

Timeline of activities – STEP BY STEP THINKING (1994 - 2012):

Between the years 1995 and 2001, the Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade, with support of the Dutch foundation “Little Mermaid” and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, has equally developed, besides the sexual trauma program, war trauma program for children refugees, and internally displaced children and their families.

In December 1999, the Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade was invited to present the country report on child sexual abuse issue in FRY on the UNESCO conference “Sexual Abuse of Children and Pedophilia on the Internet” in the Athens, Greece.

Between June and September 2001, we have initiated dialogue of GOs and NGOs through series of roundtables “IT IS TIME TO TALK”, where 23 organizations / 52 individuals had participated.

In October 2001, we had been invited by the UNICEF to establish a Network of GOs and NGOs, which will work on problem of child sexual abuse.

In October 2001, we have received the license for carrying out a violence prevention program with children in Belgrade schools and for training teaching staff on this issue (by the City Secretariat of Education).

Between November 2001 and March 2002, we have carried out an educational program about the problem of trafficking in human beings / trafficking in women, where 65 police officers from 30 cities in Serbia had participated. Police officers have been educated on basics of sexual violence trauma and techniques of interviewing women victims of trafficking in human beings. Excellent cooperation with the Federal Ministry of the Interior and the Serbian Ministry of the Interior.

Supported by UMCOR.

Between March and May 2002, we have worked on violence prevention program with mixed group of 50 Roma children, internally displaced children and children without parental care. At the same time we have been working on ending the isolation inside one's own socially marginalized group and on integration of all included. Supported by Save the Children UK.

Between January and September 2002, the Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade in partnership with “Psihokod” Team and Roma Women Center “Bibija” had offered assistance in form of monitoring and supervision for different Roma pre-school institutions on the territory of Serbia. Program was named “Integration of Roma Children and Roma Pre-school Organizations into Local Community” and it was aimed toward preparing Roma children for starting school. Assistance to preschool institutions was carried out in more than one level, and one of them was sensitizing program for teachers in school year 2002/2003 who would take first classes in elementary schools where children from Roma settlements in different towns gravitate. The Ministry of Education supported pilot programs and present partner organizations were encouraged to ask for accrediting of this program of advanced professional training on always-open competition of Ministry of Education. Supported by the Royal Netherlands Embassy.

Since May 2002 until nowadays, we had been officially co-ordinating the Network of Trust to Fight Gender-Based Violence; Supported by UNICEF (Child Protection Unit) in period May - August 2002 and by the Royal Netherlands Embassy in total period afterwards. Apart from the other Network activities, monthly case management sessions of the Network of Trust members, have been held in our premises (click Network of Trust in the menu on the left to find out more).

During period November 2002 until October 2003, the Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade in partnership with the Sex Offences Department (city level) had implemented educational program on sexual abuse of children and women for 130 police officers on the territory of Serbia. Supported by UNHCHR and the Royal Netherlands Embassy.

During period 29-31 May 2003, we organized the first Regional Conference “Multidisciplinary Approach to Protection of Children and Women from Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse”; Organizations from Slovenia, Croatia, Federation of Bosnia and Hercegovina, Macedonia and Serbia and Montenegro had participated at the Conference. It remained still nowadays the only Conference in Serbia of this kind.

In August 2003, the Ministry of Health for the first time financially supported our work (one-time support). This was the first ever support to the Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade by the state of Serbia.

In August 2003, Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade made a poster presentation of its work (incl. program “The Network of Trust to Fight Gender-Based Violence”) on IXth ISPCAN European Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect “Promoting Interdisciplinary Approaches to Child Protection”, Warsaw – Poland, August 29-31, 2003.

November – December 2003, we carry out ed. program for 49 teachers within police schooling (teaching at Secondary school for police officers, High School of the Interior and Police Academy); excellent co-operation with the Ministry of the Interior; supported by the War Trauma Foundation, Netherlands.

November 2003 – April 2004, our staff provided biweekly supervision of the Department for Urgent Protection of Abused Children (within centers for children without parental care system); Supported by the Ministry of Social Welfare.

March 2004 – Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade published the book “Courage to Heal” written by Ellen Bias and Laura Davis, 2002, 496 p. (translated to Serbian). Supported by the Royal Netherlands Embassy.

April 2004 – We've started up intensive volunteer program that is carried out by female students of different faculties. Provided supervision by ITC staff.

May – October 2004, we organized partnership educational project: Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade and Wildwasser, Berlin; Multi-level advanced training for 25 professionals (extended Network of Trust) – working as a network in the context of violence; Held in our premises. Supported by the Save the Children, UK.

In November 2004, Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade opens the first 24-hours crisis hotline for survivors of sexual assault in this country; Supported by the Reconstruction Women's Fund, Belgrade and the Save the Children, UK.

In February 2005, the Ministry of Health financially supported our work (one-time support).

July 2005, TOT Manual: Gender-Based Violence from Survivors' Perspective is published (first manual in the country that represents the tool how to teach on gender-based violence; authors: Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade staff; followed by working sessions for trainers who already attended our trainings (minimum basic level)). Supported by the Reconstruction Women's Fund. The Manual was firstly published in English in 2003 and used in the Mental Health Program of the Medecins Sans Frontiers, the Netherlands.

October 2005 – continues for 1.5 year period, we carry out training programs for school personnel on gender-based

violence in co-operation with the Ministry of Education of Serbia. First stage supported by the Embassy of Australia. By June 2006, 104 colleagues from 33 primary schools took part in the program (total number planned: 220 from 85 schools). In September 2006, a manual for school personnel that enhances implementation of prevention program «Healthy Choices for Kids» (carried out by the Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade for 4156 children and adolescents) is planned to be published. Supported by the Embassy of Australia in Belgrade, the Canadian International Development Agency and the Reconstruction Women's Fund.

February-July 2006, in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, we've carried out training programs for employees from Women's Penitentiary in Požarevac and its Hospital, as well as for employees from Students' Polyclinic (using TOT (training of trainers) model). Supported by the Canadian International Development Agency.

February-December 2006, Incest Trauma Center-Belgrade is a member of working group of Gender Equality Council, Task-Force «Women and violence», responsible to contribute to the National Action Plan for Women (based on Beijing platform), regarding sexual violence against women on territory of Serbia.

In April 2006, the Ministry of Health financially supported our work (one-time support).

In May – June 2006, our counselors carried out 9 Community Theatre performances concerned with the theme of childhood sexual abuse perpetrated by helpers in institutions. This cycle of performances shown in primary schools, students' dormitories and two penitentiaries (screenplay written by the Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade staff and the very first start of community theatre form of work dealing with this theme made in June 2005 on the main public square in Belgrade interacting with citizens). Supported by the Canadian International Development Agency.

July 2006, "My Secret as Fear, as Shame, as Pain... The Incest Trauma Center – Belgrade Case Studies", 46p., the first ever publication of this kind in Serbia based on providing direct services to survivors (all confidentiality procedures respected). Supported by the Canadian International Development Agency.

June 2007 – May 2008, part of the activities of the Incest Trauma Center-Belgrade concerns problem of sexual abuse of street youth. Supported by The Global Fund for Children, USA.

June-July 2007 in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, we've carried out training programs for employees working in Juvenile Penitentiaries in Kruševac and Valjevo. Supported by the Canadian International Development Agency.

July 2007, we organized Women's HR Defenders' Summit that gathered 39 women from 23 women's NGOs. Supported by the Canadian International Development Agency and the Reconstruction Women's Fund.

September 2007, part of the campaign against child sexual abuse was supported by the Secretariat of Social and Child Welfare – City of Belgrade.

Etc. etc.