

# Nobody's Children Foundation REPORT 2004



**NOBODY'S CHILDREN FOUNDATION**

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# Mission of the Nobody's Children Foundation

*The Nobody's Children Foundation is a nonprofit non-governmental organization, which provides a broad scope of assistance to abused children, their parents, and caregivers. The Foundation's activities are addressed to physically, psychologically, and sexually abused and neglected children, their parents and caregivers, as well as professionals dealing with cases of child abuse. Our main goal is to develop an efficient aid system for abused children, a system that would integrate activities of state institutions, local authorities and non-governmental organizations working for the benefit of children in the particular region. We provide short- and long-term assistance to victims of abuse and to their caregivers. Moreover, we offer psychological, educational, and legal consultation to people who have contact with cases of child abuse. We organize specialist training programs on problems related to child abuse for various professional groups and interdisciplinary teams. We conduct research and analyses that broaden knowledge about the problem and form the basis for our activities. The Foundation's team consists of experienced experts in problems related to child abuse. Though differing in life perspectives, they are all firmly convinced that abused children and their families need to be helped. This conviction stems both from the knowledge of the detrimental health, developmental and social effects of abuse on any human being, and from the belief that it is our moral obligation to support the weak, the helpless and the confused, whenever and wherever we encounter them.*

# History of the Foundation

In 1990, Alina Margolis-Edelman, representing the French humanitarian organization Medecins du Monde (Doctors of the World), launched Warsaw's mission of Assistance to Social Initiatives. She interested a group of professionals - physicians, educators and psychologists - in confronting the problem of child abuse. The Nobody's Children Foundation was registered in May 1991.

The Foundation defined its main goal as developing an efficient aid system for abused children, a system that would integrate activities of state institutions, local authorities and non-governmental organizations working for the benefit of children in their respective areas.

At the time when the Foundation was established, dealing with the broadly understood problem of child abuse required prior diagnosis of both the actual prevalence of the problem, and the society's awareness and knowledge about child abuse.

Research conducted by the Foundation showed that child physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect of children did exist, though the importance of these problems was frequently undermined by professionals working with children. Moreover, the professionals' competence in identifying the problem and undertaking appropriate interventions turned out dramatically insufficient. These findings guided the Foundation's activities at the initial stages of its operation.

The first of the Foundation's aims was to enhance social sensitivity to the problem of child abuse, with a special emphasis on professionals working with children, who potentially form the first link of the intervention chain. This was done by launching a publicity and information campaign focusing on: children's rights, especially the right to care and protection from any form of abuse; and the necessity to ensure that anyone who knows about or suspects child abuse reacts properly, with specific information on how to intervene in such cases. Simultaneously, since 1993 the Foundation has been implementing a publishing program, producing publications such as books, handbooks, brochures and leaflets addressed to professionals, parents, and children.

The Foundation's second objective was to improve the competence of professionals working with children in diagnosis and intervention in cases of child abuse. This aim was pursued through training programs for school and kindergarten teachers, doctors, nurses, social workers, employees of law enforcement institutions, and the police.

Training continues to be an essential part of the Foundation's work. During over ten years of its training activity several thousand professionals from Warsaw and other Polish cities have benefited from its programs.

In 1995 the Foundation established two specialist institutions: **the Child and Family Center** in the Warszawa Centrum municipality, and **the "Pociecha" Help Center for Children and Families** in the Warszawa-Białotańska municipality. Both centers were founded in cooperation with Medecins du Monde in order to provide specialist services to abused children, their families and professionals dealing with cases of child abuse.

In 1997 the Foundation joined **The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program** carried out by the Open Society Institute /OSI/, which was coordinated in Poland by The Batory Foundation. The program aimed at inspiring and supporting CEE-based teams in designing and implementing assistance projects for abused children and their families.

Within this program, the Nobody's Children Foundation organized two international conferences: **Child Sexual Abuse - Diagnosis and Treatment**, for child gynecologists (1999); and **Abused Child - Social Work with Families**, for social workers (2000).

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment program was completed in 2001 and is now continued as an Internet project "**Child Abuse and Neglect in Eastern Europe**" ([www.canee.net](http://www.canee.net)), carried out by the Nobody's Children Foundation.

