NATional annual programme Progress report 2018

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| **Member association** | Ukraine |
| **Reporting period (from-till)** | January-December, 2018 |
| **Signed by, date** | Darya Kasyanova, NPDD, February, 2019 |

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## 1. General developments in the child welfare sector in the country and its implications on programme development within SOS MA

*How did the child welfare sector develop in the reporting period? Please provide a summary of recent KEY national or local legal and policy developments during reporting period that are relevant to the target group (e.g. new/changed national legislation, policy documents, national plans of actions, De-I process in the country etc.). The information is meant to provide insight into the national context and does not have to be directly linked to project activities.*

The purpose of the De-I Strategy is to change institutional child care to a system that provides care and upbringing of the child in a family or family-friendly environment. For implementation of De-I Strategy at the national level, a working group was set up, comprising all the project’s applicants. Our experts were involved in the research and development of Methodological Recommendations Toolkit for regional interdepartmental working groups on the preparation of Regional Plans for Reforming the Institutional Child Care. In accordance with the Action Plan for the Implementation of Phase I of the De-I Strategy, regional interdepartmental working groups have been set up to develop and implement regional plans for the reform of the institutional care and upbringing of children.

In 2018, regional plans were being developed based on the detailed analysis of the current situation in each Oblast (some of them are already approved, some will be approved in 2019). SOS became a partner in implementation of De-I Strategy on the territory of Luhansk Oblast, having signed Memorandum of Understanding and Co-operation with Child Rights Ombudsman and Cooperation Agreement on the Implementation of the National De-I Strategy with Luhansk Oblast State Administration. While prepositions for De-I implementation are in place, there are many practical obstacles.

Decentralisation Reform, which is now in progress in Ukraine, involves increasing the powers of local self-government bodies, functions delegation, including protection of child rights and provision of services for children and their families. However, current legislation does not provide clear definition of powers (neither delegated nor own) for ensuring children's rights and supporting families. Moreover, there are neither standards for certain services for different groups of children and families no budgeting or financing. The staffing of state children services is not in line with the requirements of the current legislation; moreover, there are no operating bodies of such kind in many new administrative units. It is also necessary to organize and conduct adequate training for local specialists and representatives of local authorities, as their capacities in child protection sphere are generally low.

Social services, once financed by the central government, have been devolved to the local level as part of an ongoing **decentralization** reform; however, the fiscal transfers from the center and/or authority to raise local revenues have not followed apace such that localities struggle to provide basic social services to vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly and the disabled. To start procurement of services from CSOs, **standards of social services and social contracting legislative base** should be developed and enforced. At the local level, capacity is limited and many newly formed amalgamated territorial communities need guidance and documented best practice. **CSOs** working in social sphere should become important actors in the process of reforming, however they lack coordination, and their cooperation with authorities is not developed enough.

**The current legal framework** in the sphere of child rights and child care is perceived to be reasonably well-developed, the functions and responsibilities of various relevant bodies are defined, but at the same time there is a lack of clear guidance on coordination and interagency work. There is very limited information produced and made available for beneficiaries to understand the system of support. The practice of involvement of different stakeholders in the policy development cycle and decisions making process does not exist at all.

## 2. Key achievements, good practices, and challenges in each Children’s Village Programme:

*Please provide an analytical summary of main achievements, good practices, challenges in the reporting period per programme and programme unit.* ***Please describe to what extent the programme is following the directions and targets set in the Strategy 2030, the MA mid-term strategy and RAP recommendations****. Whenever relevant, make a link to the programme related* ***Actions for Federation*** *that your MA implemented in 2018.*

**CV Programme 1 Kyiv Region Programme**

1. Overall key developments in Children’s Village Programme for the reporting period: new, closed, modified, handed over programme units; programme changes in order to increase financial sustainability; programme partnerships and government relations; local income development; other:
2. Main developments in individual programme units: main results achieved; changes in services and reasons; changes in target group; achievement of planned targets; actions towards implementation of quality standards; quality downfalls and measures to overcome them; actions towards financial sustainability. In case a new programme unit is opened during reporting period, please provide more detailed explanations on the progress being made so far.

**Alternative Care (please describe the different types of interventions):**

At the end of 2018, there are 11 family type children's homes, 3 foster families and 1 short term care foster family under the social care of the Kyiv SOS Children's Village Program. 87 orphan children and children deprived of parental care, and 9 biological children of foster parents are brought up in these family forms of parenting. Two foster families are integrated into the community. One of them operates in a rented apartment (lease is provided at the expense of SOS Children's Village) and 1 family type children’s home operates in a room provided by local authorities.

In 2018, 26 children were arranged into family forms of upbringing, this figure is much higher than in 2017 (for comparison, in 2017, 12 children were arranged). This indicates an increase in the number of children in need of family parenting and the high demand for a family parenting service in the community of Brovary and Brovarsky district.

In 2018, one foster family decided to stop functioning and left the program.

In 2018, 4 children were adopted by citizens of Ukraine and 6 children were reintegrated into biological families. In the process of reintegration, there is a close interaction between the FBC specialists and FS project specialists in accordance with the jointly developed plan.

During 2018, the Kyiv City SOS Children's Village Program worked in close cooperation with the local authorities of Kyiv and Kyiv Oblast. SOS Children's Village cooperates with the governmental partners on the basis of cooperation agreements signed between the SOS and the district state administration of Goloseyevsky and Solomyansky districts of Kyiv and Brovary, and Brovarsky district.

The work with the foster families is based on the case management technology. During the year, services for children and parents were provided on the basis of needs assessment and in accordance with an individual development plan. Every three months there was a revision and, if necessary, an IDP correction. The organization of work of the FBC unit was carried out using the project management approach, which is based on the implementation plan based on the result of a focused approach. The purpose of the unit's activity is "Ensuring high-quality family upbringing of children deprived of parental care" which is in line with Strategy 2030 and the main regulatory document of SOS Children's Villages International Care Promise, in accordance with the principles and values ​​of SOS.

In 2018, in order to achieve the goal, the work of the unit was carried out in the following areas:

***1. Strengthening of parental potential and maintaining a stable psycho-emotional state of foster parents.*** In the framework of this direction, foster parents and patronage parent received individual and group supervisions, visited art-therapeutic classes and trainings for professional development. As a result of these activities, 94% of parents remain resourceful for parenting children, able to choose techniques and methods of working with every child. It is worth noting that two new services for foster parents were introduced this year:

- Psychotherapy for parents. This service is provided on the basis of the application from a specialist of social work, who is accompanying a foster family, and a supervisor. In 2018, one foster mum received this service, as a result it was possible to prevent emotional and professional burnout and to ensure the mother's resourcefulness, as well as to expand her children placement possibilities.

- Estimation of family’s potential. The implementation of this service has made possible to assess the potential of foster families by an independent expert. As a result, we receive an objective picture of the parents' strengths and weaknesses, so we can provide assistance and support into the right target and in time. Also, this service reduces the risk of placing children into a family with a low resource for additional placement of children.

The following training events for the foster parents were organized:

* The training on the work with biological relatives of foster children. As the result of this training, all the participants understood the strengths and assessed the risks of working with biological relatives, and work with them in accordance with the developed mechanism.
* A round table discussion took place. The topic was "The algorithm of interaction of the multidisciplinary team concerning the work with the children of family type children’s home and foster families, who are prone to deviant behavior". Local government bodies and the law enforcement agencies attended by the round table. As a result, an algorithm was developed for the actions of the multidisciplinary team concerning the effective co-operation in cases of child disappearance or when the child committed the offense.

***2. Satisfaction of needs of foster children.*** Within the framework of this area, based on the needs assessment and individual development plan, children were provided with the regular staff: psychologist, social teacher and speech therapist, as well as other services. For example:

* Psychodiagnostics: all children adopted in the program, underwent psychodiagnosis in order to study the adaptation process, the development of attachment, the state of development of cognitive-emotional processes. The recommendations for undergoing psychotherapy were given on the basis of psychodiagnostics. 20 children received the services of a psychotherapist during the year, totally 600 hours of psychotherapy were conducted.
* Educational services: 50 children received additional classes in school subjects: mathematics, Ukrainian language, Ukrainian history, English as well as correctional classes. The level of knowledge of 42% of the children increased by 1 point; the level of knowledge of 25% of the children increased by 2 points; 33% of the children still have a steady level of knowledge; no deterioration took place.

12 children (100% of those who needed this service) received tutor services in order to prepare for the State final examination and Independent external evaluation. As a result, all children entered the professional and higher educational institutions in which they planned to study.

 - Targeted material assistance for children according to the needs:

As the state payments to the children who are arranged in the foster families often come with the delay of 2-5 months, and the children come to the family without any clothes, shoes and essentials, SOS provides material support to foster families in the amount which is not lower than the state payments (2 subsistence minimums) for the maintenance of children of the appropriate age till the moment of reception the state payments.

