



# Ծարձեձե

**Center for a safe childhood**



Annual Activity Report

2023



**Center Dardedze** is a non-governmental non-profit organization that works to ensure that every childhood in Latvia is free from violence.

## Vision

Every child in Latvia is loved, protected, respected and cared for, living in a safe environment free from any form of violence.

## Mission

To prevent child sexual abuse and exploitation and to provide assistance to children who have experienced any form of violence, and to their families.

## Goals

### 1 Prevention

To be a competence center in the prevention of child sexual abuse, providing developmental, educational and preventive programs. Develop and implement training programs.

### 2 Consultations and support

To provide psychological rehabilitation services for children, especially victims of violence, and their family members.

### 3 Advocacy

Actively stand up for a holistic approach in the child protection field at the state and municipal level, promoting systemic changes and coordinated actions of various sectors in the prevention of child sexual abuse.

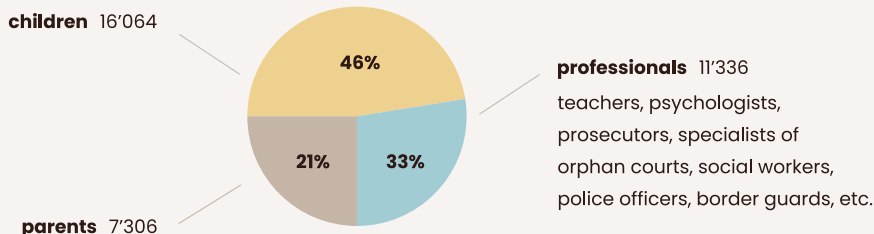
## Prevention programs

- The Jimba Safety Program
- Guardian Angel
- Guidelines in Raising an Adolescent
- Pathways to Competence
- Child Safe and Friendly Kindergarten



## In 2023

By implementing training, preventive programs, video lectures, discussions and conferences we reached:



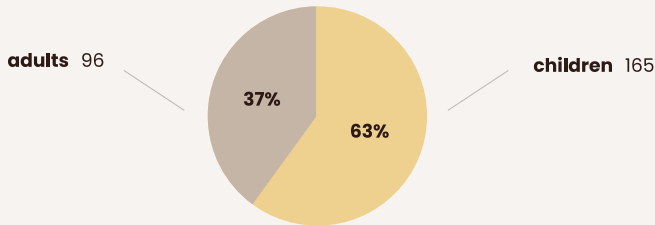
## Jimba Safety Program

Almost 15 thousand children have been reached within the activities of Jimba Safety Program:

- The majority of them – 10,434 – participated in Jimba Safety Steps programme, which was implemented by Jimba agents in their kindergartens or schools throughout Latvia.
- 3,238 children participated in face-to-face and online lessons of “Visiting Jimba” at Center Dardedze.
- “Jimba’s visiting school” hosted safety lessons in the cities of Liepāja and Rēzekne, Balvi and Southern Kurzeme districts, where 1008 children attended the classes of Jimba program.
- “Jimba summer school” (summer day camp) was held 4 times and 81 children participated in them.
- 3 training groups for new program agents were held, a total of 53 Jimba agents have been trained, both from kindergartens and schools that are starting to implement the program for the first time, and from those where the previous agent has left.
- 79 agents and 27 principals participated in the “Annual Big Date” – Jimba Safety Program annual conference.
- We continued the project with the Baltic Children’s Fund on adapting the Jimba Safety Program for children with visual, hearing and mental impairments: this year, 3 agents were trained in 3 special schools (Strazdumuiža secondary school, Rīga 1st elementary school and Ēbelmuiža elementary school).

## Counseling department

During the year 2023 the counseling department has provided **2,100 psychological consultations and psychological assessment** sessions for children exposed to violence and families:



- We offered free support to families and children of refugees from the war in Ukraine, providing services in Ukrainian (225 consultations for 44 clients).
- 444 consultations were provided within the framework of Ziedot.lv Dod Pieci project “Help to escape from domestic violence”, providing support to 43 persons.
- 14 children were helped within the framework of the state funded violence program.

## Highlights of 2023

### 1 Prevention

We have started cooperating with three municipalities of Latvia (Cēsis, Smiltene and Madona) to create and implement a child sexual abuse prevention plan in each municipality.

### 2 Consultation and support

We provided consultations and support over the process of setting up a “Child House” (“Barnahus”), that was finally opened in 2023, actively cooperating with the Ministry of Welfare.

### 3 Advocacy

- “Centrs Dardedze” participated in up to in 40 meetings (Parliament commissions and working groups) over the year, influencing at least 5 different legal acts, planning documents and decisions that were made in the field of child protection.

- We clarified the terminology used in the Law on the Protection of Children’s Rights – “sexual violence” was renamed “child sexual abuse” and defined more precisely, in accordance with the best interests of a child.
- In order to promote inter-institutional cooperation for the prevention of sexual exploitation of children, we continued to gather stakeholders and practitioners from the state administration, academic environment and the non-governmental sector in the Expert council meetings twice a year.
- In cooperation with the Ministry of Welfare and the Child Protection Center, we continued to gather a working conference on responding to cases of child sexual abuse. 40 specialists from the field of child protection participated.

#### 4 Raising public awareness

- In November 2023 we implemented a social campaign “Read between the lines” with an aim to prevent child sexual abuse by educating parents and the wider society. An educational platform was created on the “Centrs Dardedze” website, while a special “Safe Creative space” was temporarily opened in the center of Riga, where everyone could leave their emotions, feelings, thoughts and suggestions on the white walls of the room. According to a public survey, a total of 30% of Latvian residents have noticed the campaign.
- We also actively raised the issue of preventing violence against children in the media: “Centrs Dardedze” appeared in the media 176 times.



## Contact us

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 📧 <https://twitter.com/centrsdardedze>

## Revenue in 2023

### Projects and grants

OAK Foundation	170'894
ACF – grant for the implementation of operational strategies	57'603
Swiss philanthropy foundation	15'000
Empowering Children Foundation	5'576
Other	7'544

**Projects and Grants Total Eur** 256'617

### Revenue from provided services

Training and preventive programs (including provision of social services)	178'431
Counselling services (including provision of social services)	97'885
Counselling services – Ziedot.lv "Dod Pieci" project	
"Help to get out of domestic violence"	19'995
Revenue from other services related to the protection of children's rights	2'195

**Revenue from provided services Total Eur** 298'506

### Donations

Social enterprise Centrs Dardedze Ltd	19'045
Hope for Children, Association	7'000
PricewaterhouseCoopers, SIA	994
Other general donations	7'246

**Donations Total Eur** 34'285

**Foundation revenue Total Eur** 589'408

### Revenue of social enterprise Centrs Dardedze Ltd

Implementation of Jimba Safety Program	116'212
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Total Revenue Eur

**Foundation and Social Enterprise** 705'620