



EUROPEAN FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER ALLIANCE ALLIANCE FOR HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT

Yearly report 2020



“At the heart of change is your ability to understand the way things are right now in your life, and that you can begin to imagine the way life could be” – Chan Hellman

CONTENT

WORD FROM THE BOARD	3
THE EUROPEAN FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER ALLIANCE	4
THE HISTORY OF THE EUROPEAN FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER ALLIANCE	4
Organisation.....	4
Vision and mission of the EFJCA	5
TARGET GROUPS OF THE EFJCA.....	6
OUR TEAM.....	6
Team	6
External Trainers-Advisors	6
EUROPEAN FJC'S AND CO-RELATED CENTERS.....	7
DEFINITION OF A FJC.....	10
THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES	10
ACTIVITIES OF THE EUROPEAN FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER ALLIANCE	12
NETWORK.....	12
MAIN FOCUS 2020	13
COVID 19 WITHIN THE APPROACH OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE	13
HOPE	14
OVERVIEW OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES OF THE EFJCA IN 2020	15
SOME OF THE PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.....	27

WORD FROM THE BOARD

2020 was a year as no other year. The whole world was in shock due to the sudden and for most unexpected pandemic. Borders closed, lockdowns installed, social environment reduced to a strict minimum. Very soon we realized that the consequences, who are enormous for all of us, were even harder for those who live in situations of domestic violence and child abuse. And that gender-based violence got an even larger breeding ground. Victims were more in danger then under “normal” circumstances.

We all understood that we had to switch quickly to other working methods. The pathways and interventions usually applied weren't available due to the lock-down and social distancing obligations. Several possibilities to help victims were often cut off or at least reduced to a minimum. This meant creativity, out-of-the-box thinking and quick handling. We saw many organizations, professionals and volunteers go for it. With a motivation and speed that was and is heartwarming. The overall message to victims and their families was: we will not abandon you. We are here for you, even in lock-down. The pandemic taught us the real meaning of bonding, keeping each other safe, and use new pathways. It was a learning time as well.

In the EFJCA-network, we felt the same. The connection between members and partners didn't fail but grew. New partnerships were born. The challenge of thinking acting out-of-the box created new ways to find and support each other.

We are very grateful towards all our partners, members and friends, who made the difference for victims and their families. Thank you for going for it. Thank you for being a hope-giver to all those who need it so firmly. Thank you for your mission and passion.

We are looking forward to meeting you all again in person and together we will go for it.

See you soon

In name of the board of the EFJCA

Pascale and Bert



THE EUROPEAN FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER ALLIANCE

THE HISTORY OF THE EUROPEAN FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER ALLIANCE

In 2013-2016 a dedicated group of professionals from 6 European countries started the project 'Family Justice Centers in Europe', with funds from the EU Daphne program. The project was based on the US Family Justice Center model, founded in 2002 in San Diego by public prosecutors Casey Gwinn and Gael Strack.



During the two years of the project the European partners focused on starting up 6 FJCs in 5 European countries, with the aim to evolve into a European FJC model, open and adaptable to the context of different countries and regions.

This project was the start of a real movement towards high-standard multidisciplinary approach of domestic violence, Child abuse and sexual violence.

During the years after the by the EC funded project, the partners in the project further developed the model, the alliance and reached out to different partners in various regions, in the meanwhile supporting the existing FJCs.

ORGANISATION



To ensure the sustainability of the FJC developments in Europe, the original project team has founded the European Family Justice Center Alliance (EFJCA) in 2014.

The EFJCA is a legal entity and the officially recognized network of the Family Justice Centers in Europe. It promotes the FJC model and provides a central platform for its members. As an umbrella organisation, the EFJCA exchanges knowledge, experiences and good practices among its members.

The EFJCA provides the Family Justice Centers and affiliated multi-agency models with customized tools, specialized methodologies and on-the-job-training, which leads to continuous improvement of the Centers and helps them to create better resources for victims of domestic violence, child abuse and sexual violence and their families.