- Two outdoor adventure travel tours were held in which 20 children took part. This technique helped to develop trusting teachers and members of the group, to develop the identity of every child, to regain a sense of control over their own lives, to develop life skills and motivate the children to become aware of the world.

All the services were provided in accordance with the needs assessment of children, as it was reflected in the individual development plans.

***4. Integration of SOS families into the community.***

In 2018, there were two families functioning within the program, which were integrated into the community. At present, 14 children (11 orphans and children deprived of parental care and 3 biological children) are brought up in these families. These families receive the following support:

- compensation for payment utilities;

- family assistant services;

- services of a psychologist, social pedagogue, psychotherapist;

- educational services for the children;

- individual and group supervisions for parents and trainings for the qualification to be advanced;

- targeted material assistance for the children;

It should also be noted that children and parents receive some of the services in the community at the expense of the state and local budgets:

- children attend school, professional, higher and extracurricular educational institutions;

- foster parents receive monthly payments for children supporting and remuneration for the upbringing of the children on a monthly and timely basis;

- medical examination and medical services (excepting expensive treatment);

- for 80% of children the sanitation is provided;

- refresher courses for foster parents (once every two years);

- reduced fare traveling by public transport for orphans and for the children deprived of parental care.

***5. Education of the staff of the FBC unit.*** In this area, it was important to organize collective trainings for specialists from the FBC and FS units. The organization of collective trainings gives the opportunity for the specialists to solve the problems in a comprehensive way, to develop a unified vision and a unified approach in the social work and helps to work together in the interests of the children. With this aim the educational training courses were organized and proved to be effective:

Child Protection: A Family Oriented Approach, which is based on the “Core Competence Program” of the Institute of Human Services was also accepted in the United States and other foreign countries, and helped to raise professional skills of the specialists in the social sphere for over 10 years. This course gave the opportunity to the specialists from our organization to unite their efforts and provide the families with the comprehensive professional social assistance in overcoming difficult life situations on the basis of family-oriented approach. It helps to keep the children in their native families, encouraging parents to change for the better, or to place the children in the alternative forms of upbringing, that satisfies their needs in the best way.

School of pedagogy of trauma. This training program helped the specialists to understand the concept of helping children and adolescents who got the trauma, determine the direction and the purpose of working with the children in order to overcome the consequences of traumatic events in their lives, stabilize their psychological state, and develop an individual plan of assistance.

***Challenges:***

1. Reducing the number of candidates for foster parents, difficulties in recruiting the candidates for foster parents.

2. Increasing the number of the children in need of placement into the family type children’s home. In particular, the number of adolescents, whose relatives rejected from upbringing of children, has been increased.

3. Increasing the number of children who do not have the status of an orphan child or a child deprived of the parental care, and who needs the placement into the short-term care foster family.

Now, due to these challenges, the FBC unit of the SOS Children's Village cannot fully cover the needs of placement the children into the family types of upbringing in the community of Brovary and Brovarsky district. The children get into the residential institutions, despite of the de-institutionalization in Ukraine.

***Successful story***

Three-years-old Milana and one-year-old Cyril were placed into the foster family in SOS Children's Village in 2015. In 2014, their biological mother was sentenced and imprisoned, and the children were living with their father, but it was not for a long period. In the summer of 2015, the children were taken away from their father, because of the antisanitary conditions and a disorder in the apartment, there was no food for the children, they looked neglected and were dressed in dirty clothes, they had a smell of urine, the children were hungry.

In this way, Milan and Cyril were placed into the foster family, where they received protection and parental love. A social worker and a foster mother helped the children to know about their biological mother, who did not forget about her children and she wanted to take them back. There were organized the telephone conversations between the biological mother and her children in order to communicate with her.

In 2018, the biological mother of Milana and Cyril returned from the places of deprivation of liberty. The mother's motivation for returning the children was clarified. To do this, she had to do a lot of things: to get a job, to put in order her house and to restore a positive relationship with the children. With the support of SOS specialists, the mother began to take resolute actions in order to return the children. It was the begining of the children reintegration work.

FS and FBC specialists, together with foster parents and the biological mother prepared a detailed reintegration plan, which was strictly followed. The reintegration plan included the activities about the children preparation (responsibility of FBC and foster parents) and the preparation of the biological mother (responsibility of FS specialists). The biological mother fulfilled all the necessary conditions in order to return her children: she has got a job, visited a psychologist, trained at the “Parenting School”, and left her husband because of his drug addiction.

The process of reintegration lasted for about six months, but thanks to the strong love of the biological mother to her children and the professional work of the SOS Children's Village specialists, the children were returned to their mother. Today the family is under the social support within the framework of the project "Family Strengthening ". We believe that the children will have a happy future with their mother.

***Youth Programme***

In 2018, within the framework of Youth Program, new services for young people were opened and launched: Small Group Home and Youth Center.

In 2018, the Youth Program provided services for 42 adolescents who live in foster families in Brovary in the SOS Children's Village, for 17 young people in the semi-independent living (SIL), for 4 young people who live in the Small Group Home (SGH) and 92 teenagers and young people who visited the Youth Center (SC).

During the year, within the framework of the Youth work program, the purpose of which is to prepare adolescents and young people for independent life and support them after their leaving the guardianship, according to the needs assessment, the services were provided to the participants from 14 to 25 years old. The following activities were held:

***1. Organization and conducting trainings with the purpose of preparing teenagers / young people for independent life:***

- training of self-esteem increasing, in which 11 teenagers took part, as a result 5 teenagers increased their self-esteem, 6 teenagers started to believe in their strengths and opportunities.

- the seminar "Safe living in a big city", as a result of which 17 teenagers and young people increased their knowledge about their rights, the city services and the reasons of which it is necessary to address them, learned more about the laws and responsibility for the offenses.

- training "Leadership and Advocacy", which was held for young people from Kyiv and Luhansk programs, in which 12 young people took part. As a result of the training, all young people noted the importance of knowledge about the ways to improve leadership qualities, skills of working and interacting in the team, team management skills, knowledge of advocacy and their participation in advocacy campaigns.

- healthy lifestyle training, in which 20 participants of the Youth Program took part, as a result, 15 participants improved their knowledge about the benefits of healthy food, and 5 people began going in for sports actively.

- training of communication improving was held for the workers of Youth Programme and young people. 17 young people took part in this training, as a result, 12 people improved their communication skills in small groups, 10 young people improved their conflict resolution skills, 10 young people improved their teamworking skills.

- Financial Literacy Training, in which 9 young people took part, as a result the participants learned to plan their budget for a week, for a month and to make savings.

- training on speaking skills, in which 5 teenagers took part, as a result of it, the participants improved the ability to present themselves, reduced the fear of public speeches, and improved the ability to express their thoughts.

- first-aid training, which was attended by 13 young people and adolescents; as a result 13 people learned how to provide first-aid care and practically completed their skills on the mannequin;

- training "Safety on the Road", in which 13 teenagers and young people took part, as a result the participants improved their knowledge about the traffic rules and about the work of the patrol police.

- training "Preparation of interviews, dress code, writing a resume" in which 8 young people took part, as a result 8 people learned to write a resume correctly, improve their knowledge and skills in interviewing.

***2. Organization and conducting master classes with the aim of preparation for the independent life and development of creative potential.***

- conducting 22 culinary master classes, as a result 30 young people improved their cooking skills, 4 young people learned to make menus for a month, to count the required amount of cooking products.

- 20 creative master classes, in which 32 young people took part, who were able to improve their knowledge, skills and abilities in various spheres of activity (painting on fabric, sewing, working with wood, painting on glass, making various ornaments, felting, knitting, decoupage);

***3. Organization and conducting of festive events***

In 2018, adolescents and young people took part in the organization and condcuting of such events as the celebration of March 8 for foster mothers, pleasant meetings, master classes for younger children, Halloween, Valentine's Day, and the meeting for cleaning the territory of the Children's Village. As a result, 20 teenagers and young people increased their organizational skills and abilities, improved teamworking skills, improved the skills for writing programs of the events and proper distribution of the resources.

***4. Psychological and pedagogical support for adolescents and young people***

- During 2018, 5 young people were attending the classes with a psychotherapist, as a result all the 5 young people increased their emotional stability and decreased their level of anxiety.

- From January to May 2018, there were training lessons on the preparation for the State final examination and for the Independent external evaluation, in which 6 participants of the Youth Program took part, as the result 100% of young people passing their exams successfully and entering professional and higher educational institutions.

***5. Professionally oriented work, internship, employment assistance***

- In 2018, 13 teenagers and young people were tested for career guidance, which increased confidence in the right choice of profession and sphere of activity.

