



КРИЗИСНЫЙ ЦЕНТР
СЕЗИМ
КРИЗИСНИК БОРЬБОРУ

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

CRISIS CENTER "SEZIM"



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INTRODUCTION

According to official and unofficial data, including analysis of the activities by CC "Sezim", the vulnerability of women in modern Kyrgyzstan is increased due to their assumption of a high share of responsibilities and complexity of their social roles and functions: a woman carries full responsibility for her family and children, despite the fact that over half of the working population in Kyrgyzstan are women. In addition to these factors, the official data of the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic show that the number of registered cases of domestic violence in recent years has increased: in 2005 – **6458** complaints, in 2011 - **8906**, in 2013 – **9180**. **90%** of victims of domestic violence in Kyrgyzstan are women and children.

According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the number of complaints on domestic violence in 2013 amounted to **2542** people, including those on physical violence – **2014**, psychological - **517**, sexual - **11**. According to the press service of the Ministry of Social Development of KR, most often women are subjected to physical beatings (**66.3%**) and psychological / economic violence (**24.6%**). In Kyrgyzstan, victims of domestic violence seek help, mainly in crisis centers (**84.5%** of all cases of violence), as well as other non-governmental organizations and local authorities. It is important to note that the official data on the facts of gender and domestic violence do not reflect the real situation, as appeals for help come from a small percentage of the total number of victims of violence. Often, when seeking help in cases of violence, women are often faced with indifference and condemnation from both law enforcement bodies and relatives, neighbors and other close associates. In this regard, in Kyrgyzstan, crisis centers are the most active in providing effective assistance in the field of protection against domestic violence and prevention of recurring violence.

Crisis Center "Sezim" has been working in the legal field of Kyrgyzstan for 17 years, providing psycho-social rehabilitation for women and other family members - victims of violence; it often becomes the intermediary body between a victim of violence and the system of legal protection.

In 2014 activity of CC "Sezim" was carried out in the framework of the strategic plan of 2011-2014 in the following main areas:

- ❖ Enhancing practice of legal protection for victims of gender-based and domestic violence;
- ❖ Support for optimization of the legal climate and protection mechanisms in the field of gender and domestic violence in Kyrgyzstan;
- ❖ Provision of professional and quality services in the field of protection against gender, domestic violence and human trafficking.

As part of these strategic directions, during the reporting period CC "Sezim" worked on the following components:

During the reporting period center "Sezim" has been working in the following areas:

- ✓ Helpline (24 hours);
- ✓ Individual consultations by a psychotherapist, psychologists, lawyers;
- ✓ Human rights protection: advocacy and public defense in court;
- ✓ Provision of shelter with a complex of rehabilitation and reintegration services;
- ✓ Provision of Transit Social Housing;
- ✓ Educational and informational activities (workshops, seminars, press conferences, round tables, campaigns);
- ✓ Small programs;
- ✓ Project activities;
- ✓ Advocacy – activities;
- ✓ Co-operation in partner networks;
- ✓ PR-activities.

1. PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

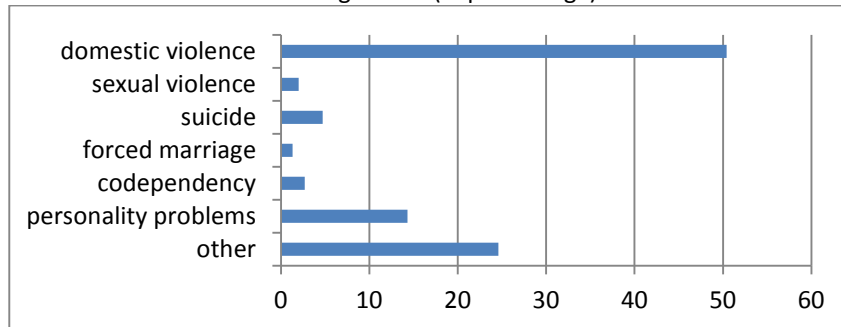
1.1. Helpline

Work of the helpline is one of the important components of the work of the Crisis Center "Sezim", aimed at primary emotional and psychological support, outreach and social counseling of people in difficult or critical life circumstances.

Helpline (HL) works 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Consultants working on HL are 7 trained staff members of CC "Sezim".

During the reporting period **1876** calls have been received, including **96%** from women, **4%** from men.

Chart 1. Reasons for addressing the HL (in percentage)



First time applications are prevailing, about **10%** of applicants address the HL repeatedly, about **1%** - "permanent" applicants. About **40%** of applicants to HL further address the center for individual consultations of psychologists and lawyers.

An analysis of the calls received on HL suggests that mental and emotional disorders of women/men cause depression, consequences of domestic and sexual violence, increased use of psychoactive substances, worriedness about the close environment, unemployment problems, etc.

For women (compared to men) more typical problems are the following:

- Specific mental disorders, the most common of which is depression;
- Consequences of family violence;
- Consequences of sexual violence;
- Consequences of gender-based violence;
- Co-addiction of family members or close environment from use of psychoactive substances (alcohol, drugs) and gambling.

Among women more common are emotional disorders, nervous exhaustion, while men are observed to have mostly antisocial disorders: alcohol abuse and alcohol addiction (these findings are peculiar for many countries with different levels of socio-economic development). In recent years, drug addiction has spread significantly; appeals for help on gambling addiction have become more frequent.

1.2. Individual consultations by Psychologists / a Psychotherapist

Psychological counseling is provided by 3 psychologists and a psychotherapist of CC "Sezim", who have extensive experience in working with clients subjected to various forms of violence. Consultations are held in Kyrgyz and Russian languages by appointment.

