

2018

ANNUAL REPORT



ENOUGH VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION
كفَى عنف واستغلال



ABOUT KAFA

KAFA is a secular, feminist, Lebanese organization aiming to create a society free of legal, economic, and social discrimination against women. It was founded by a group of Lebanese women in Beirut in 2005 who had worked in the civil society sector for many years. It seeks to realize substantive gender equality through the adoption of a combination of different approaches, such as: advocacy for law reform and introduction of new laws and policies; influencing public opinion, practices and mentality; conducting research and training; empowering women and children victims of violence; and providing them with social, legal, and psychological support. KAFA has since developed into one of the most influential and well-known feminist civil society organizations (CSOs) in Lebanon, providing essential services for women subject to violence, processing around 1000 new cases per year.

OUR VISION

KAFA envisions a society where all its citizens live free from violence and exploitation, where they have equal access to opportunities and results and their human rights are respected, protected, and enjoyed. Violence against women can never be justified and we are convinced that women's and children's rights are integral to the achievement not only of building a free and fair society, but also to enhance economic productivity and human capital formation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

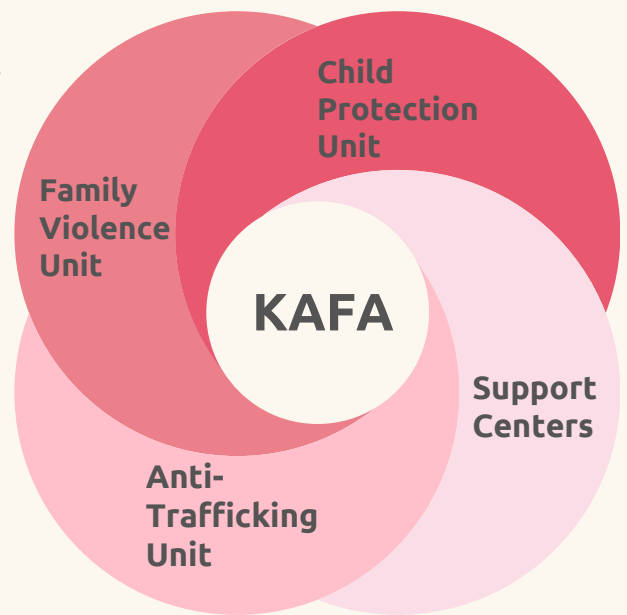
The eradication of violence and discrimination against women is not a short-term or easy goal. Our work would not be possible without the support that has been shown by many people and organizations for our vision of a fairer future. We are deeply grateful to every individual, organization, group, and media institution that has supported our mission and partnered with us over the last year. We want to thank our funders in particular, who make our work possible, namely: UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR, OCHA, Anti-Slavery International, International Federation of Red Cross, Norwegian People's Aid, Kvinna Till Kvinna, UN Trust Fund, Amica e.V, Christian Aid, Global Fund for Women, Oxfam, European Endowment for Democracy, Hivos, and Open Society Institute. Our work also would not be possible or effective without the vast network of civil society actors who partner with us, or the media who provide coverage for our advocacy and awareness-raising activities. We thank them for their contribution to our vision, and for consistently reporting on and denouncing violence against women and children. KAFA also thanks all local partners, stakeholders, and recipients for their participation in the planning, monitoring, and implementation of all program activities.

Finally, KAFA wants to acknowledge all of the women who are subject to violence in Lebanon, and their courage in facing everyday struggles. We particularly want to show gratitude towards the numerous women who come to our support centers every day, for trusting us with their stories, fears, and worries, and for their bravery in asking for help. You motivate and guide our work, and we hope that we do you proud.



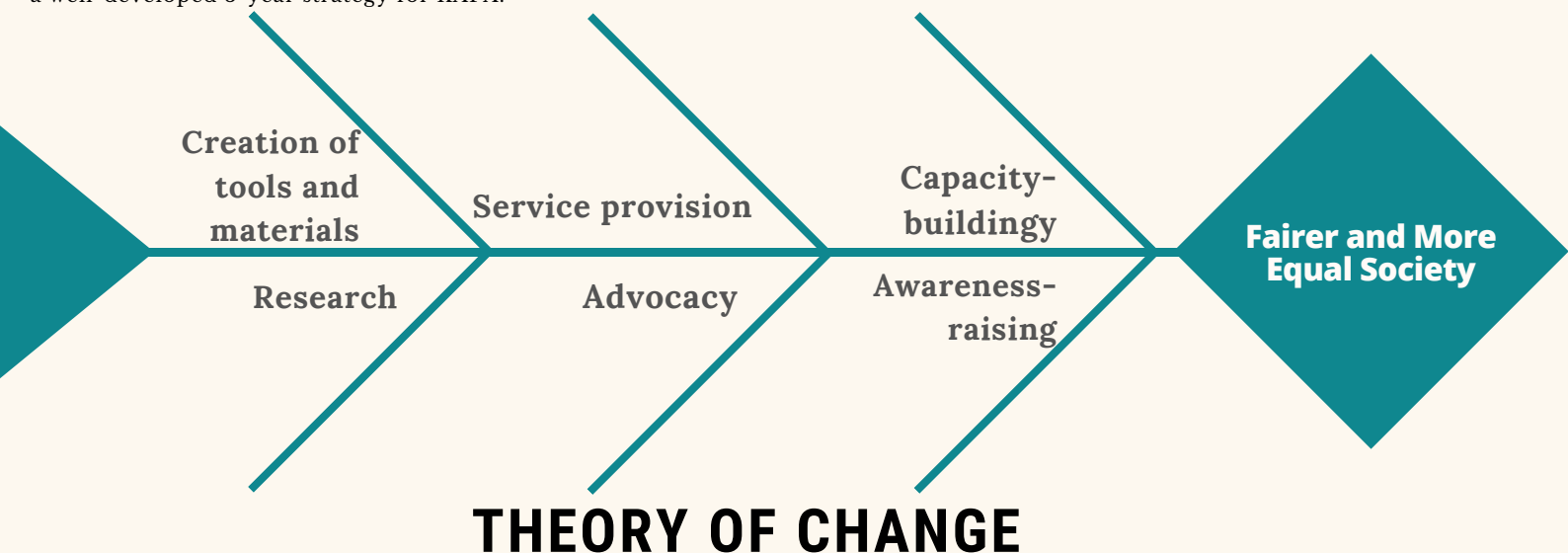
ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

KAFA is made up of four principal departments, each with its own area of activity. These are: the Child Protection Unit, the Family Violence Unit, the Anti-Trafficking Unit, and the Support Centers. Each operates semi-autonomously, with activities coordinated and monitored by KAFA's director and core team. Each department has a specific focus area in which it aims to improve the lives of women who fall into that specific category. Each of the departments operates a variety of activities, including: service provision, capacity-building, awareness-raising, research, and advocacy, embodying our theory of change in each of the areas of action



Organizational Development

In 2018, KAFA hired Deloitte to support development of KAFA. Deloitte is one of the leading consulting firms in the world with experience in many areas related to drawing strategies. It happened that Ms. Rana Salhab, who is a Partner at Deloitte & Touche (M.E.) is also an executive board member of the National Commission of Lebanese Women, and she showed great interest in supporting KAFA as 'the cause and mission of KAFA are very relevant to Deloitte's values and corporate responsibility strategy.' On this basis, Ms. Salhab helped us to benefit from a low bono offer from Deloitte. We consider this offer to be immensely valuable to KAFA, contributing as it does to drawing a well-developed 3-year strategy for KAFA.



