

NEWSLETTER

nr. 37 (2024)

STOP VIOLENCE



APRIL to JUNE

WOMEN'S LAW CENTRE

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WLC ADVOCATES FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DEFINITION OF “FEMICIDE” INTO NATIONAL LEGISLATION

“Open head injury, signs of strangulation, sexual assault and signs of torture: numerous cigarette burns on the hands and needle punctures on the left arm” – these are the details of the case of Ana Maria, a six-month pregnant young woman who was murdered. The only suspect was a 45-year-old man.

Ana Maria’s case reflects the tragedy of the dozens of women murdered every year in Moldova, a phenomenon

known as FEMICIDE. This type of crime is the most extreme form of violence against women just because they are women.

The definition of “femicide” is not officially recognised in the Republic of Moldova, although the Women’s Law Centre has long advocated for its recognition in national law and practice. It is essential to recognize that the violent killing of women and girls is a crime that should not be confused with murder.

ALARMING STATISTICS FROM MOLDOVA:

	2022	2023
Women victims of femicide	24	21
Women with serious injuries	45	37

On 29 April 2024, **WLC launched a public appeal** to the authorities to recognise the definition of femicide in Moldovan law and to investigate all cases of femicide with due diligence. This appeal was joined by more than **1,500 individuals** and **160 civil society organisations**.

Take a stand against femicide!

SIGN THE PETITION



What happened after the launch?

On 30 April 2024, the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova held a public hearing on the state’s response to exceptionally serious cases of violence against women and the measures taken to protect women and girls. During the hearing, the public appeal, the requests addressed to the authorities and the arguments on the need to recognise femicide were presented.

“It took another tragic case to re-discuss the phenomenon of femicide. Our legislation and the criminal justice system are not sensitive to such cases of killing of women. Dozens of complaints or reports are filed, but they are not taken seriously, which is the first element of non-intervention”

Angelina Zaporozjan-Pîrgari,
Executive Director of WLC





As a result of the hearing, an inter-institutional ad hoc working group was set up to develop a national plan for rapid response to cases of violence against women and girls.

On 23 May 2024, the Commission for Monitoring and Analysis of Domestic Violence Cases Resulting in Death or Serious Bodily Injury held a meeting, where proposals to amend the legislation to recognize femicide were discussed.

The WLC Executive Director presented a broad analysis of best practices at international and European level and proposed a preliminary action plan to reduce cases of serious violence against women.



The Vice-President of Parliament, **Doina Gherman**, supported the initiative, encouraging the authorities to follow the example of the European countries that have recognised femicide as a separate crime.

The Commission members supported the recommendations contained in the “Report on the Analysis and Monitoring of Domestic Violence Cases Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury or Death of the Victim for 2023”, which

included expanding the Commission’s mandate to include in the analysis all cases of femicide, not only those committed by an intimate partner or family members.

To effectively implement the recommendations, an annual action plan with clear timelines and indicators was proposed, as well as a mechanism to evaluate and monitor progress.

WE SUPPORT THE NATIONAL INFORMATION CAMPAIGN “YOUR FAMILY’S SAFETY MATTERS! WE INFORM, EDUCATE, PROTECT”

WLC supports the Information and Awareness Campaign on domestic violence by GPI and NAPCV from 15 May to 15 June 2024. The campaign aims to inform and sensitise society, encourage victims to report acts of violence and build confidence in the authorities.

“The number of reports to the police is increasing, which is a good sign. However, we know that this is only the tip of the iceberg as many cases of domestic violence go unreported and tolerated. We live in a culture of tolerance of domestic violence and violence against women, where women put up with it because they saw their mothers doing it, for the sake of their children or for fear of starting a new life without a home, a job and alone with children”

Angelina Zaporozhan-Pîrgari,
Executive Director of WLC



Harmful stereotypes about domestic violence and violence against women, as well as certain attitudes and practices among professionals, jeopardise the safety of victims of domestic violence.