- One member of the Youth Program was trained at the Ernst&Young company, as a result she was able to increase her skills in this sphere and became more competitive in the labor market.

***6. Development of the communicational skills and the integration of adolescents and young people into the community***

- In February 2018, a bus tour to the Carpathians was organized, in which 17 participants of the Youth Program took part. Some of them were the children from SOS families who reached the age of 14 and decided to participate in the Youth Program activities. The purpose of the trip was to create cultural values, familiarize with the infrastructure and sights of Western Ukraine, communicate and establish the contact with the new participants of the Youth Program, increase motivation of active participation in the Youth Program activities.

- In the autumn of 2018, there was a trip to the city of Lviv with the aim of studying the experience of working with youth, working of the Youth Center, in which 6 young people, who were the active participants of the Youth Program, took part. As a result of the trip the new forms and methods of working with youth were included to the Youth Center activities.

 - organizing of interesting leisure for teenagers and young people: camping, theater, football, quest-rooms, museums, exhibitions took place once a month, as a result, the participants learned to use their leisure time, use cultural objects and other infrastructure of the city, for example, public transport.

***7. Advocacy of the youth rights***

- 3 participants of the Youth Program took part in signing of a memorandum with the children's rights commissioner N. Kuleba.

- 2 participants of the Youth Program took part in the First All-Ukrainian Forum of the National Children's Council, as the result they became the members of the National Children's Council

- In 2018, 13 young people took part in the workshop “How to Create a Public Organization”, as a result 4 young people would be included in the Youth Organization.

***Providing a service of supported living in the Small Group Home (SGH)***

The Small Group Home began working in September 2018. Currently, 4 young people are living there.

The main task of working with young people in SGH is the development of independent living skills: the ability to manage resources, the ability to satisfy basic needs, the ability to establish social contacts, integration into the community.

On the assumption of that, the following tasks were fulfilled:

 ***1. Preparation of young people for moving to the Small Group Home:***

- In March 2018, 12 young people of 16+ years old, who were living in the SOS Children's Village, got a psychological diagnosis of the readiness for the independent life, preparative conversations, learning tours to a Small Group House in order to become familiar with the living conditions, the infrastructure of the district. As a result, 4 young people decided to leave the care and to start living in the Small Group House.

 - A plan of moving to the Small Group House was drawn up and implemented for the 4 young people.

***2. Development of the living space and provision with the necessary living conditions:***

- 4 young people received the living essentials for the comfortable living in the apartment; every month they received material assistance in the form of food, household chemicals, medicines, as the result, the fear of independent life decreased, the quality of their lives improved, and the basic needs of young people were satisfied.

***3. Improvement of the communication between the young people living in the Small Group Home.***

- Together with the young people, the rules of living in the apartment were drawn up, that reduced the risk of conflicts between young people.

- Twice a month there were organized the evenings of leisure – cooking, board games, cinema watching, that improved the ability to interact with each other and established the relationships between young people. At the end of 2018, 3 of the 4 young people living in a Small Group House were employed.

***Semi Independent Living (SIL)***

During 2018, seventeen young people were provided with the independent living service, 5 of which became self-sufficient, and were transferred to the 3rd stage of the Youth Program - independent living with the status of "self-sufficient". All of them have permanent residence and stable earnings.

 The main task of the program of semi-independent living is to support young people who came out from the care. On the assumption of that, the following activities were carried out during the year:

***1. Providing conditions for the organization of the place of living***

- In December 2018, 2 subsidies were provided for the repairing and refurbishment of personal apartments, that improved the living conditions of 2 young people;

- 17 young people during the year were receiving material support in the form of food, household chemicals, footwear and clothing, household goods, medical services, that improved the quality of life of young people and satisfied their basic needs;

- 2 young people received legal support for solving the problems with personal apartments, as a result, that made it possible to retain their apartments in ownership;

- Due to the cooperation with the state partners, 1 young man received an apartment in Brovary.

***2. Employment***

- By the end of 2018, 8 of 12 young people were employed, 5 young people continue to receive vocational education;

- 3 young people received the material support for paying for the courses: German, photographer, hairdresser; this enabled young people to become competitive in the labor market and receive additional income.

***Youth Center***

During 2018, the preparation of the material and methodological base of the Youth Center was done: the repair was made, the rooms were equipped, the equipment for the Youth Center was bought.

A program document "Regulations of the Youth Center" and a plan for the implementation of the service were developed. Also, the rules of the behavior in the Youth Center were elaborated, the schedule of working of the training center was worked out, the questionnaires for the beneficiaries were developed.

The Youth Center has been working since October 2018; in October, November and December, the services at the Youth Center received 33, 95 and 92 beneficiaries respectively. Among them were 70 adolescents and young people from SOS programs and 22/25 young people from the community.

In the first months of working, the main task was to disseminate information about the Youth Center working among the potential beneficiaries, for whom the following activities were organized:

- organization and conducting of Open Doors Day, as a result of which, 12 young people from the community visited our Youth Center;

- printing and distribution of PR-products;

- visiting educational institutions of Darnytsky City District for dissemination of information about the work of the Youth Center;

- distribution of the leaflets on the streets, parks and squares.

The activities for young people which were held at the Youth Center in November-December 2018:

 - master classes: felting, painting, decoupling of wooden products, manufacturing of motivational tablets, decor of bottles, manufacturing of magnets, burning, making felt toys, Decoration of New Year balls, making soaps, baking biscuits, baking buns from pumpkins in which 146 young people took part;

- computer courses attended by 65 young people;

- 27 young people got consultations of a psychologist;

- trainings "Speaking skills", "Financial literacy", "Leadership and advocacy" in which 26 young people took part;

- tests for the career guidance in which 28 young people took part;

- developing personal growth classes (warm meetings with a psychologist) in which 28 young people took part;

- Anti-café, in which informative leisure was organized. 297 adolescents and young people visited different quests for the youth;

- the organization of work of a gym, which was attended by 32 young people.

During all the period of the Youth Center's working, it was attended mostly by the teenagers and young people from the FSP project, as well as the teenagers from the community who needs development and help, but their families do not have the opportunity to do this;

- organization of visits for the partners and sponsors;

- an increase in the number of beneficiaries in the connection with the working of the Center on Saturdays.

***Challenges:***

- due to the long distance from the Youth Center to the Children's Village, the youth and young people, who live in the Children's Village, have limited opportunities of visiting the Youth Center;

- because of the low wages it is difficult to find highly skilled specialists for working with youth. For example, for a long time there were only 2 specialists: the coordinator and the psychologist in the Youth Center, because of this it was difficult to complete all the work.

***Successful story***

Now Oleksandr is an active participant of the Youth Program. He is a purposeful persistent young man who knows what he wants from his life, he sets the goals for himself and achieves them. He is confident in his actions and is not afraid to take risks, he is constantly engaged in self-development and always improves his skills. It was not always like that. Alexander as well as the majority of adolescents, was afraid of leaving the foster parents, because he did not have any relatives who could support him after leaving the care. For 4 years he was participating in the "Adventure Technique" youth program, which helped him to become more confident in his strength, to overcome his fears, to learn how to accept failures. Also, the boy attends various trainings and master classes that have helped him to acquire life skills in cooking, distribution of finance, time management and others. Now Alexander shows leadership qualities and, if it is possible, assumes the organizational responsibilities, shows an example to younger children who always listen to his words.

Alexander has already materialized a lot of his plans. The most important achievement was that he successfully graduated from Brovarsky Professional Lyceum, specializing in auto mechanic, and entered the Kyiv College of Professional and Pedagogical Studies, where he continued studying at a higher level with in-depth knowledge about the cars. The guy has decided to connect his life with the automobiles and in the near future to start his own business. At the moment, he combines working on the specialty and trainings. Alexander can find a common language with others very well, it helps him to find new friends and gain new experience, skills and abilities. From his words, he expresses the respect to his mentor, who can always give advice and support. It became possible due to his involvement into the Youth Program of the SOS Children's Village.

**Family Strengthening (please describe the different types of interventions):**

**FSP Kiev**

In 2018, the FSP office in Kyiv moved from Podil to Darnytsia city district of Kyiv due to difficulties of prolongation of a rent agreement. It is only the location of FS office that changed, but nothing else. The total number of beneficiaries, costs, package of services remained the same. In the Program Proposal and Feasibility Study, the Darnytsia district was included as a location for providing FS services.

In Darnytsia district, FS center continued its holistic work focused on preventing the separation of children from their families of origin. A cooperation agreement was signed with a local authority – Darnytsia Сentre of Social Services for Families, Children and Youth, which refers families at risk of losing of parental care to FS center.