THEORY OF CHANGE

2018 Highlights

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

AWARENESS-RAISING

2 MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

80 MDWS: RIGHTS AND SERVICES

SEMINAR WITH ANTI-TRAFFICKING BUREAU

WORKSHOP ON KAFALA SYSTEM

890 SYRIAN REFUGEES: GBV

60 WOMEN: GBV LAWS

289 CAREGIVERS

TRAINING ON CASE MANAGEMENT

24 COACHING SESSIONS

STAFF CARE & DEVELOPMENT

487 COUNSELLING SESSIONS

TRAINING ON REFUGEE PROTECTION

TRAINING ON WORKING WITH PERPETRATORS

ADVOCACY

2 ROUND TABLES WITH JUDGES

DOMESTIC WORKER MARCH

MEETING WITH UN SECRETARY GENERAL

DRAFTED CIVIL PERSONAL STATUS LAW

SERVICE PROVISION

COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION TO 2703 CHILDREN

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT TO 639 CHILDREN

4 INNOCENT VERDICTS

383 HELPLINE CALLS

LAUNCH OF 1745 HELPLINE

SUPPORT TO MDWS IN PRISON

5345 WOMEN & GIRLS ACCESSED SAFE SPACES

424 COURT REPRESENTATIONS

176 SOCIO-LEGAL COUNSELLING SESSIONS TO PROSTITUTES

70 MDWS HOUSED

CASE MANAGEMENT FOR 57 CHILDREN

300 LEGAL CONSULTATIONS

609 PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING SESSIONS

5254 PHONECALLS HANDLED

RESEARCH ON MUNICIPAL POLICE

TOOL CREATION & RESEARCH

TRAINING VIDEOS ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE

AWARENESS BOOKLET MODEL LAW

MDW CURRICULUM - ISF & GS

TRAINING MANUAL ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE

TRAINING TOOL LAW 293

GUIDE TO GBV/CP LAWS CREATED

CAPACITY-BUILDING

53 HUMANITARIAN WORKERS

20 SERVICE PROVIDERS

57 SOCIAL WORKERS

21 FRONTLINE WORKERS

8 COMMUNITIES ENGAGED IN CHILD PROTECTION

10 ISF OFFICERS (1745 HELPLINE)

125 ISF & GS OFFICERS

9 ISF & GS OFFICERS TRAINED AS TRAINERS

Family Violence Unit

Fighting to end domestic violence

2018 Highlights



What we do. The Family Violence Unit works on enhancing the protection of women and girl victims/survivors/at risk of GBV. It does this by fighting for more legal rights, and improving the quality of life of women victims/survivors of GBV in Lebanon through the promotion of innovative models of rehabilitation and empowerment.

Advocacy and Awareness Raising

1. Media campaign on personal status laws in Lebanon

In December 2018, KAFA launched a campaign to raise awareness about the current situation of personal status laws and their discrimination against women in Lebanon, using a play on the words لشولبنان بلا شخصية which hold a double meaning in Arabic: why doesn't Lebanon have a character is the literal translation, but the word شخصية in Arabic when accompanied by احوال becomes personal status. The main components of this media campaign:

- TVC
- Media outdoor 4/3 for one week 500 faces all over Lebanon
- Media outdoor 6 big Unipoles and roof tops prime location for one month
- Cinema TVC of 30 sec for a period of 2 weeks in Grand Cinemas ABC- Achrafieh; Grand Cinemas ABC-Dbayeh; Grand Cinemas ABC-Verdun; Cinemall-Le Mall Dbayeh; Grand Spot-Saida.
- Massive Social media campaign

Social media reach:

The video used Facebook's new 'premiere' feature, which proved helpful. The video was given 48 hours to grab organic reach and then with paid advertising reached a total of 272,000 users with more than 18,500 engagements, with a total of 128,000 unique views. The same content was shared on KAFA's Twitter page, and reached around 8,000 users, with around 100 engagements. Due to the length of the video, we weren't able to put it in its entirety on Twitter, instead redirecting followers to watch on Facebook which affected the viral capacity of the tweets. As for Instagram, the teaser GIF video reached 3,000 viewers with the main video reaching another 4,500 viewers.

Family Violence Unit

Fighting to end domestic violence

Advocacy and Awareness Raising (contd.)

2. Designing and printing the developed Model Law on Combating Violence Against Women and Girls in Arab Countries

The previously developed 'Model Law on Combating Violence Against Women and Girls in Arab Countries' was edited and designed in a booklet with the aim of being used by the 14 Arab countries. 1,050 copies were printed and sent to 9 Arab Countries (Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Jordan, Algeria, Morocco, Sudan, Jordan, and Egypt).

3. Developing, designing and printing an awareness booklet on the Model Law on Combating Violence Against Women and Girls in Arab Countries

A booklet was developed and designed based on the already produced animated video on the content of the developed 'Model Law on Combating Violence Against Women and Girls in Arab Countries' to be used in awareness activities by partners in the 14 Arab countries. 6,000 copies have been printed.



4. Drafting a Civil Personal Status Law

A legal expert was contracted to draft the CPSL, and after collecting all similar laws presented in the past by different stakeholders, the first draft copy was finalized. This will be key to the planned campaign on personal status laws. At the end of 2018, the draft law is at the stage where we are aiming to collect inputs from key stakeholders, lawyers, judges etc.

5. Round tables with judicial sector

The first round table was for general prosecutors in the presence of ISF (Internal Security Forces) officers, and as a result of this round table the family violence memo was amended by the ISF. The second was conducted in partnership with NCLW (National Commission for Lebanese Women) targeting judges in chamber, with the aim of sharing experiences with the newly appointed judges for a better implementation of the law 293/2014.

6. Development and production of advocacy videos using puppets against sexual violence

6 videos have been produced. Makroura (a puppet) was the main character of this campaign, which focused on the 3 types of sexual violence, and Makroura conducted interviews with stakeholders and people. These videos aimed to support the passage of the proposed law to criminalize sexual violence in the parliament. Kafa used its social media platforms to publicize the videos. The videos will also be used in training.



