigrant children at centres for foreigners (100 participants)
- Supervision for members of the Warsaw Network for Helping Children, psychology court experts, employees of residential care institutions, employees of centres for refugees/foreigners, and other professionals
- Running a child friendly interview room (151 interviews)
- Forensic examinations

- Being questioned as witnesses at the prosecutor's office / in court in cases involving the Centre's clients
- Taking part in the development of standards of hearing children in civil procedures and standards of the guardian ad litem
- Coordinating the Warsaw Network for Helping Children
- Participating in meetings of multidisciplinary teams
- Developing a lesson plan within the Trauma Focused CBT programme
- Carrying out a trainee programme.

The programme in numbers in 2016:

- 1532 individual meetings with children (diagnostic, therapeutic, and counselling sessions with a psychologist/therapist)
- 1311 individual meetings with adults (diagnostic, therapeutic, and counselling sessions with a psychologist/therapist)
- 700 telephone consultations for professionals and clients
- 348 legal consultations (personal, on the phone, and by email)
- 124 psychiatric consultations for children, young people, and parents
- 68 legal and other interventions.

In 2016 the programme was funded by:

- Warsaw City Hall, Social Policy and Social Projects Bureau
- Mazovian Centre of Social Policy
- Benefit Systems Foundation
- European Commission
- World Childhood Foundation
- ECF's own funds
- Donations of 1% of personal income tax.

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Warsaw Network for Helping Children

programme carried out since 2010



Goals: To improve access to assessment/diagnosis and intervention in cases of suspected sexual abuse and to psychological help for sexually abused children.

Main activities: Assessment/diagnosis, intervention, and psychological help in cases of child sexual abuse; consultations for parents and professionals in situations of child sexual abuse.

Programme activities in 2016:

The Warsaw Network for Helping Children comprises 27 institutions located in all districts of Warsaw, providing psychological help in cases of child sexual abuse. The Network's activities are coordinated by the Empowering Children Foundation.

In 2016 therapists of the Irena Kornatowska Child Advocacy

Centre trained psychologists and pedagogic counsellors working at the Network's institutions and conducted supervision sessions for them. Furthermore, the Centre organized training for professionals from the Network's institutions and conducted individual consultations (face-to-face and on the phone) for professionals.

The programme in numbers in 2016:

- 10 supervision sessions during which 49 cases of sexually abused children were discussed
- 1061 consultations for professionals within the WNHC
- 29 legal interventions in cases of suspected child sexual abuse.

In 2016 the programme was funded by:

- Warsaw City Hall, Social Policy and Social Projects Bureau
- ECF's own funds.

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Good Parent – Good Start

programme carried out since 2007

Goals: To protect young children (0–6) from abuse by supporting and educating their parents/caregivers in parenting without violence; to promote good parenting.

Main activities: Direct support for parents with young children (education, psychological help, workshops); support for professionals working with parents of young children; supporting multi-disciplinary work.

Programme activities in 2016:

- Direct help for families with high risk of abusing young children (consultations, workshops, educational meetings, Active Mondays, online counselling centre, website) and for young children who have experienced abuse
- Coordinating the Local System for Preventing Abuse of Young Children operating in all districts of Warsaw
- Training, seminars, and supervision for professionals (social workers, nurses and midwives, psychologists, police officers, and probation officers)
- 9th National Conference “Child – Handle with Care! Preventing Abuse of Young Children” in Warsaw
- Organization of parenting skills workshops (“Without Spanking: How to Set Boundaries with Love and Respect”, “Being a Mum”, “Effective Parenting Training”, “Being a Father, Being Yourself”, “Fathers’ Meetings”, “Support at the start”, “First of All: Don’t Force!”, “Siblings without Rivalry”, “Taming Depression”, “Family as a Team”, “Awaiting a Child”, and “School for Parents”)
- Conducting play groups for parents with children (Active Mondays)
- 3 “Necio” groups for children
- Carrying out the “Volunteer in the Family” project
- Carrying out the “Island of Calm Parents” project to provide support for children requiring long-term, specialist care at selected medical facilities and for their parents
- Developing, printing, and distributing publications for parents
- Running the programme’s webpage www.dobryrodzic.fdn.pl (until May 2016), and then the parents’ section on www.fdds.pl;
- Running a trainee programme
- Taking part in meetings of interdisciplinary teams
- Participating in the work on the Municipal Programme for Preventing Violence in the Family.