During the reporting period, a total of **468** adults received **1788** consultations (**92%** - women, **8%** - men); **423** consultations - for **82** children including:

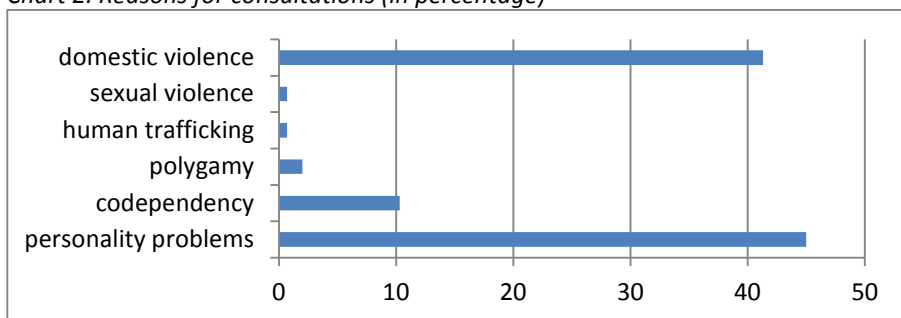
- received at the office - **608** consultations / **320** people;
- during stay at the shelter\transit house - **1603** consultations / **230** people (**1180** for **148** women, **423** - for **82** children).

Analysis of clients' personal data:

- education: higher education - 65%, secondary - 28%, specialized secondary - 7%
- social status: unemployed - 38%, employed – 45%,retired – 10%, of students - 5%, people with disabilities - 2%
- marital status:
 - ✓ official marriage 48%;
 - ✓ non-registered marriage 12%;
 - ✓ divorced 11%;
 - ✓ not married 29%.

Out of the total amount: initial counseling - 74%, repeated - 26%.

Chart 2. Reasons for consultations (in percentage)



As can be seen from the chart, the highest percentage of consultations is for victims of domestic violence and clients who have personality problems. Often, difference between them lies in limitation of the consequences of violence, victimization and its consequences, which may influence the psychological state and fate of women many years after the cessation of violence, and many of them over the years continue to live in an atmosphere of violence.

1.3. Legal protection against gender and domestic violence

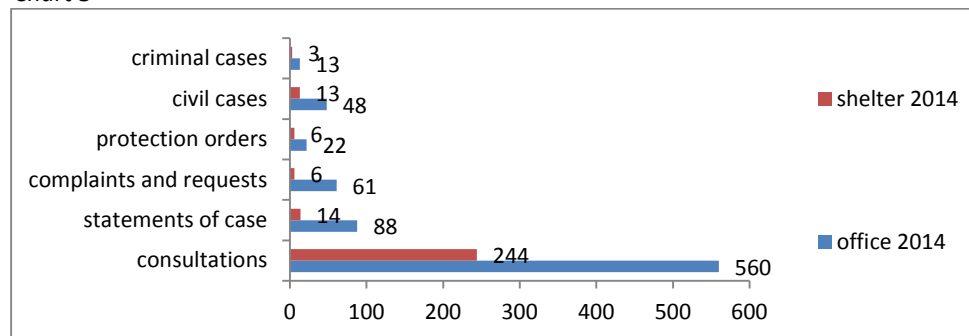
During the reporting period lawyers of CC "Sezim" conducted the following work:

- In the office: they held **560** consultations for **261** people; prepared **88** statements of claim, **61** lawyer’s queries, complaints and appeals, **22** requests for protection orders;
- For clients in the shelter: they held **244** consultations for **96** people; prepared **14** statements of claim, lawyers requests, **6** lawyer’s queries, complaints and appeals ; **6** requests for protection orders.

Legal protection in court:

- In the office: **48** civil cases (**121** participations in court); **12** criminal cases (**40** participations in court);
- For clients in the shelter: **13** civil cases (**32** participations in court); **3** criminal cases (**14** participations in court);
- Visits to places of clients’ residence and accompaniment: **23** people;
- **In 37 court cases**, decisions have been made in favor of clients of CC "Sezim".

Chart 3



Case №1. Kaliya A. (31 y.o.). She addressed CC "Sezim" for legal aid, in December 2013 she was raped by members of the judiciary in one of the regions of KR. Due to the fact that rapists were representatives of the judiciary, Kaliya expressed distrust to the regional court, the processes on the challenge to all members of the court lasted for 8 months, and only in October 2013 The Supreme Court of the Kyrgyz Republic made a decision to transfer the criminal proceedings to Sokuluk District Court of Chui region KR. Within 8 months, experts of CC "Sezim" provided her legal assistance in preparation of petitions, applications, and complaints to law enforcement and judicial authorities. On the case, CC "Sezim" initiated a press conference, prepared and published articles in the national media. The lawyer of the center took part in 5 trials, currently, the case is under judicial review, moreover CC "Sezim" granted a public defender to Kalia. To date, the case is in the court of the 1st instance on the stage of judicial proceedings.

Case №2. Gulzhamal K. (53 y.o.). Gulzhamal's daughter, Cholpon, is a victim of domestic violence. Being in a civil marriage to a man 23 years older, and having given birth to three children, the woman was in the position of a domestic slave. Her husband constantly abused alcohol, systematically physically assaulted her, not allowed to leave the house. Once, in May 2010 her husband again beat Cholpon up, she ran out into the street and lost consciousness, lying in the bushes until dark, all the while the two younger children were with her. A neighbor saw Cholpon with children, and took her to hospital, where she was given first aid, then directed to the shelter of CC "Sezim" with two young children. At the shelter she was granted temporary safe housing, provided psychological and legal counseling. An official letter was sent to the head of the Alamudun police department in Bishkek for help in taking measures against Cholpon's husband, and issuing a temporary restraining order. In 2012, Cholpon's mother, Gulzhamal, addressed the center and said that her daughter had committed suicide, and that she suspects her son-in-law to be the culprit in incitement to her suicide. She asked for help in filing a criminal complaint against Cholpon's husband on the article "incitement to suicide", as after leaving shelter in 2010, he forced Cholpon to return to him by threats and continued to systematically torture her. Within 2 years the center lawyer provided consultations to Gulzhamal, giving legal advice and legal defense in the investigative agencies and court. To date, two instances of the court rendered a guilty verdict for Cholpon's husband, sentencing him to punishment at a high-security penal colony. To date, two instances of the court rendered a guilty verdict in a penal colony in the case of the husband of the deceased Cholpon. In practice of CC "Sezim", this is the only case when the proceedings were instituted on the fact of incitement to suicide with conviction.