NCF has been a member of **European Federation of Missing and Sexually Exploited Children** since 2001.

In 2001 the Nobody's Children Foundation, in cooperation with the State Agency for Solving Alcohol Problems, the "Blue Line" emergency hotline, and McCann Erickson Polska (advertising agency) launched a national campaign "**Childhood without Violence**". While implementing the social campaign, the Foundation designed and conducted (in cooperation with OBOP, the Public Opinion Polling Center) the first nationwide public opinion research devoted entirely to the problem of child abuse.

In September 2001 the Foundation began implementing the "**Child under the Umbrella of Law**" program, aimed at improving the situation of children who participate in legal procedures - i.e. children interviewed by the police or prosecutors and child witnesses in court. Within this project conferences and training sessions for court employees, the police and other professionals were organized throughout Poland.

In 2002 the first issue of the Foundation's quarterly **Dziecko krzywdzone - teoria, badania, praktyka** (Abused Child: Theory, Research, and Practice) was published. The quarterly explores various aspects of child abuse.

In the same year the Foundation joined the "**Bad Touch**" social campaign, carried out by a television broadcaster TVN.

2002 was the last year of Medecins du Monde's mission in Poland. The completion of more than 10 years' cooperation between MDM and the Nobody's Children Foundation was celebrated in the Palace of Culture and Science, under the patronage of the President of the Capital City of Warsaw.

In May 2003 the Nobody's Children Foundation launched a new center in downtown Warsaw, the "**Mazowiecka**" **Help Center for Children**. The center is furnished with equipment for child interviews, and has a special court room, therapeutic rooms and a conference room. In the same year the Foundation's center in Białoteka was closed. The center's clients were taken over by the Society of Children's Friends' center launched at the same location, and the staff are now employed in other institutions run by the Foundation.

In August 2003 Warsaw hosted the **IX European ISPCAN Conference** organized by the Nobody's Children Foundation. Conference

workshops and presentations were attended by nearly 700 people from more than 70 countries. The Conference was organized under the patronage of Mrs. Jolanta Kwaśniewska, the Polish First Lady.

In 2004 Foundation launched a national campaign "**Child in the Web**". The major purpose of the campaign was to raise adults' and children's awareness of threats related to paedophiles present on the Internet and to provide education on safe Internet use.

In 2004 Nobody's Children Foundation received Public Benefit Organizations (PBOs) status. PBO status qualifies an organization to receive certain benefits defined by the law, provided that organization meets special requirements. Organization must prepare annual reports and make them publicly available; prepare financial statements and publish them in the Polish Official Journal, submit to periodic government inspections; and, if required by the Ministry of Finances, conduct an external audit. An organization obtains PBO status on the day it is notified by the State Court Register that it has fulfilled the criteria for such status.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2004, during a ceremonious session organized by the Ministry of Justice and the Nobody's Children Foundation, **2004** was announced **the Year of Child Victims of Crime**. This announcement was accompanied by inaugurating program aimed at protecting children from crime and providing support for child victims of crime who participate in legal procedures. These programs included the "**Child: Witness with Special Needs**" campaign organized by the Nobody's Children Foundation in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice.

Organized by the Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Capital City of Warsaw, and the Nobody's Children Foundation, the conference "**Helping Child Victims of Crime**" focused on protecting children from abuse and ensuring proper treatment of children participating in legal procedures.

In accordance with an agreement with the Ministry of Education and Sport in 2004 the Nobody's Children Foundation performed the function of the **national contact point for unaccompanied and trafficked children** - as part of a program of cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region.

The Nobody's Children Foundation has been granted several awards, with the major ones including:

- The award for the best Polish NGO in a competition organized by the Batory Foundation and Bankers Trust (1999),
- "Golden Telephone" - an honorary award granted by the "Blue Line" emergency hotline for victims of domestic violence (1999),
- A special award in the 3rd edition of the Pro Publico Bono contest (2001),
- The Award of the President of the Capital City of Warsaw (2001),
- "Heart to Children" - an award granted by the authorities of the Warsaw Praga Południe district (2002),
- "ISPCAN 2004 Multidisciplinary team award" - the award of the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (2004).