The programme in numbers in 2016:

- 1267 psychological consultations for parents
- 35 education meetings attended by 234 parents
- 17 Active Mondays attended by 61 parents and 66 children
- 38 parenting skills workshop groups attended by 423 caregivers
- 29 training courses and seminars attended by 423 professionals
- 409 participants of the 9th National Conference “Child – Handle with Care! Preventing Abuse of Young Children”
- Printing and distribution of 64,900 copies of education materials for parents and professionals
- 47,809 visits on the programme’s website dobryrodzic.fdn.pl and 4398 visits to the “Education Meetings and Workshops” section of www.fdds.pl
- 15 trainees in the trainee programme.

In 2016 the programme was funded by:

- World Childhood Foundation
- Ministry of Family, Labour, and Social Policy
- Warsaw City Hall, Social Policy and Social Projects Bureau
- Departments of Social Affairs and Health Care at district offices at: Białołęka, Praga Południe, Mokotów, Śródmieście, Ursynów, Wesoła
- VELUX Foundations
- European Commission
- Polpharma
- Embassy of the Netherlands
- Donations of 1% of personal income tax
- EF’s own funds.

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We Protect Children

programme carried out since 2010 10 roku



"We Protect Children" is an original child abuse prevention programme carried out by the Empowering Children Foundation in cooperation with the Ministry of National Education and local authorities. The goal of the programme is to protect children from violence inflicted by adults (such as parents or institutional staff) and peers. The programme is carried out by implementing the child protection standards defined in the Child Protection Policy adopted by institutions. Institutions that meet the standards of protecting children from abuse are granted "We Protect Children" certificates.

Programme activities in 2015:

- Managing the process of granting certificates to education, care, and other institutions that meet the child protection standards
- Training for professionals on topics including: identifying symptoms of abuse and intervention in cases of child abuse, standards of protecting children and implementing the Child Protection Policy in institutions, legal aspects of child protection, and preparation for conducting classes for children and parents
- Organizing local conferences about the programme
- Creating and coordinating a network of institutions supporting the activities carried out within the "We Protect Children" programme
- Running the programme's website www.chronimydzieci.pl.

The programme in numbers in 2016:

- 116 training courses for professionals working at education and care institutions
- 8 local conferences for professionals
- 80-hour course on counteracting child abuse: „We Protect Children” School of Trainers
- 2073 trained professionals
- 1204 attendees to local conferences
- 3703 institutions in the certification process, 345 certificates granted
- 36 organisations and institutions associated within a network of institutions supporting the "We Protect Children" programme.

In 2016 the programme was funded by:

- Ministry of National Education
- Energa Foundation
- Orange Foundation
- Donations of 1% of personal income tax
- ECF's own funds.

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Helpline programme (116 111 Helpline for Children and Young People and 800 100 100 Helpline for Parents and Teachers on Keeping Children Safe)

programme carried out since 2007



Goals: To help children and young people in need of support, care, and protection; to help parents and teachers who need support and information in helping children who face problems or difficulties.

Main activities: Telephone and online support for children and young people in difficult situations, telephone and online consultations for parents and teachers on how to keep children safe; education and promotion efforts encouraging people to seek help and use the helplines' services.

Programme activities in 2016:

- Operating a free helpline 116 111, 7 days a week, 12.00 to 20.00
- Operating a free helpline 800 100 100 – Monday to Friday, 12.00 to 18.00
- Running the programme's website www.116111.pl and anonymous online counselling for persons who used the "Ask us a question" bookmark or the live chat on www.116111.pl
- Running the www.800100100.pl website and online counselling for parents and professionals on keeping children safe
- Recruiting and preparing two groups of trainees
- Participating in picnics and educational meetings for children and parents
- Providing lectures and workshops for professionals on the services of the 116 111 Helpline and educational tools to be used

when working with children and young people

- Cooperating with a network of institutions running helplines in other countries.