Family Violence Unit

Fighting to end domestic violence

Advocacy and Awareness Raising (contd.)

7. Media campaign on 1745

A media campaign was conducted in collaboration with NCLW and ISF to raise awareness and encourage people to report family violence on the newly established emergency unit at the ISF on the hotline 1745. 1745 is a new hotline that allows the ISF to receive complaints of domestic violence from victims and citizens who were witnesses of domestic violence. The main components of the media campaign were a TVC, outdoor campaign (13 LED screens, 185 billboards), and a social media campaign (Facebook and Instagram).

The information was shared for the first time on KAFA's Facebook page as a news link from a local TV station website in a paid partnership with NCLW. The link reached a total of 16,625 users with more than 1,294 engagements. Another post was shared a week later on KAFA's Facebook page with additional information regarding the hotline and partnership with both the ISF and NCLW in addition to the campaign's poster and two hashtags: #اذا_مهدي_ما_تردي_ which can be literally translated to: In case you are threatened, don't you hesitate (to call), and #بلغوا_عن_العنف_الاسري_ which means: Report domestic violence. The post reached a total of 140,227 users with more than 9,376 engagements. The campaign's video was then shared on KAFA's Facebook page and it reached 312,478 users with more than 19,265 engagements. It was also shared on Instagram, receiving over 3,600 likes.

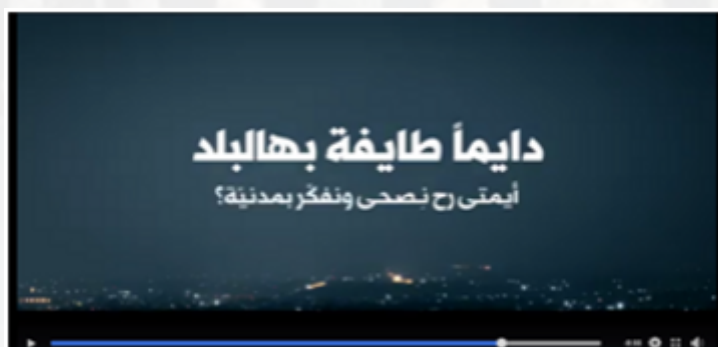
The campaign's details with the poster were also shared on KAFA's twitter account. The post got 1,085 impressions with 12 engagements. On the same day, both the ISF and NCLW shared the campaign's details and poster. The ISF's post got 39 retweets (including 1 from KAFA) and 69 likes. The NCLW's post got 9 retweets (including 1 from KAFA) and 14 likes. On November 2 2018, the campaign's video was posted on KAFA's Twitter account and it got 6,758 impressions with more than 1,366 views and 77 engagements.



8. National Advocacy Campaign on Early Marriage

A massive media campaign was conducted during December on criminalizing early marriage as part of the 'Raise the Age' campaign. The main components of the media campaign were a TV spot, a social media campaign, an outdoor media campaign (350 faces all over Lebanon, 4 big unipoles and roof tops in prime locations for one month, 20 outdoor LED screens for one month), 30 second cinema TVC for 2 weeks in 5 cinemas.

The aim of the campaign was to raise the awareness about the age of marriage in Lebanon. The campaign used a play on the word طايفة which has a double meaning in Arabic. Its literal translation is sect, but the word طايفة also means flood. It was conducted during winter when there was a lot of rain, causing street floods. The social media campaign included a teaser poster (1,300 views) and the main campaign. The main video campaign used the Facebook 'premiere' feature, which notified those who like KAFA's page of an impending video. The video was given 48 hours to grab organic reach and then with paid advertising reached a total of 100,000 users with around 500 engagements. The same content was shared on KAFA's Twitter page as well, and it reached around 2,000 profiles, with around 70 engagements that varied between likes, comments and retweets. As for Instagram, the video reached an extra 2,200 viewers.



Family Violence Unit

Fighting to end domestic violence

Capacity Building

9. Regional training on The Regional Model Law to Combat Violence against Women and Girls in Arab Countries

KAFA held a regional training that aimed to raise awareness among trainees from different Arab countries on the content of the 'Model Law on Combating Violence against Women and Girls in Arab Countries' in order to promote it among CSOs in the targeted countries. The training was attended by 14 representatives of feminist organizations and human rights activists/legal experts from 4 Arab countries (Egypt, Sudan, Iraq, and Libya) and 5 from KAFA (including KAFA's director, trainer, facilitator and two lawyers). Each country's representatives formed a working group to create a context-specific advocacy plan.

10. Producing a training tool on law 293/2014

A video was produced on the family violence law 293/2014 that highlights the latest stage of advocacy. This video was used in the regional training (above).

11. Training Female ISF Officers

A series of 5 5-day trainings were conducted with 65 female ISF officers on the social context of GBV, listening skills, communication skills, international and national legal context, law 293, and the role of ISF women in dealing with cases of family violence and how to support victims/survivors.

12. Training ISF on the hotline 1745

2 one-day trainings were conducted before the 1745 launch event targeting 10 officers on the newly established helpline at the ISF.

13. Development of Material to support Training of the Municipal Police: Curriculum and film

A curriculum and film (see photo below) targeting Municipal Police in partnership with ISF was produced and will be adopted by the ISF academy. The curriculum was designed and 1,000 copies were printed. In addition, the training tool was produced by the ISF academy with the follow up, support, and coaching of a specialized team contracted by KAFA.

14. Development and Production of Training Manual on sexual violence

A training manual was produced and will be used in conjunction with the produced videos of Makroura as training tools on the 3 types of sexual violence.

15. Training humanitarian actors on sexual violence

4 one-day trainings were conducted with 53 humanitarian actors on the topic of sexual violence highlighting 3 types: sexual harassment, sexual assault, and rape. They were held in Chtaura, Saida, Sin el Fil, and Chekka. They were facilitated by specialists on GBV (social and legal context).

Research

16. Perception Study with the Municipal Police (MP) and the Heads of Municipalities (HoM)

A statistics company (ARAA) was contracted to conduct a perception study entitled 'GBV Perception Assessment among Municipal Police and Heads of Municipalities'. The main objectives of the study were

1. Understand the profile of MP and HoM;
2. Understand the MP and HoM views, attitudes, and positions towards GBV;
3. Evaluate the MP and HoM experience encountering and dealing with GBV prevention and response;
4. Understand the MP and HoM knowledge of the legal framework, procedures, responsibilities, and roles,
5. Identify the challenges that might obstruct the MP and HoM efforts in playing their role in response to GBV.