1.4. Shelter activities (with the support of the Mayor's office, Ministry of Social development of KR, International Organization for Migration and DIMES Foundation)

During the reporting period, shelter services were provided to **318** people, including **151** women, **151** children, **16** men/victims of labor slavery:

- Victims of domestic violence - **139** women;
- Victims of human trafficking – **23** people/ **7** women, **16** men (they were not residing in the shelter);
- Victims of sexual violence - **3** women;
- Refugees/AS – **4**, including **2** women / **2** children.

In comparison to 2013, shelter services in 2014 were received by **45** people more, the percentage increase is caused by victims of domestic violence.

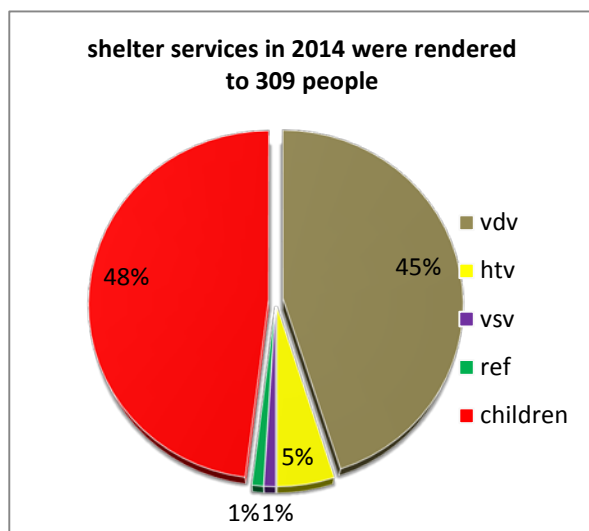


Chart 4

In addition to providing individual support of psychologists, a psychotherapist and lawyers, according to the schedule, group rehabilitation programs were carried out:

- **132** women participated in psychosocial support groups;
- **140** women and **92** children from 3 to 15 years old participated in classes of art therapy and occupational therapy (including, floristry, painting, fairy tale therapy, dance therapy, music therapy, work with felt, knitting);
- Twice a week, a psychotherapist and social worker conducted classes for correctional work and diagnostics. During the reporting period **85** women and **55** children were tested.

- On the basis of the shelter, project "Social support for families and children in difficult life situations" is carried out with the support of the Ministry of Social Development KR. (see Project activity).

- Humanitarian assistance was rendered from the Transit Center "Manas" for the shelter and transit social house in the form of second hand clothing and food, as well as technical support in setting up a children's playground by the shelter.

Comparative table on types of assistance provided at the shelter in 2013 / 2014.

Assistance provided to clients of the shelter	2013	2014
Psychological (including counseling, support groups, art therapy)	882	1195
Social (including accompaniment, accommodation of children at the shelter, employment, etc.)	239	358
Medical (diagnostics, treatment)	68	117
Legal (including consultations, weekly meetings)	197	244
Training at professional courses	4	1
Other (communication with relatives, co-dependency - help to relatives, maintaining contacts with other organizations, etc.)	37	88

Case №3. Burul (34 y.o.) / victim of domestic violence. In official marriage - for 11 years. She and her husband lived in the city of Osh. Four children were born during their marriage (10, 9, 5, 2 years old). The last 2 years Burul was constantly experiencing physical and psychological abuse from her husband, and she suspected that her husband had another woman. He often beat and chased her out of the house, threatened to take her children away. Burul was not going to divorce her husband, because she was not sure about their future and children. After another conflict husband beat her up and kicked her out of the house, children stayed with him. The woman arrived in Bishkek to relatives and addressed CC "Sezim", she was consulted by lawyers and psychologists. She was offered shelter services, but she refused, as she wanted to go home to her children. Two weeks later Burul phoned the helpline, she stole her two younger children out of the house and asked for shelter. She needed a safe shelter, as her husband was looking for children and threatened her relatives. At the time of admission to the shelter, the client was mentally depressed, saw no way out of this situation. Her husband called, threatening her. She took a course of psychological rehabilitation. After psychological and legal counseling her state stabilized, she felt protected and confident. CC "Sezim" help to place children in a kindergarten. Currently Burul lives with her children at her relatives, works at the market, and has started divorce proceedings

Case №4. Gulbara Z. (47 y.o.) / victim of human trafficking, a native of Chui region. In 2003, her sister persuaded her to come to her in Moscow (Russia) to care for a 2-year old son. Gulbara came with her 3-year-old son, got a job at a furniture factory, and was helping her sister. When the factory closed, her sister threw her out with her son out of the house. Gulbara appealed for help to her friend who sent her son to relatives in Kyrgyzstan. In September, 2012 she got a job of a construction painter, where she was promised a decent salary, accommodation and meals. Documents were taken for a work permit. She worked for 10 - 12 hours, seven days a week. During all that time, money was given only once - to buy clothes. Since Gulbara was a qualified specialist, employers did not want to lose her and were very attentive for her not to run away. When she faced serious health problems, she managed to leave the construction site. She had money only for a ticket to Bishkek. She was sent to CC "Sezim" by hospital doctors, whom she addressed having poor health. During her stay at the shelter she was given psychological, social, medical and humanitarian help. Being in labor slavery, she was injured, she damaged her eyesight (angle-closure glaucoma). Having consulted an ophthalmologist and preliminarily taken a 1-month medication course, the client had a successful ophthalmic surgery at the medical center "Dordoi-oftomatik", with the support of IOM.

1.5. Activity of Social transit home «NUR» (supported by the Eastern Bavarian society)

In 2014 Transit social house (TSH) accommodated **36** people, including **18** women and **18** children.

TSH is for shelter clients, who have gone through rehabilitation program.

TSH is aimed to support vulnerable and low-income women and their families affected by different types of violence and human trafficking for the period of their social reintegration (while getting qualification to find permanent housing and work). Residence time - an average of 6 months.

Comparative table on types of help rendered in TSH in 2013-2014

Assistance provided to clients of the TSH	2013	2014
Assistance in employment	-	2
Training at professional courses	1	3
Medical help (examination and treatment)	5	10
Legal aid (consultations)	5	14
Placement in orphanage	3 children	2 children
Placement at a secondary school	2 children	3 children
Placement at kindergarten	3 children	3 children

- All clients are provided essentials free of charge: linens, dishes, a personal hygiene set, as well as one-time standard food basket.
- Always when necessary psychological and legal counseling is provided;
- Psychological group trainings are carried out once a week.

