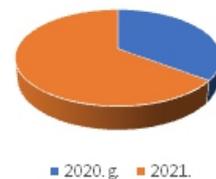




STATISTICS

The number of users of our services continues to grow. In the first month of 2021, we recorded 64 users, of which 38 users requested psychosocial support, and 26 a free legal counseling service. Compared to the same period in 2020, these data represents an increase of 54%, or 29 users more.

The number of users
2020./2021.



GROUP COUNSELING FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Since April 2020, when we started the ESF project "Cross Violence", in addition to individual psychosocial counseling services, group counseling services have been continuously available to victims.

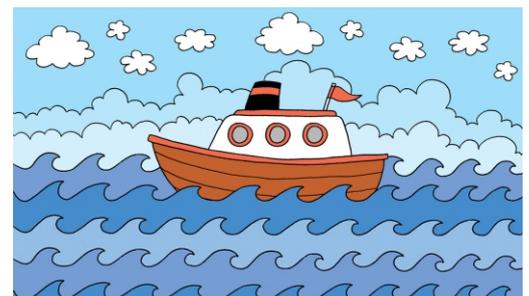
Should I get involved in group or individual counseling?

The decision whether to engage in individual or group therapy depends on the type and severity of the difficulties the person is experiencing and personal preferences. The advantage of individual counseling is the possibility that the counselor can be more dedicated to the person and follow the process and as a rule a closer relationship is created between the client and the counselor which is key to achieving positive outcomes. In addition, the topics that cause a person to appear often cause shame and discomfort, and then is more comfortable to work one-on-one with a counselor. The advantage of group therapy is that group dynamics can stimulate processes in individuals who then get the opportunity to work on them in a group. The group also brings together individuals with similar experiences which can help with feelings of loneliness and misunderstanding by the environment as well as encourage the exchange of experiences that can give new perspectives. Joining the group expands the support network and opens the possibility of new friendships. Since the beginning of the project, a total of 11 group meetings of counseling and empowerment of victims of violence have been held.



MOBILE TEAM ON THE ISLAND OF BRAČ

We are pleased to inform you that on January 22, 2021. we done the first mobile team on the island of Brač. In order to agree on future cooperation, an initial working meeting was held with the participation of our president and the newly appointed director of the Center for Social Welfare Brač with an expert team. We informed our partners about the services we provide to victims of violence and other marginalized people, especially those who need help to enter the labor market of the long-term unemployed through a social mentoring service. In that sense, we have made our resources available. We have offered them the opportunity to come to the island of Brač in the form of a mobile team that would be available to citizens from the Brač area. The mobile team service includes assessing the needs of each victim, providing the necessary information and legal advice in the framework of primary legal aid, in special cases providing legal representation, psychosocial support, social mentoring service, retraining and training for easier access to the labor market trust.





SUPERVISION - HELPING THE HELPERS

In psychosocial work we offer counseling, psychological help and support and psychodiagnostics.

Victims of domestic violence are mostly more vulnerable groups of the population, women and children who have suffered permanent and indelible consequences from one of the forms of violence and will deal with them for the rest of their lives. The consequences that victims face directly affect their further mental and physical health, as well as their professional and private lives.

Therefore, helping with such a group is especially demanding and often puts the helper in a situation of their own "burnout". In order to prevent and help the helper, it is advisable to use supervision. Supervision is one of the indispensable forms of mental health care, a method of ensuring the quality of services and a way to improve the competencies of helpers.

Through the just started project "Psychosocial Support" funded by the Ecumenical Women's Initiative Omis, we will strengthen our capacity for helpers. The project envisages, among other things, holding supervisory meetings where we will help each other by analyzing, planning, hypothetical changes in professional and / or personal behavior and mutual support. Supervision meetings will be held under the guidance of the supervisor.



ASK THE ADVISOR

"I AM 70 YEARS OLD AND I AM RETIRED. I LIVE WITH A 50-YEAR-OLD SON. WHEN MY DAUGHTER DIVORCED, SHE MOVED TO US WITH TWO MINOR CHILDREN. THE SON MARRIED AND DIVORCED TWICE. FROM ONE MARRIAGE, HE HAS A 17-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER WHO LIVES WITH HIS MOTHER. THE SON IS A LONG-OLD ADDICT WHO BECOMES VIOLENT UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS. HE WAS ALREADY IN PRISON FOR A YEAR. HE CONSTANTLY HARASSES ME AND MY DAUGHTER. A FEW DAYS AGO, FOR NO REASON, HE STARTED OFFENDING US AND THREATENING THAT HE WOULD KILL US. I BEG YOU FOR HELP. CAN WE FORCE HIM FOR TREATMENT? DAUGHTER AND I ARE AFRAID FOR OUR LIVES, BUT ALSO FOR THE LIVES OF THE DAUGHTER'S MINOR CHILDREN WHO ARE LIVING WITH US."

According to the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence, the court may impose 4 types of protective measures on the perpetrator of domestic violence.

A measure of compulsory treatment for addiction, compulsory psychosocial treatment, a ban on approaching, harassing or stalking a victim of domestic violence and a measure of removal from a joint household. The court may impose a protective measure of compulsory treatment for addiction on a perpetrator of domestic violence who has committed violence under the influence of alcohol, drug or other addiction if there is a danger that he will repeat domestic violence due to that addiction. This measure can be imposed on the perpetrator for up to 1 year.

You must definitely report your son to the police for psychological violence against you and your daughter, since minor children also live at the same address. If you and your daughter feel fear for their own lives, you can ask the court to impose a measure prohibiting them from approaching and harassing or moving away from the joint household in order to provide you with an appropriate form of protection. If any of the protective measures are imposed and your son violates them, you will immediately inform the police.