



2025

**ANIMUS ASSOCIATION
FOUNDATION**

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

SOFIA
BULGARIA

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INTRODUCTION

In 2025, we continued to focus on our core priorities: psychological counseling and social and legal advocacy for children and parents in accordance with the Social Services Act. We remain the most highly specialized professional organization for direct work with women, children, and families who have experienced violence and for the recovery from psychological trauma. Overall, our direct work with people has increased significantly. There has also been an increase in the severity and drama of cases involving women and children who have suffered from violence.

Unfortunately, despite the amendments made to the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act (PADVA) in 2024, state institutions are delaying procedural decisions, thereby making it impossible to implement the proposed changes. The good news is that on November 19, 2025, after 13 years of debate, repeated public discussion, revisions, and amendments, the Coordination Mechanism for Domestic Violence was adopted, which will facilitate collaboration among various organizations and services. Although it is not yet well-known among professionals and has not yet been implemented, its adoption shows that, albeit in very slow steps, we are making progress in the area of the rights and needs of victims of domestic violence.

Child abuse is a problem of great public importance, but unfortunately, little and insufficient work is being done in this area. Cases are not identified in a timely manner by professionals, and timely and sufficient measures are not taken to protect children who have suffered abuse. This leads to the cases becoming more severe and delays the recovery process. The issue of justice for these children is even more pressing. The problem is escalating like an avalanche, and the state does not even have a strategy in this area.

The Animus Association Foundation pursues consistent advocacy policies to adequately address the problems listed above. By staying close to the difficulties people face through our daily interactions with them, we have systematized these issues and regularly provided our expert opinion to institutions through comments on draft legislation, participation in expert groups, conferences, and public statements in the media.

In the fall of 2025, we can boast of an exceptional event. In Veliko Tarnovo, in the Great National Assembly Hall, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the Ministry of the Interior, the Agency for Social Assistance, the Ombudsman's Office, the Legal Aid Bureau, local Bar Associations, and the Animus Association Foundation for coordinated work on cases of domestic violence. This is indicative of the recognition by institutions and the public of our organization's tireless work and the reputation we have built.

Our partnership with the Sofia Municipality is developing steadily through the social services we manage:

The Legal Clinic for Women and Children Affected by Domestic Violence remains in high demand in 2025, and the number of people seeking the service has increased. It has transitioned from a municipal to a state-delegated activity and continues to provide free assistance to victims in preparing protection requests.

The “Zona Zakrila” Children’s Advocacy and Support Center offers care for child witnesses and victims of violence and their parents. Work on these cases is complex and multifaceted, involving psychological, social, and legal support, as well as participation in court proceedings and non-traumatic, child-friendly interviews in the “Blue Room.”

The “St. Petka” Crisis Center for women and their children who have suffered from violence operated at full capacity in 2025, handling exceptionally severe cases.

At the same time, we continued the sustainable development of the Social Services Complex, which consists of the “Mother and Baby” unit and the Community Support Center, whose capacity is always exceeded due to the high demand from families for free psychological assistance for themselves and their children, as well as for social advocacy, music therapy for blind children, and training and support for people who have decided to adopt a child.

Last year’s focus was on the organization’s efforts to make the services it manages accessible to refugees and people seeking protection in Bulgaria.

We address the major challenges we’ve encountered in supporting these vulnerable groups by creating new specialized services and programs tailored to their numerous and specific needs. Many of them are survivors of trafficking and exploitation. An example of this is our efforts to develop a comprehensive program, supported by the EC, through which we assisted 133 Ukrainian women and 20 children. Thanks to UNHCR’s support, 39 victims from third countries received individual and group psychological assistance.

In a world where the power of social media continues to grow, we combated misinformation by providing valuable and up-to-date information on a daily basis regarding Bulgarian legislation, women’s and children’s rights, and mental health. In these efforts, we were supported by the Bulgarian Women’s Fund.

The national hotline for victims of violence, 0800 1 86 76, continued to operate in the same format, and to our delight, we once again have many volunteer counselors— more than 30 women and men. Congratulations on the enthusiasm and rich inner life of this great team. At the same time, operating the hotline has become extremely difficult, as there is no other telephone line available to help people with mental health issues. The line receives calls from people experiencing psychosis, depression, those on the verge of suicide, and others facing difficulties.

We also thank Vivacom for its long-standing support, which ensures the line remains free of charge for callers.

A key highlight is our fruitful collaboration with UNICEF. Over the past year, we continued our work to provide methodological support and build the capacity of specialists at the three centers operating under the “Zone of Protection” model in the cities of Yambol, Varna, and Kyustendil, which specialize in comprehensive assistance for children who have experienced violence and their families.

Over the past year, one of the most exciting activities was a series of meetings—lectures and exercises—with students from Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski,” NBU, Southwest University in Blagoevgrad, and the Vratsa branch of Veliko Tarnovo University—on identifying cases of child abuse as part of the “Key to Child Protection in Southwest Bulgaria” project, funded by the FRGI under the INSPIRE program. The sessions were engaging because the young future professionals were very active, asked questions, and gave us hope that in the future there will be more comprehensive care for children affected by violence.

5,917 clients trusted us and turned to us for support last year, which compels us to strive for continuous improvement.

We are also actively continuing our advocacy, training, and educational activities.

Last year, we trained over 700 professionals, including psychologists, social workers from social services, school psychologists and teachers, and employees from the Ministry of Interior and the judicial system.

Finally, on behalf of the leadership, we would like to express our satisfaction at working with highly educated and ethical colleagues. We realize that it is difficult for everyone to work amid chaos and political crises, but we have proven over the years that we can work even under difficult conditions.

Challenges and trials make us even more creative and thoughtful.

We thank everyone who has supported us morally and financially, as well as our colleagues and volunteers.

Надежда Стойчева



Мария Чомарова



ACTIVITY IN 2025

DIRECT WORK WITH VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

1. **Hotline for victims of domestic violence** (June 19, 2024–June 19, 2025; June 18, 2025 – June 18, 2026), funded by the Ministry of Justice; No. MS 40/June 20, 2025;
2. **Complex for Social Services for Children and Families – Community Support Center** (January 19, 2023 – January 19, 2028), a social service of the Sofia Municipality, awarded for management through a competitive process as a state-delegated activity;
3. **Complex for Social Services for Children and Families – “Mother and Baby” Unit** (January 19, 2023 – January 19, 2028), a social service of the Sofia Municipality, awarded for management through a competitive tender as a state-delegated activity;
4. **“St. Petka” Crisis Center for Victims of Violence** (March 1, 2018 – March 1, 2023, June 1, 2023 – June 1, 2028), a social service of the Sofia Municipality, awarded for management through a competitive process as a state-delegated activity;
5. **Legal Clinic for Women and Children Victims of Domestic Violence** (August 12, 2022 – August 11, 2024), a social service of the Sofia Municipality
6. **“Zona Zakrila” Community Support Center** (April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2028, funded by the Sofia Municipality;

PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ISSUES

7. **“Maintenance of a Resource Center to Expand the ‘Zona Zakrila’ Child Advocacy Center in Bulgaria”** (June 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025), funded by UNICEF
8. **“Key to Protection in Western Bulgaria,”** (January 10, 2025 – July 9, 2026), part of the INSPIRE initiative: Improving National Support for Prevention, Intervention, and Response to Violence Against Children, co-funded by the European Union and the Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation (WCIF).
9. **“Women’s Voices in Support of the Law,”** (January 9, 2025 – July 9, 2026), funded by the Bulgarian Women’s Fund under the program “Strong – Feminist Solidarity to Counter Gender-Based Violence,” implemented with the financial support of the European Commission

VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION

10. **“Ensuring timely and high-quality integrated support for child victims of violence and their parents in Sofia, Kyustendil, Yambol, and Varna” – EQUIP**, (June 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025), funded by UNICEF

PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

11. **SAFE HUT** – (April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2025), funded by AMIF

12. **Regional Response to Trafficking in Persons Ukraine Crisis** (October 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026), funded by the U.S. Department of State

13. **“Podslon” Academy of Life in Services**, (August 1, 2024 – August 1, 2025), funded by Fantastico Group Ltd. through the “Fantastico to You” Program Fund 2024

14. **SIS-Hubs — A Space for Inclusion and Support for Migrant Women and Girls through Community Programs** (September 1, 2025 – August 30, 2027), an international initiative aimed at supporting and protecting vulnerable women and girls at risk of trafficking, violence, and exploitation, co-funded by the European Union through the Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund

15. **RESILIA: Mental Health Support and Empowerment of Migrant Women in Vulnerable Situations**, (October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2028), funded by the European Union

16. **Trafficked on the Move – Early Identification and Support for Victims of Trafficking and Labor Exploitation**, (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027), funded by the European Union

17. **WISE Support for the socio-economic integration of Ukrainian refugee women**, (April 10, 2025 – October 10, 2026), funded by the European Social Fund Agency.

18. **Provision of individual and group psychological and psychosocial support to refugees and asylum seekers** (January 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026), with financial support from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

19. **STAR – Support for organizations working with children and vulnerable groups, including refugees, to develop and successfully implement policies for the protection and prevention of sexual exploitation in accordance with UNICEF standards** (August 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025), Funded by UNICEF Bulgaria

TRAINING CENTRE

20. **Activities of the Training Center of the Animus Association Foundation** (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025)

DIRECT WORK WITH VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Maintenance of the National helpline for victims of domestic violence – 02/981 76 86; 0800 18 676



Under a grant agreement, Reg. No. 58/June 18, 2024, effective June 19, 2024, concluded
with the Council of Ministers

Contract implementation period: **June 19, 2024 – June 19, 2025**

VIVACOM

Under a grant agreement, reg. No. MC 40/June 20, 2025, effective June 20, 2025, concluded
with the Council of Ministers

Contract duration: **June 18, 2025 – June 18, 2026**

The service **“Operation of a National Helpline for Victims of Domestic Violence – 02 981 76 86; 0800 18 676”** has the following objectives:

- to maintain round-the-clock operation of the helpline, including on weekends and holidays;
- providing counseling and support to victims of violence;
- providing a specialized legal hotline once a week;
- providing six specialized four-hour psychological hotlines each month;
- referral to agencies and social services throughout the country that can assist victims.

The target groups addressed by the project are:

- women, men, and children who have experienced violence, as well as their relatives;
- counselors at the National Helpline for Victims of Domestic Violence.

The main project activities were:

- 24-hour operation of the National Helpline for Victims of Domestic Violence 02/ 981 76 86/0800 18 676;
- providing consultations via email;
- A virtual chatbot providing real-time advice on the most frequently asked questions received by the hotline.

Results achieved for the period January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025:

- A total of 2,913 phone calls were conducted, including 1,795 consultations with survivors of violence. Of these, 1,542 were consultations with survivors of domestic violence.
- 121 phone consultations with a lawyer were conducted regarding the rights of victims under the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act.

- 66 email consultations were conducted with victims of violence.
- A campaign was conducted to recruit new counselors, and a 5-day intensive training session was held from December 1, 2025, to December 5, 2025, to introduce new team members to their work.
- During the reporting period, regular group supervision sessions were held twice a month, and team meetings were held once a month to organize the workflow.

In 2021, a total of 2,289 calls were recorded on the line; in 2022, 2,394; in 2023, 2,821; and in 2024, 2,412. Compared to 2024, a higher number of calls—2,913—were recorded in 2025. Regarding calls related to domestic violence, the following numbers were recorded: in 2021 – 1,587, in 2022 – 1,695, in 2023 – 1,842, in 2024 – 1,534, and in 2025 – 1,542. A decrease was reported in the percentage of consultations regarding domestic violence—from 65.3% in 2023 to 63.6% in 2024, and to 52.93% of all calls in 2025.

On October 1, 2025, the helpline marked its 28th anniversary. To date, its counselors have conducted over 53,000 conversations with victims and their loved ones seeking help and support.



Complex for social services for children and families Community Support Centre

January 19, 2023 - January 19, 2028

A Sofia Municipality social service allocated for management following a competition as a state-delegated activity

In 2025, the Community Support Center (CSC) provided services to 307 clients in 256 cases. The breakdown of clients by gender is as follows: 121 men and 176 women. Of the clients, 144 were children, including 79 girls and 65 boys; 163 are adults, comprising 112 women and 51 men, distributed as follows: parents—109, adoptive parents—41, and close relatives—13.

Based on the analysis of referrals for 2025, our conclusion is that the trend continues of frequent instances of a formal preliminary needs assessment and referral of children and parents with special educational needs from the Social Assistance Agency to services, without a thorough examination of the request, the difficulty, and the clients' expectations, and without accounting for risks.

Despite the challenges, the team of specialists is satisfied with the planned results achieved for both parents and their children. Approximately 90% of the services provided to clients have yielded good results.

The results achieved are also largely due to the monthly advanced training sessions conducted for the team throughout the year.

In the analysis to determine the reasons for failing to achieve about 10% of the planned results for parents and children, we found the following:

The reasons for failing to achieve the planned results with parents are due to their sometimes low social and economic status, which proves to be an obstacle to carrying out quality work on the cases (e.g., in cases of domestic violence, the mother cannot take measures to stop it, due to economic dependence and an inability to care for her children on her own), as well as deficits in the parents' personal development, inconsistency in child care, severely strained relationships in separated families, and the fact that very often only one parent is referred to use a service, etc.

For children, the main problem in failing to achieve the planned results is a lack of motivation for change and neglecting the use of social services. In these situations, they miss many of the scheduled appointments. Some lack self-control skills, and the results achieved are variable over time.