As part of transit social house activity on 15.04.2014 a **new project was launched on free loans for clients of TSH**, aimed at supporting their training, education, small business development. The project helps to get necessary skills to build financial independence and increase knowledge, improve conditions and quality of life of women who suffered from domestic and gender violence.

During the reporting period **3 credits** were provided.

Case №5. Jyldyz (46 y.o.) Jyldyz lived in the TSH with two children of hers (daughters of 16 and 10 y.o.). Her official marriage lasted for 17 years, she was systematically subjected to domestic violence by her husband, who was an alcoholic. Jyldyz decided to get away from him when he beat her elder 16 year old daughter. After a few days of living in the shelter, she decided to return to her husband, because she could not decide for a divorce. Only her eldest daughter's refusal to return to her father and the threat of a suicide stopped her from the decision. Jyldyz and her two children lived 9 months in the transit social house. During this time she, having a medical degree, got a job in a pharmacy, where after some time she was offered a place of a head. Under the project, she was granted an interest-free loan, which she used to buy a laptop, required for her work. Currently, Jyldyz rents housing, lives with her daughters, works, and has already paid 30% of the loan.

1.6. Family mediation

During the reporting period, work on family mediation continued. A total of **9** family mediations with the consent of all parties concerned were carried out.

It should be noted that the procedure of mediation in family relations in our country is just beginning to develop, and a few couples are willing to use these services. Analysis of CC "Sezim" work shows that mediation provides a good performance in the resolution of conflicts and maintaining family / marital relationships. Introducing practice of family mediation in Kyrgyzstan can be an alternative option to pretrial dispute/conflict resolution.

Case 7. Asel K. (30 y.o.). At the time of addressing CC "Sezim", the spouse of the woman sued for divorce. She, on the other hand, wanted to save their marriage. During the initial consultation, the woman told that she married for love, during a 9-year marriage the couple had three children. Asel was busy with housework and child-rearing, as having registered the marriage, her husband forbade her to work and managed the family budget. Despite these limitations, Asel was happy with her family. Over the past few years, family income, thanks to her husband, grew, and he started to stay at work late more and more often, and all of a sudden decided to divorce. His wife suspected that the reason for his decision was another woman. Asel addressed CC "Sezim" for services of family mediation in order to save her marriage. An individual consultation was arranged with her husband, at which he said that he had made the final decision on divorce, but was ready to turn to mediation and work out contentious issues related to further education and maintenance of children. During their family mediation a lot of time was given to the emotional side of the conflict. Two meetings were held with each of the parties. Asel was involved in discussion of the impossibility to forcibly keep a man at her side, being explained that in their case cessation of marital relationship did not put an end to parental relationship, and it was important to discuss together with her husband further cooperation on education and maintenance of children. As a result, the wife realized the current reality and agreed to negotiate with her husband his participation in education and maintenance of children. Mediation procedure lasted about 3 hours. The couple discussed each question, offering their solutions. Mediators, a psychologist and a lawyer, assisted in negotiations and helped with the legal registration of the achieved agreement. As a result, a mediation agreement was signed according to which: 1) The children stay with her mother; father is obliged to buy an apartment within 2 years, because until then spouses rented accommodation, the new apartment will be registered on the eldest son; 2) The monthly child support from the father; 3) Father can meet with children without any time limit, but not with his new partner; 4) The spouse consents to the divorce, not delaying the trial. This incident showed the effectiveness of mediation in family disputes. Often in trials, emotional side of the conflict is not taken into account, the trial could drag on for a long time and cause serious emotional distress, involving other relatives in conflict and significant financial costs for lawyers.

Main program activity of CC "Sezim" is supported by DIMES Fund

Comparative table of appeals/rendered services in CC "Sezim": 2013-2014

	2013r.	2014r.
Helpline		
	2172	1876
Consultations of psychologists		
Office	614	608
Shelter / Transit house	882	1180 – for adults/ 423 – for children
Total	1496 (consultations of children were not taken into account)	1788 consultations for adults / 423 – for children
Legal advice		
Office	519	560
Shelter / Transit house	197	244
Total	716	804
Prepared claims		
Office	82	88
Shelter	20	14
Total	102	102
Prepared complaints, requests, applications		
Office	33	61
Shelter	9	6
Total	42	67
Issuance of temporary restraining orders		
Office	32	22
Shelter	14	6
Total	46	28
Legal protection and presence in the civil courts		
Office	43 cases – 110 participations	48 cases – 121 participations
Shelter	7 cases – 22 participations	13 cases – 32 participations
Total	50 cases – 132 participations	61 cases – 153 participations
Legal protection and presence in the criminal courts		
Office	8 cases – 42 participations	12 cases – 40 participations
Shelter	2 cases – 6 participations	3 cases – 14 participations
Total	10 cases – 48 participations	15 cases – 54 participations
Shelter		
DVV	117 women + 126 children	139 women + 146 children
HTV	12 women + 3 children	7 women + 1 child + 16 men (they were not residing in the shelter)
Victims of sexual violence	5 women	3 women + 2 children
Refugees and AS	1 women	2 women + 2 children
Total	263 = 135 women + 129 children	318 = 151 women + 151 children + 16 men (they were not residing in the shelter)
Transit house		
DVV	20 women + 23 children	18 women + 18 children
HTV	-	-
Total	43 = 20 women + 23 children	36 = 18 women + 18 children

As in previous periods, special attention in the activities of CC "Sezim" during the reporting period was given to the problems of religious (unregistered) marriages, early marriage, polygamy and bride kidnapping. These factors have a significant impact on the situation of gender and domestic violence in Kyrgyzstan.