The programme in numbers in 2016:

- 117 572 phone calls from children and young people
- 10 173 phone calls from adults
- 6359 online consultations for children
- 709 chats with children on how to be safe online
- 160 online consultations for adults
- 161 interventions in situations threatening the life or health of persons contacting the helpline's team
- 50 training sessions and workshops organized for the trainees and volunteers of the 116 111 Helpline
- Participation and presentation of the helplines' activities during more than 30 conferences and training courses for professionals in Poland and abroad.

In 2016 the programme was funded by:

Ministry of National Education
Orange Polska,
European Commission
Donations of 1% of personal income tax
ECF's own funds

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Child in the Web

programme carried out since 2004

Goals: To prevent online risks to the youngest internet users; to help children who face online threats; to assess the scale and characteristics of online threats to children.

Main activities: Education projects, media campaigns, telephone and online help, research and analyses.

Programme activities in 2016:

- Organizing the national celebrations of the Safer Internet Day, including registering local initiatives all over Poland
- Organizing the 10th International Conference on Keeping Children and Young People Safe Online
- Organizing expert seminars: "Opportunities and risks related to making electronic media available to preschool children" and "Children as consumers on the Internet"
- Organizing lectures/workshops about safety on the Internet
- Organizing the first conference for young people, Digital Youth Forum
- Co-organizing the 2nd Conference on Media Education in Lublin
- Developing, producing, and distributing issue no. 9 of *Numa Numa*, a magazine for young people, the *Się Wie* (Sure thing) and *Sieciaki* (Web Kids) magazines, and the 1st issue of the *Digital Youth* magazine
- Developing e-learning courses for children and adults
- Running websites: sieciaki.pl and necio.pl, and a mobile app *Necio*
- Providing access to parental control tools on the Internet (BeSt and BeStApp browsers);
- Organizing a series of picnics "Sieciaki na wakacjach" (Web Kids on Holiday) and coordinating the project "Sieciaki w Twoim mieście" (Web Kids in Your Hometown); distributing education materials among local organizers.

The programme in numbers in 2016:

- More than 2,500 professionals attended training courses and conferences
- More than 13,100 new registered users of Sieciaki.pl (more than 170,000 all registered users)
- More than 8,000,000 visits to Sieciaki.pl
- More than 71,000 unique users of Necio.pl
- More than 2,100 downloads of BeSt, a safe Internet browser for children
- More than 1,700 education initiatives undertaken within the celebrations of the 2016 Safer Internet Day
- More than 550,000 children participating in the local initiatives within the celebrations of the 2016 Safer Internet Day.

In 2016 the programme was funded by:

- European Commission
- Orange Foundation
- Orange Polska
- Facebook
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- Klicksafe.de (LMK)
- Foundation for Polish-German Cooperation
- National Centre for Research and Development
- EOG Funds.

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Childhood without Abuse

programme carried out since 2005

Goals: To improve the child protection system in countries of Eastern Europe through increasing professionals' skills, helping child victims and their families, and raising public awareness. Since September 2014 the programme has focused on preventing sexual abuse of children and young people.

Main activities: Social campaigns, training, and supervisions provided by Polish and foreign experts; publications targeted at professionals, parents, and children; participating in conferences and study visits. The programme has been carried out in partnership with NGOs in Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova, and Ukraine. Running an English-language website www.canee.net.

Programme activities in 2016:

- Coordinating campaigns on commercial exploitation of young people, carried out by partner countries

- Coordinating research concerning the relationship between childhood sexual abuse and risky sexual behaviours in adult life
- Developing an e-learning program for parents
- Organizing and coordinating international project meetings
- Training courses, workshops, and seminars for professionals
- Running an English-language website www.canee.net.

In 2016 the programme was funded by:

- OAK Foundation
- European Commission.

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www.canee.net

Programme for Child Refugees

programme carried out since 2016

Goals: To prevent and counteract the abuse of foreign children whose families are seeking international protection in Poland

Main activities: Implementing the standards of child protection at centres for immigrants/foreigners, increasing the knowledge of the centres' staff about protecting children from abuse and helping children at risk, improving parenting skills among foreign children's parents, providing children with knowledge about how to avoid risky situations and where to seek help and support.