17. Dissemination meeting on perception survey with ISF

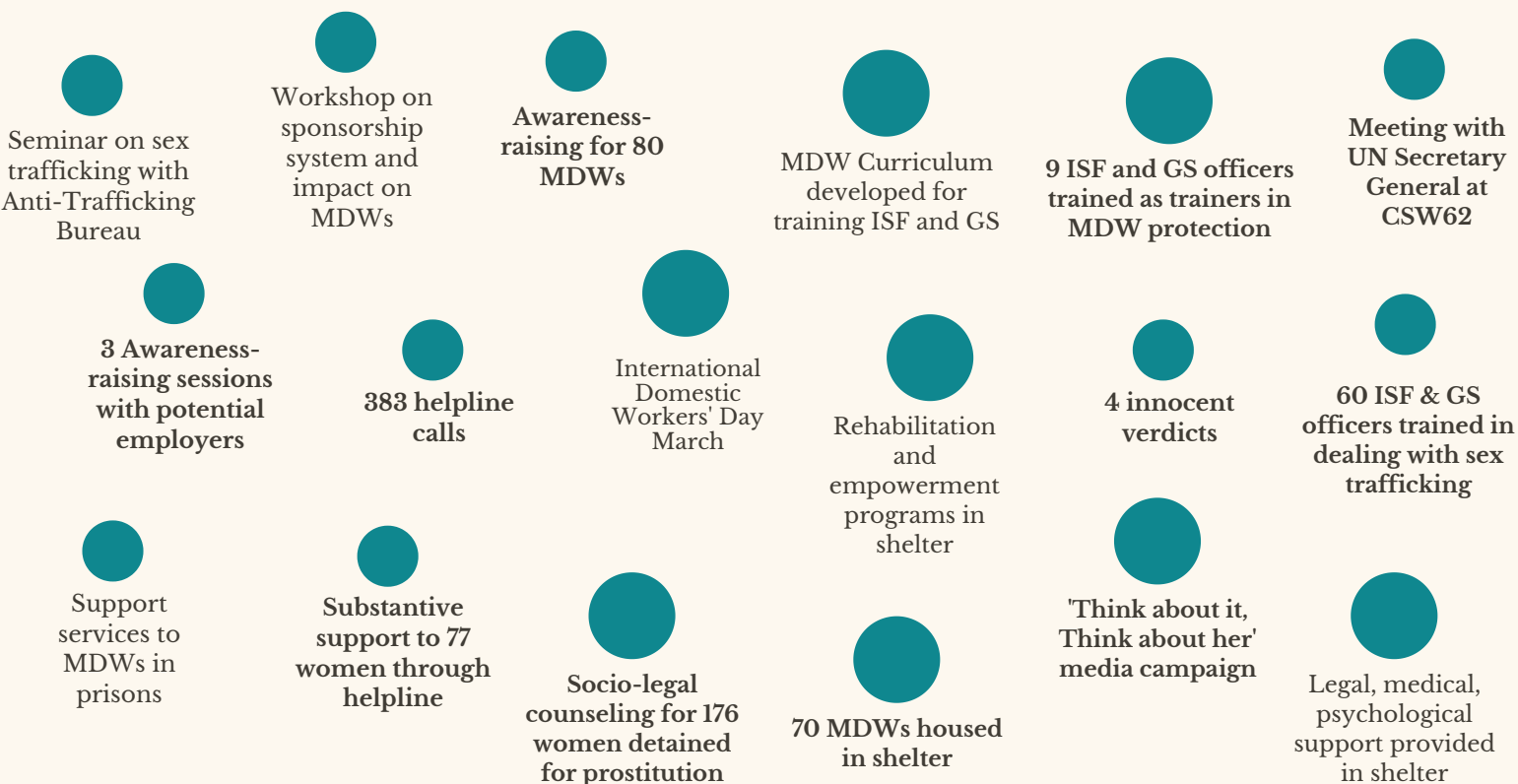
A launch of 1745 was held on the 5th of November in partnership with NCLW. KAFA used this opportunity to disseminate and publicize the principal findings of the perception survey with ISF.



Anti-Trafficking Unit

Fighting for the rights of trafficked women

2018 Highlights



What we do. The Anti-trafficking and Exploitation Unit at KAFA works on building public opinion against the trafficking and exploitation of two of the most vulnerable groups of women to these forms of violence in Lebanon: female migrant domestic workers (MDWs) and Lebanese and migrant women in prostitution. The Unit also fights for the establishment of a national legal and social protection framework for victims and women and girls at risk of exploitation.

Advocacy

1. International Domestic Workers Day March

For the ninth year in a row, KAFA co-organized a labor day and international domestic workers day march on the 24th of June 2018 to demand better legal protection for migrant domestic workers. Hundreds of migrant women and men, together with many supporters and organizations, marched from Doura roundabout towards Saydeh park in Sin el Fil to call for a set of demands including:

- Abolishing the sponsorship system and replacing it with a just and fair system which guarantees domestic workers the right to resign from work, legally remain on the Lebanese territory, and seek alternative employment.
- Refraining from detaining on an administrative basis domestic workers who are victims of violence and exploitation and ceasing detaining and deporting those who start a family and have children in Lebanon.
- Monitoring the practices of recruitment agencies and enforcing punitive measures against all violators and abusers of domestic workers' rights.
- Ratifying the ILO convention No. 189 and abiding by the standards it sets.

At the end of the march, MDWs gathered at Saydeh park in Sin el Fil where they gave empowering speeches on MDWs issues in Lebanon.

2. Workshop on the sponsorship system and its impact on MDWs

This workshop brought together 28 NGOs, INGOs, and migrant community leaders' representatives, and contributed towards establishing conceptual clarity and developing a harmonized understanding of Lebanon's sponsorship system and its impact on MDWs. This was achieved by analytically deconstructing the sponsorship system through presentations, case studies, and best practices discussions. This workshop also initiated a preliminary discussion on the alternatives to the sponsorship system and the way forward. During this discussion, the participants identified a number of issues to address, including the absence of a law and monitoring mechanism which guarantees MDWs access to rights and justice.

Anti-Trafficking Unit

Fighting for the rights of trafficked women

Capacity Building

3. Capacity building of law enforcement officers on the protection of MDWs

In 2018, and in Cooperation with the (ISF) and GS (General Security), KAFA laid down the basis for a training program aiming at strengthening the capacity of law enforcement agents to protect MDW victims of violence, exploitation, and labor trafficking. An initial training curriculum on the topic was put in place in cooperation with both institutions, and was piloted through a five day ToT workshop with nine officers from both ISF and GS.