- About 50% of all those who applied for the services of CC "Sezim" were in unregistered marriage (marriage ceremony was held only on the basis of religious Islamic canons without official registration). In Kyrgyzstan, unregistered marriages have no legal force, which leads to legal insecurity of girls/women and their children. The practice of religious wedding rites without official registration increases the number of early marriages, polygamy and bride kidnapping, as such marriage are legally authorized under the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.
- 18% of girls/women, who addressed the center, were kidnapped for creation of a family. About 60% of women in marriages created this way are in unregistered marriage relationships.
- 7% of women who applied are in polygamous family relations. All second and subsequent marriages are unregistered.
- 1,5% of girls, who addressed the center, are in early marriages (aged under 18 years old).

Case 6. Mayram (29 years old). She was admitted to the shelter with 4 children. At the age of 16 she was raped by a man who was 17 years older. Fearing punishment he "stole" her and forced her to marriage. Beginning from the first year of their civil marriage, her husband began beating her, after those cases of violence the client ran to relatives, he found her, asked for forgiveness, she returned, but it all started again. They had four children. He started drinking, and being drunk, he severely beat his wife and children. Relatives stopped helping her, as their help brought no results – she came back to her husband all the time. The client was brought to the shelter by her close relative. As a result of psychological and social assistance, Mayram's degree of victimization slightly decreased. She began building realistic plans for the future, first thought about the responsibility for her life, and clarified her needs and goals. The client returned to her relatives with the decision not to return to "the cycle of violence" again.

2. PROJECT ACTIVITY

2.1. Project "Social support for families and children in difficult life situations" with the support of Ministry of Social Development KR.

Project Objective: Improvement of quality of rehabilitation services for women and children - victims of gender, domestic violence and human trafficking.

The project started in November 2012 on the basis of CC "Sezim" shelter. Since the beginning of the project, the number of places for women with children has increased, more comfortable living conditions have been created through purchase of additional furniture, additional services have been introduced (within the framework of the project, a children's nurse works at the shelter), children's playground room. Project activities included psychological, legal, social, medical and humanitarian aid to victims of violence.

Case 8. Samara (29 y.o.). She addressed the center for the consultation of a psychologist, being in a state of depression, anxiety, she did not want to live, her husband brutally beat and humiliated her. Her condition was so severe that she was sent for treatment in RHC. After treatment, she and her two children were admitted to the shelter. Medications, prescribed by the psychotherapist, were purchased for her, she participated in group therapy, received individual psychological and legal counseling. Her condition has improved significantly, there appeared confidence, determination to protect herself and her children, a positive outlook for the future. Samara continued her psychotherapy course after she left the shelter and moved with her children to her mother.

2.2. Project "Assistance to victims of human trafficking" with the support of the International Organization for Migration

The project aims to provide rehabilitation and reintegration assistance to victims of human trafficking as part of the activity of the Crisis Center office and its shelter. During the reporting period, the project provided psychological, legal, social, medical, humanitarian assistance to **23** victims of human trafficking

(7 female / 16 male) without providing accommodation at the shelter. Men and three women were supported out of living in the shelter.

Out of 23 victims of human trafficking, 12 people came from Russia, 2 people - from Turkey, 3 people - from Kazakhstan, 6 people - are victims of domestic trafficking. 22 people - victims of labor slavery, 1 woman - a victim of sexual slavery.

2.3. Partner UNHCR project "Support for education and development of communities of refugees and asylum seekers (AS)"

Since 2010, CC "Sezim" has been a partner organization in the UNHCR network, implementing UNHCR's program on education and development of communities of refugees and asylum seekers.

During the reporting period the following work was carried out under the project on the basis of CC "Sezim":

- Help to ensure refugees and asylum seekers' access to secondary and higher education;
- Administration of DAFI program (program on access of refugees to higher education supported by the German government and UNHCR);
- Implementation of an educational program (support for refugees and asylum seekers in language and professional training);
- Project includes psychological assistance for refugees and asylum seekers. Counseling is conducted by a psychologist knowing Russian, Uzbek and basic Farsi. Refugees have access to the shelter and TSH, during the reporting period there were no requests for these services from refugees and asylum seekers;
- Refugees have access to shelter services and TSH;
- A special module has been developed and four trainings were conducted for new arrivals - "Psychological and social adaptation to new realities»;
- Within the 16-day campaign against gender-based violence in partnership with the PF LC "Adilet", informational extra-curricular classes were held for the senior classes in four schools (in Bishkek, Kant), which most of refugees and asylum seekers attend.

2.4. Project "Building partnership between Crisis Center "Sezim" and Kyrgyz diasporas in Russia to intensify efforts to assist victims of human trafficking" (OSCE)

The project has been working on improving partnerships with community organizations and consular services of the Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Russian Federation, including on-site visit of those in Moscow. List of NGOs there included organizations working in the territory of Russia and solving problems of human trafficking in Kyrgyzstan (public organizations representing Kyrgyz diaspora in Russia, crisis centers in Moscow):

- Association "Zamandash" / International Congress of the Kyrgyz, which unites more than 90 diasporas, 15 communities, more than 40 organizations, associations, foundations and other non-governmental organizations from Russia, Kazakhstan, China, Europe, America, Asia, Africa, Australia and Oceania;
- PA "Migrants Support Center" (Moscow) / organization for migrants from Kyrgyzstan;
- Integration Centre for migrants "Migration and Law" (RF) / Kyrgyz branch.

With these organizations a "**Memorandum of mutual understanding and cooperation in the field of combating human trafficking**" was signed, being aimed at system work on re-directing victims of human trafficking coming from Kyrgyzstan to CC "Sezim" to provide legal and social assistance.

After the meetings and signing of the Memorandum, in June 2014, four victims of human trafficking were sent to CC "Sezim" through Consular Service of the Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Russian Federation for legal and social assistance. Currently the Main Administration of Criminal Search KR conducts investigative measures regarding the slaver. Victims of trafficking receive social assistance in CC "Sezim" (providing clothing, training at professional courses, humanitarian assistance).

2.5. Project "Protection of rights of vulnerable and poor women suffering from gender-based and domestic violence" (Global Fund for Women)

This project is a continuation of the project of 2012-2013, with the support of Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan. During implementation of this project 3 counseling centers were established in three residential blocks of Leninsky district of Bishkek for primary care to victims of domestic and gender-based violence, three groups of local activists were created. 4 judicial precedent were initiated on criminal cases.