VISION AND MISSION OF THE EFJCA

The vision of the EFJCA is to develop a safe place for victims of domestic violence, child abuse and sexual violence, and their families, in all European countries and regions. A place where:

- all the needs of the victims, children and their families are met
- safety is assured
- children are protected
- perpetrators are held accountable
- the violence stops
- empowerment is increased
- families heal (and thrive)
- hope and perspective is realized
- and WE ALL WORK TOGETHER.



The mission of the EFJCA is to create a European network of Family Justice Centers and similar co-located multi-agency models, focusing on an integrated approach of domestic violence, child abuse and sexual violence, with close working relationships, shared training and assistance, collaborative learning processes, coordinated funding assistance and transformational leadership. The EFJCA is driven by the voice of victims, in all its activities.

The EFJCA subscribes to:

- the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)
- the DIRECTIVE 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime
- the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- the European Charter of Human Rights
- The Treaty on the European Union

TARGET GROUPS OF THE EFJCA

The EFJCA focuses on different target groups. The first group are the victims of domestic violence, child abuse and sexual violence and their families. Secondly the EFJCA focuses on professionals who are active in the field of domestic violence, child abuse and sexual violence, like:

- professionals and volunteers working in the Family Justice Centers and affiliated multi-agency models
- professionals from judicial and police services, medical assistance, social services, personal support projects, women's services, youth services, income support and employment services, municipal services, etc.
- policymakers and politicians on local, regional, national and European level.

OUR TEAM

Team

- Bert Groen, President
- Pascale Franck, Vice-president
- Davy Simons, Secretary
- Tammo Holtland, Treasurer
- Lienja van Eijkern, member
- Dries Wijckmans, member
- Sander Ligthart, member

External Trainers-Advisors

- James Henderson, director of Offender Accountability for the National S. Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention.
- Chan Helman, Professor of Social Work at the University of Oklahoma and Director of The Hope Research Center. Chan Hellman's research is focused on HOPE as a psychological strength helping children and adults overcome trauma and adversity.
- Willem Beckers, Counselor at Interactive-Academy, institute for systemic training and therapy. Expertise: highly dependent (young) adults and family violence.
- Dr Elise Geuens. Expertise: Non-fatal Strangulation & Traumatic Brain Injury.
- Dr Cath White, expertise: Non-fatal Strangulation & Sexual Assault.

EUROPEAN FJC'S AND CO-RELATED CENTERS

FJC Antwerpen (Belgium, Antwerp)

Bexstraat 20, 2018 Antwerpen, Belgium

0032473783820

p.franck@efjca.eu

www.fjc-veiligthuis.be

FJC Berlin (Germany, Berlin)

Gewaltschutzambulanz Charité

Turmstraße 21, Haus N, 10559 Berlin, Germany

004930450570270

saskia.etzold@charite.de

gewaltschutzambulanz.charite.de

FJC Bjarmahlíð (Akureyri, Iceland)

Bjarmahlíð, Aðalstræti 14, 600 Akureyri, Iceland

00355512520

bjarmahlid@bjarmahlid.is

www.bjarkarhlid.is

FJC Bjarkarhlíð Reykjavík (Iceland, Reykjavík)

Bjarkarhlíð við Bústaðarveg, 108 Reykjavík, Iceland

003545533000

bjarkarhlid@bjarkarhlid.is

www.bjarkarhlid.is

FJC Derry Foyle's Women's Aid (N-Ireland, Derry)

C/O Pathways, 24 Pump Street, L'Derry BT48 6JG, N.Ireland

00442871416800

info@foylefjc.org

foylefamilyjusticecentre.org

FJC Fier

Holstmeerweg 1, 8936 AS Leeuwarden

0031 58 2157084

www.fier.nl

FJC Kempen

p.a Welzijnszorg Kempen, Antwerpseweg IA bus I, 2440 Geel, Belgium

003214562756

FJC Limburg (Belgium, Hasselt and Genk)

Oude Luikerbaan 10, 3500 Hasselt, Belgium

003211712790

info@fjclimburg.be

www.fjclimburg.be

FJC Malmo (Sweden, Malmö)