# The Foundation's activities in 2004

## Help Centers for Children and Families

The Nobody's Children Foundation runs two canthers in Warsaw, providing help for abused children and their families: The Child and Family Center and the Child Advocacy Center "Mazowiecka" (launched in March 2003).

### Child Advocacy Center "Mazowiecka"

00-048 Warszawa, ul. Mazowiecka 12/25, Tel. (22) 826 88 62  
program coordinator: Jolanta Zmarzlik

Established by the Nobody's Children Foundation in March 2003, the Child Advocacy Center "Mazowiecka" is a specialist facility designed to apply and promote innovative (in Poland) methods of dealing with crime against children.

The Center functions in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration, and institutions reporting to them in Warsaw. The Center fills a gap in the system of law enforcement institutions, offering a child-friendly place where prosecutor's interviews and court trials are held. Furthermore, the Center provides crisis intervention services in cases of crime against children, especially sexual abuse and violence. Children and their families are offered free psychological and legal assistance (consultations, therapy, and support groups).

**In 2003 the Child Advocacy Center "Mazowiecka" took care of 220 adult family members of child victims of crime and 345 child victims.**

**During this period the following services were provided by the Center:**

- 925 therapeutic and diagnostic sessions with children,
- 804 therapeutic and diagnostic sessions with adults,
- 295 legal consultations for caregivers of child victims of crime and various professionals providing help for such children;
- 97 personal consultations for various professionals providing help for child victims of crime (psychologists, educators, court guardians, doctors, social workers, teachers, employees of several help centers),
- 270 psychiatric consultations,
- 26 sessions of a therapeutic group for mothers of sexually abused children,
- 24 forensic psychological assessments of 97 people,
- 91 prosecutor's interviews and court trials with participation of child witnesses,
- 36 interviews of unaccompanied children applying for refugee status;
- 194 telephone consultations concerning psychological and legal interventions, primarily in cases of child sexual abuse.



The Centre organizes numerous training and **supervision** sessions for professionals dealing with abused children. It hosts regular meetings of a **Court Experts' Club**, aiming to improve court experts' skills and competence in dealing with abused children, and a **Court Guardians' Club**, trying to improve court guardians' professional competence in working with problem families.

In 2004 the **Court Guardians' Club** hosted five seminar sessions focused on issues such as legal aspects of helping abused children, the role of mediations in family conflicts, dealing with incest families, and specific issues related to performing the profession.

In 2004 there were nine meetings of the Court Experts' Club for psychologists, pertaining to areas such as: cognitive child interview, amnesia in early childhood, assessment of psychological credibility of child witnesses' testimonies, mechanisms of incest development in the family, and projective techniques in forensic psychological assessment. In the reported period there were four meetings of the Club's supervision group for psychologists dealing with diagnosis in cases of child sexual abuse.

The Foundation is also supported by a group of **volunteers**, who perform organizational tasks, provide consultations, and work with the clients of the Foundation's therapeutic centers.

**The "Mazowiecka" Center's activities were financed by:**

- UBS Optimus Foundation
- Office of the Capital City of Warsaw,
- Phare 2001 Program: Civil Society Development
- Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation
- Voix de L'Enfant
- Nobody's Children Foundation's own funds

## **Child and Family Center**

**03-926 Warszawa, ul. Walecznych 59, tel. (22) 616-02-68**

**Programm coordinator: Katarzyna Fenik**

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

In 2004 the Center took regular care of 151 children, including 82 victims of child sexual abuse, 40 emotionally abused children, 19 victims of physical abuse, 8 children causing rearing difficulties, and 2 victims of neglect.

Moreover, the Center worked with 233 parents or caregivers of abused children.

**In 2004 the following individual sessions were conducted:**

- 1078 diagnostic and therapeutic sessions with children,
- 827 psychological consultations for parents, caregivers, and family members of abused children,

- 264 legal consultations,
- 118 psychiatric consultations,
- 118 consultancy sessions for professionals,
- 131 telephone consultations for caregivers and professionals from all over Poland, concerning psychological and legal interventions in cases of child abuse.