A review of the Quality System for the provision of social services was conducted, and it was found that the planned activities are being implemented and are having a positive effect.

The results show an improvement in the effectiveness of the service in response to the needs of the users. The results of our teamwork and high professionalism were not long in coming, and today we can confidently confirm the sustainability of the services we offer and the trust placed in us by the children, families, and our partners.



Complex for social services “Mother and Baby”

January 19, 2023 – January 19, 2028

A Sofia Municipality social service allocated for management following a competition as a state-delegated activity

In 2025, the unit handled cases involving 15 mothers and pregnant women and 12 children (8 boys and 4 girls). The total number of mothers and children served during the year was 27. Of these, 10 were foreign nationals with 10 children, and 7 were Bulgarian nationals with 8 children.

With a unit capacity of 10 mothers and children, statistics for the period from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, show:

- Admitted from the previous year and continuing into the new year—7 mothers with 8 children, one of whom is pregnant. The mother gave birth at the ZMB and currently continues to use the service. One of the mothers admitted from the previous year, a foreign national, gave birth in May 2025 and currently also continues to use the service.
- New admissions during the year – 10; One mother who was pregnant gave birth in August 2025. She is a minor. One mother is a pregnant minor who is due to give birth at any moment.
- Terminated placements – for 10 clients and 10 children. In 5 of the cases – fully successful reintegration into the community. In 2 of the cases, these were pregnant women who left the service before giving birth. For one of them, for medical reasons, it was necessary to place the newborn in a foster family. The second, still a minor and pregnant, is living on her own with the biological father's family.

During the year, a project under the “Fantastico to You” program was implemented. It established various interest-based workshops, for which materials and equipment were purchased. The mothers participated in various activities (sewing and tailoring, art therapy, planting and caring for organic fruits, etc.). The mothers received support in acquiring life skills, in pursuing a profession, and in receiving even better preparation for parenthood.

During the year, with the help of donor organizations, the children's playroom was completely renovated for group and individual activities and consultations on various issues—social, medical, psychological, and others.

For 2025, it can be summarized that despite the difficulties, the many crisis situations, and the challenges faced by the ZMB team, thanks to their high level of professionalism and

dedication to their work, we can take pride in having successfully provided assistance and support to our clients and effectively protected the interests of all children.



Crisis Centre "St. Petka" **with priority for women and children victims of domestic violence**

June 1, 2023 – June 1, 2028

Social service of Sofia Municipality, provided for management by competition as a state delegated activity

The "St. Petka" Crisis Center is the first facility in Sofia to provide shelter for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. The service is primarily available to victims of domestic violence from Sofia and the Sofia region. The Crisis Center's round-the-clock operation enables timely support, which in some cases is life-saving. The Crisis Center is a well-established and community-based service that provides assistance and support to people in crisis due to violence. This is a service whose organization effectively helps clients who have turned to the center to emerge from this state and to recover and reintegrate. To a large extent, the focus of the work is on coping and recovery through the provision of psychological assistance in the form of crisis intervention and psychosocial work. Providing this type of service in combination with a multidisciplinary approach to the problem is of great importance for ensuring the legal protection of clients and the realization of their human rights.

Statistics regarding cases of domestic violence in 2025 indicate a higher number of service users compared to previous years.

The trend continues that victims of domestic violence who turn to the Crisis Center for help and support are in a difficult socioeconomic situation. There has been an increase in cases of clients who have debts from one or more payday loans, as well as those with frozen bank accounts and unpaid health insurance premiums, which makes it difficult to find employment outside the informal economy.

Alongside financially complex cases, there is also an increase in cases involving alcohol and drug abuse. An increase in addiction among the population is observed not only among perpetrators of violence but also among its victims. This leads to a number of difficulties in handling such cases, due to the refusal of individuals suffering from addiction to enter treatment programs, as well as a lack of sufficient available beds in specialized medical and psychiatric facilities.

A positive trend for 2025 is emerging toward improving communication and cooperation among institutions involved in addressing cases of domestic violence and victims of trafficking. Thanks to the joint efforts of the crisis center, the Social Assistance Directorate, regional police departments, municipalities, and others, a number of complex cases were successfully resolved—an outcome that would have been impossible without the combined efforts of the working teams.



Community support centre “Zona ZaKmila”

April 1, 2023 – April 1, 2028



Ten years ago, with the support of UNICEF Bulgaria, the “Zona Zakmila” Children’s Advocacy and Support Center was established—a place that provides protection and specialized assistance to children who have experienced violence, as well as to their parents. The center operates on an integrated model that brings together psychologists, social workers, legal professionals, and attorneys into a unified service providing comprehensive care, counseling, and legal protection.

The mission of “Zone of Protection” is to empower children who have experienced violence without them having to bear the heavy consequences of the trauma or feel threatened by new aggression or violence.

The center provides continuous support and advocacy throughout the entire case management process—from the moment a report of violence is received and the investigation begins until the recovery process is completed—and operates in the following areas:

- ☐ Providing protection
- ☐ Access to justice and mental health services

The main services provided at the center are: information and counseling, therapy, advocacy and mediation, skills training, and community work. These include the following activities:

- ☐ Crisis intervention when an urgent response is needed.
- ☐ Assistance with medical examinations and access to necessary healthcare.
- ☐ Psychological counseling and therapy aimed at overcoming trauma and the consequences of violence.
- ☐ Preparation for a child’s court appearance and conducting an interview and hearing in a specialized “Blue Room” for trauma-informed interviews to avoid further traumatizing the child during the investigation and judicial process, while protecting their rights and best interests and ensuring the collection of complete and accurate information regarding the case
- ☐ Prevention.

In 2019, an external independent evaluation of the activities of “Zone ZaKriLa” was conducted. The evaluation indicated that the model aligns with the national priorities of the Bulgarian government and is oriented toward the needs of children and families in Bulgaria.

According to the study, 100% of the children reported that “Zone ZaKriLa” helped them feel better and overcome violence and trauma, while 86% of parents reported that the centers made it easier for their child to receive help and practical support.

Since April 2023, the “Zona ZaKriLa” Children’s Center for Advocacy and Support has been a state-delegated activity under the Sofia Municipality and is now a Public Support Center, ensuring the sustainability of the model and broad access to the service.

Over the past 10 years, 1,174 children and their families have received support, going through processes of recovery and building a new beginning. “Zona Zakrila” has established itself as a key partner to institutions and professionals involved in child protection.

The model, initially established in Sofia, Shumen, and Montana, is now implemented in a total of 11 regions across the country. Services based on the model are also provided in Kyustendil, Yambol, Varna, Vidin, Burgas, Plovdiv, Pazardzhik, and Stara Zagora, with this expansion serving as an example of sustainable development and the dissemination of effective practices in support of children.

In 2025, the “Zone of Protection” model was recognized as a best practice.

In 2025, the Agency for the Quality of Social Services (AQSS) launched its annual procedure for the application, evaluation, selection, and approval of best practices for high-quality and effective social services. The goal was for these to serve as a model and guide for service providers and their staff, as well as to draw attention to new models and approaches in social services that have proven effective and practically applicable.

The “Zona ZaKila” Community Support Center was recognized and promoted as an effective, working best practice and model in the field of social services, with clear and measurable results for the service users it supports.

Results Achieved for 2025

Over the past year, we have observed a steady trend of increasing numbers of new cases at the “Zone for Protection” Community Support Center, which is linked to the effective utilization of the service’s capacity and its promotion.

The expertise and professionalism of the team ensure the quality of the work.

☐ 153 children, parents, and relatives benefited from psychological counseling and therapy.

☐ The team at the “Zona zaKila” Community Support Center in Sofia conducted non-confrontational interviews and facilitated access to non-confrontational legal procedures for 6 children.

☐ 2,122 people were reached through the “Community Work” service via the participation of psychologists and social workers from the “Zone for Protection” Community Support Center team in various forums on the topic of child abuse and in working meetings on child protection and violence prevention.

Feedback from clients indicates the effective use of the service’s capacity.

The main quality criteria are satisfaction and a tangible improvement in their life situation, which has occurred thanks to the support provided and the efforts made.



Legal clinic (with priority for women and children victims of domestic violence)

January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

A social service of the Sofia Municipality, awarded through a competitive bidding process as a state-delegated activity

The social service “Community Support Center (with a focus on women and children who have experienced violence)” – Legal Clinic (CSC – Legal Clinic) is a state-delegated activity provided under a public-private partnership agreement between the Animus Association Foundation and the Sofia Municipality. The service provides timely, specialized legal and psychological assistance to individuals who have suffered from domestic and gender-based violence, including the provision of free legal aid in civil and/or criminal proceedings. The activities of the CSC – Legal Clinic are aimed at safeguarding the rights and best interests of victims through coordinated interaction with the Ministry of Interior, district and regional prosecutors’ offices and courts, the National Legal Aid Bureau, the Social Assistance Directorates, and the Child Protection Departments, as well as with health institutions and non-governmental organizations, with the aim of taking effective measures for protection and a sustainable exit from the situation of violence.

For the period January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025, the total number of individuals who sought support from the Community Support Center – Legal Clinic amounted to 153. Of these, 138 clients were consulted, with 131 receiving legal consultations during 213 meetings. Legal assistance was provided in 11 criminal proceedings related to domestic and gender-based violence, including cases involving child victims, as well as to 37 clients in civil proceedings. During the reporting period, 43 applications were filed under the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act, with all requests for immediate protection orders granted and 14 permanent protection orders issued by the courts of first instance. Psychological support was provided to 141 clients, with crisis intervention applied during the initial contact in 80% of these cases, and a total of 564 sessions with a psychologist and/or social worker were conducted during the year. Additionally, 4 clients benefited from the “Skills Training” social service to support their recovery and social reintegration.

In 2025, the team at the CSC – Legal Clinic carried out consistent and targeted advocacy work to improve the legislative framework and institutional practices for the protection of victims of domestic violence. Through active participation in working groups, expert forums, inter-institutional formats, and NGO coalitions, significant results were achieved, including the

withdrawal of high-risk legislative proposals and the strengthening of coordination among the institutions involved. Particular emphasis was placed on establishing the integrated “one-stop shop” support model as a standard, as set forth in Directive (EU) 2024/1385, as well as on its practical significance in the process of transposing European requirements into national legislation. The team’s efforts contributed to a more informed public and professional debate, expanded access to timely legal assistance, and introduced uniform standards for coordination through the Coordination Mechanism for Assistance and Support to Victims of Domestic Violence.

**PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ISSUES**

Maintaining a resource center to expand the services provided by the "Zona Zakrila" Children's Advocacy and Support Center in Bulgaria



1 June 2024 – June 30, 2025

With financial support from UNICEF



The project is a continuation of the initiative “Development of a Resource Center to Expand the Services of the ‘Zona ZaKmila’ Children’s Advocacy and Support Center in Bulgaria” and aimed to support the sustainable expansion of the model in three regions—Varna, Kyustendil, and

Yambol. The main focus was on an advocacy campaign with key stakeholders at the regional and national levels, as well as on raising public awareness.

A variety of activities were carried out within the project, including media appearances, presentations, and meetings. Expert meetings were held in Yambol and Kyustendil, as well as three specialized training sessions for professionals working under the “Safe Zone” model. Multidisciplinary seminars were also organized with the participation of representatives from various institutions to improve coordination and the effectiveness of collaborative work.

Throughout the project period, the teams at the three centers received ongoing methodological support and supervision aimed at enhancing professional skills and addressing challenging cases. Topics covered mentalization, attachment theory, working with parents, and ethical aspects of practice. Additionally, capacity-building activities were conducted for the FAA team.

All planned activities and outcomes were successfully implemented, and the project concluded on June 30, 2025.

The Key to Protection in Western Bulgaria

January 10, 2025 – July 9, 2026

part of the INSPIRE initiative: Improving National Support for the Prevention, Intervention, and Response to Violence against Children, and is co-funded by the European Union and the Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation (WCIF).



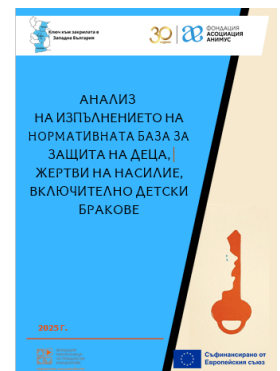
The mission of the project is to contribute to the effective protection of children from all forms of violence by strengthening and sustainably developing prevention and response mechanisms within the child protection system. The project aims to build a sustainable and coordinated system in which institutions and professionals actively cooperate so that every report of violence against a child is identified, examined, and addressed in a timely and adequate manner.

In 2025, the foundations were laid for work to improve the protection of children from violence in the regions of Sofia-city, Blagoevgrad, and Vratsa. The first project activity included the systematic collection and analysis of information regarding the implementation of legislation related to the protection of children who have suffered violence.

As a result of the study, an [Analysis of the Implementation of the Legal Framework for the Protection of Child Victims of Violence](#) was prepared, including in cases of child marriage. The analysis reviewed legislation, institutional practices, and specific cases in the three regions, making it possible to identify key systemic gaps and areas needing improvement.

In summary, the analysis shows that despite the existence of a regulatory framework, the child protection system remains fragmented, largely reactive, and constrained by institutional and resource deficits.

