



7th international EFJCA Conference



The Family Justice Center in Crete

The experience, the lessons, the challenges..

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#We stand With Women



- ✓ We Stand with any woman and girl – **No one alone !!!**
- ✓ We RESPECT her needs and her decisions
- ✓ We don't provide services for women; we are to support the women !
- ✓ We advocate for the needs of any woman or girl devoted to their needs
- ✓ Commitment to the needs of any woman / girl
- ✓ Together we face and respond to challenges
- ✓ We defend any woman against to any form of inequality
- ✓ We care about the protection maximization of any woman and girl suffering from violence
- ✓ We advocate for an equal access at any level of the process before and after report..
- ✓ We learn and become better through cases.. defend
- ✓ Together we "walk" the way against any form of violence



#We stand With Women



Our Units:

1. Counseling Center and 24/7 helpline
2. The Shelter / Refuge for women and her kids (8 seats)
3. The Perpetrators Programme
4. The Advocacy Unit and the Observatory for Violence Against Women in Crete
5. The Family Justice Centre in Crete
6. The FoodBank of Crete



All operation and services provision are under the ISO 9001:2018 certification





#We stand With Women

The value of “working together”



The Context”:

- **In close operative collaboration with** the Hellenic Police and The Prosecutor's Office
- **MoCollaboration with:** The Heraklion Bar Association / Heraklion Medical Association / 7th Health Regional Authority/ The FORTH Institute/ Municipalities in Crete
- A member of the major European & National Networks (EFJCA, WAVE, WWP EN, EuroChild, Victims Support Europe, The Hellenic Network for the right to sustainable housing)
- Collaboration with more than 10 Research Institutes in Greece & Europe
- **A training hub for Professionals:** 158 professionals trained (2024), joint (informal) protocols
- School interventions (50 / 2024)
- A solid database of cases of Violence Against Women and children in Crete (2024, 2025)
- A solid and up to date understanding / research of the phenomenon and its properties

The mission:

Sharing the same values, speaking the same language, watching at the same direction !

Networking is a priority for learning and joint action!!!



The Family Justice Centre in Crete

WHY?

To initiate the formal process for multidisciplinary work, fostering innovation and continuous capacity Building of f/l professionals

The FJC_Crete

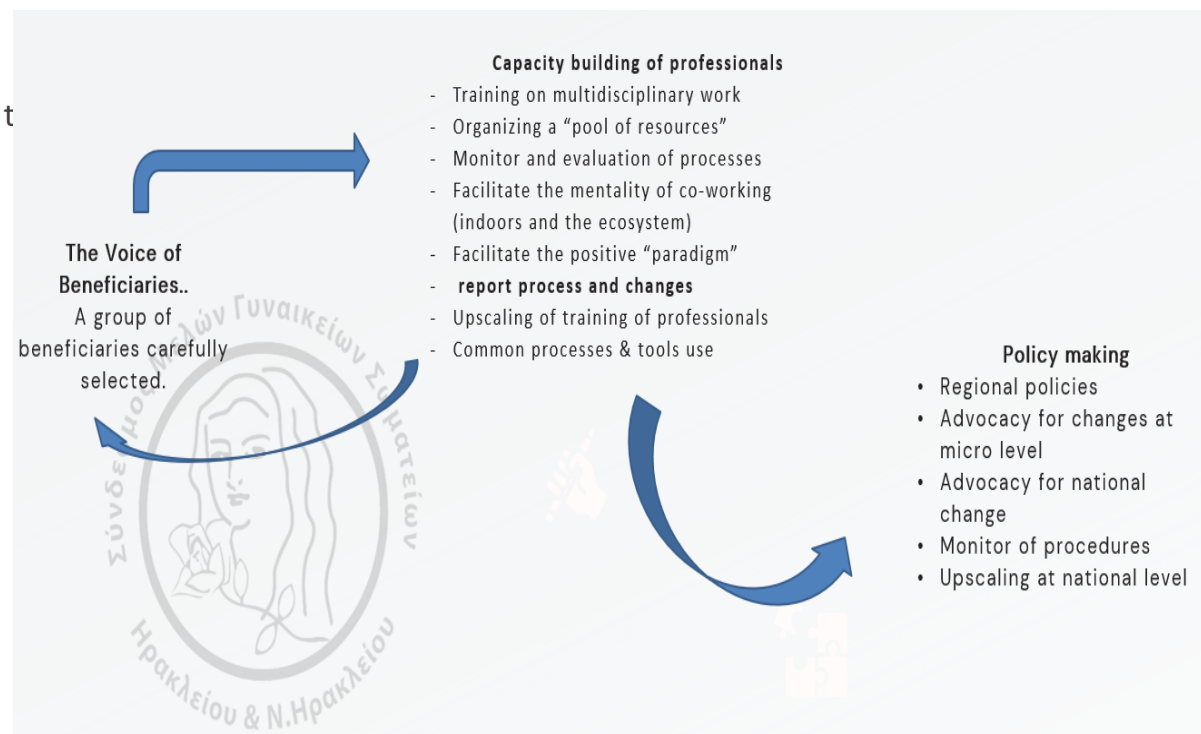
Started at 2023 (SUNNS Project – Regranting scheme)