In order to address this problem and improve police intervention in cases of domestic violence, thus contributing to the safety and protection of families in the Republic of Moldova, the campaign carried out the following activities:

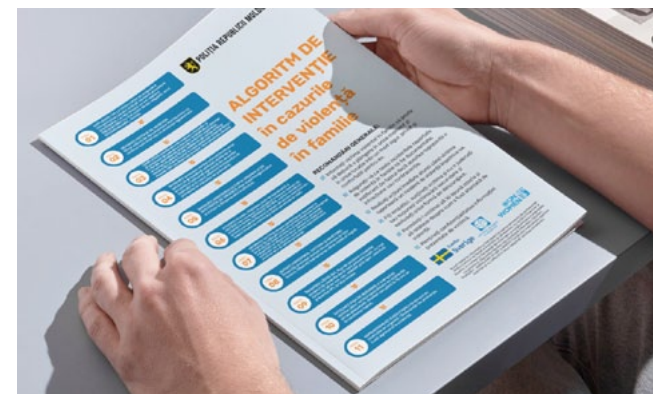
- **3 training courses** on Best Practices of Police Response to Domestic Violence, which were attended by personnel of patrol and rapid response teams from several localities of the country;



- we distributed **44 000 flyers** and posters to inform the general public about protection measures in cases of domestic violence;



- we distributed **700 posters** with the Domestic Violence Response Algorithm to all police stations in the country.



The training was made possible thanks to the financial support of the IOM Mission to Moldova and Sweden. The information materials were printed within the partnership agreement between WLC and UN Women, with financial support from Sweden.

POLICE OFFICERS HAVE ATTENDED TRAINING TO EFFECTIVELY RESPOND TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES

Interactions with the police often influence the decision of victims of domestic or gender-based violence to seek further help and continue their journey through the system. For victims to trust law enforcement, it is important that every reported case is treated seriously.

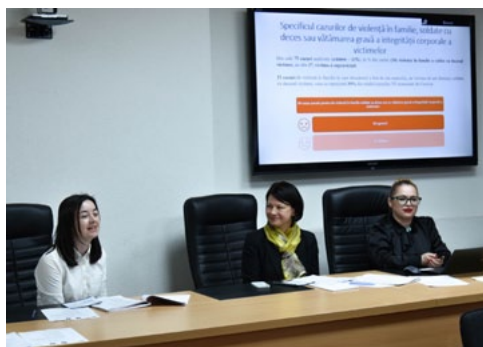
For example, in cases of repeated acts of violence, the intervention of police officers may cause the victim to stop the violence, or conversely, in the absence of a prompt response, the victim is left defenceless and vulnerable and loses the last hope, believing that no one will help.

To ensure effective intervention in cases of domestic violence through profession-

al training of police officers, in partnership with GPI and MIA, in April we organised **6 trainings** in Chişinău, Bălţi and Cimişlia. These trainings were attended by **145 police officers** from more than 20 districts of Moldova.

The participants improved their knowledge on collecting, completing and submitting the new Data Collection Form on cases of domestic violence resulting in death or serious bodily injury to victims. In 2023, WLC contributed to the development of this form, which is included in the “Methodological Instruction on Police Intervention in Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence”, approved by GPI Order No. 93 of 23 March 2023.

The trainings were organised thanks to financial support from Sweden and the Sigrid Rausing Foundation.



THE EXHIBITION “DON’T BLAME THE CLOTHES!” OPENED IN SEVERAL EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY



Iuliana was abused at the age of 15, and the experience has scarred her for life. She cut off her long hair, started wearing only men's clothes and struggles to have relationships. All because when she was raped, she was accused of dressing provocatively.

The exhibition “Don't Blame the Clothes!” aims to break the prejudice that women are to blame for being assaulted be-

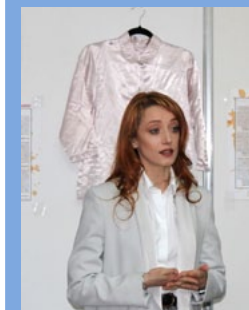


cause of the way they dress. The exhibition presents the reconstructed clothes of nine women and teenage girls from Moldova that they were wearing when they were raped or sexually harassed.

The exhibition, organised in partnership with the Homecare Public Association and UNFPA, was open during the week at each of these institutions:

- Cahul Medical College;
- Center of Excellence in Medicine and Pharmacy “Raisa Pacalo” in Chişinău;
- Bălţi Medical College;
- Center for Young Naturalists in Chişinău;
- Regional Youth Resource Center in Făleşti.

As part of the exhibition opening, discussion workshops were held on gender-based violence and the impact of stereotypes on victims of sexual violence. These sessions were facilitated by Women's Law Centre lawyer Nicoleta Cicoşă.