Programme activities in 2016:

- Training for employees of centres for foreigners/immigrants on child abuse and the Child Protection Policy
- Workshops for representatives of NGOs on the Child Protection Policy and child abuse prevention in centres for foreigners/immigrants
- Workshops for mothers, fathers, and children and young people saying at centres for foreigners in Dębak, Linin, Bezwola, Łuków, Biała Podlaska, Horbów, and Warsaw
- Preparing an education campaign targeted at parents on the occasion of the Day of Solidarity with Refugees
- Participating in meetings and conferences concerning refugees; preparing and hosting a panel discussion on child refugees
- Developing plans of classes for children and young people, and for mothers

- Making videos for classes for refugee children
- Creating a manual for programme implementers at centres for foreigners/immigrants
- Psychological counselling and interventions.

The programme in numbers in 2016:

- 160 participants of educational meetings for parents
- 201 participants of educational meetings for children and young people
- 35 participants in training courses for employees of foreigner/immigrant centres and workshops for NGOs.

In 2016 the programme was funded by:

- Office for Foreigners, Social Services Department
- Programme of the National Fund for Asylum, Migration, and Integration
- OAK Foundation.

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Preventing Commercial Exploitation of Children

programme carried out since 2004

Goals: To prevent commercial child exploitation by raising awareness and knowledge among professionals and the society as a whole.

Main activities: Organizing and providing training for professionals, raising awareness through publications and a dedicated website, assessing the efficiency of the system for protecting child victims of trafficking and children at risk, lobbying/advocacy efforts for implementing model solutions and initiating a public debate about the situation of children at risk of commercial exploitation.

Programme activities in 2016:

- Training courses for professionals about commercial exploitation of children, including tourist trade employees in Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary
- Participating in seminars, conferences, meetings, and lectures on preventing commercial exploitation of children, including human trafficking
- Cooperating with the National Police Headquarters – prolonging the agreement for counteracting sex tourism and continuing the website www.stopseksturystyce.fdds.pl
- Membership in CSW Watch Coalition, a coalition of NGOs dealing with corporate social responsibility
- Participating in the activities of the Working Group of the Ministry of Internal Affairs' Team for Combating and Preventing Human Trafficking

- Cooperating with ECPAT International
- Taking part in a network of NGOs active in combating human trafficking, coordinated by the La Strada Foundation
- Updating scenarios and videos for the „Don't Loose!” campaign; preparing bi-lingual materials for Latvia and Russia within a project on preventing commercial exploitation of children
- Running the website www.kodeks.fdn.pl (until May 2016), and later a section on the Code of Conduct on www.fdds.pl and www.stopseksturystyce.fdds.pl.

The programme in numbers in 2016:

- 204 participants in training.

In 2016 the programme was funded by:

- Orbis Hotel Group
- Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- Council of the Baltic Sea States Secretariat.

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Grant Programme “Safe Childhood”

programme carried out since 2010

From 2010 to 2013 the Empowering Children Foundation (formerly Nobody's Children Foundation) carried out a grant programme “Safe Childhood”, funded by the VELUX Foundations. The programme was targeted at NGOs that support local communities in protecting children from violence and abuse. The “Safe Childhood” programme supported the implementation of projects in the areas of keeping children safe online, preventing abuse of young children, and helping child victims of crime and abuse. The programme has been continued in the years 2013-2017.

Programme activities in 2016:

- Collecting applications for the 4th edition of the grant competition 2016/2017 and selecting the winners
- Supporting grant recipients of the 3rd and 4th editions in implementing their projects
- Organizing meetings of grant recipient: project presentation and discussing the activities carried out within the projects

- Project monitoring
- Coordinating 4 regional conferences.

The programme in numbers in 2016:

- 180 applications for the 4th edition of the “Safe Childhood” competition 2016/2017
- Subsidies for the implementation of 78 projects.

In 2016 the programme was funded by:

- VELUX Foundations.