**Moreover, in 2004 the Center offered group therapy, with seven editions of various therapeutic groups, including:**

- A support group for parents and caregivers of child victims of violence,
- A workshop on parenting skills, including anger management training and psychosocial skills training,
- A therapeutic and development group for children at early school age (7 to 9 years old): 2 editions,
- A development group focused on supporting children and developing their parents' childrearing skills - for children aged 2-4 and for their parents/caregivers: 3 editions.

**The Child and Family Center's activities were financed by::**

- Office of the Capital City of Warsaw,
- Phare 2001 Program: Civil Society Development
- Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation
- Voix de L'Enfant
- The British Embassy
- Nobody's Children Foundation's own funds

# Conference

## "Helping Child Victims of Crime", Warszawa, 25-26 October 2004



Organized by the Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Capital City of Warsaw, and the Nobody's Children Foundation, the conference "Helping Child Victims of Crime" focused on protecting children from abuse and ensuring proper treatment of children participating in legal procedures.

The participants - judges, prosecutors, court guardians, social workers and employees of care and support institutions (600 people) - had an opportunity to meet with experts in psychology, criminology, sociology and law from Poland, the United Kingdom, the United States, the Netherlands, and France. Governmental and parliamentary child protection programs were presented, and the outcomes of child-friendly interview rooms, including the one at the Child Advocacy Centre "Mazowiecka", were discussed, together with principles of how to equip and use such facilities.



A "Warsaw Session" was held during the conference, devoted to the development of the Warsaw child protection system. The session was organized by the Social Policy Bureau of the Office of the Capital City of Warsaw.



### The conference was financed by:

- The Office of the Capital City of Warsaw
- ISPCAN (International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect)
- The British Embassy
- The French Embassy

# Publishing Program

The Foundation has been engaged in publishing activity since 1993, producing publications such as manuals for professionals working with children, educational materials for children and parents, posters, leaflets, etc. In 2004 the Nobody's Children Foundation's publications included:



**Wykorzystywanie seksualne dzieci (Child Sexual Abuse)** (Ed. **Monika Sajkowska**). The book is a selection of articles presenting both the latest and traditional theories and research findings on different aspects of child sexual abuse. An interdisciplinary review, this publication may be interesting not only for psychologists and educators, but also for medical doctors, lawyers, sociologists and other professionals.

**Dziecko w sieci. Materiały edukacyjne (Child in the Web. Educational Materials)**. This publication is addressed to teachers and educators who conduct educational programs



for children. It discusses potential threats to young Internet users and presents the goals and initiatives of the "Child in the Web" social campaign carried out by the Nobody's Children Foundation. Much of the educational materials are scenarios of preventive activities addressed to elementary, gymnasium and high school students.



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**Wysoki sędzie boję się (Your Honour, I'm Scared)** This publication is addressed to professionals who work with children participating in legal procedures: prosecutors, attorneys, psychologists acting as court experts, police officers, and - particularly - judges. It aims at drawing these professionals' attention to the special needs of a child witness. The posters and brochures were distributed during training sessions and conferences and sent out to law-enforcement institutions. Thanks to cooperation with the National Police Headquarters and the ministry of Justice the posters were displayed in most police stations, prosecutor's offices, and district courts in Poland.



**Brochure "Ten Steps to Becoming a Better Parent"** As part of its partnership with countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Foundation - in cooperation with Lithuanian, Latvian, Bulgarian, Macedonian and

Ukrainian NGOs dealing with child abuse - published a brochure "Ten Steps to Becoming a Better Parent", translated into the partner countries' national languages. The brochure is addressed to parents and provides advice on how to raise children without violence.