“The real figure for the number of cases of sexual violence against women is much higher than the official figures. More often than not, victims choose not to contact law enforcement or a doctor precisely because of the stereotypes they are subjected to. We encourage reporting all cases of gender-based violence, be it physical, psychological, sexual, spiritual or any other kind of violence,” said Nicoleta Cicoşă.

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS - CLOSER TO THE SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE BĂLȚI, SOROCA AND ȘTEFAN VODĂ

From April to June 2024, 68 women participated in the **Income Generating Activities Development Course** in Bălți, Soroca and Ștefan Vodă.

The three-day entrepreneurship training program offers women not only practical entrepreneurship knowledge and skills, but also a safe and supportive environment in which they can rediscover their strength and rebuild their lives. The sessions are tailored to the specific needs of each group, creating a space where women feel encouraged to share their experiences and connect.



Economic empowerment enables women to have income security, decent work and financial independence. Economic empowerment programs can provide a new chance in life, especially for survivors of violence.

In 5 districts of Moldova (Soroca, Bălți, Hîncești, Telenești and Ștefan Vodă), women and girls have the opportunity to participate in courses on vocational guidance, personal development and development of income-generating activities. These courses are an integral part of economic empowerment programs.

In addition, we will provide guidance on developing a business plan, setting up your own business and achieving financial independence. We will also provide financial support vouchers to support women's business ideas in the community.

The course program included topics aimed at deepening the understanding of business planning. Topics such as business plan structure, idea and product description, detailing an operational plan, marketing strategy, business recruitment and financial budget management were discussed.

The participants' impressions filled our hearts with joy:

- "I like that you provided an opportunity specifically for women."
- "People don't come to Ștefan Vodă with opportunities like this... I want a continuation."
- "I already had some knowledge, but in these 3 days I got new ideas and learned new things that opened my horizons. It's a wonderful experience!"
- "I highly recommend these courses to all women to strain their brains and gain confidence in their abilities."

45 women from Bălți, Soroca and neighbouring localities participated in a 5-day Vocational Guidance and Personal Development Course.

The aim of this course is to strengthen personal development skills, including the development of communication and relationship skills in an assertive and non-violent manner, efficient management of personal and professional resources, improvement of self-esteem and stress resistance, as well as increasing confidence in the process of integration into the labour market and entrepreneurship.



Why is this course useful?

Below are the views of the participants to illustrate this:

- “The unconditional acceptance I have received here is very important. Many times I have been asked, “How do you feel?” and I thought to myself: “Gosh, no one ever asks me how I’m feeling! Is anything bothering me? Am I okay or not okay? Do I need anything?” Usually everyone expects me to do everything for them.”
- “I realised what stereotypes I perpetuate with my words and what I could do differently to avoid repeating mistakes.”
- “I became more aware of what I do now and what I want to do and be in 5 years’ time.”
- “I liked that I could speak freely and cry without fear of judgment. I am grateful for that. I heard other women’s stories and realised that although my story is different, we have a lot in common. I discovered that I have many pluses and strengths. I enjoyed being in different roles and looking at familiar situations through different eyes.”
- “I learnt and realised that we are not alone here. I have the power! We have the power!”



The trainings were organised within the project “Supporting the multi-agency efforts on prevention of violence against women and delivery of comprehensive assistance to survivors, including through economic empowerment programs”, implemented by the Women’s Law Centre in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova, with the support of UN Women Moldova and financial support from Sweden.

WLC SUPPORTS THE LAUNCH OF A FEMINIST PUBLICATION



On 24 April 2024, we had the pleasure of contributing to the organisation of a very special event: the **„book launch of poet Radmila Popovici’s A Thousand and One I’s Without Shadows**. This anthology of poems explores women’s inner experiences and is enriched with vibrant paintings by visual artist Florina Breazu.

The event included poetry readings, painting presentations and heartfelt discussions that were a moving and introspective experience for the participants.

The Women’s Law Centre, with financial support from Sweden, supports the printing and distribution of the book. With this gesture, we show that we support women’s courage to take the path of personal transformation. It is a powerful statement in favour of women’s empowerment and independence, encouraging them to follow their dreams and express their own opinions and feelings.

Through this collaboration, we demonstrate that art can be a powerful tool for social change, inspiring women to discover and affirm themselves in all their splendour.