Aim of the project: Formation of public opinion on the need to take legal actions (including public) in relation to cases of gender and domestic violence; protection of rights through creation of judicial precedents and public response to facts of gender and domestic violence in two residential blocks of Leninsky district of Bishkek, involving the media and the public.

After redirection of victims from counseling centers to CC "Sezim" the following help was provided:

- Legal advice – **72** consultations /**43** people;
- Psychological counseling - **37**;
- Prepared claims - **29**;
- Participations in civil court - **23**;
- Participations in the criminal court - **1**;
- Court precedent – **1**.

Case 9. On the precedent. 07.03.2014 Zhumagul Ch. and her mother Batina T. went to the r/b Archa-Beshik, where her ex-husband and his girl-friend lived with her youngest son. They wanted to take her son, with whom she was forcibly separated by her ex-husband and his relatives. Upon arrival, the child was not given to the women. Ex-husband arrived, and during a fight he broke Zhumagul mother's fingers on both hands. Both parties wrote complaints in the Leninsky district police department. A few days later Zhumagul managed to get into the house, where at that time there was only his ex-husband's girlfriend, Zhumagul took the child (climbed over the fence and handed over the child to the taxi driver and her mother waiting for her in the street). The girlfriend accused Zhumagul that she allegedly beat her and wrote a complaint to the police station of Leninsky district. 16.04.2014, strangers detained Zhumagul's mother and brought her to the police station, where she was being questioned up till 2 a.m., at the same time the police department investigator called up Zhumagul's ex-husband. In the morning Batina was charged under Art. 168 and 234 of the Criminal Code - robbery and hooliganism. Zhumagul addressed CC "Sezim", the center staff made a legal action on rescuing Zhumagul's mother from the police department. Legal protection, shelter services and psychologist's counseling was provided. 21.03.2014 press center "Kabar" held a press conference on the fact of the case involving Zhumagul, Batina, director, attorney and lawyer of CC "Sezim, Representative of Office of the Ombudsman, the leader of a group of local activists r / b Archa-Beshik. Investigation is currently in process. As a result of further investigations, charges were dropped from Batina. At the moment the child lives with Zhumagul.

2.6. Partner Project of CC "Sezim" and the Ministry of Social Development of KR "Improving access and institutionalization of social services in the field of gender and domestic violence in the northern regions of Kyrgyzstan" with the support of the Swiss Embassy in Kyrgyzstan

Project Objectives: 1. Creating conditions for institutionalization of Service on protection against gender and domestic violence through comprehensive training of interested agents of CC and the public sector;
2. Ensuring access of the population of the northern regions of the Kyrgyz Republic to services of protection from gender-based and domestic violence through creation of partnerships counseling centers. This project is being implemented in 4 northern regions of Kyrgyzstan (Talas, Naryn, Issyk-Kul and Chui).

The project planned activities on three components:

- Conduct comprehensive activities, including trainings and roundtables for stakeholders from four northern regions of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Support for creation of counseling centers to respond to gender-based and domestic violence on the basis of local social development bodies.
- Informational support of the project on media coverage of gender and domestic violence in the northern regions of Kyrgyzstan.

In October and November 2014, **seven** six-hour trainings "Training in comprehensive primary care to victims of different types of violence" were organized and conducted in Naryn, Talas and Issyk-Kul oblasts of the Kyrgyz Republic for representatives of crisis centers, police, social development, health sector, courts of the elderly, clergy and the media .

Three round tables were held with participation of representatives of state bodies, in particular the police, bodies of social development, health sector, education, courts of the elderly, clergy, community organizations and the media.

The purpose of the round tables: dialogue to clarify the need for creation of public service to help people in crisis, particularly in cases of family and gender-based violence.

The decision of the roundtable participants:

- Appeals prepared to the heads of state administrations in three northern regions of the Kyrgyz Republic to establish a social emergency service on gender and family violence under state bodies of social protection, using local resources.
- Working groups set up in three regions to conduct further implementation.

2.7. Project "Child in a conflict family" with the support of the Democratic Commission of the US Embassy in KR.

Project objectives: 1. Increase awareness of the public, family, school about influence of family relations on emotional state of a child. 2. Organization of methodical assistance for parents and social workers, school psychologists in work with children - victims of violence. 3. Creation of public opinion on formation of state authorized representation on protection of rights and interests of children.

- To organize informational and methodical assistance to social workers, head teachers and school psychologists working with children who are subjected to violence, the following events were organized and conducted 2-day seminar on "**Work of social workers with parents and children in crisis situations**" for representatives of eight schools of Bishkek, who are located in the areas inhabited by most socially vulnerable families (including internal migrants).

Training objectives: 1) To reveal causes of children's anxiety; 2) To inform participants that "conflict in a family is the cause of increased morbidity, aggression, anxiety, fear, loneliness, violence, prostitution among children; 3) To inform on peculiarities of work with children experiencing domestic violence.

- Members of the above-mentioned training organized specialized 2-day trainings for parents and children in their schools "**Interaction of parents with children in the system of social educator's work**". In total, **eight** training sessions have been held.

Training modules were developed by psychologist of CC "Sezim".

- Family consultations were held for parents with children.
- In a popular national newspaper "Alibi", a new column "**Domestic Violence: impact on a child**" has been launched in which four articles on this issue were published during the reporting period; In order to attract public attention to the problem of domestic violence, radio infomercials were made for broadcast on national radio (*currently they are being finalized*); 24 September 2014, republican TV and radio channel PTRC broadcast TV program "Problems of family violence against children", initiated by CC "Sezim".

3. ADVOCACY - ACTIVITIES

- 27.06.2014 a round table was held on the theme: "The effects of alcohol, drugs and gambling addictions on the state of the family and society in Kyrgyzstan".

The purpose of the round table was marking dependency problems on the state of family and society in Kyrgyzstan, and start searching for complex decisions and actions.

The event was attended by representatives of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, a member of Parliament of the KR, the Ministries of Interior, Health, Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic, the State Service for Drug Control under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek mayor's office, and NGOs. Upon the results of the round table an appeal was made to the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic.

A press conference was held on the results of the round table in the news agency "Kabar".

