



European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA)

Annex I

Please answer the following questions in English language.

1. Is this your country's ECPA entry or is it an additional project. (Only one ECPA entry per country plus up two other projects)

2. What is the title of the project?

Roundtable Domestic Violence in the Rems-Murr-County

3. Please give a short general description of the project.

A network of local institutions of the Rems-Murr-County, who successfully cooperate since 2004 to optimize the interventions by state, to provide the counselling and support structures in cases of Domestic Violence and to improve it constantly. The network with 46 participating institutions is responsible for 31 municipalities with 415,693 inhabitants. By prevention projects and continuous campaigns / special events public awareness is raised on proscribing domestic violence and to reduce and avoid it.

4. Please describe the objective(s) of the project?

Only the consistent and purposeful coordination of state and psychosocial interventions can provide an effective improvement in the protection of victims. Constant members of the network are therefore representatives of all institutions of the Rems-Murr-County, who work together in cases of Domestic Violence. In particular, these are representatives of the police, local authorities, community and church counseling centers, district administration and judiciary.

The individual components of the entire chain of interventions have to be, specially for the Rems-Murr-County, put on a stable und qualified foundation.

Targets are:

- **To develop and continue the development of a networked and coordinated action of the participating institutions of the Rems-Murr-County to achieve optimal protection for victims, mainly women and children.**
- To write this actions down in a common conception to the Rems-Murr-County.
- To determinate the content and structural requirements for three independent counselling centres for victims, concerned children / young people and for the perpetrators.
- To implement and protect these three counselling centres in the Rems-Murr-County as permanent facilities.
- To ensure consistent interventions by the police.
- To provide informations to the public about Domestic Violence by media coverage, symposia and campaigns.
- **To implement prevention projects to avoid Domestic Violence.**
- To continue the development of the network to include more partners in the chain of intervention.
- **To improve the willingness of the public to report Domestic Violence and to reduce the so-called "dark area" of unreported or undiscovered Domestic Violence.**

5. How was the project implemented?

After the local campaign "Violence is never private" by the city of Waiblingen, in June 2004 the district-wide roundtable "Domestic Violence in the Rems-Murr-County" was established, coordinated by the Police Department Waiblingen, the district office Rems-Murr-County and the town of Waiblingen.

In a first phase, a model to counsel victims was developed and established initially on project financing (Landesstiftung Opferschutz BW, regional foundations and development associations). This model provides, for each of the five police stations, a counseling center which is competent to advise victims of domestic violence. Access is proactively to a police report. Furthermore, the counsellor is the contact person for persons concerned (outside of a police operation), for police officers and employees of regulatory agencies and social services, such as youth welfare office or social security office.

The positive experiences of the victim counselling led 2008 to a permanent implementation of this offer and to the financing by the county as a standard benefit.

The offers of the crisis and counselling service for children and adolescents were established and tested in 2005 as part of the action program "Children as witnesses and victims of Domestic Violence" which was arranged by the Landesstiftung Baden-Württemberg for the municipalities of the police districts Waiblingen and Fellbach. Also this counselling service could be converted 2009 from a temporary project in regular funding by the district and local extended to the entire county. The offer is aimed at children and young people after an escalation of Domestic Violence, especially to

children who have experienced a police operation due to Domestic Violence.

Especially notable is the prevention project "off trouble" („Zoff off“), which was funded in 2007 as part of the action programme "Working together for child protection in domestic violence" by the Landesstiftung Opferschutz. Target audiences here are students of class 4 primary school and class 6 secondary school. The project informs children about Domestic Violence and about the access to the regional aid system. The project will continue to be offered by participating in the costs by schools.

The third counselling column, the Men Intervention Agency Rems-Murr-County which was set up in 2006 has easily accessible offers for men, which were mediated by the police, the counselling center for victims or the judiciary after an incident of Domestic Violence. Again, the funding was initially accompanied by project funds, which were provided by regional foundations and development associations. Already in 2008 this counselling service was transferred to the regular funding of the district.