Drottninggatan 18, våning 2, 21211 Malmö, Sweden

004640349385

margot.olsson@malmose.se

www.malmo.se/kriscentrum

FJC Maison d'Ella Bordeaux (France, Bordeaux)

381 Boulevard du Président Wilson, 33200 Bordeaux, France

00330557092577

maisondella33@gmail.com

cacis-pro.fr/?page_id=850

FJC Maison de Femmes (France, Paris)

1, chemin du Moulin Basset, 93200 Saint-Denis (Paris), France

0033142356128

contact@lamaisondesfemmes.fr

www.lamaisondesfemmes.fr

FJC Mechelen (Belgium, Mechelen)

Huis Van de Mechelaar - FJC, Reuzenstraat 1, 2800 Mechelen, Belgium

003215453328

info@fjcmechelen.be

www.mechelen.be/fjc

FJC Milan (Italy, Milan)

Policlinico - FJC Milan

Via Quadronno 36, 20100 Milano, Italy

003955032359

svs@policlinico.mi.it

FJC Sterk Huis

Rillaersebaan 75

5053 EA Goirle

www.sterkhuis.nl

FJC Warsaw Women's Right Center (Poland, Warsaw)

Centrum Praw Kobiet, ul. Wilcza 60 lok. 19, 00-679 Warszawa, Poland

00486222517

sekretariat@cpk.org.pl

cpk.org.pl

In development in 2020:

FJC Sigurhæðir - Victory Hills, Iceland

Dvergholar 1, 800 Selfos, Iceland

003545814345

www.sigurhadir.is

FJC Aruba

Contact: Daphne Tecklenborg, daphnytecklenborg@gmail.com

FJC Bonaire

Contact: Patricia Hassel, jean.hassell@bonairegov.com

DEFINITION OF A FJC

A Family Justice Center is a multiagency, multidisciplinary service center where public and private agencies assign staff members to, on a full-time or part-time basis, to provide services to victims of domestic violence, child abuse and sexual violence and their families from one location.

The overall goal of a Family Justice Center is to ensure that clients have access to all necessary services, to enhance their safety and increase offender accountability. Victims and their families who report there can obtain legal advice, safety planning, make a statement, obtain accommodation planning, medical evidence of violence, transport assistance, trauma processing, etc.

A Family Justice Center provides one physical location:

- to reduce the number of places victims must visit to obtain all the help and the services they need to put an end to the violence
- to reduce the number of times victims must tell their story
- to foster collaboration and a common approach of the different agencies
- and to increase access to services and support for victims and their children.

THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The FJC model is defined by the following guiding principles:

- **Human Rights driven:** human rights as leading principle, to recognize gender-based violence as a violation of universal human rights
- **EU Values non-discrimination and gender equality:** subscribes to the EU treaty and conventions and guarantees non-discrimination and gender equality
- **Safety-Focused:** increase safety, promote healing, and foster empowerment through services for victims and their children
- **Victim-Centered:** provide victim-centered services that promote victim autonomy
- **Kind-Hearted:** develop a multidisciplinary center that values, affirms, recognizes and supports staff, volunteers, and clients
- **Survivor-Driven:** shape services to clients by asking them what they need
- **Holistic Approach:** see the client as a whole, and take into account all areas of life
- **Empowering:** strengthen victims to have control over their lives again
- **Relationship-based:** maintain close working relationships among all collaborators/agencies
- **Offender Accountability:** increase offender accountability through evidence-based prosecution and juridical strategies and/or evidence-based treatment programs

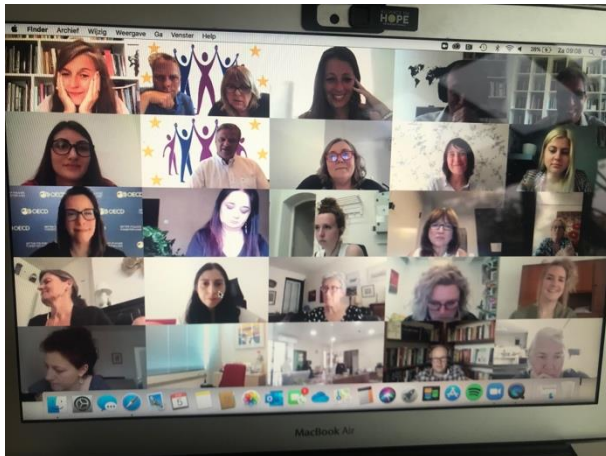
- **Offender change of behavior and mind-set:** include (working together with) programs and services, to obtain a sustainable impact on change of behavior and mind-set of offenders
- **Preventive:** include actions in awareness raising and prevention of gender-based violence and domestic violence
- **Transformative (willing to change):** evaluate and adjust services by including survivor input and evidence based best practices
- **Culturally responsive:** commitment to the utilization of culturally relevant service approaches.