[See photos from the event here](#)

“WE’LL DIVORCE WHEN I WANT TO!” – WLC BENEFICIARY’S STORY



In March this year, Alina, a 28-year-old young woman, stepped into the Women’s Law Centre with fear in her eyes. Frightened, helpless and worried, she was seeking refuge from the constant threats and harassment of her husband, with whom she wanted to separate.

Alina told us that she had been living in a violent and abusive marriage for over a year. After the marriage, her husband changed dramatically, becoming aggressive and controlling. There were frequent bouts of jealousy. He would check her phone, going through every text and call. He would log into her social media accounts under her name, browsing through her private conversations. In front of their four-year-old son, he would call Alina foul words and humiliate her mercilessly.

*Provoking a state of tension and mental suffering through offence, ridicule, swearing, insults, name-calling, blackmail, verbal threats, display of jealousy and interference in private life is a form of imposition of will or personal control over the victim by the perpetrator, defined as **psychological violence**.*

according to Article 2 of the Law on Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence

The first slap was like a thunderclap on the day Alina failed to clean up before her husband came home from work.

*Intentional injury to bodily integrity or health by hitting, pushing, shoving, pulling by hair, pricking, cutting, burning, strangling, biting in any form and of any intensity, by poisoning, intoxication, other actions with similar effect is called **physical violence**.*

according to Article 2 of the Law on Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence

After that incident, she decided that she had to take her life into her own hands and leave. She tried to discuss divorce amicably, but his answer was categorical: “We’ll divorce when I want to.”

After this conversation, the man became even more aggressive. He would stalk her at work, in stores, send her text messages threatening to kill her: “You will be with me or with no one”, “I will have someone to take you to the forest and bury you, and your son will be left an orphan”.

Faced with these threats, Alina turned to the police. The station inspector, after administering an assessment questionnaire and registering the case, advised her to contact the specialised service for victims of domestic violence at the WLC.

The Center’s lawyer helped Alina obtain a protection order. On 11 March, the judge ordered protection measures for 30 days, and the perpetrator was placed on an electronic bracelet, warning that any violation of the order would result in criminal penalties. The protection order was complied with.

Acts of persecution, i.e. systematic harassment of a person, causing alarm, fear for personal safety or the safety of close relatives, forcing a change in lifestyle, committed by: (a) stalking the person; (b) contacting or attempting to contact the person by any means or through another person.

according to Article 78² of the Contravention Code.

In the Republic of Moldova, by court decision, a person may be subject to one of the following penalties: a fine of 30 to 60 conventional units, or unpaid community service for 20 to 40 hours, or detention for 10 to 15 days.

On 15 March, Alina filed for divorce. In April, the first court hearing was held and the marriage was dissolved on 24 April. Alina managed to get a divorce without paying for a lawyer. She proved that she can stand up for herself. She only needed the support of professionals.

For acts of persecution, the ex-husband was punished under Article 782 of the Contravention Code. This punishment will allow Alina to claim compensation for non-pecuniary damage.

Alina is now out of danger. The ex-husband went abroad and does not bother her anymore. The woman told us that she felt supported throughout the process and this helped her to make every step. She admitted that the support of professionals gave her the wings to fly again and that without specialised help she would not have been able to cope. During and after the intervention, Alina received psychological counselling to help her through the crisis, which enabled her to regain her peace of mind and confidence.

Dear women, if you are in an abusive relationship, get help! Do not tolerate violence in silence!

At the **Women's Law Centre**, we can provide you with information, support, legal assistance, court representation, psychological support, social support, vocational guidance and economic empowerment.

All our services are **FREE** and **CONFIDENTIAL!**



According to the civil procedural legislation of the Republic of Moldova, you do not need a lawyer to file for divorce.

Many women say, "I don't have enough money for a lawyer to divorce, so I'll endure and save more money" – and they tolerate violence for years. As long as the law does not require hiring a lawyer, a woman can initiate the divorce process on her own, knowing the necessary information.

You need to have some legal knowledge to be able to draft the application, prepare the document package, submit it to the court, attend court hearings, and be mentally prepared for it. This is where the usefulness of a primary legal assistance service comes in; at WLC, women receive help and support throughout this process. Anyone can divorce, but the most important thing is that in court you do not have to prove why you want to divorce; your declaration that you no longer want to live with that person is sufficient.