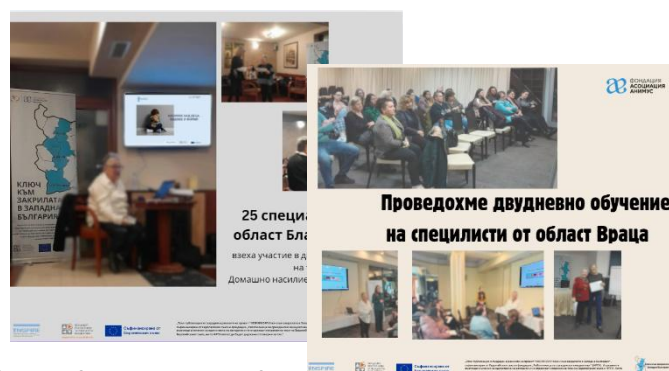
Based on the findings, working meetings were held with relevant institutions and specialists, during which the main conclusions and recommendations were presented in the three regions.



At the same time, lectures were delivered to a total of 341 students from humanities and social science programs at universities in Sofia, Blagoevgrad, and Vratsa. The lectures aimed to increase future professionals' sensitivity to the issue of violence against children and to help them recognize their role as future specialists.



Two out of a total of five planned trainings were also conducted for professionals from social services and institutions, focusing on building a more integrated and effective response to cases of violence against children.



In the coming period, practical preventive exercises with students will be held, along with three additional trainings for professionals in Sofia and a final roundtable to present the results and encourage sustainable inter-institutional cooperation.

The project is guided by the vision of a society in which every child is protected from violence through coordinated efforts by institutions, professionals, and civil society organizations.

Women's Voices in Support of the Law

January 9, 2025 – July 9, 2026

Funded by the Bulgarian Women's Fund under the "Strong – Feminist Solidarity to Counter Gender-Based Violence" program, implemented with the financial support of the European Commission

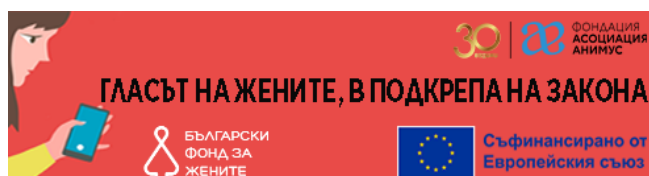


Co-funded by
the European Union

Main objective: The project aims to promote and facilitate the effective implementation of the regulatory framework in the field of gender-based violence prevention through the implementation of a comprehensive advocacy campaign; conducting an in-depth analysis of past and current cases from direct work with victims, as well as data related to the application and enforcement of relevant laws and regulations.

Throughout 2025, we worked actively to improve the institutional response to domestic violence and gender-based violence by combining expert work, advocacy, and public engagement.

One of our main focuses was raising awareness on the issue. We launched an information campaign on social media, through which we reached a wide audience with accessible and expert information on domestic violence, women's and children's rights, mental health, legislation, and protection mechanisms. Through sections with facts, questions and answers, as well as expert commentary, we encouraged more people to recognize violence and seek support.



At the same time, we continued our active advocacy work. We prepared dozens of statements on legislative initiatives, policies, and practices related to the prevention and countering of violence.

We also prepared a special analysis of the gaps in the institutional response to cases of domestic violence, in which we outlined systemic problems and proposed specific solutions for more effective protection of victims.

To support real policy change, we held a series of working meetings with representatives of institutions and partner organizations. The meetings were aimed at promoting legislative changes and the adoption of a Coordination Mechanism for Working on Cases of Violence, a key step towards better protection and interaction between systems.

As a continuation of this work, on November 25, 2025, we organized a National Conference entitled "The Voice of Women in Support of the Law" under the patronage of the Minister of Justice.

The event brought together representatives of institutions, experts, frontline specialists, and civil society organizations to discuss the implementation of the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act, the results of its application, and the challenges facing the system. Special emphasis was placed on the new Coordination Mechanism for Assistance and Support to Victims, which aims to improve inter-institutional coordination and more effective protection.

The conference provided a space for both expert analysis and the personal account of a woman who had experienced violence, which highlighted the need for a timely, sensitive, and coordinated institutional response. The event reaffirmed the importance of partnership between institutions and the civil sector in effectively combating violence against women.



All these activities throughout the year contributed to a more visible public debate, more active institutional dialogue, and more concrete proposals for improving protection against gender-based violence.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION

Ensuring the timely and high-quality integrated provision of support to child victims of violence and their parents in Sofia, Kyustendil, Yambol, and Varna – EQUIP in Bulgaria



July 1, 2025 – July 30, 2026

With financial support from UNICEF



In July, a new project was launched to expand the "Zone of Protection" model with financial support from UNICEF. The project aims to sustainably expand and strengthen the "Zone of Protection" model in three new regions—Varna, Kyustendil, and Yambol—through capacity building, inter-institutional coordination, and advocacy to improve services for children and families at risk.

In 2025, a number of key activities were implemented. A professional meeting was held with the child protection departments in Sofia, focused on capacity building and burnout prevention—an identified priority need within the system. Methodological support for the teams at the three community support centers continued in the form of supervision and thematic workshops tailored to the specific needs of the professionals. In addition, field visits were launched in all three target cities, aimed at gaining an in-depth understanding of the local context, collecting information on achieved results and identified needs, and jointly formulating goals for the further development of the model at the local level.

The activities carried out align with the priorities set out in the project document and lay the groundwork for conducting the planned regional multidisciplinary seminars and advocacy meetings in the coming period.

**PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES AND
MIGRANTS**

SAFE HUT – Safe spaces for empowering women and girls



April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2025

EU Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund
(AMIF-2022-AG-CALL-THB 101100732)



Thanks to the SAFE HUT project, a safe space for women and girls was created in Sofia on March 1, 2024.



**Безопасно пространство
за жени и момичета**
София

The "SAFE HUT – Safe Spaces for the Empowerment of Women and Girls" project concluded in March. During the first three months of the year, the Safe Space was visited by another 10 women, bringing the total number of women who have joined it to over 110 within its first year of operation.

The Safe Space is a place where women can engage in various activities and interact with one another. There, they recover emotionally, find community, support, and security. The Safe Space supports the healthy integration of migrant women by building resilience, empowering them, and caring for their emotional well-being.

Until the end of the project, all activities aimed at empowerment and the acquisition of new knowledge, skills, and social competencies continued.

For the future sustainable development of the Safe Space, Animus signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and the International Organization for Migration.

A working meeting was held with key institutions that can support the long-term development of the Safe Space. The aim of the meeting was to strengthen inter-institutional partnerships to ensure the sustainable development of the best practices created and implemented in the Safe Space, as well as the development of integration policies tailored to the specific needs of women migrant women, by reducing their vulnerability to abuse, exploitation, and human trafficking. The event was attended by the National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

(NCCTHB), the State Agency for Refugees (SAR), the Agency for Social Assistance (ASA), and international organizations— IOM, UNHCR, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and others.

The successful establishment of a Safe Space for women and girls in Bulgaria was presented at a final international conference in Athens.

The Safe Hut project is coming to an end, but the Safe Space continues to operate fully.

A Regional Response to Human Trafficking in the Context of the Crisis in Ukraine



July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026

U.S. Department of State

Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons



The project is being implemented in partnership with the Center for the Study of Democracy, the Dignita Foundation, and the Romanian non-governmental organization "People to People," under the leadership of the International Justice Mission's office in Romania.

The main objectives of the project are:

1. To improve the identification of trafficking victims and access in Romania and Bulgaria to trauma-informed support and protection services.
2. To integrate sustainable capacity-building for service providers to deliver trauma-informed psychosocial services; to reduce staff turnover among those working in services for victims of human trafficking, while utilizing existing structures to improve service quality.
3. To increase sustainable inter-institutional partnerships for better coordination to ensure effective, victim-centered investigation and prosecution.

The implementation of the project significantly improved the capacity of the Animus Association to assist victims of trafficking. In 2025, the Animus team worked on 12 new cases of human trafficking. Of these:

- 7 women and 5 men
- 2 minors (boys over 15) 10 individuals
- 9 cases of labor exploitation and 3 cases of sexual exploitation

As part of the National Mechanism for Referral and Assistance to Victims of Trafficking, Animus provides victims with immediate and unconditional support—housing, meeting material needs, psychological and social counseling, support during the (re)integration process (finding a job and housing), support with childcare, and legal assistance. An important part of our work is facilitating communication with law enforcement and criminal justice authorities. We insist that all parties involved in a case adopt an approach that is sensitive to psychological trauma and based on the best interests of the victims.

Thanks to the project, we are working to enhance the capacity of staff at shelters, crisis centers, and other services to handle difficult human trafficking cases. In 2025, we conducted two specialized trainings:

- “A Trauma-Informed Approach to Working on Trafficking Cases. Resilience of Professionals”
- “Resilience When Working in an Adverse/Hostile/Polarized Environment in the Context of Protecting Victims of Trafficking” with guest lecturer Milena Stateva

In May 2015, we conducted a training session on “A Holistic and Trauma-Informed Approach to the Identification, Protection, and Defense of the Rights of Trafficking Victims.” The seminar was attended by over 50 experts from Sofia and the Southwestern region of Bulgaria, which is known for a high concentration of trafficking cases due to its proximity to the Bulgarian-Greek and Bulgarian-North Macedonian borders. Participants included representatives from social services, local offices of the National Legal Aid Bureau, and bar associations. The event contributed to strengthening their cooperation for the effective support of victims of human trafficking.

We conducted a study on “Human Trafficking in Bulgaria in the Context of the Crisis in Ukraine” to provide us with information on which to base our planning of prevention and victim protection activities.

In 2025, we developed and added a new button in Ukrainian to the Platform for the Prevention of Human Trafficking and Support for Victims (NRM.BG). It contains important practical information on safe integration in Bulgaria and avoiding the risks of human trafficking and exploitation.

"Podslon" - Academy of Life in the Service Sector

August 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

funded by Fantastico Group Ltd. through the "Fantastico to You" Program Fund 2024

In the past 2025, the "Mother and Baby" unit in the first third of the year improved the quality of life of users and their children through a project implemented by the Social Protection Fund - "A Quiet Winter for Children and Mothers from the ZMB, St. Petka Community Center and St. Sofia Community Center".

In the second half of the year, the improvement of the quality of life and capacity of users continued through the awarded project "Academy of Life", to FANTASTICO GROUP Ltd., program FANTASTICO TO YOU.

The project is for one year, covers the two 24-hour services provided by the FAA - the Mother and Baby Unit and the St. Petka Community Center and aims to support mothers in the service, to prepare them for life outside it, by supporting them in overcoming the crisis, in increasing their self-esteem, in increasing their knowledge and skills, acquiring professions, competitiveness on the labor market and a new start in life after the social service. It is deployed in three directions: "School for Parents"; "Atelier by Interests" and "Eco-Economy".

In the "School for Parents" users are supported to overcome the crisis without consequences for them and the child. To believe in themselves and to build on themselves. To gain knowledge and skills for raising a child - nutrition, breastfeeding, diet, child development, mother-child relationship. Diseases, prevention, overcoming, treatment. Family planning. Partners without violence. Acceptance of the past and full steps into the future.

In hobby workshops, users improve their knowledge and skills in everyday life - cooking skills, art therapy through sewing, embroidery, do-it-yourself jewelry, skills to express feelings through drawing and working with plastic materials. They were given opportunities to complete their education or obtain a profession, etc. In eco-farming, through occupational therapy and improving their knowledge and skills, the land in front of the mother's entrance is cultivated, vegetables are grown in a greenhouse and outdoors - ecologically clean food for children and mothers, fruit trees and many flowers are planted.

SIS-Hubs — A space for the inclusion and support of migrant women and girls through community programs



September 1, 2025 – August 30, 2027



an international initiative aimed at supporting and protecting vulnerable women and girls at risk of trafficking, violence, and exploitation, co-funded by the European Union through the Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund



The SIS-Hubs project is an international initiative aimed at supporting and protecting vulnerable women and girls at risk of trafficking, violence, and exploitation, co-funded by the European Union through the Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund (AMIF-2024-TF2-AG-THB-01/ Project No. 101198346). The project partners are: CESIE ETS – Italy (lead partner), Centro PENC – Italy, ZRS Koper – Science and Research Centre Koper – Slovenia, KMOP – Social Action and Innovation Centre – Greece, SOLWODI Deutschland e.V. – Germany, and the Animus Association Foundation – Bulgaria

The initiative aims to prevent and combat sexual exploitation, human trafficking, and gender-based violence. The main objective of the project is to improve support for migrant women and girls by creating a supportive women’s community, strengthening the professional capacity of specialists working with migrants, and promoting cross-sectoral cooperation.

The project is based on the idea of “sororité” (women’s solidarity)—building mutual support among women and among professionals who work with them. This approach creates conditions for better social integration, easier access to services, and more effective protection of the rights

of migrant women and girls. A dynamic map of available services for migrant women will be provided, which will assist both the women and the professionals.

One of the key activities in the project is the creation of multidisciplinary teams in each partner country. These teams bring together professionals from various fields—healthcare, social work, law, education, and ethnopsychology—who work together to identify risks, coordinate services, and support women and girls at risk of violence, exploitation, or trafficking.

Another key activity is the development of a training program and practical resource for professionals working on the front lines with migrant women and girls who are or may become victims of trafficking and violence. This program integrates knowledge from various sectors and provides practical guidelines for identifying, referring, and supporting survivors.

At the heart of the project is the creation of SIS-Hubs—women’s community spaces where meetings, trainings, mentoring programs, and mutual support initiatives among migrant women take place. These spaces encourage active community participation and create a safe environment for sharing experiences, building trust, and developing coping skills for migrant women in new or unfamiliar living environments.