Another important reason for moving the office was the launch of the Youth Center in Darnytsia district. Now the FS center and Youth Center are located on the same street. It is assumed, that this will contribute to the synergy of services for beneficiaries and improve program efficiency.

In 2018, the Family Strengthening Center in Kyiv provided support to **474 children** from **236 families**. Most of beneficiaries are low-income families (42%), families with low level of parental skills (37%), single parents (30%), families with three and more children (29%), children with special needs (10%), internally displaced families (8%), children whose parents grew up in institution (3%), kinship families (8%), parents with special needs (5%). Most families have several risk factors.

During the year, 78 families left the FSP. 78% families became self-reliant. The main reasons exiting the FSP without success: failure to comply with family development plan, the only interest of getting material support or drop out earlier at own wish. One child was temporarily separated from the family (child neglect).

In 2018, the key interventions of the FSP included: providing counselling to parents to take care of their children; informing families of social assistance rights and access to social services; sessions for raising parental capacity «Strong Parents – Strong Children»; providing individual and group psycho-social support to parents and children; mutual support group for parents; correction-development classes (early development); classes with speech therapist; computer literacy programme for children and parents; providing education support; providing material support (food, hygiene sets, seasonal clothes, footwear, school uniform, stationary, schoolbags); support in improving of housing/living conditions; health support (preventive counseling, provision with medicines and vitamins); recreational services.

New intervention in 2018 – individual correction-development classes for children with special needs. Thanks to support of Oriflame, the FS center was equipped with a Multi Sensory Room, designed to conduct classes on an individual program for children with autism spectrum disorders, ADHD, etc. With the support of the Radisson Hotel, 1 child was able to undergo a rehabilitation course for children with autistic spectrum disorder.

Within “Grow Happily” project supported by J&J, educational services were provided: English language classes, computer literacy classes, financial literacy classes; art therapy; trainings for parents on “Counteracting bullying” and “School failure: causes and correction”. Teenagers had internship at the Oriflame office.

Thanks to the regular DiK of the «Procter and Gamble», families were provided with hygiene sets.

During the year, special attention was paid to economic empowement of families.

In 2018, the EU4Youth was launched, which is aimed at employing vulnerable youth under 35 including FS parents.

In addition, according to the assessment of the strengths, the families were provided with necessary equipment: manicure/pedicure master (9 caregivers); hairdressing (1 caregiver); cosmetologist (1 caregiver); tailor's cutter (1 caregiver). Such self-employment is especially relevant for single parents with small children.

For community capacity building, in June 2018, a round table was held with the participation of organizations that provide various social services to families in Kiev. As a result, an online mapping of social services for families was developed (please see the SOS Children's Villages Ukraine website).

Joint round tables with Centers of Social Services for Families, Children, and Youth have contributed to formation of common vision of the strategies for supporting families in difficult life circumstances.

The main challenge of 2018 was moving of the FS center to Darnytsia district. FSP beneficiaries were re-assessed to review the current risk level of each family and the required support services. Families with low and medium risk levels (75%) referred to Podilsky Center of Social Services for Families and Children and other service providers. All families been provided with a list of all services available in the community. Families at high risk level (about 25%) will continue to receive support from the new FS office location as long as it is necessary.

In order to familiarize the community with the activities of the center in the Darnytsia district the information campaign was organized. Presentations and round tables for local partner organizations, master classes and Playbuses were conducted, booklets were distributed, etc. Close cooperation with the SOS Youth Center, which began its operation in September 2018 in the Darnytsia district of Kiev, was established. Services for young people of 14-25 years old are held on the basis of the Youth Center. These are computer literacy, workshops, seminars, trainings, gym classes, themed events, career guidance, etc.

In addition, for replicating the successful experience of SOS activities, methodical recommendations on classes on early child development and parental capacity strengthening were published.

**Family Story**

Pawel is a widower, he brings up his son Zakhar, 6 years old.  Zakhar's mother died during an car accident. Pawel appied to the FS immediately after the death of his wife. He did not know how to tell his son that his mother was dead. During the grief Pavel started having problems with alcohol abuse. There were problems in the psycho-emotional state of the child, the boy didn't want to talk, woke up at night and cried. The child’s father did not always understand his son’s problems, showed aggression. His level of parenting skills was low. The family had no support and social environment.

In the FS center, the son and the father received comprehensive support from a psychologist and social pedagogue. Zakhar attended a correctional and developmental classes. Pawel attended financial literacy classes.

The father has stopped abusing alcohol, takes care of his son. Child's psycho-emotional state has stabilized. The family recovered from the loss and is preparing to leave the program as self-reliant.

**FSP Brovary**

In 2018, the FSP in Brovary was addressing the needs of **220 children from 103 families**. Among them single parents (42%), internally displaced families (20%), low-income families (55%), parents grew up in residential institution (7%), kinship families (2%), families with low level of parental skills (30%), families with three and more children (27%), children or parent with special needs (29%). Most families have several risk factors.

In 2018, 23 families left the FSP Brovary. 15 families left due to family’s self-reliance (65%).

The key activities implemented by the FS center in Brovary included: providing counselling to parents to take care of their children; providing individual and group psycho-social support to parents and children; informing families of social assistance rights and access to social services; providing health and education support; providing food, hygiene sets, seasonal clothes, footwear, school uniform, stationary, schoolbags; support in improving of housing/living conditions; recreational services.

FSP economic strengthening interventions: financial literacy trainings and vocational trainings; computer literacy for parents. Parents were provided with equipment and materials necessary for their further work.

In 2018, the FSP continued cooperation with «Procter and Gamble», «Oriflame», «Johnson&Johnson», «St. Andrey Foundation», «Skypark», «BrainBasket», «Coca-Cola», «Stoke Factory», «Charitable Fondation «Inna», «Radisson Hotels», «IC consulenten». A number of activities were carried out to provide mutual assistance to "From families to families".

Thanks to the partnership, the following services were provided for the beneficiaries:

- Training for parents (web design courses);

- Training on basic programming for children (BrainBasket);

- English language courses and college fees from IC Сonsulenten Ukraine (for one young person).

2 children were able to undergo medical diagnostics, a course of treatment, and received the necessary medicines (Radisson Hotel). Internships in Oriflame and IC consulenten for youth were organized.

In the frame of «Grow Happily» project supported by «Johnson&Johnson» the following alternative classes took place: computer literacy and financial literacy classes for teens; individual tutoring on selected subjects; individual classes in preparation for entering a higher educational institutions (as a result, both children entered the university); classes with speech therapist; group art therapy; trainings for parents on “Counteracting bullying” and ”School failure: causes and correction”.

Among the successes of the reporting period are an improved the work on reintegration children into biological families.

In all cases, the children were in SOS short-term foster family. In 2018, work on reintegration was conducted with 5 families (11 children):

- in 3 families (6 children) the reintegration process was successful.

- 1 family (2 children) – case is closed with a negative result, parents do not cooperate with FS specialists and local authorities, had a low parental potential, the process of depriving parents rights is initiated.

- on 1 case (3 children) the work has just begun at the end of 2018. Children are in SOS foster care.

In September, SOS Kazakhstan visited the FS Kyiv and FS Brovary to exchange experience (reintegration process, cooperation with corporate donors and program monitoring including PDB).

 The challenge of 2018 was the unstable situation due to the change of leadership in state partner – Brovary Сentre of Social Services for Families, Children, and Youth and it was the challenge for partnership and local capacity building. In November, the leadership changed and the situation on partnership improved significantly.

**Family story:**

Both parents of Tolstogusov's family were deprived of their liberty for criminal offenses (drug trafficking). Two their children (as the present time, children 8 and 4 years old) were placed in the SOS foster family, where they lived for 3 years.

During a mother's stay in prison, a social worker and a foster mother contributed to the fact that the children knew about their biological parents. Telephone conversations between the biological mother and her children were organized.

In September 2017, after leaving prison, the parents applied to the children's service on the return of children to their families.

In the framework of the cooperation agreement between SOS and local children's service, the family was taken under support of FS for the purpose of reintegration children into a biological family.

The needs and parents potential capacity assessment were carried out and a joint reintegration plan with the authorities was developed. The work on preparation all parties for reintegration – children, biological parents and a foster family were organized.

There were several challenges: the younger child did not remember the biological parents, the father used drugs from time to time, conflicts between children and there were no necessary living conditions for the children (the lack of separate beds for children, the lack of a playground and suitable place for studying for children).

Since the father refused the drug addiction treatment, the mother moved to her brother's home.

The mother, Inna, is very motivated and did everything according to the reintegration plan: she got a job, attended classes of a psychologist and a social pedagogue, and equipped a room for children (paid by SOS), did not miss meetings with children.