For filing a divorce action, the court charges a state fee – currently 500 MDL and a stamp duty – 200 MDL. The divorce process involves some mandatory rules:

- A typed lawsuit application indicating the factual and legal elements, mentioning that the preliminary procedure has been exhausted;
- Proof of payment of the state fee;
- The original marriage certificate;
- If you are going to represent yourself, you must personally submit the application;
- Copies of the following documents: identity card, children's birth certificates, and other authenticated and countersigned confirmations: "copy corresponds to the original" and signature.

If these rules are followed, the court cannot refuse the application.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The National Council for Economic Empowerment and Gender Equality has been launched in the Republic of Moldova. The new structure will function within the Economic Council under the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova and aims to strengthen efforts towards women's economic empowerment, the development of women's entrepreneurship and the promotion of gender equality.

According to Angelina Zaporozjan-Pîrgari, Executive Director of WLC, the voice of women affected by do-



mestic violence has been heard, so concrete measures will be taken to empower women victims/survivors of violence through access to specialised psychological/legal/social assistance programs, vocational training and employment assistance, in order to overcome the situation of vulnerability and escape from the cycle of violence.



The European Parliament has adopted a directive that will oblige EU Member States to adopt a minimum set of rules to prevent gender-based violence and protect victims of domestic violence.

The directive calls for tougher laws against cyber violence, better assistance for victims and measures to prevent rape.

This directive is a historic achievement to strengthen women's rights and ensure a future where every girl and woman can live without fear and in safety.

[Find out more here](#)



II-year students of the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, specialised in law, attended a public lecture by Daniela Josanu, coordinator of the Specialised Assistance Service for Victims of Domestic Violence at the Women's Law Centre. The topic of the lecture was "Combating domestic violence and promotion of women's rights".

The young people showed a keen interest in the topic, demonstrating a desire to actively contribute to the promotion of women's rights and the

eradication of gender-based violence. Daniela Josanu encouraged the future lawyers to support initiatives to protect and support victims.

The public lecture was organised by the office of the Faculty of General Economics and Law within the framework of the Trade Union Committee of Undergraduate and Graduate Students (CSSM), in collaboration with the European Law Students' Association (ELSA) and the Student Scientific Circle "Sub littera legis" of the Law Department.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Relaxation, creativity, good mood and hope... These are the words to describe the two occupational therapy workshops attended by the beneficiaries of the Women's Rights Centre in April and June.

The women and their children spent a few hours together in a warm atmosphere, drawing on tortillas and reflecting. One participant told us: "I really



enjoyed participating in this drawing workshop... It helped me forget all my worries for a few hours".

The second workshop was dedicated to Easter. The women made some amazing decorative baskets full of colour and life. We are happy to see how these classes not only bring smiles to their faces, but also contribute to their emotional well-being.



The activities are organised by WLC with financial support from the OAK Foundation [through ARC Romania].

Our colleague Nicoleta Cicoță, legal advisor at WLC, together with representatives of other member organisations of the National Coalition "Life without Violence" made a study visit to Romania. Together they visited 4 organisations in Bucharest, Sibiu and Braşov. The meetings focused on sharing experiences and best practices to strengthen joint efforts to combat domestic violence and support victims.

"This study visit was an insightful and valuable experience. We had the opportunity to interact with organisations that fight domestic violence in Romania, which allowed us to better understand the challenges they face and the best practices they apply in combating this important social problem. I had the opportunity to compare the relevant Romanian legislation with our own. And I realised that although we are doing quite well in terms of legislation and collaboration between institutions, there is still room for improvement. We came back with a lot of new ideas and a deep sense of solidarity and cooperation between all those involved in this struggle," stressed **Nicoleta Cicoță**.



We are grateful to the Association for Community Relations for organising this study visit.

NEWS IN BRIEF



For two days, Evelina Pîrău, WLC communicator, participated in the 20th National Fundraising Conference, the largest fundraising event in Romania, organised by the Association for Community Relations. This annual conference brings together civil society colleagues, practitioners and experts in the field of fundraising. The shared experiences and knowledge gained at this conference are invaluable for developing and strengthening fundraising skills.