Through all these activities, the project aims to build a sustainable model for cooperation between institutions, organizations, and communities that will improve the prevention of violence and exploitation and strengthen opportunities for the social integration and empowerment of women and girls.

RESILIA: Resilient Mental Health and Empowerment for Migrant Women in Vulnerable Contexts

1 October 2025 – 30 September 2028

EU4H-2024-PJ-03



Co-funded by
the European Union

In 2025, we are launching a new project addressing the mental health challenges faced by migrant and displaced women in vulnerable situations, including survivors of human trafficking and violence, as well as refugees and asylum seekers.

The main objective of RESILIA is to provide EU Member States with reliable knowledge, tools, and practices to improve mental health policies and systems for migrant women. By addressing structural barriers, stigma, and discrimination, the project promotes inclusive and prevention-oriented approaches in line with relevant EU policies and strategies. Its activities are based on research and active engagement with potential beneficiaries.

1) Enhancing Knowledge and Awareness

- Conducting comprehensive data collection and needs assessments across the five participating countries and beyond to identify structural barriers and inform evidence-based mental health policies.

2) Training and Capacity Building

- Delivering specialized training programs on trauma-informed approaches for psychologists, social workers in reception centers, social services and out-reach workers.
- Leveraging innovative, freely accessible online learning resources to strengthen professional capacities across the consortium.

3) Empowerment and Peer Support

- Providing structured psychological support and empowerment initiatives for vulnerable women.
- Facilitating the creation of peer-support networks to foster community resilience.

4) Advocacy and Policy Development

- Developing evidence-based tools, guidelines, and policy recommendations to enhance trauma-informed mental health care.

5) Awareness and Outreach Campaigns

- Targeting policymakers, practitioners, the general public, and the target group to increase awareness, reduce stigma, and promote understanding of mental health challenges faced by migrant and displaced women.

The project is implemented by a consortium of experienced organizations from five countries: **Instituto Piaget – Cooperativa Parao Desenvolvim** (Lead Applicant) from Portugal, **La Strada International** from the Netherlands, **Animus Association Foundation** from Bulgaria, **Mission d'Intervention et de Sensibilisation Contr** and **Comité Contre l'Esclavage Moderne** from France, and **PAG-ASA** from Belgium.

In the initial months of the project, we commenced support for several challenging cases involving women from third countries.

Trafficked en route – early identification and support to victims of human trafficking for labour exploitation along migration routes

1 July 2025 – 30 June 2027

AMIF-2024-TF2-AG-THB



Co-funded by
the European Union

In 2025, we are launching a new project aimed at addressing the hidden and under-researched issues of labor exploitation affecting third-country nationals traveling along migration routes to and within Europe. The project will investigate and analyze various exploitative practices, including fraudulent recruitment, illegal posting of workers, forced mobility, and deceptive job advertisements. Over the next two years, a consortium led by **FairWork** (Netherlands), together with the **Animus Association Foundation** (Bulgaria), **La Strada Foundation Against Human Trafficking and Slavery** (Poland), **Fundación de Solidaridad Amaranta** (Spain), **Associação para o Planeamento da Família** (Portugal), and **La Strada International** (Netherlands), will examine how refugees and migrants moving through Europe can be better protected.

Trafficked en Route aims to improve the early identification and effective support of (potential) victims of labor trafficking along migration routes in Europe. To achieve this, the project will:

- **Raise awareness and empower people at risk** through targeted campaigns, informational materials, and training programs.
- **Identify emerging migration routes and specific needs** by engaging directly with affected individuals and analyzing real-life cases.
- **Strengthen cross-border collaboration** among organizations and institutions through training, meetings, and joint publications.
- **Highlight severe forms of labor exploitation** and advocate for stronger, more effective legislation.

During the first months of the project, we supported individuals seeking or granted protection from Africa and the Middle East, as well as people with temporary protection from Ukraine.

WISE – Supporting Ukrainian Refugee Women’s Socio-Economic Integration



April 10, 2025 – October 10, 2026

European Social Fund Agency
(ESF-SI-2024-UA-01-0032 – WISE)



Animus Association Foundation continues its work with women refugees in Sofia — this time through the WISE project, a European initiative bringing together mental health support, employment counselling, and social services under one roof.

Building on What We Started

SAFE HUT · 2023–2025 · EU AMIF Fund

WISE is a natural continuation of our SAFE HUT project (2023–2025, EU AMIF Fund), through which we opened Sofia's Women and Girls Safe Space in March 2024. In less than a year, 90 women visited the space, 85 activities were held, and nine women found employment. WISE builds directly on that foundation — adding a structured employment and integration pathway to the psychosocial support we have long provided.

About the WISE Project

WISE — Women's Integration through Socio-Economic support is an 18-month EU-funded project bringing together six organizations from Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Bulgaria. In Sofia, Animus Association Foundation operates a Holistic Support Centre within our Women and Girls Safe Space: a one-stop-shop where Ukrainian refugee women access mental health support, employment guidance, social assistance, and community activities — all delivered in their native language by our bilingual team of psychologists and cultural mediators.

What We Did in 2025

For the 157 women who registered with us, we provided one-to-one case management, individual psychological support, and employment counselling — including CV support, career guidance, and referrals to training and job placement services. Between June and December, we also held 27 group sessions covering psychosocial activities, cultural orientation, and employment rights.

STAR · UNICEF Bulgaria · co-financing from August 2025

From August 2025, the STAR project (Strengthening Access to Quality Services and Integration), funded by UNICEF Bulgaria, co-financed a number of our group and individual activities within the Holistic Support Centre — expanding our reach and strengthening our holistic approach.

Looking Ahead

In 2026, we will continue to build on the foundations laid in Year 1 — deepening our employment support offer, growing the number of women we support, and expanding our structured psychosocial support programme.

The thread connecting SAFE HUT, STAR, and WISE is a single conviction: that women who have experienced displacement deserve not just safety, but the opportunity to rebuild their lives with dignity, on their own terms.

Provision of individual and group psychological and psychosocial support to refugees and asylum seekers

January 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026

Funded by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees /RFQ/2024-15/BGR/



The project addresses the growing humanitarian needs in Bulgaria resulting from the war in Ukraine and the increased influx of asylum seekers from other countries. As of 2024, the country has granted temporary protection to over 192,000 Ukrainian refugees, with approximately 62,000 remaining in the country, and Bulgaria continues to play a key role as an external border of the EU.

Analyses indicate significant challenges, particularly in the area of mental health, where a large proportion of refugees experience psychological difficulties but face serious barriers to accessing services—lack of information, language and cultural differences, and limited coverage of costs. The project aims to improve the mental health and psychosocial well-being of refugees and asylum seekers by providing comprehensive services at the community and individual levels. Key activities include group and individual psychosocial support, establishing mutual aid groups, and conducting information campaigns.

The expected outcome is increased access to quality services, strengthened community resilience, and improved mental well-being among the target groups.

“STrengthening Access to quality services and integration for Ukrainian and other third country nationals women and girls Refugees (STAR)

August 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Financed by UNICEF Bulgaria



The STAR project aims to improve access to quality, inclusive and gender-sensitive services for Ukrainian refugee women and girls, as well as other third-country nationals (TCNs) in Bulgaria.

The project builds on Animus Association Foundation’s extensive experience in providing psychosocial support, GBV services and integration support. It includes



direct service provision through a Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS) and capacity-building for professionals working with vulnerable populations.

An important aspect of the project is its synergy with the WISE project, funded by ESFA. STAR contributes to and co-finances elements of WISE by supporting activities related to psychosocial support and empowerment of women and integration.

The main objectives of the project are:

- Improve access to safe, inclusive and culturally appropriate services
- Strengthen psychosocial wellbeing and empowerment of women and girls
- Support integration through information, skills and community engagement
- Build capacity of professionals on PSEA, GBV and child safeguarding

During the reporting period, the WGSS was successfully continued and became more operational.

Information Laaha-based group activities: 21 sessions with 73 participants (68 women and 5 minors), focusing on psychosocial wellbeing, confidence building, cultural orientation, labour rights, and creative workshops. These activities supported empowerment, inclusion, and community building.

Individual support: Individual support: 94 participants (83 women and 11 minors) were registered with the project and accessed different forms of support according to their needs, including consultations and referrals. Within this group, 23 women received individual support, and 6 children were supported in accessing education services.

Capacity Building

STAR strengthened the capacity of professionals working with vulnerable groups through trainings and workshops on PSEA, GBV, and child safeguarding. In total, 40 professionals were trained, including hotline and child protection staff.

In its initial implementation phase, STAR strengthened access to essential services for refugee women and children, supported community-based psychosocial work, and reinforced professional capacity within the protection system. The project established a solid foundation for continued development and impact in the following period.



TRAINING CENTRE

Activities of the Training Centre at Animus Association Foundation

January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025



Since 2000, the training program of the Animus Association Foundation has been restructured into a Training Center that develops courses and training programs in three areas:

- Ø Training programs for professionals to prepare them to work with children and families at risk, including those who have experienced violence. The programs are aimed at teams from government institutions (ASP/OZD, DAZD, MVR), teams from non-governmental organizations and their services, as well as volunteers and students.;
- Ø Community work (prevention, advocacy, media relations);
- Ø Organizational consulting.

The goal of the training center at the “Animus Association” Foundation is to disseminate, at the national and regional levels, a model of best practices in working with survivors of violence.

In 2025, the following were conducted:

2 clinical-theoretical seminars at the Center for Social Services for Children and Families on the topic: “Mentalization”

1 multidisciplinary training session in Kyustendil on the topic: “Integrated Assessment in Cases of Child Abuse”

1 specialized training session on the topic: “Summary of Key Concepts in Psychodynamic Theories of Childhood and Adolescence.”

Conducting a clinical-theoretical seminar for the CSPS team on the topic: Attachment Theory

Conducting a seminar for the “Zone of Protection” team on the topic: “Working with the Parental Couple”

Participation in training to disseminate the working model of the “Zone of Protection” Center on the topic: “Exercise and Practical Application of the Acquired Methodologies.”

Conducting a seminar on the topic: “Ethical Issues in Practice: Microprocesses and ‘Micro’ Ethics. PART II” with the Sofia City Social Services Directorate

Conducting a seminar with the “Zone of Protection” team on the topic: Ethical Issues in Practice: Microprocesses and “Micro” Ethics.

Conducting a seminar on “Identification Processes in Trauma” with the Sofia Center for Social Services.

Conducting a seminar on “Identification Processes in Trauma. Part II” with the Sofia Center for Social Services.

Conducting group supervision with the team of the “For Hope” Foundation.

Conducting a seminar on “The Psychological Understanding of Trauma” with the Sofia Center for Social Services for Children and Families (CSF).

Conducting a reading seminar on trauma and its impact on personality development with the Yambol and Kyustendil Community Support Centers, as well as the “For Hope” Foundation in Sliven.

Clinical-theoretical seminar on the topic: “Transgenerational Trauma. Language Confusion.” with the team of the “Zona Zakrila” Community Support Center

Professional meeting between representatives of the “Animus Association” Foundation, “Zona Zakrila,” and the “Social Assistance” Directorates in Sofia to improve collaboration and share best practices in working on specific cases.

Training on: Working with Trauma with the teams of the “Zona Zakrila” Community Support Center and the Center for Social Services for Children and Families

Supervision of the “Mother and Baby Unit” team on the topic: “The Challenges Faced by Children Who Have Babies”

Seminar on the topic: “Model and Methods for Psychological Assessment” with the CSPA team

Seminar on the topic: “Language Confusion. Transgenerational Trauma” with the team of the “Smile” Community Support Center in Varna

1 training session for volunteers of the National Hotline for Victims of Violence 0800 186 76

3 training sessions for the SOS Kinderdorf team on the topics: Training of trainers for working with prospective adoptive parents; Working with children who have experienced violence and working with victims of domestic violence

1 lecture-discussion with the “UDUARD BULGARIA” team on topics they specified

1 training session on the topic: A holistic and trauma-informed approach to the identification, protection, and defense of the rights of trafficking victims

1 training session for the FAA team—Working in a hostile environment

1 training session for professionals in Blagoevgrad and Vratsa on the topic: Domestic violence and child abuse

2 training sessions for the SACP team on the topic: “Creating a safe environment in counseling work. Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse: risk factors, measures, and policies”

10 prevention lectures for students from Sofia University, New Bulgarian University, the Faculty of Social Work, South-West University, and Vratsa Technical University on the topic of child abuse

1 training session for professionals from across the country on the topic: “Standards and principles for working with children, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and gender-based violence”

5 student internships from Sofia University

38 students completed their mandatory internship at the Foundation’s services

4 supervision sessions for the Samokov Community Support Center team

6 supervision sessions for the Yambol Community Center team

Regarding the **Training Center** for 2025:

294 supervision sessions were conducted, involving specialists from the Center for Counseling, Psychotherapy, and Psychoanalysis, the Complex for Social Services for Children and Families, the “St. Petka” and “St. Sofia” Crisis Centers, and the Hotline for Survivors of Violence.

We will continue to work effectively and conduct training sessions next year as well.

“ANIMUS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION” 2025 STATISTICS

A total of 5917 persons have benefitted from the programs and services provided by Animus Association Foundation in 2025.