In May 2018, the children were returned to their bioligical mother. Currently, Inna works in a shoe cooperative and has a stable income, positively characterized at the work. For economic empowement of family a sewing machine was purchased (Inna has sewing skills). The case manager notes significant strengthening of parental potential of the mother. Children look happy, call her "Mom".

Post-reintegration support continues.



**Other:**

**CV Programme 2 (name) Luhansk Region Programme**

**Alternative Care (please describe the different types of interventions):**

In FBS unit in 2018, there were 14 families. 2 families left the program: one of them ceased to function due to the release of children into an independent life, the second foster family moved to the territory not controlled by the Ukrainian government. The program included 2 new foster families raising 11 children.

The purpose of the unit activity of family forms of upbringing during the 2018 was to ensure the quality of family upbringing and the growth of orphans and the children deprived of parental care. Considering this, the activity of specialists of the unit during the year was aimed at solving the following tasks:

1. Raising parental potential of the foster parents integrated into the community of Severodonetsk and Starobilsk district;

2. Identification and satisfaction of the needs of adopted children who are raised in the family forms of upbringing in Severodonetsk and Starobilsk;

3. Preparation of foster children, who are older than 14 years old for leaving the care;

4. Strengthening the community's potential for the development and functioning of foster families and family type children’s home.

***The increasing of parenting capacity*** was ensured using such forms of support as the professional supervisions, which were provided during 68 hours last year. Also there were an active usage of the full-time psychologists consultations at the request of the foster parents. This year's innovation was the working of an open group "Father's Day", the meetings of which were held once every two months in both locations of the Program and had a thematic character. The purpose of the group's working was to create an open ground for the discussion of the most pressing issues of parenting and support for foster children, as well as sharing experiences between parents. During the year, five meetings on the topics were held:

- age features of child development (2 meetings about different age groups);

- formation of attachment in a child with experience of injury;

- effective communication of children with foster parents;

- reproductive health of adolescents.

 Participating in the meetings were 56 foster parents from those who receive services in the subdivision and operate in other territories where the Program is not present.

At the initiative of foster parents of Starobilsk location, an art-therapy group for foster parents began its work. Meetings of the group were held once a fortnight and aimed to become a supporting resource for mothers. Three specialists worked constantly with moms: artist, psychologist and social teacher of the Program. The artist asked a fine theme, taught various techniques of drawing and working with various materials. The psychologist and social teacher discussed with their mothers feelings and emotions that caused some or other types of creativity, the images they worked with, referenced to their childhood experience, other periods of life, paralleled the present. As a result of these meetings, an ecological model of communication has developed, which, in addition to the therapeutic component, revealed the creative talents and abilities of our mothers.

At the expense of the program, two foster parents passed medical examinations and received preventive treatment for identified health problems, two parents were assisted in conducting operations and undergoing rehabilitation.

Identification and satisfaction of the needs of foster children raised in the family forms of the settlement of Severodonetsk and Starobilsk is carried out annually during family meetings and adjusted once every three months.

 ***Satisfaction of needs of foster children***

 34 children receive psychological support; 1 child works with a psychotherapist;

 34 children received medical support, including dental services;

 11 children received educational services, including 1 child received preparation for admission to a higher educational institution and successfully entered the medical university;

2 children receive speech therapy services.

 ***Preparing children over the age of 14 to leave the foster family***

 60% of children in our foster families are teenagers older than 14 years old. We are working to create the appropriate services for them. A social educator is engaged in the preparation of foster children to get out of care. For this purpose, a series of theoretical trainings was conducted, in which adolescents and young people receive information about their vital functions: satisfaction of basic needs, social integration and interaction, organization and planning of free time, career counseling, conflict resolution and communication, etc.

 Additionally, for teenagers, there were organized culinary classes where teenagers were trained to cook traditional dishes from Italian cuisine as well as desserts.

 Three young people learned to drive a car after driving, which was paid by Porsche.

 One girl was trained to do manicure. Equipment for this work was purchased for her. Now she has the opportunity to earn money.

 Also, 17 children with a need for material support were provided with clothes, shoes and bedding.

 **Strengths of the FBC unit**

* The unit provides a full range of services for families and children, based on the needs assessment and on an individual child development plan;
* The services provided are extremely in demand in the communities of Starobilsk district and the city of Severodonetsk;
* The necessary material and human resources available to provide quality social services to the target group;
* The qualification level of specialists meets the requirements for their functional duties;
* Professionals who work with families have a steady, positive contact with families and children, this has a significant impact on enhancing the resources of foster families;
* Families and children are actively involved in conducting the needs assessment and developing an individual development plan;
* Regular group and individual events are held to prepare young people for independent living;
* Quantitative and qualitative indicators of development are reflected in the needs assessment, IRP and reports of relevant specialists;
* All families and children are listed in the PDB.

**Challenges:**

* The FBC unit in the Luhansk program works with families established by a public partner without the participation of the SOS. Of these, 50% (5 families in Severodonetsk and 2 families in Starobelsk) have only 1 foster child. The need for professional parents is very high in the Lugansk region. According to the Luhansk Regional Service for Children’s in the Lugansk region, 1451 children have the status of orphans and children deprived of parental care.  176 orphans and children deprived of parental care are brought up in boarding schools. In the regional child's home 63 children are brought up. During 2018, the status of orphans and deprived parental care was given to 280 children. Of these, only 21 children were arranged in foster families, and 45 children in boarding schools.
* FBC unit does not have a psychologist, although we have a great need for this.
* The selection of specialists in the Luhansk region is very complicated.
* Children and young people who left the care need further support from SOS, as they often lack another social support network. But in the Luhansk program, there is no youth unit (YC), so we are not able to fully support the youth who left the foster family.

**The story of crisis intervention**

 In November 2018, the State Service for Children’s Affairs of the village of Belokurakino, which is located near Starobilsk, addressed the SOS Children's Villages asking for support for the foster family, which brings up 10 adopted children.

 The foster mother has significantly deteriorated health.

 She felt exhausted and could not fully help the children. The local social service lacks resources for help, as there are simply no specialists. The foster family was threatened to stop functioning. The last hope was to get help from the SOS Children's Villages. At the meeting of the multidisciplinary team, it was decided to include this family in the FBC unit SOS Children's Villages.

 The work began with a visit to the foster family, during which many problems were found in the relationship of parents with children and children with each other. Four children suffering from enuresis and enocaprice. One child has a disability and also one girl is pregnant who was going to give up the newborn baby.

The needs assessment was conducted for all family members and an individual development plan was drawn up for each of them.

 The foster mother received psychological support, she also attends a mutual aid group of adoptive parents and art therapy classes. This helped her recover resources. A psychologist worked with a pregnant girl and she agreed to take care of the baby. Unfortunately, the baby died during childbirth. The girl continues to work with a psychologist.

A correctional teacher works with children with developmental delays. The social pedagogue works with younger children who will go to school this year. Older children attend classes in preparation for independent living. Currently, the threat of disbanding the foster family has passed, the situation has stabilized.

**Family Strengthening (please describe the different types of interventions):**

**FSP Starobilsk**

In 2018, the Family Strengthening Centre in Starobilsk ensured support for **159 families** caring for **316 children**. Among the beneficiaries, there were children with special needs (6%), affected by alcohol (13%), families with three and more children (25%), low-income families (42%), single parent (36%), internally displaced families (30%, affected by domestic violence (9%), parents grew up in institution (6%), kinship families (3%).

The project beneficiaries were provided with holistic support in accordance with their individual needs:

**psychological support** (individual psychological and psychotherapeutic counselling for children and parents, group art therapy for children and parents, mutual support groups for parents;

**social support** (individual and group social counselling on accessing state social benefits);

**parenting support (**child care training, development and parenting skills training);

**economic support (**financial literacy course, training on family budget planning, vocational training, purchasing special tools that enable caregivers to engage in income-generating activities. 5 families were provided with equipment necessary for income generation (a sewing machine, a spreader, drip irrigation and an electric separator), which significantly contributed to increasing their economic stability;

**health support** (preventive counselling, provision of medicines and vitamins);

**educational support** (information sessions on child rights, early development of children, computer courses for children, individual speech therapy sessions. For children, there were held activities promoting their safe behavior and teaching to provide first aid. As part of cooperation with J&J, 3 children were provided with tutoring support in preparation for state exams);

**support in improvement of housing/living conditions** (purchasing basic furniture and household items, house repairs);

**recreational support** (playrooms for beneficiaries and children from local community residents, organization of various master classes for families, PlayBus activities);

**material support** (the most vulnerable families were provided with foodstuff packages and hygiene items for families, provision of medicines and vitamins, clothes, medicines, building materials, schoolbags, stationery sets etc).