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Legal Department

Goals: To provide legal help for the Empowering Children Foundation's clients and in-house legal advice/services; to improve the situation of children participating in legal procedures through education and raising awareness among professionals, and lobbying/advocacy for legislative changes (in relation to children).

Main activities: Face-to-face, telephone and online consultations for the Foundation's clients; handling the legal aspects of the Foundation's programmes and undertaking legal interventions. As part of the “Child Friendly Justice” programme – granting certificates to Child Friendly Interview Rooms to improve the quality of facilities where children are interviewed; conducting training for judges, prosecutors, police officers, and court experts, as well as for psychologists and pedagogic counsellors on how to prepare children for interviews and how to interview children; publishing activity targeted at professionals, parents, and child witnesses. Training for parents of children involved in legal procedures, advocacy for the protection of children's interest through the role of guardian ad litem, representing child victims in criminal procedures. Running the “Child Victim Advocate” voluntary service.

The department's activities in 2016:

- Direct help for parents / legal guardians of child victims and children involved in legal procedures
- Telephone/email consultations, written submissions to the court
- Running the “Child Victim Advocate” programme (psychological and legal support for child witnesses and their parents/caregivers; preparing them for the participation in the court trial or interview)
- Representing child victims (guardian ad litem) and acting on their behalf as attorneys
- Amicus curiae submissions to the court
- Lobbying/advocacy efforts for changing the law concerning the protection of children
- Coordinating the cooperation with partners (Ministry of Justice, Association of Family Judges, District Bar Association, National Council of the Judiciary and District Chamber of Legal Advisers, Ombudsman for Children, Commissioner for Human Rights)
- Training for professionals
- Training for trainees and volunteers
- Legal workshops for child victims' parents
- Participating in multidisciplinary teams and working groups
- Taking part in the work of the Monitoring Team for Counter-acting Domestic Violence at the Ministry of Family, Work, and Social Policy

- Serving on the Committee for Social Dialogue
- Developing the campaign “Thank you for hearing me out”, targeted at representatives of the justice system
- Publishing articles and brochures on children's participation in legal procedures
- Developing a brochure on the rights of the child during treatment within the “Island of Calm Parents” project
- Taking part in seminars and conferences concerning children's participation in legal procedures
- Granting certificates to Child Friendly Interview Rooms
- Organizing the 13th National Conference “Helping Child Victims of Crime”
- Handling the legal aspects of the ECF's programmes
- ECF personal data administration
- Running a subpage on protecting children involved in criminal procedures: <http://wymiarprawiedliwosci.fdn.pl/> (until May 2016), and then a legal section of a www.fdds.pl.

2016 in numbers:

- 548 professionals from all over Poland participated in the 13th National Conference “Helping Child Victims of Crime”
- 183 legal consultations for parents/caregivers and professionals
- 443 telephone/email consultations for parents / legal guardians and professionals (also within the “Child Victim Advocate” programme)
- 13 facilities in the process of granting the Child Friendly Interview Room certificates
- 5 academic and popular science publications.

Funding in 2016:

- Batory Foundation
- World Childhood Foundation
- Embassy of the United States of America
- Polish Foundation for Children and Youth
- Warsaw City Hall, Social Policy and Social Projects Bureau
- Programme of the National Fund for Asylum, Migration, and Integration
- Ministry of National Education
- European Commission
- ECF's own funds.

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Education and Training Department

Goals: To coordinate the Empowering Children Foundation's education activities.

Main activities: running an educational platform edukacja.fdds.pl and an e-learning platform for children edu.fdds.pl; organizing ECF's training courses and conferences.

The department's activities in 2016:

- Running the educational platforms: www.edukacja.fdds.pl, www.edu.fdds.pl, and www.fdn.kursy
- Organizing events and picnics "Sieciaki na wakacjach" (Web Kids on Holiday) and "Sieciaki na wakacjach w Twoim mieście" (Web Kids on Holiday in Your Hometown)
- Co-organizing 181 training events and conferences, including: 9th National Conference "Child – Handle with Care! Preventing Abuse of Young Children", 13th National Conference "Helping Child Victims of Crime", 1st conference on good parenting within the Gdańsk Parent Academy
- Providing e-learning courses for professionals and for children
- Co-producing multimedia presentations for professionals
- Developing and distributing the Foundation's newsletter
- Running the trainee programme
- Developing commercial training courses
- Supporting ECF's programmes by developing and updating publications

- Cooperating with trainers
- Organising internal training and conferences for the Foundation's staff
- Distributing educational materials.