1. Center for consultation, psychotherapy and psychoanalysis and “Zona ZaKrila” – **360 clients**
2. “St. Petka” Crisis Center for survivors of domestic violence – **45 clients**
3. Complex for Social Services for Children and Families – Community Support Centre – **297 clients**
4. Mother and Baby unit – **27 clients**
5. National hotline for survivors of violence – **2913 consultation**
6. Community Support Center: Legal Clinic for Women and Children Who Are Victims of Domestic Violence - **153 persons**
7. **Community work in social services – 2122 persons**
8. Training centre and prevention activities

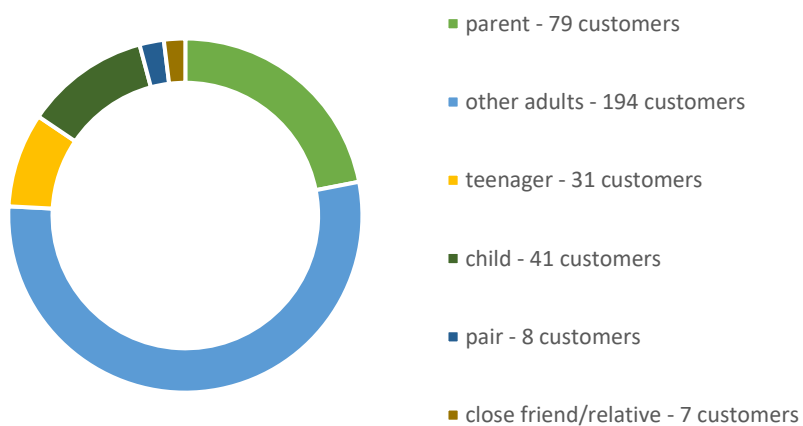
1. STATISTICS FOR CENTER FOR CONSULTATIONS, PSYCHOTHERAPY AND PSYCHOANALYSIS AND “ZONA ZAKRILA”

TOTAL – 360 clients

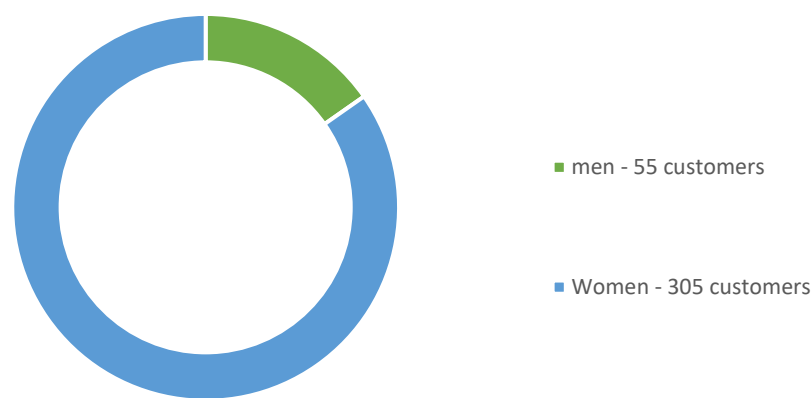
Tab. 1. Distribution of clients according to the type of programme



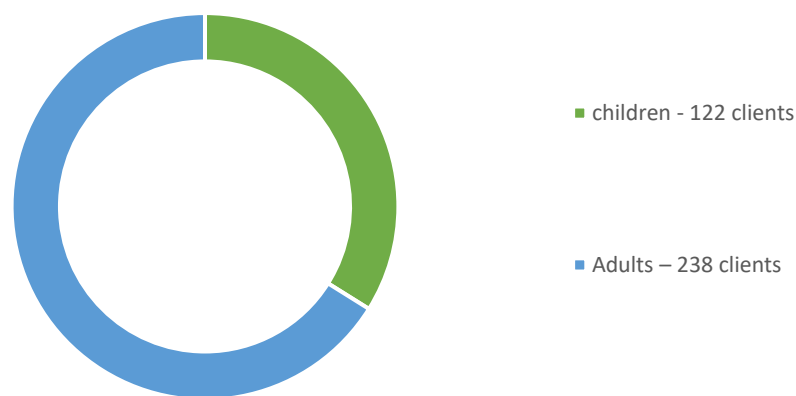
Tab. 2. Distribution of clients across the counseling, psychotherapy, and psychoanalysis programs and the empowerment program.



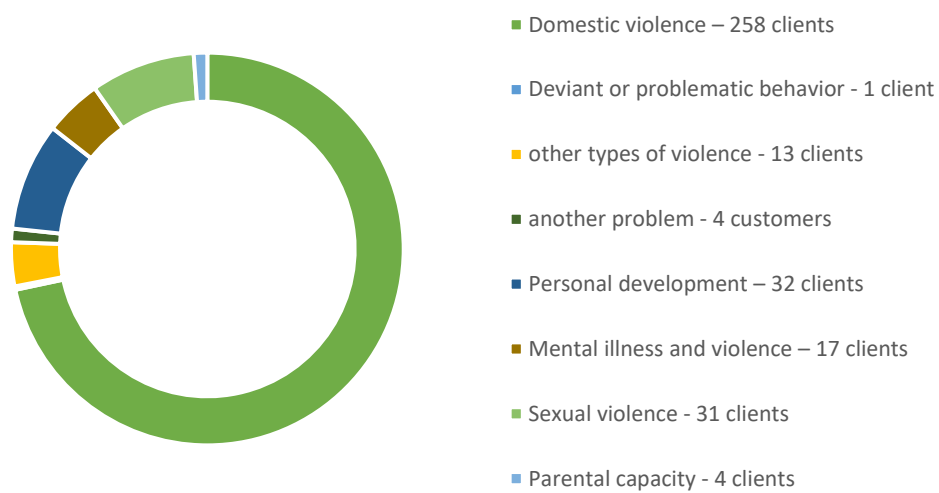
Tab. 3. Distribution of clients by sex



Tab. 4. Distribution of clients by age



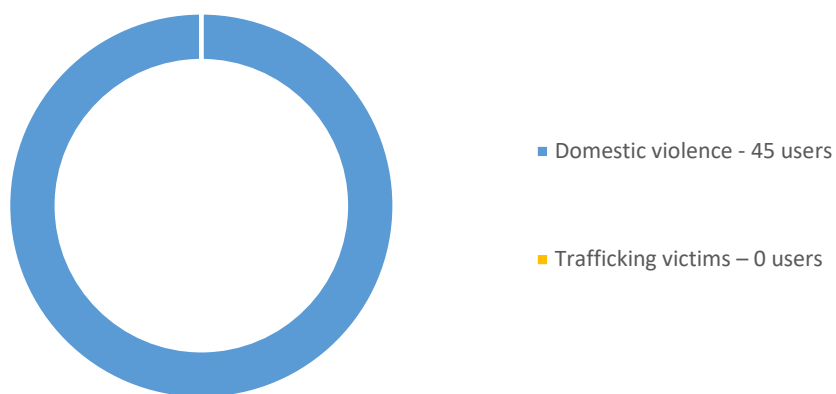
Tab. 5. Distribution of clients by the type of problem



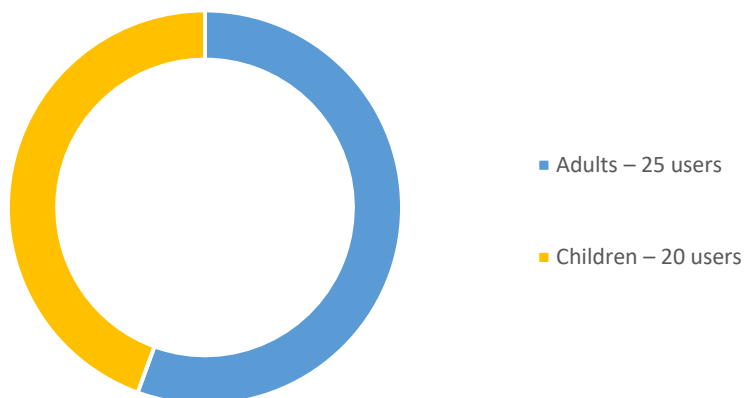
2. STATISTICS FOR “ST. PETKA” CRISIS CENTER FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Total – 45 accommodated clients

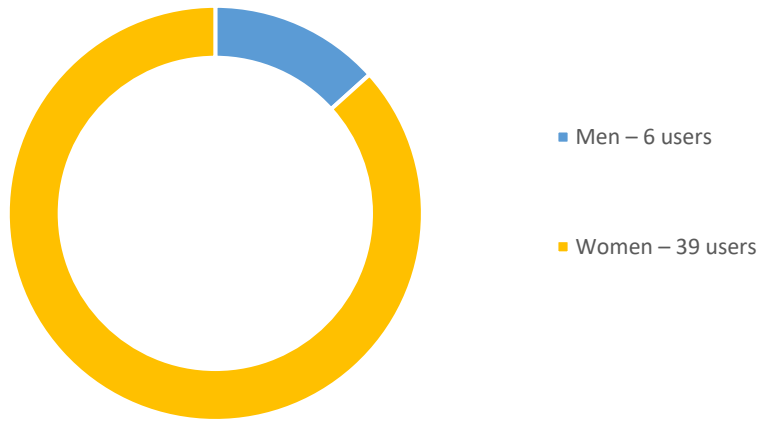
Tab. 6. Distribution of clients by type of problem



Tab. 7. Distribution of clients by age



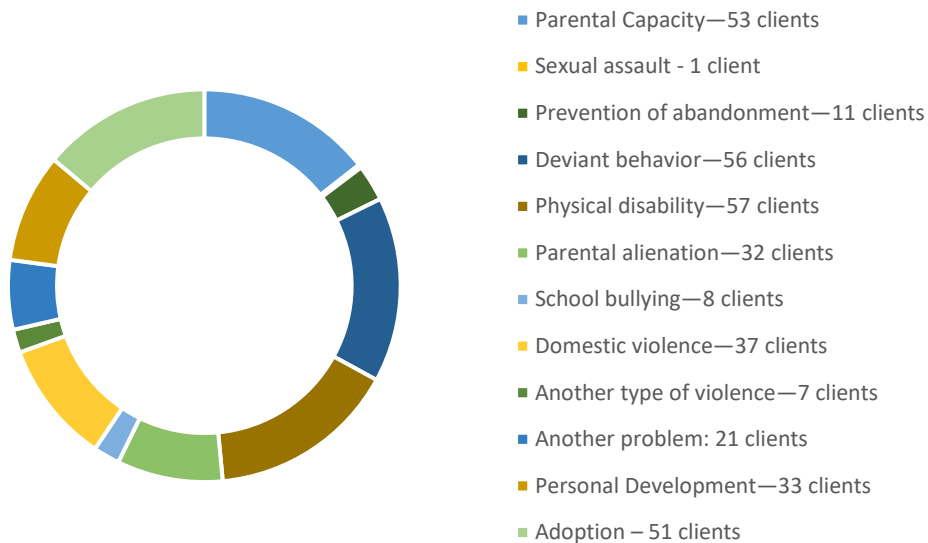
Tab. 8. Distribution of clients by sex



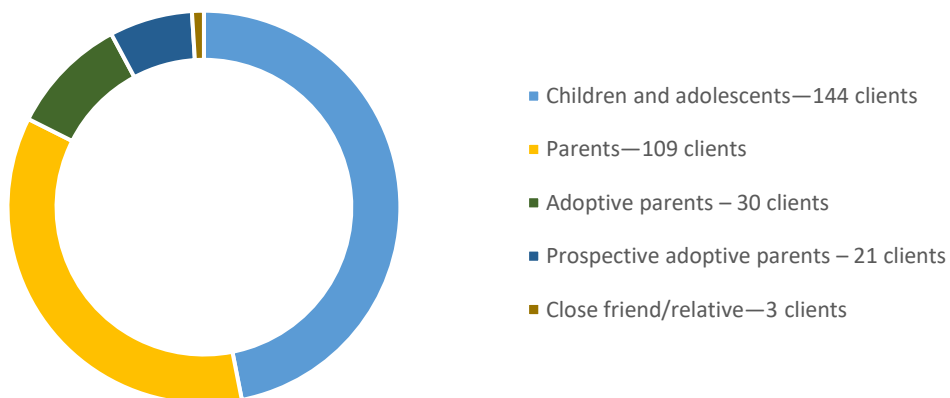
3. COMPLEX FOR SOCIAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTER

Total – 297 clients

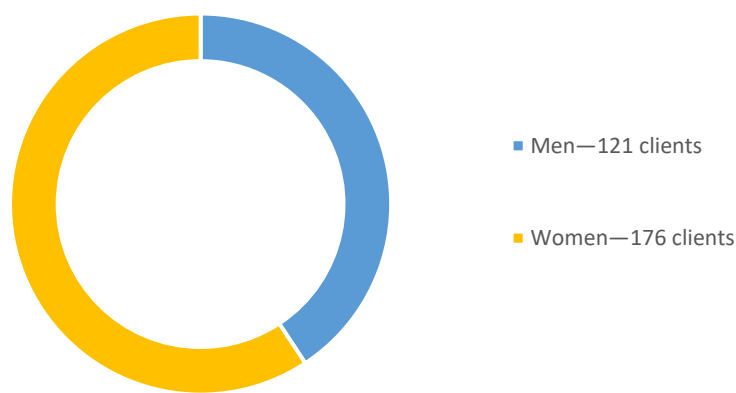
Tab. 9. Distribution of clients according to the type of problem