„Attending the conference was a great learning and networking experience. I met wonderful people who are passionate about their work, true professionals in the field. We learnt which fundraising methods and techniques are most effective, what an engaged donor is, what the next generation of donors looks like and how to use digital technologies to mobilise the community to join a social cause. The conference motto – “The choices we make, make us” – reminded me of the importance of our decisions and the impact we have on people. I returned home with renewed motivation and a desire to put what I learnt into practice,” said **Evelina Pîrău**.



WLC ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE

In the first six months of 2024, WLC assisted **669 victims** of domestic or sexual violence.

■ Beneficiaries' social profile

Area of residence: **61%** of all those who sought assistance are **urban residents**. The high percentage of people seeking assistance from urban areas has remained consistent over the past five years, which can be attributed to better access to information and resources for people in these areas.

However, over the past five years, there has been a significant increase in the number of requests for assistance from people from rural areas. For example, while in 2019 only 34% of those seeking help sought telephone counselling, in 2024 58% did so. We have seen this trend, especially after the opening of a free helpline – the Green Line **080080000**.

In the first six months of this year, the frequency of requests for telephone counselling by Moldovan female citizens abroad increased.

Age: The majority of women seeking WLC services are between **25** and **44 years old** (65% of the total).

Education level: **67%** of beneficiaries have incomplete secondary, secondary or secondary specialised education and **51%** are employed.

Mothers with minor children: **383 women** (57% of the total) are mothers caring for minor children, of whom 67% have incomplete secondary, secondary or secondary specialised education and 62% are employed.

Initial assessment



81% of women seeking help are current or former conjugal partners (wives, ex-wives, cohabitants, former cohabitants).

To a lesser extent, but we also note cases of domestic violence by relatives:



first-degree relatives – 61 cases (violence between parents and children);



second-degree relatives: 13 cases (violence between siblings or between grandparents and grandchildren).



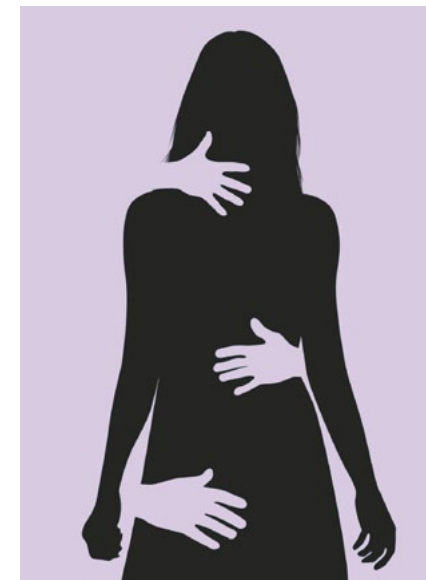
99% – requests for assistance from women affected by partner violence.



1% – requests for assistance from older men, who suffered violence from children or grandchildren.

Types of violence: **69%** of analysed cases are related to combined violence, with physical + psychological violence predominating, followed by a combined form involving physical, psychological and economic violence. Cases of **sexual violence increased by 9%**.

Marital rape is recognized as a form of domestic violence. After talking to WLC staff, women recognise this form of violence in many cases where spouses are the perpetrators. Many women do not know that sexual gratification of their partner is not a marital duty. One of the aims of the specialised service is to inform the beneficiaries of their rights and legal remedies.



WLC ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE

■ Assistance provided by WLC



Legal aid:

- **68% of cases** – primary legal advice by phone and preparation of applications for protection order, applications for divorce, establishment of the child's residence, alimony collection, etc.
- **122 beneficiaries** received a protection order
- **In 24 cases**, a lawyer was appointed to represent the victim in court
- WLC lawyers reported **3 cases of contraventions** in which the perpetrators were punished with 40-50 hours of unpaid labour and **one criminal case** under Article 320/1 with a punishment of 150 hours of unpaid labour and moral damages of MDL 45,000 established by court decisions.

Social assistance:

- **In 32% of cases**, beneficiaries received social assistance and intervention from social authorities
- **8 women** received material support to ensure a minimum standard of living

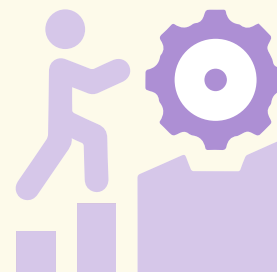


Psychological support:

- **61% of cases** – the beneficiaries received psychological counselling to overcome the crisis situation, long-term psychological assistance or psychological evaluation
- **66 psychological evaluation reports** were prepared, 39 of which were used as evidence in criminal proceedings.