2016 in numbers:

- More than 26 000 registered users of the educational platform
- More than 1,6 million visits on the educational platform
- More than 4500 participants in conferences and training courses
- More than 2600 completed e-learning courses for professionals
- More than 6000 completed e-learning courses for children
- 88 002 downloads of materials and lesson plans
- More than 6500 children taking part in 130 picnics within the "Sieciaki na wakacjach w Twoim mieście" project
- 1500 children taking part in 5 picnics within the "Sieciaki na wakacjach" project.

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Research Department

Goals: To expand knowledge about child abuse; to prepare assessments and expert evaluations for programmes carried out by the Empowering Children Foundation.

Main activities: Assessing the situation of children in Poland, especially in terms of abuse; evaluating ECF's activities.

The department's activities in 2016:

- Coordinating all research activities conducted within other programmes
- Analysing interviews with therapists and developing a report titled "Childhood Sexual Abuse and Its Effects in Adult Life" within the project "Counteracting Child Sexual Abuse in Central and Eastern Europe: Systemic Approach", funded by the OAK Foundation
- Conducting a survey for the World Health Organization and the Ministry of Health on adverse childhood experiences and their health consequences, on a sample of 1722 students of 5 Polish universities
- Conducting a study "Protection of young children provided by nurses and midwives"
- Conducting a survey on postpartum depression on a sample of mothers with young children
- Conducting a study on online pornography on a sample of adolescents

- Conducting an opinion survey among institutions implementing the programme "We Protect Children"
- Preparing and analysing the results of a survey conducted among ECF's employees
- Evaluating the support services offered by volunteers within the "Child Victim Advocate" project
- Evaluating ECF's training courses and social campaigns.

Funding in 2016:

- European Commission
- WHO
- eNacso
- Kantar Millward Brown
- Ministry of National Education
- OAK Foundation
- Batory Foundation
- Bridgepoint
- ECF's own funds

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Dziecko krzywdzone

Abused Child: Theory, Research, and Practice is a periodical published by the Empowering Children Foundation, a multidisciplinary quarterly journal. Its main goal is to expand knowledge about different aspects of child abuse among professionals including psychologists, educators, paediatricians and other health care professionals, lawyers, policy makers and others. The quarterly cooperates with international periodicals focusing on the problem of child abuse, such as “Child Abuse and Neglect” and “Child Maltreatment”.

“Abused Child. Theory, Research and Practice” is included in the Ministry of Science and Higher Education’s list of academic journals (part B, 6 points).

In 2016 two issues of the quarterly were published: vol. 15, No. 1

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Public Relations Department

Goals: To create the Empowering Children Foundation’s image, to support ECF’s programmes through media activities and activities targeted at the general public.

Main activities: Media relations, developing branding materials; organizing events related to the Foundation’s activity; coordinating media campaigns.

The department’s activities in 2016:

- Coordinating and communicating the Foundation’s name change (from Nobody’s Children Foundation to Empowering Children Foundation)
- Developing and maintaining the Foundation’s new website www.fdds.pl, Facebook fanpage facebook.com/DajemyDzieciomSile, and YouTube channel YouTube.com/DajemyDzieciomSile
- Communication and promotion support for the Foundation’s campaigns/actions, including: 1% of the income tax, “We are building a Child Advocacy Centre together”, “Send a letter to Santa Claus”, “Thanks you for hearing me out”, “Be a good mate – don’t bully”, #BiegamDobrze (accompanying the 11th PZU Warsaw Half Marathon and the 38th PZU Warsaw Marathon), as well as activities carried out within each of the Foundation’s programmes
- Communication and promotion support of events, such as the

10th International Conference “Keeping Children and Young People Safe Online” and the 13th National Conference “Helping Child Victims of Crime”

- Organizing the 6th edition of the Alina Margolis-Edelman Award Ceremony
- Organizing press conferences and briefings
- Organizing the ECF’s stand at fairs, festivals, conferences, and other events
- Implementing ECF’s internal communication system
- Patronage over events and publications
- Responding to the media’s ongoing needs.