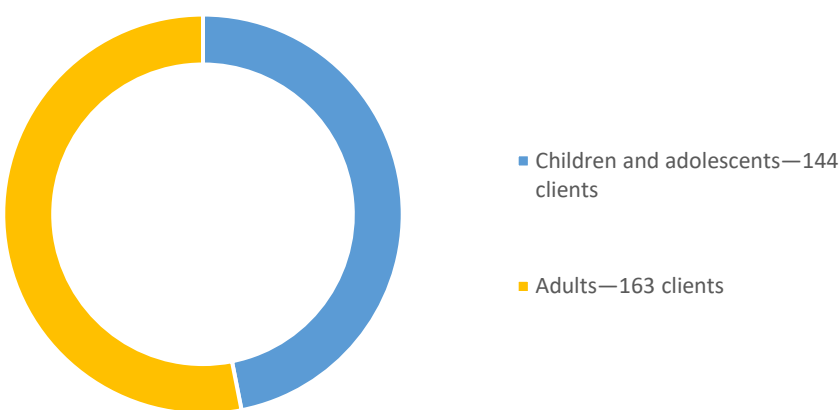
Tab. 10. Distribution by type of clients



Tab. 11. Distribution of clients by sex



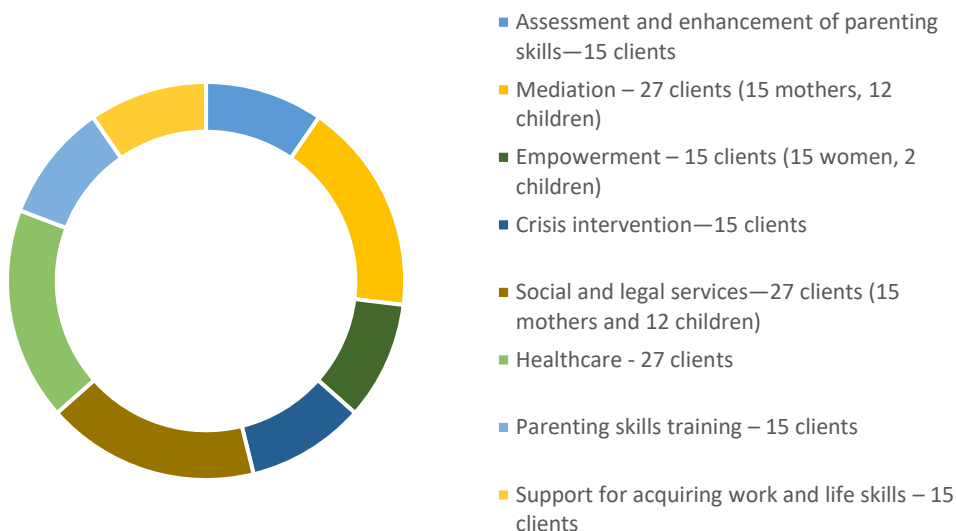
Tab. 12. Distribution of clients by age



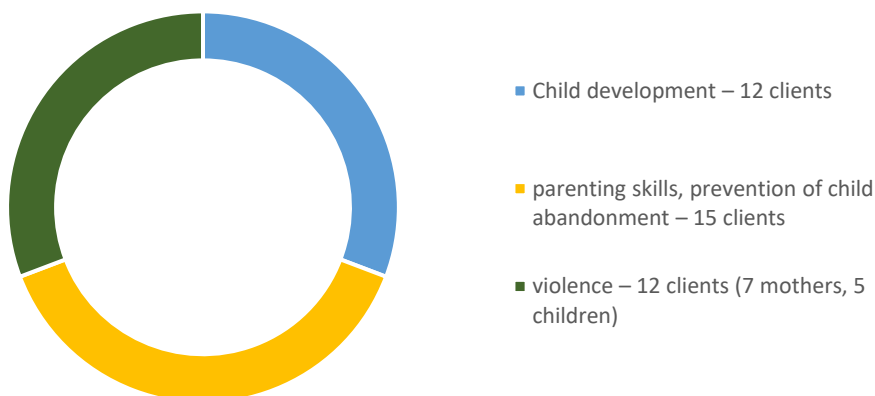
4. STATISTICS FOR MOTHER AND BABY UNIT OF THE COMPLEX FOR SOCIAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Total – 27 clients

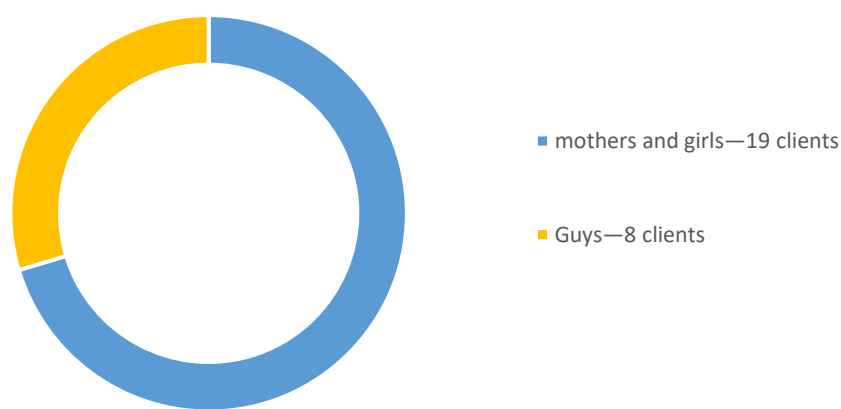
Tab. 13. Distribution of clients according to the type of service



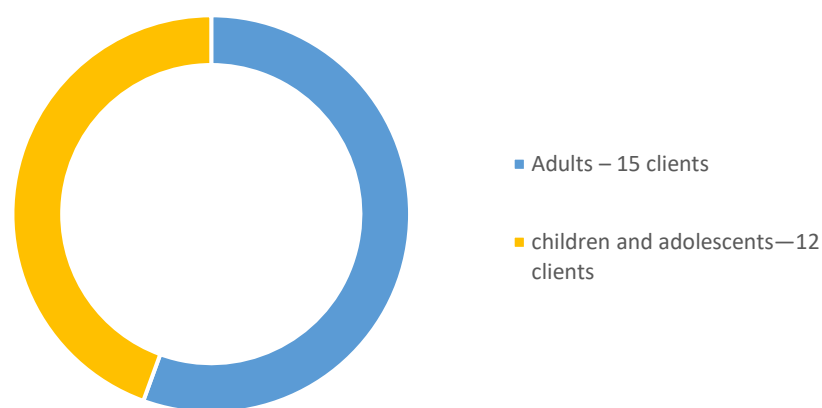
Tab. 14. Distribution of clients according to the type of problem



Tab. 15. Distribution of clients by sex



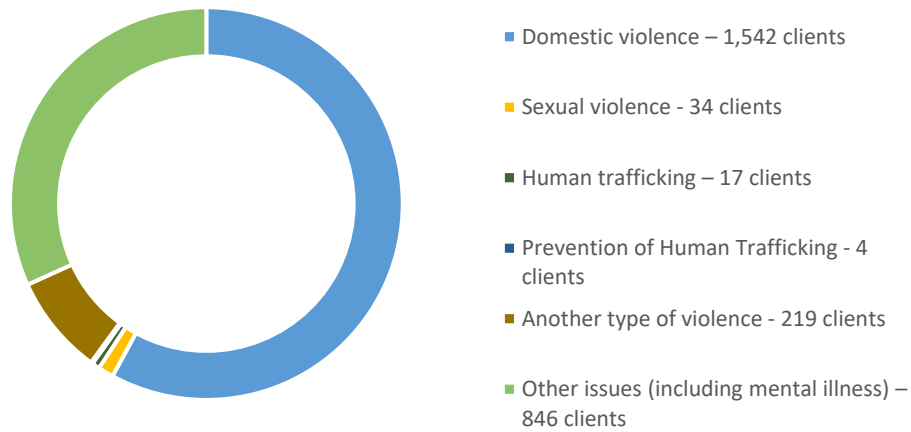
Tab. 16. Distribution of clients according to age



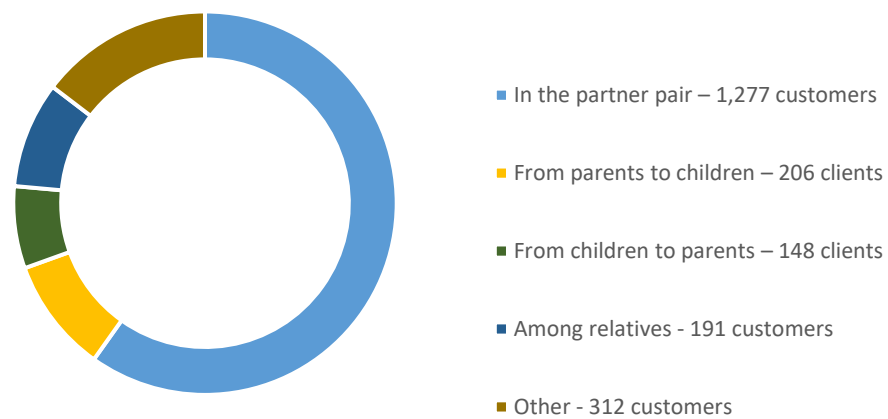
5. STATISTICS OF THE NATIONAL HOTLINE FOR SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE

Total – 2913 consultations

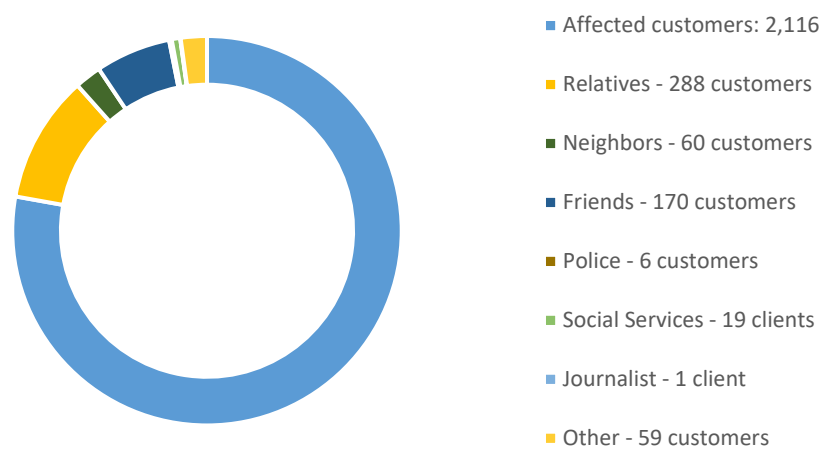
Tab. 17. Distribution of clients according to the type of problem



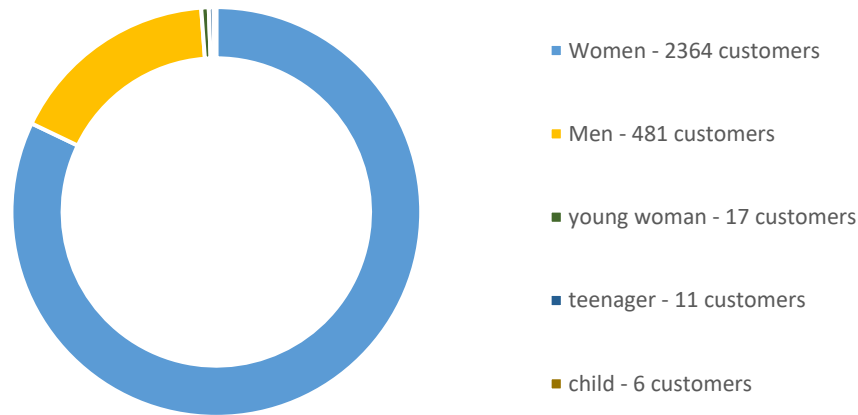
Tab. 18. Distribution of clients according to the type of domestic violence



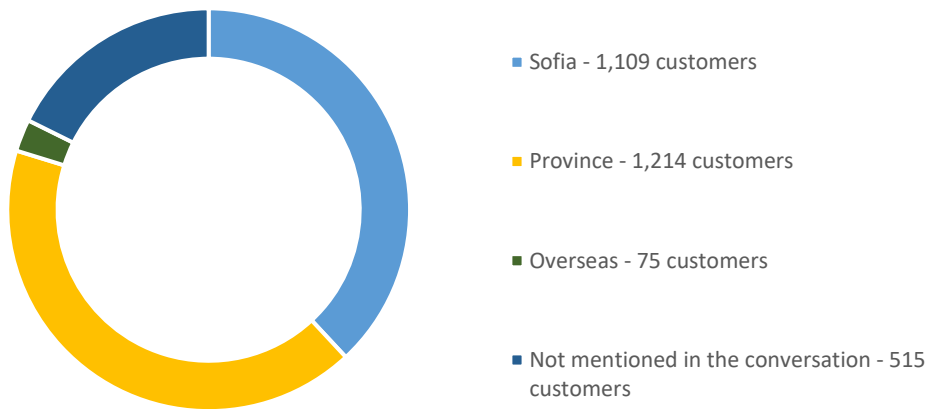
Tab. 19. Distribution of consultations according to the type of caller



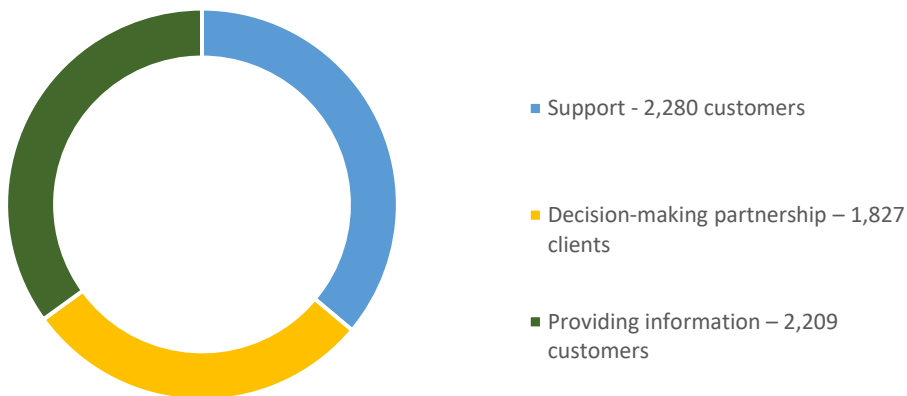
Tab. 20. Distribution of clients according to sex