Within the framework of the «Grow Happily» project with the support of «Johnson&Johnson», children have improved computer literacy; knowledge of school subjects; children successfully passed external independent testing to enter universities. Classes with speech therapist helped children to improve the sound pronunciation. The dialectologist’s studies contributed to the development of children's intellectual abilities, expanded vocabulary, increased cognitive activity and developed basic mental processes in children (perception, attention, memory, thinking and speech).

The Initiative Pope for Ukraine helped to provide 237 winterization kits for FS families (blankets, convectors, electric shoe dryers, 70 pairs of shoes etc); 100 first aid kits; 215 food sets; for 15 families the partial repair of housing was paid.

 As a result of these intervention, during the year 58 families left the FSP. 34 families left due to family’s self-reliance (59%). The main reasons exiting without success: failure to comply with family development plan, the only interest of getting material support or relocation (this is especially relevant for beneficiaries among IDPs). None of the children from FS Starobilsk lost parental care during the year.

The achievement of FS center is constructive cooperation with local government partners in the prevention of social orphanhood. Local state partners refer most of the families that receive services in FSP. In order to increase SOS brand awareness, familiarize with activities and services, specialists from FS center took part in various events during the year (the celebration of the City Day, Children's Day, etc.). FS center has a reputation of a professional organization and has respect among partners. Constant stakeholder analysis among NGOs is carried out.

 The main challenge in 2018 was the closure of Emergency Response Project in Starobilsk, which had been addressing the needs of internally displaced families. ERP beneficiaries were re-assessed to review the current risk level of each family and the required support services. The families having high risk of separation have been transferred to the FSP that led to an increase of social workers’ workload.

## Family Story

The Borisov’s family is internally displaced from the conflict affected zone. Single father Serhii has a son of 7 years old. The mother left the family when the child was 1 year old and does not communicate with them.

 During a core assessment of the family, it was found that the father had an unstable psycho-emotional state (uncontrolled attacks of aggression, nervous breakdowns), low parental potential, an authoritarian style of communication with the child. Serhii is abusing alcohol; criminal case was opened on charges of a theft.

In one month after starting work with the family, the father stopped communicating. The social worker repeatedly traveled to the place of family residence, but there was no one at home. From local state partners became clear that the father had placed his son to a boarding school.

After long attempts to contact Serhii, SOS social worker managed to resume contact. Intensive socio-pedagogical and psychological work began. It was very difficult to establish a trusting relationship with the man, which had lost his hands because of hopelessness and lack of support from his relatives, but gradually Serhii began to attend individual consultations of a psychologist and a social educator. After a month of intensive work, the father announced his desire to take the child home.

Immediately, the FS specialists began working with the child that from February to April was in boarding school.

 The child returned frightened, lost his basic trust in the world, was wary of new adults, and was hyper-attached to his father.

Gradually, child-parent relations began to improve. However, the father started having problems with alcohol again. He admitted to the psychologist that he could not stop by himself, he was ready for treatment, but he did not have the money to pay for the alcohol treatment.

SOS paid for the treatment, father stopped drinking alcohol, got a job. In September 2018, the son went to the school. The father in every possible way promotes the development of the son. SOS acquired a desk, chair, wallpaper, cornice, glue. Father made repairs, fixed heating system.

The father has changed a lot – he looks neat, there is no profanity in communication with specialists and his son, the child is dressed according to the season, not hungry, regularly attends school.

**FSP Sievierodonetsk**

In 2018, the Family Strengthening Centre in Sievierodonetsk ensured support for 156 families caring for 292 children. Among the beneficiaries, there were children with special needs (9%), parents affected by alcohol (10%), families with three and more children (22%), low-income families (44%), single parent (46%), internally displaced families (35%), families affected by domestic violence (8%), parents grew up in institution (4%), kinship families (4%).

 During 2018, the following services were provided:

- individual psychological counseling (240 - for 48 children, 250 - for 80 parents);

- family counseling (36 families);

- psychotherapeutic counseling (390 individual counseling for 54 parents and 40 children, 1 family counseling);

- individual developmental activities and socio-pedagogical counseling (35 children and 80 counseling for 54 parents);

- pedagogical clubs visited 148 children;

- classes on safe behavior and first aid for children and parents;

- individual classes of a correction teacher and speech therapist (203 consultations for 29 children);

- computer literacy courses were conducted for teenagers and parents (20 children and 21 parents).

 During the year, program specialists regularly held recreational PlayBus activities (reached more than 800 children).

 Individual material support received the most vulnerable families with children (food and hygiene kits for families, children's food and hygiene kits for children, clothes, medicines, construction materials, schoolbag for first-graders, stationery kits, household items, bed linen, etc).

 The Initiative Pope for Ukraine helped to provide families: 347 sets for winterizing purposes (blankets, convector, and electric shoe dryers); 20 families were purchased furniture; 147 pairs of shoes. 200 first aid kits; repair of emergency houses of 32 families (roofs of houses are blocked, windows are replaced, wiring is replaced, doors are installed).

Five families were provided with a sewing machine, hairdressing supplies, and accessories for manicure and pedicure, which contributed to the increase of economic stability. In 2018, 77 families left the FSP Sievierodonetsk. 39 families left due to family’s self-reliance (51%). None of the children from FS Severodonetsk been separated from parents during the year.

 The key challenge is the staff turnover and retention. The city of Severodonetsk is the administrative centre of Lugansk region. Many humanitarian missions and international NGOs are operating there, so there is a competition among them for professional staff.

## Family story

75-year-old grandfather Mykola Polubatko brought up his 8-year-old grandson, Danylo.

The mother of the child is deprived of parental rights. The family was referred to FS center by the state social center in February 2017. Due to his age, the grandfather could not cope with the child; there were serious problems in communication.

In FS center, the grandfather received individual consultations from a social pedagogue; the child attended individual psychologist classes in order to correct negative manifestations in behavior as stubbornness, aggression, profanity; group classes of a social pedagogue with the aim of developing the cognitive sphere, the ability to interact without conflicts. The family was provided with food and hygiene kits, clothes and shoes for the child.

However, in February 2018 his grandfather was diagnosed with cancer, his health began to deteriorate sharply. A few months later he died.

It was necessary to decide on the future of the child. SOS case manager did many efforts to prevent the child from entering the boarding school. Case manager carried out work to enhance the social environment of the family. Fortunately, the eldest Mykola’s daughter Anastasia, who lives in a small village near Brovary, decided to take care of the child. Danylo moved to the Kyiv region and family was accepted in the FSP Brovary.

There is challenge due to no possibility to place the child in short-term foster families in Luhansk region.

3. Capacity building for partners

*Which capacity building measures and technical assistance for government or other service providers were provided, e.g. trainings for social workers or foster carers?*

**Strengthening of the community's potential in Kyiv Region Programme.**

Financing of this direction was carried out at the expense of the Educational project. During the implementation of this area, the specialists from the educational institutions, where the children from the SOS Children's Village study, were trained on the following topics:

1. Organization of the inclusive education (22 specialists).

2. Prevention of psychosomatic disorders of the children (15 specialists).

3. Development of self-help and self-regulation of the children and adolescents in extreme conditions (14 specialists).

4. Parent-child relationships: diagnostics and correction (20 specialists).

5. Psychodiagnostics of children and adolescents. Using of metaphorical cards in the work of a psychologist (17 specialists).

6. Using sand therapy in the work of a psychologist of an educational institution (15 specialists).

7. Using the Forum Theater and Y-peer method in the work of the school psychologist.

As a result of the training, the specialists from 22 educational institutions have increased their level of knowledge concerning the problems of children upbringing. They understand the behavioral characteristics of orphans and children deprived of parental care and have the skills of working with the injured children.

It should also be noted that in the framework of this area, all the new partners of the organization are familiar with the activities and standards of the SOS Children's Village.

Within the framework of FS capacity building of local community, the following trainings were conducted for local partner organizations and SOS specialists:

- “Organization of correctional and developmental work with children with special educational needs in the conditions of inclusive children's educational institutions”;

- “Psychological support for children who have suffered from violence. Detection of violence";

- “Motivation of beneficiaries to change”;

- “Prevention of professional burnout”;

- “Determination of the resource and the strengths of thebeneficiary in social work”;

- “Features of mediation in conflict”;

- “Assessment of the risk and level of safety of the child in the case management process”;

- “Legislative aspects of work in the field of social protection of the child”;

- "Time management. How to do everything and not burn.

**Strengthening of the community's potential in Luhansk Region Programme**

 In the connection with the beginning of the process of de-institutionalization in Ukraine, a two-day seminar on the implementation of the National Strategy for Reforming the Institutional Care and Keeping of Children in the Luhansk Oblast: how to minimize the entry of children to residential institutions in a conflict situation and to create services for families with children was held in Luhansk Oblast.

The seminar was attended by 120 participants, including the leaders of the Luhansk region.