4. PR-ACTIVITY

During the reporting period:

- A film about the work of CC "Sezim" was shot - 15 minutes long (can be viewed online);
- Website sezim.org functions successfully;
- News and Information about CC "Sezim" is published on the official website and Facebook page.
- Partnership with the media: CC "Sezim" staff members participated as experts and invited specialists in publications and broadcasts in the media: **49** participations in live programs, talk shows, interviews on channels PTRC, NTS, NBT, Pyramid, TV channel "Mir" , EITR, "Azattyk" radio; **8** publications in newspapers "Vecherny Bishkek", "Kyrgyz Tuusu", "Agym," "Lady KG»; **27** publications in on-line resources "AkiPress IA", "IA KirTAG", "IA BPost", "IA Kabar", "24 KG», «K-news», «Vb.kg».
- As part of coverage of gender, domestic violence and human trafficking in Kyrgyzstan, as well as coverage of program and project activities carried out by CC "Sezim", newspaper columns were launched in the media: 1. newspaper "Alibi", 4 articles; 2. newspaper "Erkin Too" 3 articles.

CC "Sezim" initiated in total **3** press conferences:

1. IA Kabar, 21.04.2014 "SPECIAL OPERATION of Leninsky district police department to arrest women who wanted their child back";
2. IA Kabar, 20.06.2014 "Caution, slave-trade!";
3. IA Kabar, 01.07.2014 "The effects of alcohol, drug and gambling addictions on the condition of the family and society in Kyrgyzstan".

Activities within the 16-day international campaign against gender-based violence:

- ✓ In September 2014, a drawing **competition was announced among children "My happy family"** with the support of «DIMES» Foundation and UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR).

The aim of this competition was to attract attention of the public to the problems of domestic violence, formation of non-violent behavior among the younger generation, promotion of family values, drawing attention of the adults to the needs of children.

The contest was announced among children aged 6 to 15 years. 150 works in oil, watercolor, gouache, and pencil were presented for consideration to the contest committee. Children from the Children's boarding school of Belovodskoe village, SOS Children's Villages of Bishkek and Cholpon Ata, refugee children from Afghanistan also took part in the competition. Work of participants were divided according to their age groups: Group 1 (5-7 y.o.), Group 2 (8-10 y.o.), Group 3 (11-13 y.o.), 4 group (over 14 y.o.), Group 5 on nominations "The youngest professional ", " The most impressive work ", "The kindest work ", " The most original work".

Based on the results of the contest, December 10, 2014, at 13.00 an exhibition of children's drawings "My happy family" was organized in the shopping mall of Bishkek Park, children were awarded for

winning in nominations and participation in the competition. As part of the event, refreshments and a children's professional show program were organized.

- ✓ **A nation-wide republican competition among journalists "Peace to your home" covering the problems of domestic violence was held.** A total of 36 materials were received, including: 21 printed materials, 13 radio programs, one short film, 1 presentation from journalists from Talas, Osh, Issik-Kul regions, radio "BBC", "Birinchi radio / PTRC", newspapers "Lady KG", "Slovo Kyrgyzstana", "Vecherny Bishkek", "AiF ", online editions "24 kg", "Novie litza". Following the competition, on December 10, 2014, at 13.00 after awarding participants of the children's drawing competition, awarding of winners of the contest among journalists was held in the shopping mall Bishkek Park. The winners were awarded with valuable gifts and prizes.
- ✓ 25 November 2014, Director of CC "Sezim" Ryskulova B.R. took part in a live show "Topic of the Day" on the PTRC radio "Pervoe Radio", which was also attended by the deputy of JK KR Tilenchieva M. The theme of this live broadcast was a "16 day international campaign in Kyrgyzstan". The program highlighted problems of domestic violence, legislative and practical measures to prevent violence in Kyrgyzstan. During the broadcast, straight telephone line was open to receive questions from listeners to the participants of the show.
- ✓ December 10 at 20.00 in the framework of the TV talk show "Oj-Ordo" program "How to protect your rights?" was held in Kyrgyz. The talk show was attended by the Ombudsman of the Kyrgyz Republic, the director of CC "Sezim" Ryskulova Bubusara, Expert of the Presidential Administration, deputies of the Parliament of the KR, the head of the Coalition for Democracy and Civil Society, coordinator of the Congression on Human Rights of Central Asian countries.

The talk show discussed protection of human rights in Kyrgyzstan, 16 day international campaign against gender-based violence, role of the media in coverage of human rights, rights of people with disabilities, socially vulnerable groups, children, women migrants.

5. Participation of CC "Sezim" in external events

During the reporting period, experts of CC "Sezim" participated in **47** conferences, seminars, round tables, trainings, including:

- National Consultation to discuss the draft of the National Review under the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action "Beijing +20";
- Expanded meeting of the interdepartmental commission for assessment of the effectiveness of legal norms stipulating responsibility for violence against women;
- Public hearing on the draft report of Akyikatchy for 2013;
- Public hearings to discuss the draft of the Alternative Report "Respect for human rights in the Kyrgyz Republic";
- National Conference "Demographic and Health Survey of Kyrgyzstan";
- Consultative meeting. The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women 2013. The concept of the project proposal;
- Roundtable "Promoting a bill on domestic violence as part of the project "Improving access to justice in the KR" with women's non-governmental organizations;
- Roundtable "Shariah norms through the prism of family relations in the Kyrgyz Republic";
- Training on the identification and redirection of vulnerable migrants in the framework of the project "Empowering victims of human trafficking, vulnerable migrants, and their families and communities in Central Asia";
- Training "Civil participation in decision-making" (Advocacy);
- Training "Elaboration of Development Strategy of the organization";
- Participation of Director of CC "Sezim" in the program of the visit to Iran;
- Participation of lawyer of CC "Sezim" in the program of the visit to the U.S. "Open World".

- Participation of CC «Sezim» in drafting of the project "*Regulations on inter-agency cooperation to prevent, combat and respond to violence against girls and women in emergency situations*";
- Participation of Director of CC «Sezim» at the seminar "Gender-based violence against marginalized women: access to rights protection" (city of Bodrum, Turkey);
- Participation of psychotherapist of CC «Sezim» in the conference "Gender Health of Eurasia" (Moscow city).