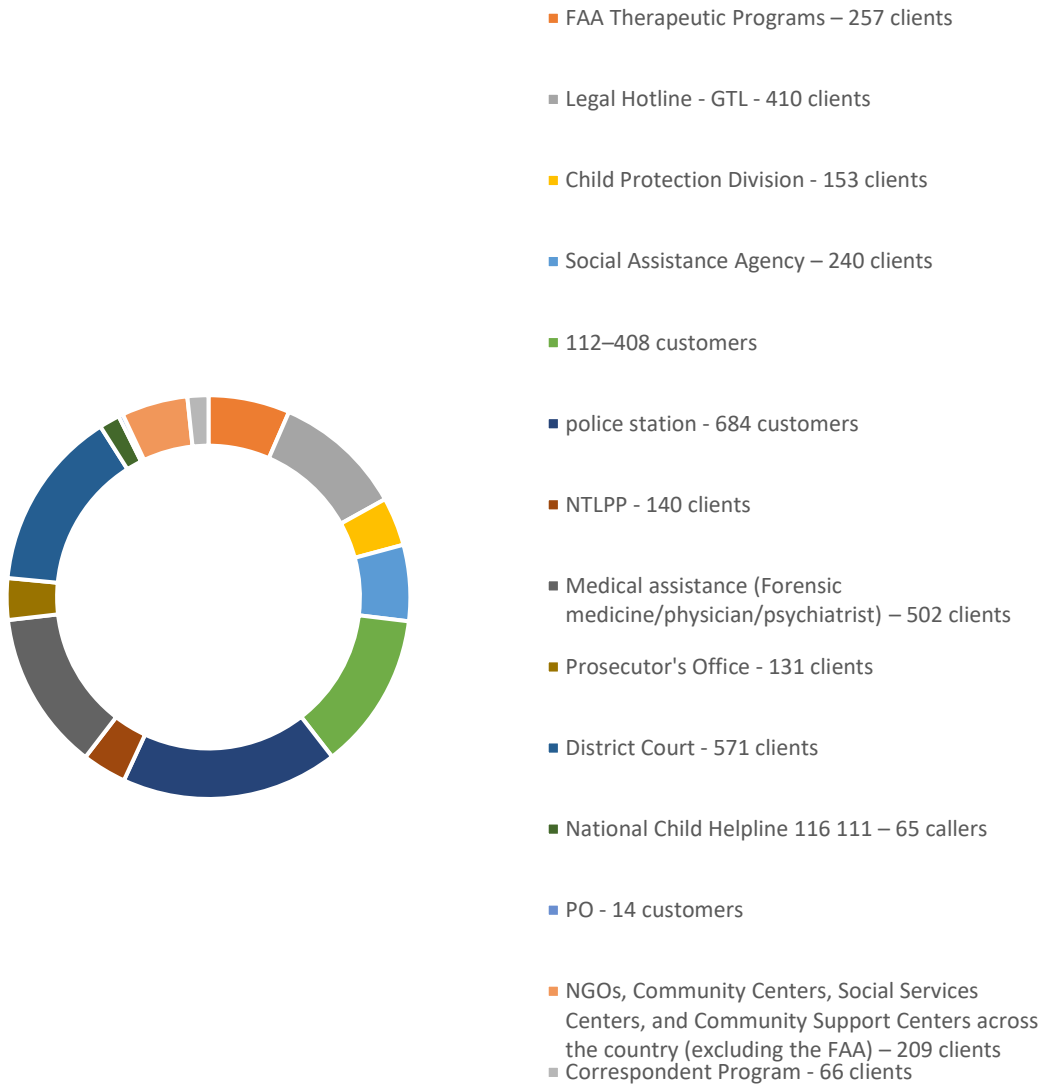
Tab. 21. Distribution of callers according to the place of residence



Tab. 22. Distribution of clients according to the type of support provided



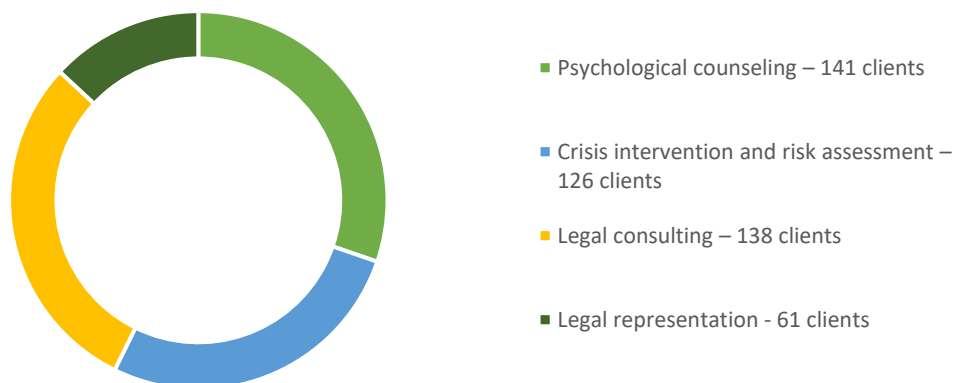
Tab. 23. Distribution of clients according to the type of the call



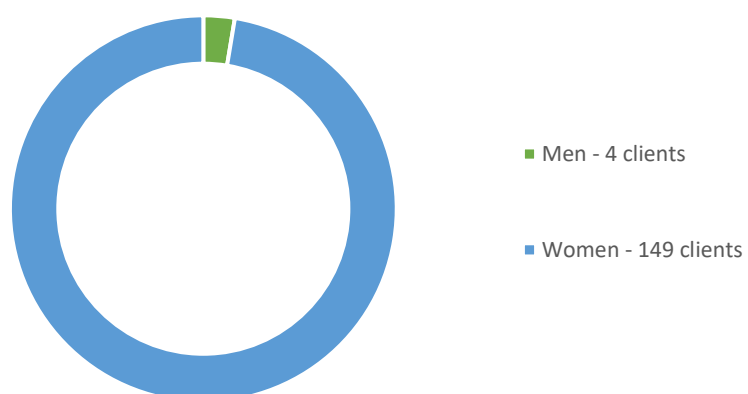
6. LEGAL CLINIC FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Total – 153 clients

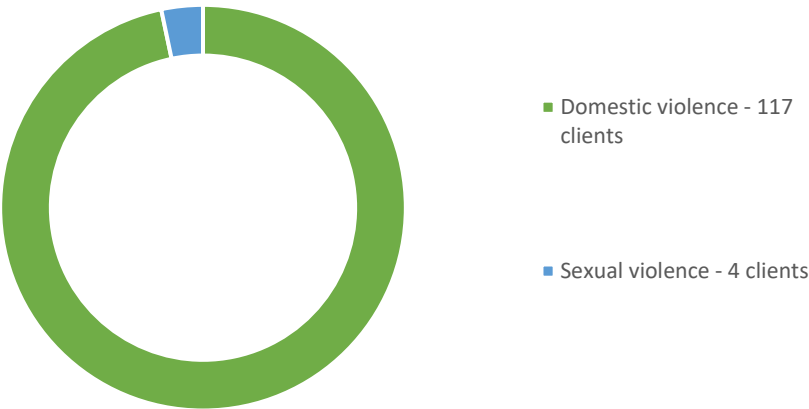
Tab. 24. Distribution by type of support



Tab. 25. Distribution of clients according to sex

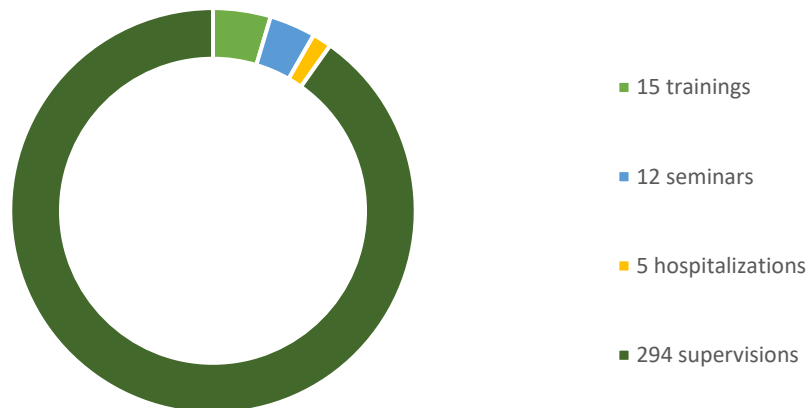


Tab. 26. Distribution of clients according to the type of problem



7. TRAINING CENTRE STATISTICS

Tab. 27. Distribution of activities



In 2025, the following were conducted:

2 clinical-theoretical seminars at the Center for Social Services for Children and Families (CSSCF) on the topic: “Mentalization”

1 multidisciplinary training session in Kyustendil on the topic: “Integrated Assessment in Cases of Child Abuse”

1 specialized training session on the topic: “Summary of Key Concepts in Psychodynamic Theories of Childhood and Adolescence.”

Conducting a clinical-theoretical seminar for the CSAC team on the topic: Attachment Theory

Conducting a seminar for the “Zone of Protection” team on the topic: “Working with the Parental Couple”

Participation in training to disseminate the working model of the “Zone of Protection” Center on the topic: “Exercise and Practical Application of the Acquired Methodologies.”

Conducting a seminar on the topic: “Ethical Issues in Practice: Microprocesses and ‘Micro’ Ethics. PART II” with the Sofia City Social Services Directorate

Conducting a seminar with the “Zone of Protection” team on the topic: Ethical Issues in Practice: Microprocesses and “Micro” Ethics.

Conducting a seminar on “Identification Processes in Trauma” with the Sofia Center for Social Services.

Conducting a seminar on “Identification Processes in Trauma. Part II” with the Sofia Center for Social Services.

Conducting group supervision with the team of the “For Hope” Foundation.

Conducting a seminar on “The Psychological Understanding of Trauma” with the Sofia Center for Social Services for Children and Families (CSF).

Conducting a reading seminar on trauma and its impact on personality development with the Yambol and Kyustendil Community Support Centers, as well as the “For Hope” Foundation in Sliven.

Clinical-theoretical seminar on the topic: “Transgenerational Trauma. Language Confusion.” with the team of the “Zona Zakrila” Community Support Center

Professional meeting between representatives of the “Animus Association” Foundation, “Zona ZaKmila,” and the “Social Assistance” Directorates in Sofia to improve collaboration and share best practices in working on specific cases.

Training on: Working with Trauma with the teams of the “Zona ZaKmila” Community Support Center and the Center for Social Services for Children and Families

Supervision of the “Mother and Baby Unit” team on the topic: “The Challenges Faced by Children Who Have Babies”

Seminar on the topic: “Model and Methods for Psychological Assessment” with the CSPA team

Seminar on the topic: “Language Confusion. Transgenerational Trauma” with the team of the “Smile” Community Support Center in Varna

1 training session for volunteers of the National Hotline for Victims of Violence 0800 186 76

3 training sessions for the SOS Kinderdorf team on the topics: Training of trainers for working with prospective adoptive parents; Working with children who have experienced violence and working with victims of domestic violence

1 lecture-discussion with the “UDUARD BULGARIA” team on topics they specified

1 training session on the topic: A holistic and trauma-informed approach to the identification, protection, and defense of the rights of trafficking victims

1 training session for the FAA team: Working in a hostile environment

1 training session for professionals in Blagoevgrad and Vratsa on the topic: Domestic violence and violence against children

2 training sessions for the SACP team on the topic: “Creating a safe environment in counseling work. Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse: risk factors, measures, and policies”

10 prevention lectures for students from Sofia University, New Bulgarian University, the Faculty of Social Work, South-West University, and Vratsa Technical University on the topic of child abuse

1 training session for professionals from across the country on the topic: “Standards and principles for working with children, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and gender-based violence”

5 internships for students from Sofia University

38 students completed their mandatory internship at the Foundation’s services

4 supervision sessions for the Samokov Community Support Center team

6 supervision sessions for the Yambol Community Center team

Regarding the Training Center for 2025:

294 supervision sessions were conducted, involving specialists from the Center for Counseling, Psychotherapy, and Psychoanalysis, the Complex for Social Services for Children and Families, the “St. Petka” and “St. Sofia” Crisis Centers, and the Hotline for Survivors of Violence.

We will continue to work effectively and conduct training sessions next year as well.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**To the founders of
Animus Association Foundation
Sofia**

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Animus Association Foundation (the Foundation), which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2025 and the statements of income, equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2025 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with National Accounting Standards and Bulgarian legislation.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independent Standards) issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA Code), together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Bulgaria and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report Thereon

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the annual management report, prepared in accordance with Bulgarian Accountancy Act, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or whether our knowledge obtained in the audit may indicate that there is a material misstatement or otherwise the other information appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with National Accounting Standards and Bulgarian legislation, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs and Bulgarian Independent Financial Audit and Assurance of Sustainability Reporting Act will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of our audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management;
- conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern;
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In addition to our responsibilities for reporting under ISAs, described above in section "Information Other than the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report Thereon", regarding annual management report, we have performed the additional procedures contained in the Guidelines of the professional organisation of certified public accountants and registered auditors in Bulgaria - Institute of Certified Public Accountants (ICPA). The procedures on the existence, form and contents of the other information have been carried out in order to state whether the other information includes the elements and disclosures in accordance with Chapter Seven of Bulgarian Accountancy Act.