In the context of the ongoing work by the Roundtable happened amongst others:

- 2010 – a symposium on the subject risk analysis and risk forecasting of Domestic Violence - possibilities for the introduction of a standardized procedure
- 2008 – Special events on the subject forced marriages in cooperation with Terre Des Femmes and the counseling center Yasemin. Result: Creating of instructions for actions by the police department Waiblingen to handle accordant delicts and to produce an information letter to all institutions of the county involved in youth work and to the schools. Here, attention was drawn to the forms of forced marriages and help facilities for affected girls / women.
- 2012 – Planning and execution of the campaign "Domestic Violence - 10 years aids in the Rems-Murr-County" in October 2012 with the interactive exhibition "Rosenstraße 76" and with a broad social program. Objective: more public information work to raise awareness and to show the regional network of help possibilities.

6. Were partners involved in planning and/or development and/or implementation of the project? If so, who were they, and what were their roles?

The following institutions are permanent members of the Roundtable:

District office Rems-Murr-County, police department Waiblingen, the city of Waiblingen, Caritas region Ludwigsburg-Waiblingen-Enz, Kreisdiakonieverband Rems-Murr, social counselling Stuttgart, women's refuge Rems-Murr, pro familia, assistance of a court of law Neustart gGmbH, district court Backnang, Diakonie Stetten e.V., Initiative Sicherer Landkreis, state school office and representatives of

the 31 regulatory authorities of the Rems-Murr-County.

The management and coordination is jointly and equally up to:

- the head of the department of social of the county
- crime prevention police department Waiblingen
- the commissioner for equal opportunities of the city of Waiblingen
- the spokeswoman of victim counselling

To certain problems temporarily sub working groups will be convened as:

- Working team victim counselling (responsibility rotates among the participating counselling centres), working team children as victims and witnesses of Domestic Violence, chaired by the Caritas region Ludwigsburg-Waiblingen-Enz
- Working team standardized hazard forecasting, chaired by the police department Waiblingen / crime prevention
- Working team Rosenstraße 76 with an accompanying programme, chaired by the Caritas region Ludwigsburg-Waiblingen-Enz and the police department Waiblingen / crime prevention

7. How did you build in plans to measure the performance of the project? Has the project been evaluated? How, and by whom?

Process evaluation: review of the implementation of the planned cooperation by self-evaluation by the respective project managers, for example number of police operations, number counselling victim / offender / children.

Scientific investigation on the situation of women and about the counselling service after a go order in case of domestic violence "Go order - advice and assistance" (Project No. 7.3/2002, Az. Sozialministerium 61-4918-8.5.3 on behalf of the Ministry of Social Affairs Baden-Württemberg). Rems-Murr district was part of the investigation.

Evaluation of the action programme "Children as witnesses and victims of Domestic Violence" 2004-2006 in Baden-Württemberg and evaluation of the action programme "Working together for child protection in Domestic Violence 2007-2008"

(Publication Series of the Landesstiftung Baden-Württemberg: 41)

8. What were the results? How far were the objectives of the project achieved?

The model of victim counselling developed for the Rems-Murr in 2004 based on the findings of the scientific investigation "Go order - advice and assistance". Furthermore, a scientific investigation followed about the counselling situation of victims after a go order by the police in the county (qualified data collection by interviews of victims). A result of the investigation was that there is a counselling request by the victims, but often it won't come about because of a lack of suitable agencies and a lack of

cooperation. In response to the finding of this study, the pilot project has been started offering counselling for victims.

The evaluation in the field of counseling children and adolescents showed that the offers of support helped to improve the mental state of children and that the emergence of violence against children could be reduced and that their situation was stabilized. Problematic is, however, the practice of assigning youth welfare and police. Through personal contacts in the roundtable Domestic Violence and working groups could be set mandatory procedures arrangements.

The number of the police successfully mediated to counseling victims of 2002 increased by approximately 5% (4 cases) continuously to 43% in 2011 (40 cases).

The number of the police switched to the shelter victims decreased from 19 in 2002 to an average of 6 per calendar year.

The number of police operations at the beginning of the campaign increased from 647 in 2002 to 853 (reducing the dark area) in 2003 and declined to a level of 230 operations in 2011.