CONCLUSION

Summing up the activities of CC «Sezim» for 2014, It should be noted that the main goals and objectives for organization's activities have been fulfilled out, including the following:

- ✓ Potential of institutional and organizational sustainability of CC «Sezim» has been increased through: strengthening cooperation with government agencies and international organizations; increase in professionalism of the organization and quality of services provided; development of social partnership through participation in implementation of the state social order, in particular, implementation of project "Social support for families and children in difficult life circumstances" with the support of the Ministry of Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic (the activity is carried out within the framework of the Law of 2008 "On State Social order").
- ✓ Services of CC "Sezim" were available for all groups-recipients of provided services, including :
 - Women and family members subjected to gender, domestic violence and human trafficking;
 - The poor and socially-vulnerable groups of the Kyrgyz Republic (including single mothers, girls, elderly, disabled);
 - Young people and the younger generation of KR (as part of advocacy, education and informational activities);
 - Refugees and asylum-seekers.
- ✓ Since 2014, CC «Sezim» began to work on institutionalization of social services to respond to gender-based and domestic violence in northern regions of the Kyrgyz Republic and Bishkek, in partnership with the Ministry of Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic.
- ✓ A full range of works have been carried out on rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of gender, domestic violence and human trafficking seeking assistance in CC «Sezim». Advocacy has been strengthened on gender and domestic violence. Measures were taken to make a comprehensive response to cases of domestic violence: creation of a loud precedent (case №8), a press conference, the creation of public response.
- ✓ Successfully work has been conducted in partnership networks of MSD KR, UNHCR, IOM.
- ✓ Strengthening cooperation with state authorities, in particular the Office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek City Hall, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Department of Internal Affairs in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Ministry of Health Care and the Department of Health Care, Bishkek.
- ✓ Active cooperation with the republican, metropolitan and regional media through:
 1. Involvement of journalists in target activities of CC «Sezim», including participation of journalists in legal precedents, advocacy and awareness-raising activities of the center;
 2. Events held to attract media attention and coverage of legal coverage of gender and domestic violence in Kyrgyzstan.
- ✓ Successful activities were held within the 16-day international campaign against gender-based violence, including the National Children's Painting Competition "My happy family", the Republican contest among journalists on legal coverage of gender and domestic violence in Kyrgyzstan.

- ✓ Professional potential of consultants of CC «Sezim» was increased (in the framework of psychological, legal, social counseling) through extra training courses and regular professional supervision at the workplace (group and individual).
- ✓ Over the reporting period, CC «Sezim» has received recognition and awards:
 - Director of CC "Sezim" was awarded with diplomas and memorable sign from the Ombudsman of KR "For active participation in development of democracy and protection of human rights in Kyrgyzstan";
 - CC «Sezim» received gratitude for cooperation and contribution of CC «Sezim» in assisting women-victims of domestic violence, by the Parliament of the KR/Committee on promotion of women's rights in the Kyrgyz Republic;
 - Lawyer of CC «Sezim» was awarded by the Ombudsman with the Certificate of Merit for fruitful cooperation;
 - Project staff working to support refugees and asylum seekers was awarded for outstanding contribution to protection of refugees in Kyrgyzstan by UNHCR.

During 2014, a number of difficulties were experienced:

- ✓ There is a need for professional intervention into cases of victims of violence or persons who are in a crisis situation, which implies a well-developed infrastructure, social institutions and places, where a professional and effective help can be provided, such as shelters for women with various problems (for example, for single and/or juvenile mothers), center for personal development, etc. Unfortunately, the structure of such institutions in Kyrgyzstan is still underdeveloped and requires funding from the state. CC «Sezim» is able to provide a fairly complete range of services at the shelter, but amount of places is limited and does not cover the demand existing for professional free services in the sphere of protection from gender, domestic violence and human trafficking.
- ✓ During the reporting period, a decrease in the number of applications for obtaining temporary protection orders was observed in comparison to the previous period of 2013, which may possibly be due to inefficient methods of responding to domestic violence, stipulated by the Law "On social and legal protection from domestic violence":
 - Protection orders are issued for 15 days. Clients live in the shelter for an average of about three weeks, during that time the validity of the order almost comes to an end, and therefore there is a need to increase the duration of the protection order
In 2013-2014, lawyers of CC "Sezim" suggested for consideration by the Expert Group on the Amendments to the Law on issuing common protection order to increase the period for up to 3 months.
 - Among those who address CC "Sezim" for help against domestic violence, having obtained protection order, 90% of women leave their places of residence, while husbands/partners remain in the homes as owners.
 - After staying in the shelter about 70% of clients who needed help, go back to their husbands/partners, reasoning it by economic difficulties of women in society and ineffective protection of women from domestic violence under the existing law.
 - There are also situations where interference of relatives and acquaintances occurs from opponents' side during investigations and trials, that leads to withdraw of the case by the client.

In 2014, in the direction of institutional and organizational development, CC «Sezim» has implemented a number of activities:

- In September 2014, CC «Sezim» successfully underwent organizational diagnostics with the support of "East-West Management Institute» / USAID.

- In May 2014, an audit of financial statements of CC «Sezim» was carried out by LLC "Accounting and Auditing" with the support of DIMES.
- In March-April 2014, financial audit was conducted, being targeted at use of grant funds for the UNHCR project by CJSC "Kyrgyz Audit".
- For the aims of strategic planning of the organization, in the context of optimizing legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic and functioning of legal protection against gender-based and domestic violence, in December 2014, a strategic plan for the organization was developed for the years of 2015-2017. Activities of CC «Sezim» will support the institutionalization of social public services, strengthening of human rights activities, improve of the quality of rehabilitation and reintegration measures for victims of violence, which will improve conditions for realization of rights in the field of gender and domestic violence in Kyrgyzstan.

Crisis Center "Sezim" expresses sincere gratitude to its donors, partners and friendly environment for supporting the mission and activities of CC "Sezim", which are carried out in the framework of democratic principles of equality and rule of law in Kyrgyzstan