Statement Pursuant to Article 37, Paragraph (6) of Bulgarian Accountancy Act

Based on the procedures performed, we describe the outcome of our work:

- (a) the information in the management report is consistent with the financial statements for the same reporting period;
- (b) the management report is prepared in accordance with the applicable legal requirements; and
- (b) as a result of the acquired knowledge and understanding of the activities of the Company and the environment in which it operates, we have found no cases of material misrepresentation in the management report.

Mariy Apostolov
Managing partner

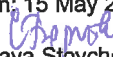
Silvia Dinova
Registered auditor responsible for the audit

Grant Thornton Ltd.
Audit firm, reg. №032

26.06.2026
Bulgaria, Sofia, 26, Cherni Vrah Blvd.

**Balance Sheet
as of 31 December 2025**

SECTIONS, GROUPS, ITEMS	Note	BGN '000		SECTIONS, GROUPS, ITEMS	Note	BGN '000	
		Current year	Previous year			Current year	Previous year
a		1	2	a		1	2
A. Non-current (long-term) assets				A. Equity			
I. Intangible Assets				I. Reserves			
1. Other non-current (long-term) assets	3.1.	66	77	1. Other reserves		843	843
Total Group I:		66	77	Total Group I:		843	843
II. Long-term tangible assets				B. Liabilities			
1. Lands and buildings incl.:		167	190	1. Liabilities to suppliers, incl.:		-	8
- land	3.1	40	40	up to 1 year		-	8
- buildings	3.1	127	150	2. Other liabilities, incl.:	3.5.	14	19
2. Machinery, industrial equipment and appliances		22	32	up to 1 year		14	19
3. Equipment and others	3.1	2	4	- liabilities to employees, incl.:		-	3
Total Group II:		191	226	up to 1 year		-	3
III. Long-term financial assets				- liabilities for social security, incl.:		-	4
1. Investments in controlled entities	3.2	17	17	up to 1 year		-	4
Total Group III:		17	17	- tax liabilities, incl.:		9	9
Total Section A:		274	320	up to 1 year		9	9
B. Current assets				Total Section B, incl.:		14	27
1. Receivables on projects	3.3	28	83	up to 1 year		14	27
2. Receivables from group entities	3.10	19	4	C. Financing and deferred income, incl.			
3. Other receivables		3	2	- financing	3.6.	545	280
Total Group I:		50	89	Total Section C, incl.:		545	280
II. Cash, incl:				up to 1 year		135	28
- cash in hands		3	4	over 1 year		410	252
- cash in current bank accounts		1 075	737				
Total Group II:	3.4	1 078	741				
Total Section B:		1 128	830				
TOTAL ASSETS (A+B)		1 402	1 150	TOTAL LIABILITIES (A+B+C)		1 402	1 150

Date of compilation: 15 May 2026
Compiled by: 
/ Stanislava Stoycheva /

Executive directors:

/Nadezhda Stoycheva/
/ Mariya Tchomarova /

Auditor's report issued on 26.06.2026

Mariy Apostolov, Managing partner
Silvia Dinova, Registered auditor responsible for the audit
Grant Thornton OOD, audit firm, Reg. № 032

Notes 1 through 6 to the financial statements are an integral part thereof

Income statement
For the year ended 31 December 2025

EXPENSES	Note	BGN'000		REVENUE	Note	BGN'000	
		Current year	Previous year			Current year	Previous year
		1	2			1	2
a				a			
I. Expenses				I. Revenue			
A. Expenses for regulated activity				A. Revenue for regulated activity			
1. Donations		15	34	1. Income from donations under condition		3 294	2 905
2. Other expenses	3.7.	3 310	2 880	2. Income from donations without condition		31	39
Total Section A:		3 325	2 914	3. Other income		53	48
B. Administrative expenses	3.8.	111	99	Total Group I:		3 378	2 992
Total Group I:		3 436	3 013	II. Dividend income		67	-
II. Financial expenses				III. Total revenue		3 445	2 992
1. Negative differences from exchange rate translation		2	1				
2. Other costs of financial operations		7	6				
Total Group II:	3.9.	9	7				
III. Total expenses		3 445	3 020				
IV. Result		-	(28)				
Grand total /III+IV/		3 445	2 992	Grand Total /III/		3 445	2 992

Date of compilation: 15 May 2026
Compiled by: *Stanislava Stoycheva*
/ Stanislava Stoycheva /

Executive directors:

Nadezhda Stoycheva
/ Nadezhda Stoycheva /
Mariya Tchomarova
/ Mariya Tchomarova /

Auditor's report issued on *26.06.2026*

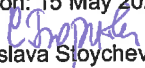
Mariy Apostolov, Managing partner
Silvia Dinova, Registered auditor responsible for the audit
Grant Thornton OOD, audit firm, Reg. № 032

Notes 1 through 6 to the financial statements are an integral part thereof

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 December 2025

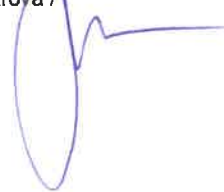
Cash flow description	Note	Current period	Previous period
a	1	2	3
I. Cash at the beginning of the period		741	240
II. Cash flow from non-profit activity			
A. Receivables from non-profit activity			
1. Received donations under condition		3 654	2 762
2. Received donations without condition		31	39
3. Other cash flows		68	6
Total cash flow from non-profit activity		3 753	2 807
B. Payables for non-profit activity			
1. Employee compensation payments		(2 017)	(1 781)
2. Social security obligations		(564)	(507)
3. Bank and foreign currency transactions		(9)	(6)
4. Services		(612)	(591)
5. Other payments		(214)	(264)
Total payments for non-profit activity		(3 416)	(3 149)
C. Net cash flow from non-profit activity		337	(342)
III. Cash flows from operating activities		-	-
A. Receivables from operating activities		-	-
B. Payables for operating activities		-	-
B. Net cash flow from operating activities		-	-
IV. Cash at the end of the period	3.4.	1 078	741
V. Changes in cash during the period		337	(342)

Date of compilation: 15 May 2026

Compiled by: 
/ Stanislava Stoycheva /

Executive directors:

/Nadezhda Stoycheva/ 

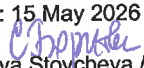
/ Mariya Tchomarova / 

Auditor's report issued on 26.06.2026

Mariy Apostolov, Managing partner
Silvia Dinova, Registered auditor responsible for the audit
Grant Thornton OOD, audit firm, Reg. № 032

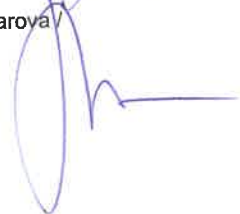
Statement of equity
For the year ended 31 December 2025

Items	Other reserves	Current Profit/Loss	Total Equity
a	1	2	3
1. Balance at the beginning of the reporting period	843	-	843
2. Financial result for the current year	-	-	-
3. Balance at the end of the reporting period	843	-	843
4. Equity at the end of the reporting period	843	-	843

Date of compilation: 15 May 2026
Compiled by: 
/ Stanislava Stoycheva /

Executive directors:

/Nadezhda Stoycheva/ 

/ Mariya Tchomarova / 

Auditor's report issued on 26.06.2026

Mariy Apostolov, Managing partner
Silvia Dinova, Registered auditor responsible for the audit
Grant Thornton OOD, audit firm, Reg. № 032

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 General information

Animus Association Foundation (the Foundation) was established in 1997 by a decision of 17.04.1997 and by a decision of 23.05.2001 on the grounds of Art. 18 of the Non-profit Legal Entities Act. The seat and the address of management are 85 Ekzarh Yosif Str. In 2002 the Foundation was entered in the Central Register at the Ministry of Justice under № 016 / 18.02.2002 as a Foundation for Public Benefit Activities, UIC 121452127.

The Foundation has received the following licenses and certificates issued by the Agency for Quality of Social Services (AQSS):

- License №L-3129-226 / 14.05.2021, for the provision of social service "Information and counselling" - (GTL);
- License №L-3129-448 / 10.08.2021, for the provision of social service "Therapy and Rehabilitation";
- License №L-3129-449 / 10.08.2021, for the provision of social service "Information and counselling";
- License №L-3129-450 / 10.08.2021, for the provision of social service "Advocacy and mediation";
- License №L-3129-451 / 10.08.2021, for the provision of social service "Provision of shelter";
- License №L-3129-646 / 11.10.2021, for the provision of social service "Community Work";
- License №L-3129-647 / 11.10.2021, for the provision of a social service "Training for the acquisition of skills".

The Crisis Centre has issued the following certificates:

Certificate of registration of retail food establishment №0672/ 20.03.2012 with registration № 222500463 as a catering establishment.

Management

The governing bodies of the Foundation are the General Assembly, the Executive Directors, and the Honorary Council.

The foundation is represented by the executive directors Maria Tchomarova and Nadezhda Stoytcheva together and separately.

Subject of activity

The Foundation pursues general humanitarian goals and carries out the activities listed in the organization's Charter:

- to achieve gender equality in Bulgarian society;
- to develop accessible psychotherapeutic and related services that provide professional and competent assistance to those in need;
- to foster social attitudes of tolerance toward differences, respect for suffering, and zero tolerance for violence;
- to promote the values of psychodynamic psychotherapy;
- to contribute to the intellectual, professional, and spiritual development of women; to facilitate change within Bulgarian families and society;
- to develop and implement projects and programs related to supporting women and children; to promote understanding in society;
- to promote the advancement of women's status; to mediate between various state institutions and non-governmental organizations and to coordinate their efforts on issues of violence against women.

The foundation does not conduct operating activities.

The Foundation's employees as of 31.12.2025 r. are 76 people (31.12.2024 - 80 people), and the volunteer associates in 2025 are 35 (2024 r. - 30).

2 Accounting policy

2.1 Basis for the preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements of the Foundation have been prepared in accordance with the National Accounting Standards and the requirements of the Accountancy Act.

The financial statements are prepared in Bulgarian leva, which is the functional currency of the Company. All amounts are presented in thousands (BGN '000) (including comparative information for 2024), unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the going concern principle. The Foundation's management has analysed and assessed the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern based on available information for the foreseeable future and management expects that the Foundation has sufficient financial resources to continue its operational activities in the near future and continues to implement the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

2.2 Overall considerations

The significant accounting policies that have been used in the preparation of these financial statements are summarized below.

3 Notes

3.1. Non-current (long-term) assets as at 31 December 2025.

Asset group	Gross carrying amount of non-current assets				Depreciation			Carrying amount at the end of the period
	At beginning of the period	Additions/Disposals	At the end of the period (1+2)	At beginning of the period	Depreciation and amortization for the period	At the end of the period (4+5)		
a	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
I. Intangible assets								
1. Repair of building	78	-	78	(1)	(11)	(12)	66	
Total for group I:	78	-	78	(1)	(11)	(12)	66	
II. Long-term tangible assets								
1. Land and buildings, incl.:	619	-	619	(429)	(23)	(452)	167	
- lands	40	-	40	-	-	-	40	
- buildings	579	-	579	(429)	(23)	(452)	127	
2. Machinery, manufacturing equipment and apparatus	93	2	95	(61)	(12)	(73)	22	
3. Equipment and other	93	(1)	92	(89)	(1)	(90)	2	
Total for group II:	805	1	806	(579)	(36)	(615)	191	
III. Long-term financial assets								
1. Investments in subsidiaries	17	-	17	-	-	-	17	
Total for group III:	17	-	17	-	-	-	17	
Total non-current (long-term) assets (I + II + III)	900	-	901	(580)	(47)	(627)	274	
BGN '000								

BGN '000

3.4. Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 BGN'000	2024 BGN'000
Cash in banks and cash in hand:		
- BGN	117	417
- EUR	961	666
Cash and cash equivalents	1 078	1 083

3.5. Other payables

	2025 BGN'000	2024 BGN'000
Personal income tax liabilities	9	9
Sofia Municipality	5	3
Payables to employees	-	3
Social security payables	-	4
	14	19

As a non-profit organization, the Foundation is not subject to taxation under the Income Tax Act, except for income generated from business activities. There are no revenues from business activities in 2025.

3.6. Financing

	2025 BGN'000	2024 BGN'000
Financing for non - current assets	186	231
Received donations under condition	359	49
Total financing	545	280

Amounts received from domestic and foreign sources for the purchase of non-current assets are recognised as income to the extent of the current depreciation expense charged on the related non-current assets purchased with these financings.

The unspent amounts from conditional donations received are for the following projects: the Bulgarian Women's Fund in the amount of BGN 55 thousand, a project of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in the amount of BGN 35 thousand, UNICEF projects in the amount of BGN 21 thousand, the JTIP project in the amount of BGN 13 thousand, projects funded by the European Commission in the amount of BGN 225 thousand, and donations received from individuals in the amount of BGN 10 thousand.

In 2025 funding from individuals and legal entities, without conditions related to the Foundation's running costs, has decreased significantly.

3.7. Other expenses

	2025 BGN'000	2024 BGN'000
Cost of materials	(151)	(188)
Hired services expenses	(747)	(718)
Employee benefit expenses	(2 336)	(1 915)
Depreciation of non-financial assets	(47)	(29)
Other expenses	(29)	(30)
	(3 310)	(2 880)

The cost of the independent financial audit of the Foundation for 2025 amounts to BGN 3 thousand (2024 r.: BGN 3 thousand.).