In 2004 the Foundation published four issues of the quarterly "Dziecko krzywdzone. Teoria, badania, praktyka" (Abused Child: Theory, Research, and Practice):



- Dziecko jako świadek w procedurach prawnych (Child as a Witness in Legal Procedures)
- Wykorzystywanie seksualne dzieci (2) - sprawcy (Child Sexual Abuse [2]: Offenders)
- Nadużywanie alkoholu a krzywdzenie dzieci (Alcohol Abuse and Child Abuse)
- Wykorzystywanie seksualne dzieci (3) - ofiary (Child Sexual Abuse [3]: Victims)



The Council of Europe Publishing published a manual written and consulted by employees of the Nobody's Children Foundation:

**M. Sajkowska, Ł. Wojtasik Protecting children against corporal punishment - Awareness-raising campaigns.**

Addressed to authorities and non-governmental organizations, the manual describes preventive efforts targeted at parents and caregivers, aimed at reducing corporal punishment of children. Case studies of three recent social campaigns in the United Kingdom (FullStop), Poland (Childhood Without Violence) and the United States (SpanOutDay) are presented. Analyzing activities undertaken within the presented campaigns, the authors describe their subsequent stages and discuss principles that should be followed by the organizers in order to effectively reduce corporal punishment of children. The Council of Europe will distribute this publication among all member countries and among major European NGOs working in the field of child protection.

**The publishing program was financed by:**

- The British Embassy
- J&S Pro Bono Poloniae Foundation
- ISPCAN (International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect)
- State Agency for Solving Alcohol Problems
- Phare 2001 Program: Civil Society Development
- UBS Optimus Foundation
- Office of the Capital City of Warsaw

# Social Campaigns

## Child in the Web



The "Child in the Web" campaign was first presented on the 25th of February 2004, at a conference organized by the Ministry of Justice and the Nobody's Children Foundation on the occasion of the Crime Victims' Day and the announcement of 2004 as "The Year of Child Victims of Crime". The major purpose of the campaign was to raise

adults' and children's awareness of threats related to paedophiles present on the Internet and to provide education on safe Internet use.

**The media part of the campaign**, carried out under a motto *You Never Know Who Is at the Other Side*, began in February 2004. Many national and local TV and radio stations presented spots pertaining to threats associated with children's contacts with strangers in the Web. The same message has been conveyed in press advertisements. Citylights and billboards have been displayed in 18 largest Polish cities.

Online advertising has been another important element of the media campaign. The campaign banners have been displayed by the largest Polish portals and placed on websites of institutions, organizations, and individuals supporting the idea of the campaign. All banners have been linked to the campaign website [www.dzieckowsieci.pl](http://www.dzieckowsieci.pl), where both adults and children can find information about the campaign and principles of safe Internet use.

Since April 2004 the campaign messages have been presented on 2000 advertising carriers in Intercity trains. Posters have been also displayed in more than 800 schools across Poland.

The media campaign was prepared free of charge by VA Strategic Communications, an advertising agency from Warsaw. Other companies from the advertising market contributed to the production of advertising materials. All advertising materials - TV and radio spots, press advertisements, Internet banners, and outdoor ads - have been presented on a non-profit basis.

**The educational campaign** was prepared in cooperation with the Centre of Civil Education. The campaign materials included educational materials for children (book-marks, stickers, mouse pads) and scenarios of school classes on Internet use. From April to June volunteers conducted classes at primary and secondary schools, within the "Classy School" and "Classy Student" programs. The classes were also conducted by teachers, who - upon contacting the campaign office - were provided (by post) with class scenarios and materials for children.

During the educational campaign about 70,000 sets of educational materials were distributed among children. Classes on safe Internet use were attended by nearly 15,000 children from all over Poland.

### The campaign sponsors included:

- VA Strategic Communication
- The British Embassy
- PROKOM
- AMS
- Profilm
- Youth Promotion Centre
- Polish Committee for UNESCO
- many other sponsors listed on the website [www.dzieckowsieci.pl](http://www.dzieckowsieci.pl)



## Child: Witness with Special Needs

On the 22nd of February 2004, during a ceremonious session organized by the Ministry of Justice and the Nobody's Children Foundation, **2004** was announced the **Year of Child Victims of Crime**. This announcement was accompanied by inaugurating programs aimed at protecting children from crime and providing support for child victims of crime who participate in legal procedures. These programs included the "Child: Witness with Special Needs" campaign organized by the Nobody's Children Foundation in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice.

The campaign was addressed to professionals - judges, prosecutors, police officers, and psychologists acting as court experts - who participate in legal interventions or help children throughout the process. Its aim was to increase these professionals' sensitivity to children's special needs in criminal proceedings and to improve their skills and competence related to interviewing children. Training programs were conducted for these professional groups as part of the campaign. They were also the target group of the campaign publications.