ACTIVITIES OF THE EUROPEAN FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER ALLIANCE

NETWORK

The EFJCA has 68 member organisations in 31 countries (20 EU-countries, 3 EEA countries and 7 European countries outside EU, and Canada), and 13 partnerships and/or MOUs with 13 international networks (European, USA and Global).

Members of the Alliance are Family Justice Centers, affiliated multi-agency centers, organisations working/active in the field of gender-based, domestic violence, child abuse, sexual violence and organisations and professionals with interest in the activities and products of the Alliance, subscribing the guiding principles of the network.



The members and partners have an interest and/or are involved in the development of quality standard multi-agency work based on the needs of victims of violence as subscribed, and take part in the activities, network, exchange and development of the good methodologies by the Alliance.

The Alliance has currently members, partnerships and/or activities in or with partners from Albania, Aruba, Austria, Belgium, Bonaire, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Ireland, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Moldova, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, Turkey, UK, USA.

The Alliance stimulates a “cross professions” network, with exchange and joint ventures with organisations and experts from various sectors: police, justice, women’s aid, victim services, child advocacy, perpetrator programs, health and mental health sector, social services, personal support projects, youth services, income support and employment services, municipal services, research centers, universities, local authorities, national authorities, ...

MAIN FOCUS 2020

COVID 19 WITHIN THE APPROACH OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE

The measures taken by the European countries to combat the COVID 19 have a huge impact on all lives of the European citizens. Especially vulnerable groups, like survivors of domestic violence are hit hard by all the restrictions. The concern of all professionals is how to ensure safety for these survivors and their families. In this time of the Corona crisis, it is a crucial task for not only professionals, but also for policymakers and the social network to adapt a different and creative approach of domestic violence and child abuse under these changed circumstances, with the aim to prevent escalation of violence and ensure the maximum safety.

We are convinced that all professionals working in European Family Justice Centers or related Multidisciplinary Centers are doing all that's possible within their power to help and support survivors of domestic violence and child abuse. To also support all these professionals the European Family Justice Center Alliance has made practical guidelines which are aimed to ensure the maximum safety for these vulnerable people. All materials are available on the website: <https://www.efjca.eu/news/covid-19-within-the-approach-of-domestic-violence-and-child-abuse>

- COVID 19 impact on domestic violence and child abuse in general and the approach during the Corona crisis
- Practical guidelines for multidisciplinary collaboration within the approach of domestic violence/child abuse and housing for survivors and their families
- Practical guidelines for professionals in assisting survivors from domestic violence and their families under the COVID 19 measurements with the focus on safety
- Practical guidelines on safety measurements for virtual collaboration in assisting survivors from domestic violence and their families
- Practical guidelines for the role of schools in a situation of possible suspicion of domestic violence/child abuse
- Practical guidelines for the police and juridical organisations
- Practical guidelines for the social network of survivors of domestic violence and their children
- Practical guidelines for policymakers

HOPE

Several members of the EFJCA-team were trained by prof Chan Hellman in “The Theory and Power of Hope”.

Prof. Chan Hellman is internationally renowned for his work on building a hope centered response to trauma. With over 150 scholarly publications and countless workshop in the areas of child maltreatment, domestic violence, homelessness, etc., Chan has focused his work on sharing the science and power of hope in our ability to overcome trauma and thrive. Chan has trademarked Hope Centered and Trauma Informed as the evidence-based framework to guide individual practice and coordinated community responses to trauma.