For external foster families, trainings were conducted in the Lugansk program as a part of the DRA project. Three trainings were held on the topic of "Stabilization of the emotional state of parents and guardians in the armed conflict". The trainings were held in three locations: Stanitsa Luganskaya, Popasnaya and Novoaydar. 43 guardians, foster parents, parents of children with disabilities (three groups of 12-15 participants).  Also, for our foster parents, we conducted 3 trainings in Starobilsk, where we invited guardians from nearby territories. There were 4 trainings – 2 in Starobilsk and 2 in Severodonetsk. Topics: "Family as a space for the development of relationships" and "Raising children in family traditions". The participants were: in Starobelsk 12 and 13; in Severodonetsk 6 and 11, respectively.

Trainings conducted for FS co-workers and partner organisations:

 - “Assessment of the needs of the family”

- “The first domestic help for the fight and the brainwash for the humanitarian”

- “Protection of children from abuse in SOS Children's Villages”

- “Domestic violence prevention”

- "Stress Management"

- “Team building and effective communications”

- “Do not harm principle”

## 4. Progress in Advocacy

*What were main achievements and challenges in implementation of advocacy projects and activities? What progress was made towards changes in national policies & practice?*

In 2018 SOS Children's Villages Ukraine worked in 4 advocacy areas such as participation in the implementation of the De-I Strategy in Kyiv and Luhansk regions as well as expert participation at the national level; promotion of social order mechanism in Ukraine; ensuring the participation of SOS youth in the formation of the state policy on children's rights; protection of children’s rights affected by armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine.

**Participation in the implementation of the De-I Strategy**

SOS Ukraine were actively involved in the development of the National Strategy for Institutional Children's Care System Reform for 2017-2026.

Guidelines for a preparation of a regional plan to reform the system of institutional care and educati0n of children were developed by the working group under the office of the Ombudsman for Children with the President of Ukraine, which includes the representative of SOS Ukraine. The guidelines aim to provide explanation, advice, relevant tools for improving the efficiency of work of local authorities and governments for the analysis of data on the functioning of the system of children's rights protection in the region and the development of regional plans for the reform of the institutional care and upbringing of children for the period 2018-2024 in Ukraine.

In 2018, SOS Ukraine took an active part in implementing the De-I strategy in Luhansk region. Director of Lugansk Regional Branch of SOS Ukraine actively participates in the meetings of the regional working group on the implementation of the De-I Strategy in Lugansk region. In February 2018, a seminar on "Implementation of the National Strategy for Institutional Children's Care System Reform in Luhansk region: how to minimize the ingress of children in residential institutions in terms of military conflict and create services for families with children took place.

Representatives of local authorities, local government bodies, civil society institutions, and heads of residential institutions of Luhansk region attended the workshop that are involved in the above reform.

During the seminar, together with the participants, was formed:

- general vision and understanding in the implementation of the De-I strategy, mechanisms for its implementation.

- defined the key needs and opportunities for training "old" and "new" personnel, retraining.

- role of united territorial communities and NGOs in implementing the De-I strategy.

- a vision of the development of social services in a war.

- the main components of the regional plan and its implementation;

- vision of joint efforts by all stakeholders in the development of services to support families and children in communities.

The cooperation agreement on the implementation of the National Strategy for Institutional Children's Care System Reform for 2017-2026 and the right of the child to be brought up in a family was signed on July 26, 2018 between Luhansk state administration and SOS Children's Villages Ukraine. The subject of the agreement is mutually agreed activities of both sides regarding the De-I Strategy in Luhansk region. Within the framework of this agreement, cooperation should be ensured in the following areas:

- realization of the state policy in the field of social protection of children in Lugansk region;

- reforming the system of institutional care and education of children;

- promoting the development of services for children and families with children in accordance with their needs at the level of territorial communities;

- creation of a developed network of family forms of education of orphans and children deprived of parental care;

- introduction of patronage over a child as an alternative to institutional care for children who face difficult circumstances;

- support for families and children at risk;

- prevention of child neglect and homelessness;

- reintegration of children into their families and prevention of placement of children in residential institutions;

- introduction of progressive methods of psychological and social support of family forms of upbringing of orphans and children deprived of parental care, families and children at risk, foster families, mentoring for orphans and children deprived of parental care;

- organizing and conducting seminars and trainings on ensuring the rights of children and reforming the institutional care and education of children;

- consulting, providing methodological and expert support on issues of social protection and social support of families with children, orphans and children deprived of parental care.

On June 11, 2018, a Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation was signed between the Ombudsman for Children and SOS Children's Villages Ukraine to strengthen the legal protection of children, to cooperate for the effective implementation of programs and projects in the field of promoting the implementation of the National Strategy.

The regional action plan of reforming the system of institutional care and education of children in 2018-2026 years was approved by the Order No. 1003 of the Head of Lugansk state administration on 12 December 2018. According to this, SOS Ukraine will cooperate with Luhansk state administration on the implementation of the De-I Strategy in the following areas:

- conducting trainings for representatives of the administrative-territorial units of the region on the assessment of the needs of the community in social services for families with children;

- conducting a comprehensive assessment of the needs for social services in the united territorial communities of the region;

- cooperation in ensuring the development of a network of foster families for orphans and children deprived of parental care, families of patronage caregivers;

- cooperation in ensuring the development of a network of small group houses;

- expert participation in the development of plans for the transformation of residential institutions;

- entry of the representative of SOS Ukraine into the commission on the transformation of boarding schools and training of members of the commission;

- participation in the complex assessment of institutions;

- participation in the comprehensive assessment of each child who is educated in the establishment of institutional care and education, and the development of individual plans for reintegration of a child;

- monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the De-I Regional Strategy Plan.

In the framework of the cooperation on the implementation of the De-I Strategy, a research in two residential institutions in the Luhansk region was conducted in Severodonetsk and Novoyadarsky regional boarding schools in November 2018. A research company to assess the needs of each child in the institution performed the study. Based on its results, it is planned to prepare the transformational plans of the aforementioned institutions in 2019.

In 2018, SOS Children's Villages of Ukraine joined a nationwide communication campaign aimed at popularizing SOS Children's Villages Ukraine, the importance of upbringing and development of the child in the family, the role of the territorial community in ensuring the best interests of the child, the negative consequences of institutional care and upbringing for the child and society as a whole, the importance of developing services for children and families with children, which contributed to the advocacy goals of SOS Ukraine.

In 2018, with the participation of SOS Ukraine experts in cooperation with the Ukrainian Network for Children’s Rights started work on the preparation of an alternative report on Ukraine's implementation of the provisions of the UN Convention on child rights. The work on the report is scheduled to be completed in 2019 and the report will be sent to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

**Advocacy in partnership with Civil Association ’Ukrainian Child Rights Network’ (UCRN).**

SOS Ukraine continues to lead UCRN. In 2018, UCRN developed and launched the Programme ‘Enhancing civil society organizations capacity for child rights monitoring in Ukraine’ with technical support of UNICEF.

The main objectives of the “Enhancing civil society organizations’ capacity for child rights monitoring in Ukraine” Programme is to ensure the increased participation and influence of non-governmental actors in development, implementation and monitoring of child rights and child protection policies and strategies. The Programme will contribute into state policies by identifying, monitoring and reporting child rights violations, including on the right to be respected and treated; the right to be heard; the right to health and the achievement of full potential, the right to be safe from violence and exploitation, etc.

The Programme is implemented in two areas: increasing potential and the capacities of CSOs throughout Ukraine to provide quality monitoring and response to child rights (via trainings); establishing system of monitoring of the situation with child rights in Ukraine with specific focus on family and community-based alternative child care (via data analysis/case analysis/reporting).

In cooperation with the Ukrainian Child Rights Network, the proposals were submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in order to approve the State Target Program for providing housing for orphans and children deprived of parental care. This Program provides for the provision of preferential loans to orphans and children deprived of parental care aged 18 to 35 years old, with an interest rate of 1% per annum with a term of loan to 30 years, 50% of the loan is repaid additionally at the expense of funds state or local budgets. In case such persons study at higher educational institutions, repayment of the loan begins two years after graduation. The draft program is currently under consideration by the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine.

**Promoting the implementation of the social order mechanism in Ukraine**

In February 2018 with the aim of advocating the introduction of a social order in Kyiv to provide social support to families at risk, documents were submitted to the Kyiv City State Administration with information on the needs assessment to provide social support for 225 families at risk (456 children).

Representatives of SOS Ukraine participated in working groups under the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine in order to finalize the draft Law of Ukraine "On Social Services", which stipulates more active involvement of charitable organizations in the provision of social services at the expense of the budget. In order to advocate for the adoption of this draft law, SOS Ukraine sent appeals to the State Committee on Family, Youth, Sport and Tourism on 4 July 2018.