Books, brochures, and the special edition of the Foundation's quarterly *Abused Child: Theory, Research, and Practice* were distributed during training sessions and conferences and sent to relevant law enforcement institutions. Thanks to the Foundation's cooperation with the National Police Headquarters and the Ministry of Justice the campaign posters: "**Your Honor, I'm scared**" - designed by VA Strategic Communication - have been displayed in most Polish police stations, prosecutor's offices and district courts.

The campaign was also targeted at parents and caregivers of children who participate in the investigation process and court proceedings as victims of crime. They were the target group of a specially developed brochure:



**When your child is a witness in court.**

The brochures were distributed among police stations, prosecutor's offices, courts, and help institutions across Poland. Moreover,



institutions providing psychological help for abused children were provided with **I go to court** booklets, which instructed psychologists and parents about how to familiarize the child with the court, the persons he or she is going to meet there, and the situations to be expected during the court proceedings.

### The program was financed by:

- Phare 2001 program: Civil Society Development
- Batory Foundation
- VA Strategic Communication

# Training Program

Development and implementation of training programs and conferences related to the problem of child abuse for various professional groups constitute a significant part of the Foundation's activities.

In 2004 the following training programs were conducted:

1. The second edition of the program **"Professionalizing methods of working with children in child-friendly interview rooms"**. This training program was addressed to judges, prosecutors, court guardians, police officers, and psychologists from the province of Mazowsze, dealing professionally with child victims of crime. The lectures and workshops were attended by 93 professionals.
1. A twelve-month **study of methods of working with victims of child sexual abuse, their families and caregivers**, a program attended by 15 psychologists and educators from all over Poland.
1. Training organized within the Foundation's partnership with the Police Training Centre in Legionowo. Four editions of the 30-hour **"Abused Child"** program were attended by 119 police officers from all over Poland, specialized in cases involving children and youth.
1. Training organized within the **"Give Them Their Childhood Back"** program, carried out by the "Przyjaciółka" Foundation. This training program was addressed to three groups working with children under institutional care: psychologists, educators, and volunteers. The sessions focused on diagnosis, intervention, and therapy of sexually abused children and were attended by 234 participants.

Other training programs organized in 2004 by the Nobody's Children Foundation for various professional groups (such as psychologists, paediatricians, or court guardians) were attended by approximately 500 people. These programs pertained to diagnosis and therapy of abused children, developing an interdisciplinary system of assisting abused children and their families, and child-sensitive methods of interviewing child victims of crime.

In February 2004, on the occasion of the Crime Victims' Day, the Foundation co-organized - with the Ministry of Justice - a scientific session **"2004: Year of Child Victims of Crime"**. On the 25 and 26 of October 2004 the Foundation and its partners - the Office of the Capital City of Warsaw and the Ministry of Justice - organized a conference **"Helping Child Victims of Crime"**.



In 2004 the Foundation's employees participated - as presenters or trainers - in several international conferences pertaining to the broadly understood problem of child abuse. These included:

- Workshops on how to organize social campaigns against child abuse, at conferences in Berlin (October 2004, *Freedom of violence in family life - a European project*) and Wilton (UK) (March 2004, *Combating child abuse on the Internet: an international response*);
- Lectures about child trafficking in Eastern Europe and supporting child witnesses, at the ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse, Brisbane, Australia (September 2004, *Working Together for a Child Safe World*);
- Presentation on interviewing underage foreigners applying for refugee status in Poland, at a seminar concerning child trafficking in Sion, Switzerland (October 2004, *Child trafficking: a fatality? From field reality to better practice*);
- Presentation of Polish assistance programs and services for children, at a seminar focusing on building effective care systems for street children, Brussels (December 2004, *European network on street children worldwide*);
- Presentation of the "Child in the Web" campaign at conferences pertaining to children's safety on the Internet (June 2004, Szczytno, Poland, *Teleinformatic crime*, June 2004, Wrocław, Poland; *Innocence threatened: Child pornography on the Internet. Internet as a source of addictions*; November 2004, Warsaw, Poland, *Young consumers and the Internet*).