The training was the basis for a European Hope program, with training for teams and centers towards including the Hope-theory and -methodology in their work, capacity-building to work with adults and children on empowerment and achieving their goals and to work on costume-made tools for the European FJCs, co-related multidisciplinary approaches and for all professionals and volunteers interested in working towards hope and perspective.

In 202 this led to a European training-program and a first Camp-hope based program for children, victims of violence in their families.



OVERVIEW OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES OF THE EFJCA IN 2020

MASTERCLASS "OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY AND VICTIM'S SAFETY" BY JAMES HENDERSON (ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS)

31 January 2020

50 professionals of several organizations and professions took part in this masterclass in Rotterdam. The masterclass focused on strengthening knowledge and offering new insights into the realization of behavioral change and increasing taking accountability by perpetrators of domestic violence, based on a victim-oriented approach.



In the Masterclass, questions such as:

- What is the primary responsibility of your role as a professional?
- Why the focus on 'accountability' among perpetrators and what does that mean?
- How do I discuss this and guarantee the safety of victims?
- How do I realize an effective and long-term behavioral change in offenders?

James Henderson, Director of Offender Accountability for the National U.S. Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention, provides training in effective interviewing of perpetrators and victims of domestic violence.

During the Masterclass, James was supported by Pascale Franck and Bert Groen of the European Family Justice Center Alliance.

MASTERCLASS "OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY AND VICTIM'S SAFETY" BY JAMES HENDERSON (ANTWERP, BELGIUM)

February 3, 2020



In Antwerp, the masterclass was followed by 50 professionals from the Fjc, police, justice and help centers. The masterclass focused on strengthening knowledge and offering new insights into the realization of behavioral change and increasing taking accountability by perpetrators of domestic violence, based on a victim-oriented approach.

During the Masterclass, James was supported by Pascale Franck and Bert Groen of the European Family Justice Center Alliance.

EFJCA AT OECD HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN PARIS

7 February 2020

On Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6

February 2020 the EFJCA was invited by

the OECD to participate at the High-Level Conference on Ending Violence Against Women. The EFJCA participated in the panel session 'Integrating services to Support Survivors' and before this session the FJC-movie was plenary shown to the audience.

Violence against women remains a global pandemic. Worldwide, more than one out of three women have experienced physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime. The OECD Ministers increasingly recognize that violence against women is a crisis in their countries. The OECD Gender Equality Questionnaire illustrated that governments prioritize this issue as a crucial front in the battle for gender equality: 21 of the 37 governments adhering to the OECD Gender Recommendation listed violence against women as one of the three most urgent gender equality issues in their country. And the OECD Public Governance Committee has called on the OECD to support countries in providing an integrated, cross-Ministerial and state-wide response towards violence against women through its Gender **Mainstreaming Strategy** and Action Plan. The conference brought together over 200 leading experts, Ministers and high-level officials across Ministers from OECD countries and emerging economies, as well as representatives from business, trade unions and civil society.



EFJCA WITH FIER (THE NETHERLANDS) SUPPORTING THE GOVERNMENT OF ARUBA WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH (MDA) OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE

14 February 2020



From Sunday 9 till Wednesday 13 February 2020 the EFJCA was invited by Bureau Sostenemi and CEDE Aruba to support their initiatives to develop and implement an effective and sustainable multidisciplinary approach (MDA) of domestic violence and child abuse. The FJC Model served as an example for an effective and sustainable multidisciplinary approach. Together with Linda Terpstra

from Fier (Friesland, the Netherlands) the EFJCA used these 4 days to participate in several high-level meetings, organized by the leaders of this process, Daphny Tecklenborg, director Bureau Sostenemi (Advice and Support Center Child Abuse), Glenda Hernandez, director Social Affairs Aruba and Daniel Tecklenborg, director CEDE Aruba, the National Foundation for Social Development. The immediate reason was the violent death of the brothers Rishandroh (5) and Roshandrick (3). After this shocking case, the Aruban government announced structural changes within the chains of care, justice and education.