4. ISF and GS Training on human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation

For the fourth year in a row, the Anti-Trafficking Unit in KAFA delivered in-depth capacity building trainings for law enforcement officers on the issue of sex trafficking. The purpose of the trainings was to build the knowledge of officers on the anti-trafficking legal framework and to train them on how to best conduct investigation with trafficked and exploited women based on victim centered and human-rights approaches. During 2018, KAFA delivered 4 trainings targeting in total 60 ISF and GS members.

5. Seminar on human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation

Two seminars targeting 15 members of the Anti-Trafficking and Protection of Morals Bureau were conducted in November and December 2018. The purpose of the seminars was to open the discussion and debates on the issues related to the police's investigative practices with women arrested for prostitution charges and victims of sex trafficking, as well as the patterns observed.



Service Provision

6. Support and assistance to victims of trafficking and physical and sexual abuse: Shelter

In 2018 the Amara shelter received 70 women migrant domestic workers exploited in domestic labor, women sexually exploited in prostitution, and emergency cases of women victims of domestic violence who were hosted on a temporary basis while waiting to be placed in other shelters specialized in family/domestic violence. The shelter provided a safe place for the beneficiaries, as well as case management (legal, social, psychological, and medical), and rehabilitation programs and empowerment.

7. Support and assistance to victims of trafficking and physical and sexual abuse: Helpline

KAFA continued the operation of an anti-trafficking helpline which provides basic and emergency information for MDWs exposed to physical and sexual abuse by their employer and women in prostitution, as well as refers them to KAFA's services (i.e. shelter, social counseling, legal support and representation, empowerment activities, and return assistance) or to other service providers. During 2018, over 383 cases reached or contacted the organization, with around 77 receiving comprehensive support and the remaining referred to other existing service providers.

8. Support services to migrant domestic workers in prisons: Supporting migrant domestic workers detained due to malicious accusations of theft

KAFA initiated in 2018 a project of assistance to MDWs inside prisons to defend migrant domestic workers maliciously accused of theft. KAFA accessed detention facilities and assisted 10 MDWs detained because of malicious theft, an accusation often filed by employers to take revenge on the worker and to escape all other legal obligations the employer has to abide by (namely paying the airplane ticket back to the worker's home country). KAFA's lawyer was successful in obtaining innocent verdicts for 4 cases by underlining the conditions that led the MDWs to leave the house. At the court, KAFA challenged the judiciary's interpretation that the worker fled the employer's household because she had stolen items from the house, and was able to demonstrate that the workers' departures from the household was actually due to labor exploitation and experiences of abuse.

9. Support services to women arrested for prostitution-related charges

KAFA was present on a weekly basis in the Anti-Trafficking and Protection of Morals Bureau for the purpose of meeting victims or potential victims of sex trafficking and prostitution and provide them with socio-legal counselling, and referral and follow-up services. During 2018, KAFA provided socio-legal counselling to 176 women at the detention center at the aforementioned Bureau. In terms of legal assistance, out of the 176 women, the vast majority of these women fall under the category of victims of human trafficking.

Anti-Trafficking Unit

Fighting for the rights of trafficked women

Advocacy (contd.)

10. International Advocacy around the Nordic or Gender Equality Model

On the margins of CSW62 in March 2018 in New York, KAFA and other delegates from the Coalition for Abolishing Prostitution – International, met with the UN Secretary General António Guterres to discuss the urgent need for all UN agencies to finally respect UN agreed language and standards on prostitution, its exploitation, and the fight against sexual exploitation and abuses. The meeting also tackled CAP delegates' concern about having UN agencies trivializing prostitution and promoting prostitution as sex work while it has been formally qualified by the United Nations General Assembly as 'incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person'.

KAFA also took part in the CSW62 official side event on 'Presenting challenges and considering solutions to combat sex trafficking and other forms of commercial sexual exploitation of women and girls'. The panel tackled the global prevalence and highly gendered nature of sex trafficking and related forms of sexual exploitation of women and girls, which poses serious challenges which the international community must meet. Representatives from Ireland, the Council of Europe, Mexico, Lebanon, and the USA reflected on current risk factors including: precarious migration, rural poverty, and systemic gender inequalities, and presented a range of service, policy, and legislative approaches designed to combat these terrible human rights violations of women and girls.

Awareness-Raising

11. 'Think about it, think about her' media campaign targeting Lebanese employers

KAFA launched a nation-wide media campaign entitled 'Think about it, Think about her' targeting Lebanese employers of migrant domestic workers (MDWs), as a continuation of its 2016 campaign highlighting employers' perceptions of MDWs. The media campaign, supported by the Lebanese Ministry of Labor, sought to generate a constructive dialogue with Lebanese employers around a number of issues they usually face in their relationship with the domestic worker. KAFA produced video spots tackling the complex realities of the working relationship between MDWs and their employers, and emphasizing the contradictory situations many employers find themselves in, mostly because of the sponsorship system and the burdens it imposes on them. The three situations addressed by the campaign were: the withholding of migrant domestic workers' passports, the non-payment of workers' salaries, and the restriction of their freedom of movement. The videos were disseminated online, on social media, on prominent local news sites, on local TV stations, and on radio channels. KAFA also featured on several live television and radio shows to discuss the campaign and the issues of MDWs in general. In addition to the videos, KAFA implemented an outdoor campaign in major geographical areas in Lebanon. The campaign attempted to provoke the public and employers of MDWs to question and reflect on illegal practices which have become informally accepted by society. They incited and triggered more debate and exposure about the issue at hand. In terms of feedback on social media, there were mixed reactions. While the media campaign did get a lot of momentum and praise and triggered a lot of discussions, it also provoked a lot of angry comments and reactions from employers, mainly on Facebook. They felt that the campaign targeted them personally and they reacted defensively. However, KAFA's contribution to these comments was minimal since discussions were more interactive and people would respond to each other via these social media platforms. This demonstrated that the campaign was able to reach people and provoke discussions on the behavior, perceptions, and attitudes towards migrant domestic workers.

12. Awareness raising sessions with migrant domestic workers

In 2018 KAFA continued its series of awareness raising sessions with the community of Bangladeshi MDWs. The sessions covered a number of issues, mainly: bodily integrity and reproductive and sexual health, violence against women and creation of a safety plan to protect themselves if they are experiencing violence. Over eighty Bangladeshi migrant domestic workers attended these awareness raising sessions. The sessions revealed the large need of Bangladeshi workers for information, mainly on sexual and reproductive health, and the need for them to be aware of organizations in Lebanon that can support them in their different needs.

13. Awareness raising sessions with employers and potential employers

In coordination with Jdeideh and Aley Municipality, KAFA held two awareness raising sessions targeting employers and potential employers from the community. In coordination with the university of Balamand two sessions were also provided to university students. Furthermore one session was conducted with the Scout girls.