Vocational guidance and economic empowerment:



- **29% of the beneficiaries** received vocational counselling, economic empowerment and occupational therapy.
- **14 women** were selected for the economic empowerment grant program
- **5 occupational therapy activities** were organised, in which 40 women participated





WOMEN'S LAW CENTRE



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

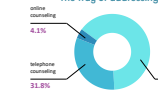
THE VOICES OF WOMEN SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE ARE AT THE HEART OF OUR WORK

VICTIMS OF GENDER-BASED AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RECEIVE SPECIALISED ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION

BENEFICIARIES' SOCIAL PROFILE

- 1,225 beneficiaries** are women and 6 beneficiaries are men. In the case of men who sought specialised assistance, the perpetrators are male: grandson, son, father or stepfather.
- 795 are mothers** with minor children, of whom 185 are mothers caring for one or more children under 3 years of age.
- 51% of women** who sought WLC assistance are married.
- 29 women** with disabilities sought help in cases of domestic violence.
- In 67% of cases**, perpetrators used more than one form of violence at the same time. Psychological violence is the most common form of violence - in 85% of cases.

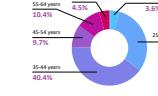
The way of addressing



Area of residence



Age



Education



Occupational status



The victim's status in relation to the perpetrator



Project INVOLVED CITIZENS, COHESIVE COMMUNITIES



April 2022 - April 2023
GHEAM

- 12 mobile teams** consisting of three professionals: a lawyer, a psychologist and a social worker, visited 293 localities in Moldova, following a door-to-door methodology, and provided qualified counselling to refugees from Ukraine and local residents hosting them.
- 8,772 refugees and 2,889 local residents** received legal, psychological and social support of vulnerability received material aid and grateful financial aid.

- 22 community initiatives** received financial support and were implemented in localities in the rural areas, playgrounds and sports grounds were created for both refugees and local residents, meeting and activity rooms were set up to interact with books in Romanian and Ukrainian were equipped, interactive and socialisation activities were organised - all to strengthen the social cohesion of those who fled the war.

Project EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS IN UKRAINE



July 2022 - July 2023
CARE through the SERA Română Foundation, CARE France and FONDPC

- 5 libraries** were transformed into safe and friendly spaces in Sucevița, Ialoveni, Hîrtești (Chiulești), Căpâlneni (Hîrtești) and Băncuța (Chiulești). The libraries were equipped with games, books and other goods.
- 5 community initiatives** for social and cultural cohesion were implemented in Chiulești, Gălbinași, Căpâlneni and Gălbinași (Chiulești).
- 5 training activities** for 15 people responsible for project implementation.
- 6,278 refugees** benefited from psychological activities, access to integrated services and humanitarian support.
- 25 psycho-social support sessions** for women and girls.
- 705 hygiene kits** were distributed to refugees.

- 70 teachers, psychologists and social workers** from Ștefan Vodă, Căpâlneni and Ungureni districts, who provide psycho-social support to target groups in refugee centres, schools, social establishments and all beneficiaries, participated in training workshops, experience exchange and professional capacity building.
- A guide and practical tools** for teachers, psychologists and social workers to provide psycho-social support in the refugee crisis were developed.



Project SUPPORTING MOLDOVAN COMMUNITIES IN HOSTING UKRAINIAN REFUGEES



October 2022 - March 2023
DIZ Moldova

- 36 trainings on tolerance, empathy and non-violent communication**, attended by 881 educators, students, teachers and social workers from Ștefan Vodă, Căpâlneni and Ungureni districts.

We present our activity report reflecting the main achievements of the year 2023, in which we dedicated ourselves to our mission to promote gender equality, prevent and combat domestic violence and violence against women in the Republic of Moldova.

These achievements would not have been possible without your continued support and the generosity of our donors. We thank everyone who has supported us. We continue to fight for a society where every girl, woman and child lives in safety and free from violence.