- Development of a Multi-agency Center on GBV and DV in Crete and adaptation on the local context
- Reinforcing Multi-agency collaboration among relevant stakeholders
- Enhancing the role of civil society Organizations as watchdog for women's right
- Up-scaling the local multi-agency model on the national level

Actions

- Internal & External c/b for multiagency and coordinated response
- Voices of Women and Perpetrators

!!! At a context where the FJC Operation was unknown..



The change needs time..

The Lessons learned

- ✓ The **VOICES of Women and Men upscaled !!!**
- ✓ Realized the barriers and solutions for multidisciplinary work of f/l professionals. We raised the Questions and we reach the answers..
- ✓ The Crete FJC is not a single and stand alone “One Stop Shop” for providing services for Women !
 - ✓ The Crete FJC is an innovative Hub of professionals “ready to support” the “wants” & needs of Women girls and children !
- ✓ We have seen “*frustrated*” women and “*frustrated*” men by their experience with the “**system**” → targets for advocacy, and system’s response → “convenient to the user principle / fast & effective process for women protection
- ✓ **Regional MultiAgency Mode of Response (Crete)**
- ✓ **A training HUB for professionals (of all disciplines)**
 - How we “listen” to the “voice of the Police” and how we respond and collaborate with?
 - What are the “needs” of Police?
 - How well we understand the “voice” and perspective of the Judicial side?
 - How we AVOID the re-traumatization (women / children)?
 - How well could we shift to move from the “silo work” to multidisciplinary mode of work for f-l professionals?
- ✓ **and Innovation HUB for multidisciplinary Work**
 - Data sharing in safety
 - Child protection through the Judicial System
 - ICT tools for collaborative work
 - Risk assessment tools and AI for the benefit of women
 - Trauma Informed Approach as a **mainstream approach for f/l professionals**
 - Addressing multiple vulnerabilities (problematic substance use, Homelessness)

The core pathways of research innovation and experimenting

The challenges..

- Upscaling & Mainstreaming its operation
- Mainstreaming of the **Voices of Women & Voices of men**
 - Understand their “needs” and “wants”
 - Participation mechanism towards actions for “system response upscale”
 - Include the “Voice of Children” as a mechanism of *child participation*
- Position of the FJC of UWAH to the regional ecosystem
- The “safe” hub for professionals of different disciplines
- Advocacy for the institutional dialogue for the significance of FJCs towards combating Violence against Women in Crete & Greece
- Engagement of well experienced professionals to the operation of the FJC
- The pivotal role towards the Regional Multiagency / Coordinated Response model proposition
- Further funding..



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#westandwithwomen