Child Protection Unit

Combating violence against children

2018 Highlights

Update to Citadel of Protection Toolkit

639 children received focused psychosocial support

Safe spaces accessed by 5345 women and girls

Case management for 57 children

Sensitization to 4716 people

Community child protection activities to 2703 children

8 communities engaged in child protection

16 social work students trained in CoP

21 frontline workers trained in CoP

57 social workers trained on GBV/child protection laws

20 service providers trained

9 Scout members trained

Guide to GBV/child protection laws created

289 caregivers engaged

What we do. The Child Protection Unit (CPU) works on combating violence against children and adolescents, with a focus on gender-based violence and sexual abuse. By working on the protection and empowerment of children, the CPU is participating in the creation of a safer future, free of gender-based violence and discrimination. The CPU action plan seeks to improve prevention and protection measures for children and adolescents, by reaching out to different target groups, namely children, adolescents, caregivers, and service providers, while always applying a child participatory approach and combining different tools and strategies.

Community Support and Awareness Raising

Purpose and Strategy. KAFA has been working since 2014 on strengthening the resilience of vulnerable children by increasing their awareness around GBV/CP. With the aim of creating a sustainable mechanism, KAFA started working through a community-based approach in 2016 in order to

- Engage different community groups in reducing vulnerabilities of boys, girls, and caregivers, mainly through peer education and safety identification and referral mechanisms and
- Engage different community groups in identifying risks that women and girls are facing or at risk of facing inside their community and be a part of the risk mitigation.



Child Protection Unit

Combating violence against children

Community Support and Awareness Raising

1. Maintenance of Safe Spaces

Kafa maintains safe spaces in order to provide members of marginalized communities places where they can feel comfortable, and where they can access Kafa's services. We have established these safe spaces across Lebanon, focusing in particular on the Bekaa valley, which hosts the majority of the vulnerable Syrian refugee population. Safe spaces include:

- Support Center in Badaro and Chtaura
- Adolescent Friendly Space in Chtaura
- 22 Informal Settlements and Households in Central and West Bekaa
- 3 SDCs in Bekaa: Kab Elias, Jeb Janine, and Marj
- 2 SDCs in Beirut/Mount Lebanon: Borj El Barajneh and Mazraa

2. Psychosocial support

Focused Psychosocial Support sessions based on the International Red Cross curriculum and the inter-agency curriculum including yoga, self-defense, and theater.

3. Case management to children survivors of domestic, gender-based, and sexual violence

4. Community events

8 community events were held in Bekaa and Beirut targeting around 900 children and adolescents aged between 8 and 15 years old.

5. Storytelling sessions

Storytelling sessions were held in Informal Settlements and households and SDCs in Bekaa and Beirut targeting 1,660 children, adolescents, and caregivers, including men.

6. Sensitization sessions on CP risks and GBV Prevention

7. Caregivers program including parenting skills, crochet, and crafts sessions

8. 20 protection committees established in the Informal Settlements and Households in West and Central Bekaa, whose training included:

- a. Trainings on safe identification and referral of potential cases of violence against children
- b. Peer to Peer trainings

9. Courses in literacy and English.



Results:

- 639 girls and boys receiving specialized/focused psychosocial support activities.
- 5,345 women and girls accessing mobile and static safe spaces.
- 57 boys and girls assisted through child protection case management and specialized services.
- 4,716 mothers, fathers, community members, and children engaged in awareness, sensitization, and social mobilization interventions on child protection and gender-based violence.
- 2,703 boys and girls participating in community-based child protection activities.
- 289 caregivers engaged in activities to promote the well-being and protection of children.
- 8 communities actively engaged in child protection/GBV activities.



Child Protection Unit

Combating violence against children

Capacity Building

10. Training future social workers in Citadel of Protection Toolkit

1 five-day training on the Citadel of Protection toolkit was held with 16 students of Social Work from the Lebanese University – Faculty of Public Health in Fanar. This initiative aimed at enhancing the knowledge and capacities of the students in case management in terms of GBV and CP prevention, as part of our goal to engage future field workers in the Citadel of Protection system.

11. Training social workers on Citadel of Protection

1 five-day training on the Citadel of Protection toolkit was held with 21 front line workers working with vulnerable communities in the Bekaa. This initiative aims at enhancing their knowledge and capacities on topics related to child protection and especially child sex trafficking.

12. Training social workers on the practical guide on the interaction between Law 293/2014 and 422/2002

2 one-day trainings were conducted with 57 social workers/case managers from different organizations around Lebanon on the practical guide on the interaction between law 293/2014 to 'Protect Women and other Family Members from Family Violence' and the law 422/2002 to provide judicial protection for the child.

13. Training service providers

1 five-day training on the Caring for Child Survivors of Sexual Violence guidelines was held in Chekka targeting 20 services providers working with children survivors of sexual violence in Akkar and Tripoli.

14. Training Scout members

1 five-day training on the Citadel of Protection toolkit was held with 9 Scout members from the Maronite Scouts Organization and the Lebanese Syriac Scouts Organization located in Zahle.



Resource Development

15. Update to Citadel of Protection Toolkit

In order to maximize the impact of its already-existing awareness tools on CP and GBV among different target groups, KAFA conducted a review of the Citadel of Protection toolkit including all of its modules targeting children aged between 8 and 12 years old, adolescents aged between 13 and 17 years old, and caregivers. The toolkit has been implemented since 2013 in schools, the ISF, households, safe spaces, SDC centers, and community centers by specialized facilitators from KAFA. Many comments from the field were integrated in order to make the tool more child- and community-friendly, targeting all topics related to GBV and CP, and based on the needs of the communities.

16. Practical Guide on the interaction between law 293 'Protecting Women and other Family Members from Family Violence' and the law 422/2002 to provide judicial protection for the child

