# **Dardedze**

Center for a safe childhood

**Annual Activity Report** 

2024

#### Centrs Dardedze

"Centrs Dardedze" is a non-governmental, non-profit organization that has been working since 2001 to ensure that every child in Latvia has a childhood free from violence.



We want to promote safe, respectful relationships, prevent violence and especially child sexual abuse in any environment – in the family, preschool, school, sports, in their neighborhood, in the internet and society as a whole. We educate, support and defend the best interests of children!

#### **Vision**

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

#### Goals



#### Prevention

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

#### Preventive programs

- Jimba's Safety Program
- Guardian Angel
- Pathways to Competence
- Guide to Raising a Teenager
- Child-Safe and Friendly Kindergarten
- Protection of children's rights in sports
- Development and implementation of child sexual abuse prevention plans in municipalities

#### **Mission**

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

## 2 Consultations and Support

By cooperating with professionals and organizations from various sectors, to provide psychological support to children and their families in difficult situations. To provide rehabilitation services to children, especially victims of violence, and their family members.

## 3 Advocacy

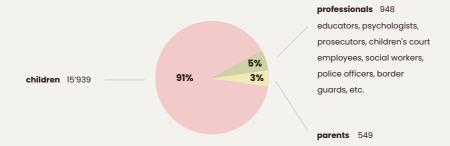
To actively advocate for an effective child protection system at the state and local government levels, promoting systemic changes and coordinated action by various sectors in the prevention of child sexual abuse.



## Impact of our work in 2024

## JIMBA.

The implementation of the Jimba safety program in 2024 was very active – a total of 15,939 children, 549 parents and 948 professionals were reached in cooperation with schools and kindergartens.



- 11,316 children participated in Jimba safety steps classes in schools un kindergartens, including 338 children with special needs.
- The number of municipalities that prioritize educating children about safety in relationships and provide the Jimba safety steps program in schools un kindergartens is increasing every year. Last year, 380 Jimba agents implemented classes in 353 schools and kindergartens throughout Latvia.
- 3,420 children participated in face-to-face or online classes "Visiting Jimba" at Center Dardedze.
- 72 children attended the "Jimba Summer School" camp.
- This year, the Jimba travelling school visited Krāslava, Preiļi, Smiltene and Dobele regions, where 1.131 children attended classes.



The map shows how many educational institutions in each municipality implemented the Jimba Safety Program in 2024.

By organizing various other trainings, discussions and conferences online and in person, **7'351 adults** were preventively reached, including

- 7,127 professionals were reached through trainings and lectures in various formats.
- 310 parents were addressed in support groups and informative lectures

An integral part of our work is psychological support for children and families. During the year, 1,592 consultations and examinations were provided to children and families, including:

- 86 parents
- 147 children

## What else has been accomplished during the year?

#### **Education**

We actively raised the issue of preventing violence against children and sexual abuse in the media and communication platforms – television, radio, press and social media, and during the year the name of the organization was mentioned in them 124 times. In November, together with the Child Protection Center, we also worked on an educational campaign "Conversation Protects" to reduce the risks of child sexual exploitation.



## Invitation to plan

We continued workting with three Child safeguarding groups in municipalities (Cēsis, Smiltene and Madona) to develop and implement a child sexual abuse prevention plan in each municipality, which has been presented at two regional conferences.)

## Responding wisely

A practical training program for the prevention of harmful sexual behavior (HSB) and the implementation of a Safety Plan was developed in one child care institution.

## Thinking about sports

We started cooperation with several sports schools and sports organizations to reduce the risks of violence against children in sports and develop violence prevention plans. By organizing an international conference "Playing by the Rules: Risks of Child Sexual Abuse in Sports and Their Prevention in Municipalities", we raised the issue of child rights protection in sports among decision-makers, encouraging every institution or organization working with children to implement a clear procedure (children's rights protection protocol) with preventive, risk recognition and reporting activities.



Conference keynote speaker Paul Stewart, UK

## Creating a "Safe Space"

Creating a movement for adults who have been affected by sexual abuse in their childhood. During monthly meetings, we discuss the impact of trauma and other topics to truly hear the voices of survivors, allow them to feel the collective strength and put it to use in awareness rasing, as well as in planning preventive activities.

#### Reaching out to the students

We have created a new course for future preschool teachers at the University of Latvia "A respectful approach to working with preschool children" to promote safe and respectful relationships in the preschool environment and strengthen the role of teachers in preventing violence.

## **Bringing together**

To promote inter-agency cooperation in the prevention of child sexual abuse, Center Dardedze continues to bring together representatives and practitioners from the state administration, academia and the non-governmental sector, organizing an expert council meetings twice a year. We also participated in 38 multi-disciplinary meetings during the year, influencing at least 7 different regulatory acts and decisions in the field of child protection.

## Contact us

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## Revenue in 2024

## **Projects and grants**

**OAK Foundation** 146'880

SIF NVO fonds Kids First fund(ASV) 5'062

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia 4'991

> **Empowering Children Foundation** 4'176

> > British Embassy Riaa 2'000

> > > Other 11'544

23'956

**Projects and Gants Total EUR** 198'609

### Revenue from provided services

Training and preventive programs 124'621

(including provision of social services)

Counselling services 76'129

(including provision of social services)

Revenue from other services related to the protection of children's rights 1'745

> Revenue from provided services Total EUR 202'495

#### **Donations**

Rimi Latvia 5'436

Cerība Bērniem 2'600

> Manilla 1'386

Realman 600

Hestia Hotel Group Latvia 590

Other general donations 6'241

> **Donations Total EUR** 16'853

Monetary Award Granted by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia

10'000

#### **Foundation revenue Total EUR** 427'957

#### Revenue of social enterprise Centrs Dardedze Ltd

Implementation of Jimba Safety Program 188'668

Foundation and Social Enterprise Total Revenue EUR 616'625