PRACTICAL GUIDELINES COVID-19 WITHIN THE APPROACH OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE

March 28, 2020

The measures taken by the European countries to combat the COVID 19 have a huge impact on the lives of survivors of domestic violence and their families. To support all professionals the EFJCA has made practical guidelines. We are convinced that all professionals working in European Family Justice Centers or related Multidisciplinary Centers are doing all that's possible within their power to help and support survivors of domestic violence and child abuse. To also support all these professionals the European Family Justice Center Alliance has made practical guidelines which are aimed to ensure the maximum safety for these vulnerable people.

WEBINAR 'INTRAFAMILIAAL GEWELD, FAMILY JUSTICE CENTERS EN DE COVID-19 MAATREGELEN'

June 16, 2020

On Monday June 16th, 2020 Pascale Franck organized for the Soroptimist clubs in Antwerp a webinar in Dutch, focused on the consequences of the COVID-19 measures for tackling domestic violence in Belgium and the operational activities of the FJCs during this period.



EUROCITIES SEMINAR ABOUT THE SITUATION FOR WOMEN DURING COVID-1

June 17, 2020

On 16 June 2020 our Swedish FJC partner Margot Olsson participated in a EUROCITIES seminar addressing the situation for women during Covid-19. She provided a short speak about the situation in Malmö and some of their measures. MEP Evelyn Regner, chair of the FEMM committee in the European Parliament and Carlien Scheele director of the European Institute for Gender Equality shared an overview of the situation at European level. Barcelona, Vienna and Malmo then introduced the dialogue between cities with a focus on women's triple burden, women's unequal employment situation and violence against women.



3 YEARS FJC MECHELEN: WORKING TOGETHER FOR WORKS

June 26, 2020

On May 23, 2017, the Family Justice Center Mechelen opened its doors ... more than 500 families were able to help and / or strengthen them through an FJC process to continue. The collaboration between the many partners in the field (public prosecutor's office, police, assistance and services, local government and the Flemish government) works.



CONFERENCE FJC MAISON D'ELLA BORDEAUX FRANCE

September 29, 2020



FJC Maison D'ella of Bordeaux and La Direction Régionale aux Droits des Femmes et à l'Égalité, l'Agence Régionale de Santé organized an online conference on the approach of psychotrauma with female survivors of Violence. 170 professionals registered for the 2nd regional day of discussions on the treatment of psychotrauma in women victims of violence. Exciting discussions and a desire to meet again next year to continue thinking! Sophie Van de Wouw of FJC Mechelen, Belgium, representative of the EEFJCA, spoke from their experiences on this topic.

EUROPEAN FORUM OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

October 29, 2020

The EFJCA and the EFRJ worked together on different occasions during autumn 2020. Bert Groen and Pascale Franck joined the trainers pool of ERRJ and are part of the workgroup on gender-based violence.

ONLINE PANEL DISCUSSION SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL EUROPE: HOLISTIC TRAINING

November 7, 2020



Soroptimists act as advocates for causes relating to women and girls at local, national and international levels. The Online discussion focused on bringing together advocacy, as voice for women and children, and programming, as concrete actions to make a difference. Pascale Franck was one of the panelists, as expert in gender-based violence combining advocacy and programming in the daily work of the Family Justice Centers movement and as Soroptimist.

STUDY VISIT ONLINE EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR WORK WITH PERPETRATORS

November 11, 2020

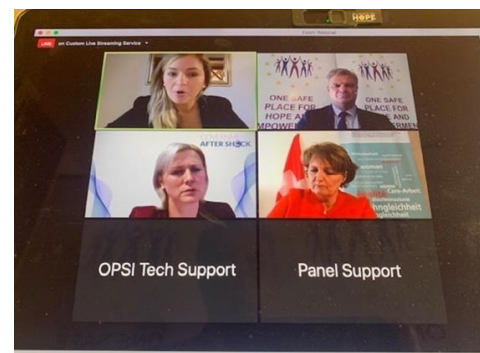
The study visit took place in a different format than our usual study visit. In response to the pandemic, WWP EN decided that the event would take place online. This meant that rather than a visit to one host organisation, participants could learn about good practice from four organisations (and even get a small glimpse into their facilities!). The online format also allowed more WWP EN members to participate. Child-centered perpetrator work: As part of WWP EN's focus on child-centered perpetrator work this year, the study visit was themed "Keeping children safe in perpetrator work – A virtual tour". One of the places visited was the Family Justice Center Antwerp.