**The training program was financed by:**

- Mazovian Office of Social Affairs
- "Przyjaciółka" Foundation
- Police Training Centre
- ISPCAN (International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect)
- training participants

# Program for unaccompanied alien children

**Program coordinator: Agnieszka Morawska**

In accordance with an agreement with the Ministry of Education and Sport in 2004 the Nobody's Children Foundation performed the function of the **national contact point for unaccompanied and trafficked children** - as part of a program of cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region. The consultancy centre's major tasks included collecting data on the situation of separated alien children in Poland, lobbying for amendments to the Polish legislation, aimed at providing appropriate legal and social protection for this group of children, as well as exchanging experiences with the other 12 countries in the Baltic Sea Region.

Furthermore, in 2004 the Foundation started to cooperate with the Polish Office for Repatriation and Aliens on the issue of interviewing alien children applying for refugee status in Poland. Innovative in Europe, this program refers to provision of the Act on Protecting Foreigners in the Republic of Poland of 2003, which states that underage foreigners should be interviewed in child-friendly environment and in the presence of a psychologist, who should then prepare an assessment of the interviewed child's psychophysical condition. Overall, in 2004 36 such interviews were conducted in the centre run by the Foundation.

In 2004 the Foundation's representative joined the working group for the National Program of Combating and Preventing Human Trafficking, operating within the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration. As part of its work, the group undertook activities aimed at amending the Polish law in the field of protecting child victims of trafficking.

In 2004 the Foundation was appointed a **partner NGO of the Separated Children in Europe Program**, managed by Save the Children and UNHCR. The program's key objective is to promote appropriate procedures of dealing with separated children. The program's participants include 28 countries from Western and Eastern Europe.

## **The program was financed by:**

- Ministry of National Education and Sport

# Research Program

The main purpose of the Nobody's Children Foundation's research programs is to diagnose the prevalence and nature of the problem of child abuse, and examine social attitudes toward the problem.

In 2004, as part of the **Daphne Program**, the Foundation continued the research program initiated in 2003 on the situation of children under institutional care (Identifying best practices in disinstitutionalisation of children under 5 residing in institutions across Europe) and started new project (Mapping the number and characteristics of children under 3 in institutions across Europe). A project was coordinated by the University of Birmingham. Apart from Poland, the participating countries included Denmark, France, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and the United Kingdom.

In 2004 a research company Gemius conducted an Internet survey ordered by the Nobody's Children Foundation. The study concerned **children's risky behaviours on the Internet** and was addressed to young people aged 12-17. This research program was conducted within the "Child in the Web" social campaign, and a report from the survey is available on the campaign website, [www.dzieckowsieci.pl](http://www.dzieckowsieci.pl).

In May 2004 a pilot study into the **scale of victimization of children in institutions** was conducted. The study will be continued in 2005 as a nationwide research program.

## The program was financed by:

- UE – „Daphne” program
- University of Birmingham, Great Britain
- Gemius
- „Przyjaciółka” Foundation



# Consultation Program for Central and Eastern Europe

**Program coordinator: Maria Keller-Hamela**

The Foundation has coordinated an Internet project, which allows Eastern European organizations dealing with child abuse to continue their cooperation started in 1995 within the Open Society Institute's (New York) consultation project. The program, titled CANEE (Child Abuse and Neglect In Eastern Europe), is carried out under [www.canee.net](http://www.canee.net). In 2004 the Foundation actively cooperated with organizations participating in the CANEE program and published information on their activity on the program's website.

As part of cooperation among countries of Central and Eastern Europe, in 2004 the Foundation's employees participated in conferences and training sessions related to reducing child abuse.

In October 2004 the town of Haskovo, Bulgaria, hosted a meeting devoted to the problem of child abuse. During this meeting the Foundation's representation conducted a training session for representatives of NGOs on methods of working with abused children.

In December 2004 two seminars were organized (in Vilnius and Kaunas), focusing on issues such as methods of working with child victims of violence and children participating in legal procedures; the specifics of working with child witnesses; and psychological and legal aspects of interviewing children. These meetings were attended by police officers, judges, lawyers, and psychologists working with children.