[See the report](#)

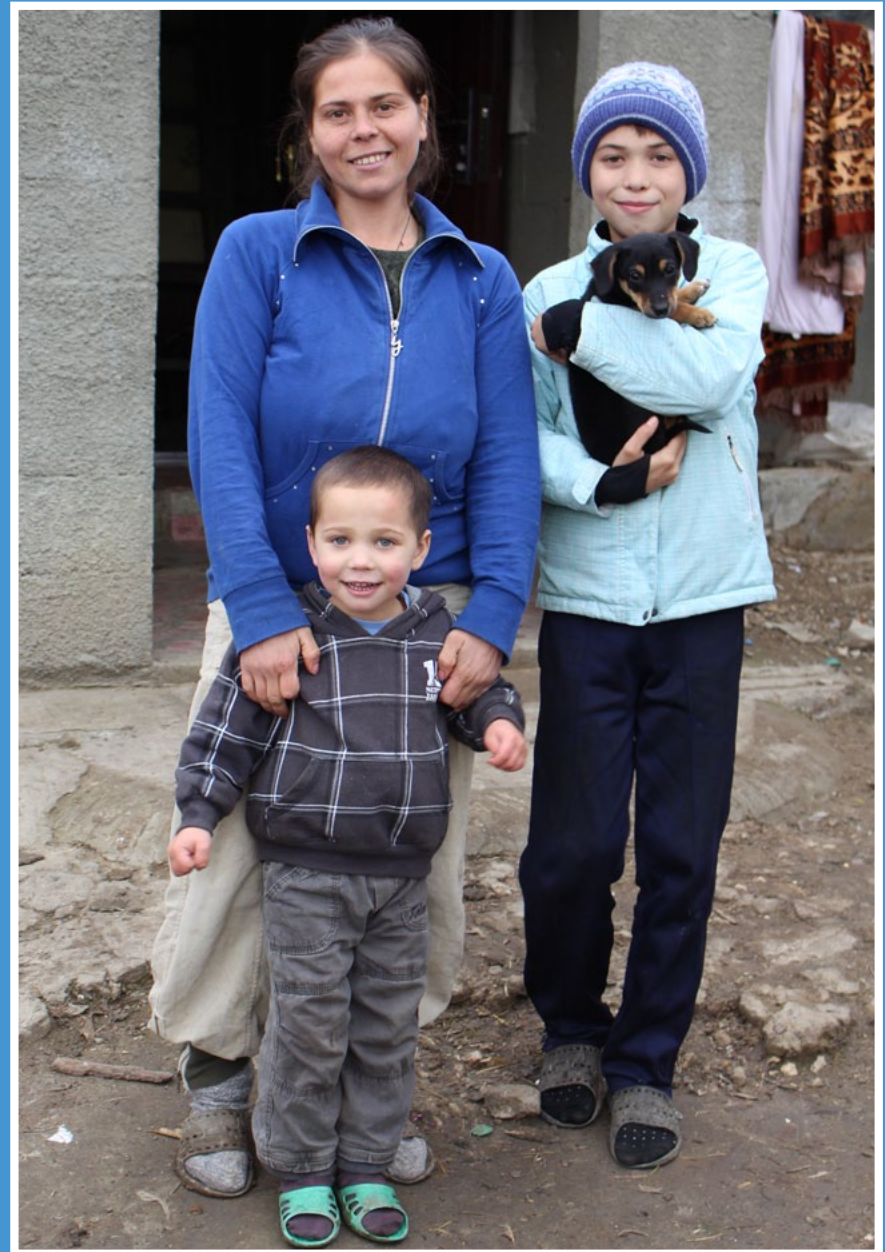
TOGETHER WE ARE CHANGING LIVES!

Every month, about **100 women** take an important step in their lives. Sometimes, this step is their last hope to be heard, understood and supported. Every month, about **100 women** choose not to tolerate domestic violence anymore and turn to WLC for specialist support.

We offer to these women **legal and psychological support, social assistance, and opportunities** for economic empowerment, so that they can step confidently into tomorrow. **Our support is free and confidential!**

You can also help women and children of Moldova. Visit the WLC website and make a donation to support victims of domestic violence. Every donation is a chance for these women to rebuild their lives. Every donation enhances the power of our community.

DONATE



You have the right to live safely!



WHO ARE WE?

WOMEN'S LAW CENTRE (WLC) is a non-governmental organisation founded by a group of women-lawyers from Moldova. WLC advocates for equality between women and men in the public and family life and helps prevent and combat domestic violence and gender-based violence against women.

The newsletter is issued with the financial support of Sweden and the OAK Foundation (via ARC).

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