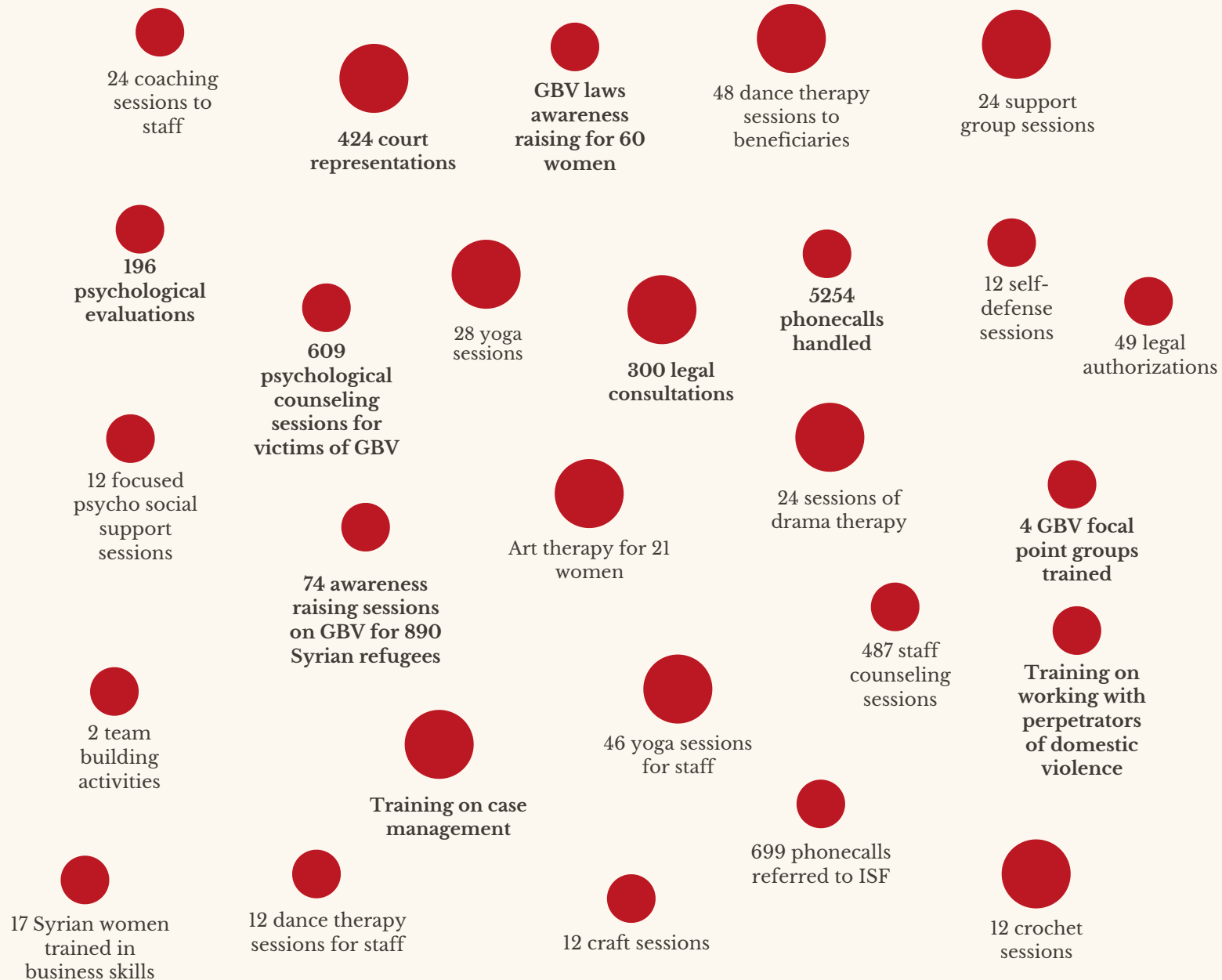
In December 2016, KAFA completed a comparative review of the law 293/2014 to 'Protect Women and other Family Members from Family Violence' and the law 422/2002 to provide judicial protection for the child targeting judges and lawyers. A practical guide on the comparative review was developed targeting social workers and case managers working with children and women survivors of violence. By identifying linkages and overlaps between the two laws and by providing practical examples about the relevance of their articles to different cases involving women and children victims of violence, this practical guide will serve as a reference guide to social workers/case managers and will better guide legal assistance and judicial processes. It was used in 2018 to train social workers (see 12).



Support Centers

Providing essential services to women and children subject to violence

2018 Highlights



What we do. KAFA's Support Centers (SC) available in Beirut and Bekaa provide women victims/survivors of GBV with essential services such as psychosocial support, legal consultations, court representations, referral to temporary safe-housing, forensic medical reports, and an Emergency 24/7 Support Line. All these services are essential, and are necessary for helping any woman in Lebanon affected by domestic violence and abuse to be empowered, to overcome the negative consequences of abuse, and to rebuild and regain control of their lives. We engage with and empower women to move away from abuse and to move forward with their lives. All our services are offered in a confidential and safe environment where survivors discuss their experiences and express their feelings with specially-trained therapists. In addition to the services and activities provided to the beneficiaries, the support center also organizes staff-care related activities to the team who are in daily contact with beneficiaries to decrease their work-related stress and improve their productivity.

Support Centers

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Case Management

1. Free psychological assistance services for women victims of violence

KAFA provided 609 sessions of psychotherapy to 98 women. Women are referred to psychotherapists by the social worker following up on their cases. Furthermore, 196 sessions of psychotherapy evaluation were conducted to assess the psychological status of all beneficiaries following the initial social counselling. Based on these evaluations, the therapists can prepare the proper action plan and decide whether or not the woman needs psychological follow up.

2. Legal aid & court representations

300 legal consultations were provided for over 216 women by a team of professional lawyers collaborating with the SC. Moreover, 424 court representations for 131 women and 49 legal authorizations took place during 2018.

3. Support Line

Two operators are responsible for answering the Support Line by taking shifts. 5254 phone calls were managed by KAFA's operators through the support line, with 699 calls referred to Internal Security Forces.

Capacity Building and Awareness Raising

4. Awareness raising sessions for Gender Based Violence (GBV) survivors on legal issues (Beirut)

8 sessions on the legal framework around gender based violence with 60 participants in total were conducted. These sessions gave the beneficiaries a greater insight on various legal topics, specifically the personal status laws in Lebanon. These sessions were given by lawyers who responded to all the concerns of participants including court procedures issues and women's rights. A related film 'Against me' produced by KAFA was presented during those sessions. Beneficiaries were highly satisfied with the content of these sessions and the discussions that took place among participants. They requested to proceed with similar awareness raising sessions that cover additional legal topics including the rights of beneficiaries who have submitted claims in the courts.

5. Awareness Raising Sessions (Bekaa)

About 74 awareness raising sessions were conducted for approximately 890 Syrian women refugees. These sessions increased the knowledge of the participants on various GBV concepts including prevention of domestic violence, early marriage, and women's rights.

6. GBV focal point training (Bekaa)

Four focal point groups of Syrian refugees received training on GBV concepts (29 women and 7 men). These sessions increased the knowledge of focal points on GBV, advocacy, and national and international laws. These focal points will be able to identify, orient, and refer GBV cases.

7. Business Training (Bekaa)

17 Syrian women (potential GBV and beneficiaries) participated in a business training session. This session increased the knowledge on setting up a personal business and management skills. The attendees received certificates that will enable them to find a job and to be more independent.

8. Participation in Rally Paper (Bekaa)

Participating in rally paper organized by Zahle's municipality and East Youth Movement. It was a public event where all the participants and attendees had the chance to learn about KAFA, its services, mission, and vision. The visibility of KAFA has increased especially within the youth community.