## **The program was financed by:**

- Open Society Institute (OSI NY)

# Master's Theses Competition

The Foundation organized the fifth edition of the competition for the best master's thesis concerning the problem of child abuse.

Out of nine submitted works, the jury (prof. Barbara Fatyga Institute of Applied Social Science, Warsaw University, PhD Monika Sajkowska, Nobody's Children Foundation, Institute of Applied Social Science, Warsaw University, Jolanta Szymańczyk, Bureau of Research Chancellery of the Parliament) decided to award the following prizes:

- **The first prize** went to **Monika Czyżewska** for "Protection of child-witness of domestic violence" (*Warsaw University, Faculty of Journalism and Political Science, Institut of Social Policy, prof. Barbara Szatur-Jaworowska*)
- **The second prize** went to **Anna Cholewicka** for "Stereotype of masculinity and femininity and attitudes towards child sex abuse" (*Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Faculty of Social Science, Institute of Psychology, prof. Maria Beisert*)
- **Special award** went to **Iwona Malorny** for "Emotional Abuse in Family - hidden source of health problems of individual" (*University of Silesia, Faculty of Pedagogy and Psychology, Institute of Pedagogy, PhD Joanna Bulska*)

The theses have enriched the Foundation's library and are now available to professionals and other people interested in the problem of child abuse.

## Plans for 2005

In 2005 the Nobody's Children Foundation - in cooperation with NASK (the Research Academic Computer Network) - will carry out the second stage of the "Child in the Web" social campaign. The campaign will be held in years 2005 - 2006 within the EU Program Safer Internet Action Plan running and raising both adults and children's awareness in the field of safe Internet use. All provincial cities will host conferences about safety in the Web. A national educational campaign will be conducted. The organizers will also undertake activities aimed at enhancing cooperation among organizations and institutions responsible for safety on the Internet.

As part of its cooperation with countries of Central and Eastern Europe the Foundation will coordinate an international project "Childhood without abuse: Towards a better child protection system in Eastern Europe". The program will be carried out in seven countries: Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland and Ukraine. This 5-year project will include meetings, training, supervisions, site visits, publications, and research programs conducted among professionals working with abused children in the participating countries. The program is supported by the Oak Foundation with co-funding in the project's countries.

Moreover in 2005 the Nobody's Children Foundation will conduct the first national representative study on the scale of victimization of children care residing in institutions.

Apart from that, in 2005 the Foundation will continue the following programs:

- Child and Family Center
- Child Advocacy Center "Mazowiecka"
- Training program
- Internet program
- Publishing program
- Research program
- Master's theses competition

# Financial Statements

Funds collected in 2004 by the Nobody's Children's Foundation for its statutory activities:

<u>Sources of Financing</u>	<u>Amount (PLN)</u>
The Office of the Capital City of Warsaw	168 595
UBS Optimus Foundation	143 150
The British Embassy	109 200
Committee for European Integration	103 674
ISPCAN	89 862
Open Society Institute /OSI/	74 430
Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation	64 792
J&S ProBono Poloniae Foundation	56 600
The Batory Foundation	40 000
PROKOM	35 000
La Voix de L'Enfant	22 298
University of Birmingham	17 454
Conseil de L'Europe	16 260
The Ministry of Justice	9 500
State Agency for Solving the Alcohol - Related Problems	8 901
TVN Foundation	7 000
Other	18 389
<b>Private sponsors</b>	<b>50 450</b>
Activities non-for-profit	237 035
Donation/contributions in kind	12 347
Bank interest	3 628
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 288 566</b>

## **Funds used**

Statutory goals	83,56%
Administrative expenditures	16,44%

**Exchange: 1EUR = 4.32 PLN**

## Contributions in kind:

- Magazine "Dziecko" ("The Child")
- IFS Industrial and Financial Systems Poland sp. z.oo
- Philips
- Fundacja Bank Żywności SOS
- Internet Art.
- VA Strategic Communication
- PPH Koma Plast
- Servier Polska sp z.o.o.
- Kindergarten no 73, Warszawa
- AGORA S.A.