At the evaluation of school-based prevention of Domestic Violence, was discovered amongst others that the children were available for the subject. In an evaluation of the pre-post survey among elementary school students of class 4 was found out that the children had an understanding that domestic violence is wrong and that they also can get help. Even the majority of the children knew the local help system. **In some cases actually be contacted by the child was due to a case of domestic violence in the family.**

9. Give a concrete description of the implementation of the project and the references.

Description already by No. 8

References:

- Dr. Rosemarie Längle-Sanmartin, head of the department of social, Landratsamt Rems-Murr, Alter Postplatz 10, 71332 Waiblingen, phone and 07151/501-1600
- Leo Keidel, BA Sociology, Police Waiblingen, home prevention / crime prevention, Ludwig Str 1, 71332 Waiblingen, Tel 07151/950-210
for the Round Table of Domestic violence in the Rems-Murr-County
- Katrin Lehmann Social Worker, Alexanderstraße 10, 71364 Winnenden, Tel. 07195/587164 for the victims counseling and the Scientific Investigation / Evaluation in No. 7.

- Markus Beck, graduate social worker, social services Stuttgart, Centre Violence Prevention, Charlottenstraße 42, 70182 Stuttgart in the field of men's intervention agency Rems-Murr

10. Are there reports or documents available on the project? In print or on the Web?
Please, give references to the most relevant ones.

- Rems-Murr Conception to networked action in cases of domestic violence
- Information leaflet of the Roundtable on aid and counseling services for domestic violence
- Information leaflet of victim counseling, intervention agency and the men of the crisis and counseling service for children
- Forced marriage - action recommendation of the Police Department
- Calendar of events for the interactive exhibition Rosenstraße 76 including accompanying

all available in print and digital

11. How is the project funded? Has a cost-benefit analysis been carried out? If so, how?
What were the findings? Please provide supporting information.

The Round Table does not have a financial budget. The work of the participants will be borne by the own institution. Created information is supported by taxes imposed on all parties. The establishment of appropriate counseling was initially accompanied by funding and sponsorship and was later taken successively in the regular funding of the district. In the meantime, they are well established as permanent advisory services for domestic violence.

Prevention services and professional days, are financed through equity of the member organizations but also largely by grants and sponsors.

So also is planned for October 2012 to show the "Rosenstraße 76" exhibition with additional program, as a fictitious crime scene about domestic violence prepared for using by classes and workgroups. The financial volume of this is approximately 15,000 Euros.

A cost-benefit analysis has not been performed, but the reduction of police operations by more than 70% is an indication of the performance of duties carried out under the expense in relation to the benefit achieved.

12. Please, write a *one page* description of the project:

Changing regulatory environment and new police measures at the country level led to a change in dealing with domestic violence. By contrast, in the Rems-Murr-County any

relevant psychosocial support program was available. Following the "Waiblinger campaign against domestic violence" starting "the Round Table" on 18/06/2004. Domestic Violence in the Rems-Murr-County created under the Local Crime Prevention.

Permanent members of the "Round Table" are representatives of institutions that work in cases of domestic violence and work towards optimizing the structures. In particular, these representatives the police, clerk's office, counseling agencies, district administration, judiciary and equal opportunities officer. The aim is to achieve an effective protection of victims through a coordinated cooperation of the institutions involved in the Rems-Murr-County.

With the introduction of counseling services for victims, offenders and the children the Round Table has developed a concept of networked action, which exists since 2007 and 2012 has been adjusted to the changed conditions.

The members of the round table sat also intense for the permanent transfer of counseling services in regular funding of the circle.

Prevention of violence in partnerships can only succeed if all the professionals and the people, who come into contact with domestic violence, have knowledge of the intervention chain. By working sessions of the Round Table, as well as in trade days and campaigns that knowledge is transferred permanently.

Existing collaborations also require the extension; this means that future efforts must be made to other partners in the chain of intervention on the one hand and on the other hand won for prevention services. So meanwhile school administration for prevention services is also integrated specifically for students.

Through the first activities were more cases of domestic violence appearing (reducing the dark area) and in a long-term the official cases going to decline.

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