2016 in numbers:

- More than 2600 media publications about the Nobody’s Children Foundation (between 1 January and 9 May 2016)
- More than 2900 media publications on the Empowering Children Foundation (10 May – 31 December 2016).

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Empowering Children Foundation's Regional Branch in Pomorze

Crisis Intervention Centre (CIC)

Goals: To provide crisis intervention services accruing from the Social Services Act and to perform activities aimed at protecting children from abuse

Main activities: Running a 24/7 crisis intervention centre; psychological interventions in crisis or near crisis situations; intervention services for victims of violence (adults and children); free of charge temporary shelter at the Crisis Hotel, support for parents of young children within the Gdańsk Parent Academy (education, workshops); supporting professionals working with parents of young children (conferences).

Activities in 2016:

- Handling more than 5,000 crisis situations reports (in person or on the phone)
- Nearly 1,200 consultations / interventions provided by intervention specialists, psychologists, and lawyers
- Training and workshops for professionals on identifying child abuse, prevention, legal intervention, and interviewing child witnesses
- Training for parents on good parenting ("Without Spanking: How to Set Boundaries with Love and Respect", "Being a Father, Being a Person")
- Training for volunteers within the CIC Volunteer Academy
- Inaugurating the Gdańsk Parent Academy – a programme providing a platform of collaboration for Gdańsk organizations and institutions carrying out activities for good parenting
- 1st Conference of the Gdańsk Parent Academy, targeted at professionals
- Participating in local conferences and in the work on the municipal models of immigrant integration, supported housing,

mental health, New Port revitalization, and human trafficking prevention

- Taking part in sessions of the Council for Violence Prevention at the State Agency for Solving Alcohol Problems (PARPA)
- Duty hours (counselling and consultations, meetings, working groups) at the Blue Cards Centre of the Municipal Family Support Centre
- Co-organizing the Psychological Help Week.

2016 in numbers:

- More than 1,300 interventions related to domestic violence
- 1200 sessions of psychological and therapeutic help
- 111 interventions related to the situation of children
- More than 50 persons provided with shelter at the Hostel (including 29 children)
- 50 volunteers trained during a 150-hour training course
- 300 participants in 14 workshop sessions on keeping children safe in institutions and on good parenting
- More than 100 participants in the conference inaugurating the Gdańsk Parent Academy.

Funding for CIC:

- Gdańsk City Hall – Municipal Family Support Centre in Gdańsk
- ECF's own funds.

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Crisis Intervention Point (CIP)

Goals: To provide direct help for children and families; to provide education on preventing child abuse and on good parenting.

Main activities: Psychological help for children and adults (individual and group sessions), legal support, off-site interventions with the Police, training and conferences for professionals

Activities in 2016:

- Individual meetings with children and adults (psychological support, counselling)
- Psycho-educational groups sessions for parents of children with behaviour issues
- Family therapy
- Legal consultations
- Training for professionals ("Intervention in cases of child abuse", "Cyberbullying in the context of sexual risks to children and young people", "Normal and abnormal sexual behaviours of children and young people", "Creating the internal child protection policy within the We Protect Children certification process")
- Local conference "We Protect Children" – a programme of granting certificates to educational institutions that implement

systemic child protection solutions

- Off-site interventions with the Police.

2016 in numbers:

- More than 1,700 sessions with adults: psychological counselling, legal support, child-rearing difficulties (more than 400 persons)
- 70 participants in training for professionals
- 70 participants in the local conference "We Protect Children"
- 80 sessions of family therapy (20 families)
- 160 sessions of psychological counselling for children (40 children)
- 12 off-site interventions with the police (36 families).

Funding for CIP:

- Starogard Gdański Municipality
- ECF's own funds

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