

**Alliance Against Trafficking in Persons Conference
Prevention of Modern Slavery: «An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure»
Vienna, 14-15 September 2009**

**Women empowerment and vulnerability
reduction: Experience of Donetsk Regional
League of Business and Professional Women**



Donetsk Regional League of Business and Professional Women, Ukraine

Donetsk Regional League of Business and Professional Women

Voluntary, non-profitable, non-governmental organization created about 14 years ago (19 December 1995).

It unites women – professionals in different aspects.



League's mission

- **To unite efforts of women for protection of their social, economic and political rights, provision of assistance and support;**
- **To strengthen the role of women and their influence on economic, political and social life of society;**
- **To suppress all manifestations of gender discrimination in all spheres of life.**



League's activities - Key areas

- **Support to women in crisis, women suffered from trafficking in human beings and violence;**
- **Economic empowerment of women, support for their employment, self-employment, business;**
- **Support to women's non-governmental organizations.**



League's services for women

- In order to avoid women getting into crisis situations,
- In order to prevent them suffering from trafficking in human beings and violence,
- For those who already suffered



League has created and supports

- **Hotline;**
- **Regional crisis prevention center «Woman for woman»;**
- **Women's business support center;**
- **Programme to assist victims of trafficking in human beings;**
- **Women's information center.**



League's approach

- **Anonymity,**
 - **Confidentiality,**
 - **Professionalism**



Hotline

Started in **1999**.

Up to **170** women
call **every** month.

Overall **23 153** women
were assisted via Hotline.



Regional crisis prevention center «Woman for woman»

Created in December 1998.

**Over 130 400 women and girls
used its services.**



Regional crisis prevention center «Woman for woman»: Services

- Individual consultations provided by psychologist, lawyer, social worker;
- Self-help groups;
- Professional skills courses;
- Trainings: *«Confident behavior»*,
«Equal opportunities»,
«Women's leadership»,
«Work abroad: myths and realities»,
«Successful employment in Ukraine»,
«My first step to business»



Individual consultations by psychologist, lawyer, employment specialist



Individual consultations by psychologist, lawyer, employment specialist



Women's self-help group



Donetsk Regional League of Business and Professional Women, Ukraine

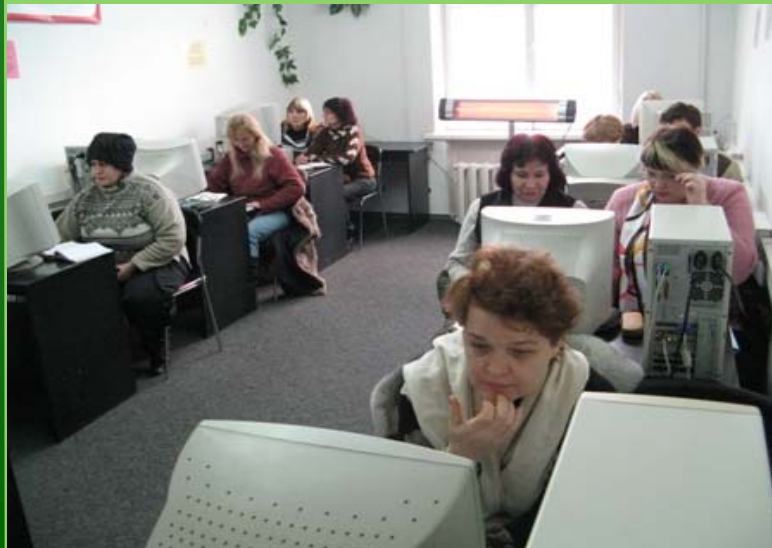
Trainings



Trainings



Computer courses



Women's business support center

Created in November 1999.

**35 011 women used its services
(business consulting, two and five
weeks business courses, on-going
support, exhibitions, conferences).**



Women's business support center (continuation)

- 43%** of graduates established or developed their businesses;
- 41%** of graduates found employment;
- 16%** of graduates stayed as housewives or moved to other regions of Ukraine.



Business course



Forum-exhibition «Donetsk women can do everything!»



Women's information center

Created in 2005.

**Provides various kind of support to
over 200 NGOs within the region
(district, city, region levels).**



Complex support to women suffered from trafficking in human beings

- Assistance in **search and repatriation**;
- Victim's **identification**;
- Identification of victim's **needs**;
- Provision of **assistance**;
- **Monitoring** of reintegration process.



Services for women suffered from trafficking in human beings

- **Individual consultations by psychologist, lawyer, employment and business specialists;**
- **Safety accommodation;**
- **Assistance in re-issuing of the lost documents;**
- **Assistance in medical exam and treatment;**
- **Assistance in employment (trainings, professional skills courses, on-going support)**



Services for women suffered from trafficking in human beings (continuation)

- Assistance in **business** training and on-going support;
- **Financial** help;
- Support if a victim decides to go to **law enforcement** authorities;
- Arrangement for **lawyer/attorney's** assistance;
- Rebuilding **relationship with family** and loved ones;
- Other services, depending on **victim's needs**.



Businesses established by former victims of trafficking



Businesses established by former victims of trafficking



**Due to the reintegration measures
taken,
a number of cases of re-trafficking is
close to zero**



Information and awareness raising activities by League and other NGOs

- **Annual media campaigns «16 Days Against Gender Violence»;**
- **One-hour TV and radio shows: «Woman for woman», «Successful woman», «Women's fate», on the development of personal and professional potential of women;**
- **Press and Internet publications;**
- **etc.**



Thank you for your attention !



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