EFJCA PARTICIPATES IN OECD EVENT 'GOVERNMENT AFTER SHOCK'

November 18, 2020

On the 18th of November the EFJCA participated in a virtual high-level panel discussion entitled "Building whole-of-government approaches to address gender-based violence." This panel discussion was part of the 2-day event "Government After Shock". The panel considered how governments can adopt more whole-of-government systems and integrated approaches to GBV moving forward, building on the initial lessons learned and experiences from the pandemic. This event consisted of panels and targeted conversations around how the current crisis requires us to rethink the fundamentals of the role and functioning of government.



ORANGE THE WORLD VIRTUAL CONFERENCE ARUBA

November 25, 2020

The Fundacion pa Hende Muhe den Dificultad organized an on line virtual conference “Orange the World” with the EFJCA.



FACEBOOK'S 2020 CAMPAIGN AROUND THE 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM TO END GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

November-December, 2020

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence activities, from 25 November to 10 December, took place under our 2020 global theme: "Orange the World. Pascale Franck participated with Facebook and the European Women’s Lobby in the online campaigning (in her role of Representative of Soroptimist International of Europe at European Women's Lobby and Vice-president European Family Justice Centers Alliance).

"We need to raise the voice of women who are in difficulties because of violence and because of the lack of policy to make a difference for them. But advocacy is one thing, we also need to take action by raising the number of shelters and the number of places women can go to to find help."



The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign. It was started by activists at the inaugural Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and continues to be coordinated each year by the Center for Women's Global Leadership. It is used as an organizing strategy by individuals and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls.

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT ALLIANCE FOR HOPE

December 2-3, 2020

Over 150 leaders and directors of Family Justice/Multi-Agency Centers gathered virtually today for the 11th Annual Leadership Summit. The second day's events included our 3rd Annual HOPE Talks, where we heard from Craig Roberts, Mike Jump, and Pascale Franck on how they have been able to really think outside of the box to provide accessible services to survivors amidst COVID-19.

Dreaming about the future: attendees selected one of four breakout groups to dive into a topic that has been pressing for FJC/MA Centers this year. We spent the afternoon dreaming about the future by diving into what it looks like to develop hope-centered organizations for our staff. We heard from the National Network for Safe Communities on restorative justice practices and how FJCs can participate in the work of reconciliation by repairing harm and rebuilding trust in the community.



COERCIVE CONTROL SYMPOSIUM

December 9, 2020

The colleagues of the FJC Foyle, Northern Ireland, were involved in the organisation of a online symposium about Coercive Control. This free online event was open to all health care professionals and professionals working in statutory, community and voluntary agencies providing services to families, children and young people. The aim was to assist professionals working with adults and children to recognize signs of coercive control and trauma. This enables them to respond in a professional manner knowing the appropriate services and resources to access for seamless referral.

START PROJECT 'CIRCUS HOOP'

December 11, 2020

The Belgian organisation Ell Circo d'ell Fuego wants to introduce a new, scientifically based method for children to deal with the effects of negative experiences in their childhood. In collaboration with the partners FJC Antwerp, the city of Antwerp, Ondersteboven/Arktos and the EFJCA they started the project 'Circus Hoop'.

The goals of the project are:

- ➔ Developing and offering a new form of work for and with children and young people in situations of intra-family violence

Physical movement has also been shown to have a profound impact on people's emotional and psychological well-being. Circus can have a strong effect on many different areas in the (self) experience of young people. Based on the motto 'in the Circus, no one can do everything, but everyone can do something', we work in a unique, safe situation to create a safe environment for vulnerable young people and to arrive at an individual and a social learning path, without the need for a 'school or (therapeutic) environment may appear.

➔ The start-up of a "Camp Hope

Hope is very important in this. Hope is the belief that you have a better future and that you yourself have a large share in it. Hope is an important - scientifically validated - mechanism for dealing with trauma and has a positive effect on mental well-being.