9. Group Talk (Bekaa)

14 Syrian women participated in a group talk (beneficiaries and potential GBV). These sessions increased their knowledge on: KAFA's mission, vision, and services; GBV and domestic violence; parenting skills; communication skills; and taking decisions. The attendees were very satisfied with this activity because they learned a lot of things concerning their rights. They reported feeling empowered by the session and also that they felt they had the chance to share their stories and emotions.

10. Refugee & Internally Displaced People (IDP) protection training

The training was conducted for the KAFA and Nabad team. All of the participants gained knowledge on: the international legal framework of refugee protection, refugee status determination, eligibility criteria, registration of refugees, protection of refugees, humanitarian principles in practice, durable solutions for refugees, and accountability to affected populations.

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Rehabilitation and Empowerment (Beirut)

11. Focused Psycho Social Sessions (FPSS)

8 sessions with 1 group of adolescents, 4 sessions with 1 group of children. The resilience of the participants was reinforced to help them to face their challenging circumstances. The participants learned how to protect themselves.

12. Self-Defense for women

12 sessions of self-defense for women were held with 20 participants in total. The participants learned how to prevent injury to themselves. They adopted the proper mentality when it comes to anticipating and escaping danger. They gained information and practiced physical defense by attacking the abuser when escaping is not possible.

13. Dance Therapy

24 sessions of dance therapy were conducted with two groups of women (12 sessions per group) and 27 participants in total. Through movement, dancing helped the women to learn appropriate ways of self-expression. Also, the dance therapy furthers the emotional, cognitive, physical, and social integration of the women. They reported feeling motivated, as well as gaining a sense of self, and feeling more powerful and resilient.

14. Support Groups

16 sessions with 2 groups, with 18 participants in total. 8 sessions with 1 group of 11 participants. The support groups provided opportunities for women to share their experiences and feelings in a safe place. It offered lots of practical tips and resources for dealing with their specific concerns. The majority of participants showed interest in taking part in additional sessions of support groups.

15. Craft sessions for women

12 sessions with one group of 18 participants in total. The craft sessions helped the women to release stress, boost confidence, and enhance their brain productivity. It improved their general well-being.

16. Yoga sessions for women

12 yoga sessions were conducted with 1 group of 19 participants, and 16 sessions with another group of 19 participants. The yoga practice allowed women to heal their body, connect peacefully with their emotions, and calm the mind. They reported significant benefits from the sessions.

17. Crochet sessions for women

12 sessions were conducted with 1 group of 13 participants. The participants gained a new skill by learning the techniques of crochet. It may help them to start a business and make extra income from it from their homes. Participants were encouraged to communicate positively and to accept others.

I feel less irritable: I count to 10 and breathe before making a nervous reaction.

- Beneficiary of dance therapy

We were sometimes reluctant to share personal experiences but we felt much relieved and relaxed when we let things out!

- Beneficiary of support groups

I wanted to give a title for my experience in the yoga sessions: I found myself!

- Beneficiary of yoga sessions

Rehabilitation and Empowerment (Bekaa)

18. Dance therapy sessions

Two groups benefited from the dance therapy conducted by Ms. Cynthia Akiki. Each group completed 12 sessions. They were 10 Lebanese and 11 Syrian beneficiaries. The women reported an improvement in well-being and psychological comfort and an increase in self-confidence.

19. Musico-drama therapy workshop

12 sessions of musico-drama therapy were conducted by Dr. Therese Ward for 12 Lebanese beneficiaries. These sessions increased the self-esteem, self-confidence, and well-being of participants.

20. Art therapy

Two groups of art therapy were conducted for 11 Syrian and 10 Lebanese beneficiaries. The art therapy is a safe space for women to express themselves artistically. These sessions helped women to explore their emotions, improve self-esteem, relieve stress, and improve symptoms of anxiety and depression. The attendees agreed that they tend to forget all the week's stresses during this session. It gives them positivity, and they await the session every week.

21. Drama therapy sessions

Two groups of drama therapy were conducted for beneficiaries (12 sessions for 11 Syrian beneficiaries and 12 sessions for 17 Syrian female minors who are potential GBV cases and beneficiaries). The drama therapy gave women the courage and self-confidence to make practical changes in their daily lives. Some of them felt more confident and less shy. Many of them highlighted the importance and the relief resulting from the physical exercises incorporated into the sessions, as well as the enjoyment of the theater exercises.

The sessions gave us more strength in talking and showing up ourselves and dealing with other people, we aren't shy as before, and more confident in front of others.

- Beneficiary of drama therapy

The sessions bring me psychological comfort with my family and surroundings

- Beneficiary of dance therapy

Support Centers

Providing essential services to women and children subject to violence

Staff Care and Development

KAFA value their staff, and understand that they are key to the successful realization of our vision. The work of the support center staff in particular is psychologically challenging, as they deal with many cases of abuse every day. We ensure their health, safety, and resilience by providing them with significant support, and also improve their effectiveness and input into KAFA by educating them in the legal and policy framework within which they are working.

22. Coaching for KAFA staff in Beirut and Bekaa

During 2018, 24 coaching sessions were implemented for social workers, psychotherapists and psychologists working at the support center. These sessions improved the knowledge of participants on GBV and SGBV related issues; improved agency to deal with beneficiaries with special cases. The entire group reported satisfaction from learning new strategies of coping and about having had the space to express their experiences. Many reported the need to continue with follow up sessions; and they feel supported by their organization which is taking care of their psychological well-being.

23. Team building activities

Two team building activities were implemented for all staff in 2018. This was intended to foster a sense of community and to create a strong culture of communication within KAFA to improve staff well-being, create a positive working atmosphere, and improve efficiency.

24. Training workshop on case management

An international consultant gave KAFA staff a training workshop on case management. During this training, participants were introduced to a case management guide that had been developed for KAFA by an expert on gender-based violence. Participants had a chance to review the guide as a group and raised a series of major comments and edits that will improve the tool and make it more comprehensive and applicable across all areas of the organization.



25. Training workshop on working with perpetrators of domestic violence

A 5 day training workshop was conducted with an international consultant to develop and improve the skills of KAFA staff on the guiding principles to work with perpetrators of domestic abuse. This training developed and improved the skills of KAFA staff on the best standards of practice when working with perpetrators of domestic abuse. The consultant initiated and trained the participants on a new perpetrators program that was developed for KAFA and adapted to the Lebanese culture.

26. Yoga sessions

A total of 46 sessions of yoga for KAFA staff. Yoga minimized the work related stress and improved the sense of well-being for the participating staff.

27. Dance therapy

12 sessions of dance therapy for KAFA staff. The dance therapy helped the participants to restore their image and self-esteem, reduced stress, fears, anxiety, and physical tension.