The general principles are:

- Every child or young person is "seen" (All are seen)
- Children and young people are "heard", their voice counts (Voices are heard)
- Choices will matter (Choices will matter)
- Collaboration is a "must" (Collaboration is a must)
- New paths are explored
- We try to rectify skewed situations (Wrong things are made right)
- A generational cycle is broken (A generational cycle is broken)
- There is hope! (HOPE is given)

FJCA PARTICIPATE IN EUROPEAN 'SAFE SHELTER'-PROJECT

December 2020

Over the period 2021-2022 the EFJCA will participate in the European Safe Shelter- project.

This EU co-funded project aims to provide capacity building training on developing, implementing and enforcing child safeguarding policies and frameworks for shelter and multisectoral staff working with shelters. Women's shelters are one of the most crucial, specialized support services for women victims of violence and for their children; they not only provide safe and emergency accommodation for women and their children to seek refuge from violence, but also consistently demonstrate being effective in improving mental health, reducing re-abuse and improving social outcomes.

Needs of children: Research on mother and children residing in shelters shows that a problematic mother-child relationship was identified in approximately 20% of cases; inadequate parenting was present in around 35% of cases and 80-90% of the children had witnessed violence suffered by their mother, and more than 50% had been direct victims of some type of abuse. Shelter staff require guidance on how to address the needs of children, specifically separate interventions targeting the needs of children, as well as mothers.

SafeShelter vision: All women's shelters in the EU have child safeguarding policies in place to improve the protection and safety of children during their stay in the shelter

Partners are the Austrian Women Shelter Network (project coordinator), Psytel (France), Gesine (Germany), Conexus (Spain) and the EFJCA.



EFJCA LAUNCHES THE TRAINING PROGRAM 'THE THEORY AND POWER OF HOPE'

December 30, 2020

'HOPE IS THE BELIEF THAT YOUR FUTURE WILL BE BETTER THAN TODAY AND YOU HAVE THE POWER TO MAKE IT SO'

The EFJCA received a grant from Antwerp to train a large number of urban services in the theory and power of HOPE.

Hopeful people are better able to achieve their goals. They are better able to participate obstacles that threaten to block the achievement of their goal. This module provides insights into knowledge and the science of hope. How to deal with traumatic experiences and how to grow and flourish towards future and positive goals.

Hope is an important protective factor that enables people to develop and improve their well-being. Hope is also an important source of support within various trauma's, long-term stress situations and burnout. Applying the science of hope into everyday life situations helps overcome adversities that anyone can face.

Hope is measurable. The HOPE-score measures people's expectations to achieve their goals. From here, pathways can be deployed to help people improve perspectives for their own future. Various tools are available for this.

This training is aimed at professionals and volunteers who to work with people on hope, regain control over their own goals and increase their well-being. The approach of the HOPE-theory can be used in many fields and for various target groups.



SOME of the PLANS for the FUTURE

Some of the plans for the near future:



- 2 online network meetings to share knowledge, good practices and mutual support between members and partners
- Masterclasses “Offender Accountability and Victim Safety”
- Training HOPE in several regions
- Circus Hope project Belgium
- SafeShelter project (Daphne-project)
- Support opening new FJCs in several countries
- Partnership with OECD
- Partnership with Soroptimist International
- Joint ventures with partner alliances and networks
- Supporting organisations, governments and professionals in capacity-building, training, and building multidisciplinary approach
- Project Coercive control and intimate partner violence
- 2 international EFJCA conferences in 2022:
 - Week of 17-21 January, The Netherlands, focus: Intimate partner violence, Working together with Child Advocacy (Barnahus), Non-Fatal Strangulation (Gael Strack)
 - Week of 16-19 November, Belgium, focus: Non-Violent Resistance approach, NVR interventions and Adult Entitled Dependence (Dan Dulberger and Willem Beckers), Power of Hope (Chan Hellman)
- Masterclasses “Non-Fatal Strangulation”
- Masterclasses “Parent and Sibling abuse”
- Handbook on methodologies in multidisciplinary approach of gender-based violence and domestic violence