The draft law was adopted in January 2019 and will come into force on 1 January 2020.

The law provides for the timely detection of vulnerable groups of the population and the provision of quality social services that is crucial for the successful implementation of the DI Strategy. Timely social support for families at risk will help to preserve the biological family for a child, as well as to involve non-profit organizations in providing social services at the expense of the local budget.

In 2018, SOS Ukraine was involved in the development of activities for the project “Happy family – a successful country” aimed at supporting the family and children's rights in Kiev region until 2022. The programme includes activities in the areas of:

- introduction of a mechanism for providing social services to children and families with children on the basis of social-sector procurement;

- overcoming the introduction of the mechanism of social-sector procurement at different levels of the local budget;

- promoting the development of a network of foster families in the administrative territorial units of the region in order to prevent placement of children especially at an early age into institutions of institutional care;

- promoting the creation of a network of small group houses for the long-term residence and care of orphans and children deprived of parental care.

**Ensure the involvement of SOS youth to take part in the formation of the state policy on children's rights**

During September-December 2018, 4 trainings were conducted for SOS youth to develop and enhance their leadership and advocacy skills. During the trainings, the participants were provided with exercises for the development of competences for solving conflicts in the team, the role, functions, features of the team and the role of a leader, the vision of team work; to seek cooperation or compromise; establishing team members' ability to communicate and constructively interact; understanding of the causes of conflicts in the team and their solutions; communicative skills of a leader; external communication skills and information campaigns, understanding of internal and external communication features; creation of information campaigns; deepening of knowledge and skills in advocacy, its stages; stakeholder analysis, levels of interaction between the authorities and the public, cooperation with the authorities; the procedure for carrying out public campaigns and actions for the protection of children's rights; successful advocacy cases.

This knowledge will be useful to young people in order to further engage them in the advocacy campaigns of SOS Children's Villages Ukraine and to make SOS youth a voice of the advocacy campaigns we implement.

In accordance with SOS Children's Villages International Strategy 2030 and the Global Advocacy Strategy of the Federation, member organizations should ensure the participation of children and young people and their active involvement in advocacy; development of internal capacity for the successful development and implementation of advocacy companies involving children and young people; children should be the voice of our advocacy campaigns.

In pursuit of the objectives of the Strategy in 2018, SOS youth continued to participate in the National Children's Council established under the Office of the Ombudsman for Children. The council included 5 children from SOS Children's Villages Ukraine. In December, SOS Ukraine in co-operation with the Ombudsman for Children held the first All-Ukrainian Forum of the National Children's Council for its members.

The purpose of the Forum was to ensure the participation of young people from SOS Children's Villages Ukraine in the National Children's Council for the next three years, which is in line with the Strategy of the International Association and SOS Ukraine, which stipulates that 10 children from SOS Ukraine will become the voices of our advocacy campaigns until 2020. Taking into account that the National Strategy for Institutional Children's Care System Reform in Ukraine is being actively implemented, it is important to involve young people and children in decision-making on the implementation of the Strategy. In Ukraine, the members of the National Children's Council will be involved in making decisions on the implementation of the DI Strategy.

During the Forum, young people were given the main tools for participation in decision making, highlighting international experience, the main aspects of protecting children’s rights in Ukraine, clarifying the concept of DI reform and their role in implementing reform.

 In June 2018, a memorandum of understanding and cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Ukraine was prolonged. The memorandum was signed with the aim of cooperation on the development of youth policy, the joint initiatives of SOS youth, the formation of an active citizenship and involvement in the social and public life of the state and the promotion of the development of SOS Ukraine Youth Center, which began its work in September 2018.

**Protecting children’s rights affected by armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine**

An armed conflict in eastern Ukraine began in the spring of 2014 and is ongoing. In 2017, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved the resolution “On approval of the Procedure of granting the status of a child who suffered from military actions and armed conflicts”. It contravenes the rules of international humanitarian law applicable to a State Party in the event of armed conflicts and relating to children, in particular, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of Childhood".

In 2018, SOS Children's Villages Ukraine together with the Ukrainian Child Rights Network, promulgated amendments to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine aimed at recognizing children’s rights affected by the military conflict in the East of Ukraine which enabled them to receive the appropriate status for children who received psychological and physical injuries as a result of hostilities in the East of Ukraine.

According to data provided by the Ministry of Social Policy, 10 611 children received the status of a child affected by armed conflict, among them 4751 children suffered from psychological violence and 70 children received a concussion in Donetsk region, 4 463 children received psychological trauma and 6 children were injured in Lugansk region. 2 children had been physically and sexually abused in Donetsk and Lugansk regions. 1 397 children received the status in other regions of Ukraine.

In 2018, SOS Ukraine joined the global advocacy campaign to adopt a United Nations General Assembly resolution on the rights of the child in 2019, aimed at protecting the rights of children deprived of parental care. SOS Ukraine has collected signatures in support of a resolution from 12 organizations in Ukraine working in the field of children's rights. The appeals were sent to the Ombudsman for Children of Ukraine, the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. In 2019, in response to the aforementioned appeal the Ombudsman for Children of Ukraine addressed the Third Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations to support the resolution.

SOS Children's Villages Ukraine is a part of a constant inter-agency commission on protection of childhood that operates under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Policy. Participating actively in the meetings of the Commission, SOS Ukraine continuously reports on the current situation on the territory of an armed conflict in the East of Ukraine and gives recommendations for draft decisions of the Ministry of Social Policy regarding the rights of children.

SOS Children's Villages Ukraine actively cooperates with the Supreme Council of Ukraine, the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, Office of Ombudsman for Children's Rights, NGO Forum and the Child Protection Sub-cluster, the Education Cluster in the drafting of legislation and regulations relating to children rights in Ukraine.

## 5. Monitoring & Evaluation

*What were key activities to monitor and evaluate programmes; obstacles faced and solutions found? What is functioning well/not well in M&E on different levels (national, programme, programme unit)?*

 The monitoring and evaluation of the FBC unit is based on compliance with quality standards, guidelines for alternative care, SOS policy and Ukrainian legislation on the protection of children's rights.

4 times a year (quarterly) PD together with the coordinators of the unit, analyzes the implementation of the implementation plan of the unit. Quarterly monitoring of implementation of the implementation plan establishes the correspondence between the planned and actually implemented measures. In addition, during the quarterly monitoring, an impact assessment is carried out at the program level and corrective action is taken.

 Monthly (if necessary more often) monitoring of database maintenance and quality of information included in the PDB.

The purpose of the monitoring was to: Assess the quality of service in foster families. Compliance with Ukrainian Legislation, SOS Standards and Strategic Goals by 2030.

The following sources of information were used for evaluation:

* visits to 8 foster families, 2 of them in Starobilivskyi district and 6 in Severodonetsk and 3 young people left foster care;
* interviews with foster parents;
* the documentation on cases of individual families has been studied;
* interviews with program specialists (social workers, social pedagogues, psychologists, psychotherapist);

 The main strengths and challenges identified during the monitoring are listed in section 2 above.

 Also, the Challenges that were identified during the monitoring were discussed at the national and program levels, as well as the main areas of development of the unit that were included in the MTP and the annual program plan were identified.

 Monitoring at the program level is as follows:

 Each year, Program Director and unit coordinator at the FBC sub-division conduct development talks with each specialist, including foster parents (coordinated by the coordinator);

 - self-assessment and development plan of each specialist's (annually);

 - assessment of the efficiency of foster families functioning (annually);

 - reports of the involved specialists (quarterly);

 Specialists in social work with families / youth 1 time per quarter (if necessary more often) monitor and evaluate the impact of the individual development plans of the child / young person. Children and young people as well as foster parents are involved in this process. If necessary, changes are made to the plan. This allows us to quickly track the qualitative changes in the dynamics of the family, the development of the child / young person, and respond quickly to them.

Within the planning process, based on project management, implementation plans were developed in all facilities. Clear indicators for all interventions were determined.

Regular visits in the locations in terms of monitoring the implementation of plans of work were carried out by the Programme Department.

In 2018, an internal Programme audit of FSP and FBC was conducted in Luhansk CVP.

Self-assesments were carried out in both CVPs.

The Programme Database (PDB) was a critical component of monitoring and evaluation.

ERP monitoring visit carried out (including Luhansk - non-government controlled territory). Risk Management Matrix was developed. In general, the work of ERP was evaluated positively.

## 6. Progress towards financial sustainability of programme work

*General progress and challenges in getting public funds, governmental subsidies, etc.*

In 2018, main sources of local income were institutional grants and corporate fundraising, and both these areas showed growth comparing to 2017. Recalculating according to the average annual exchange rate of the National Bank of Ukraine in 2018, we mastered 360,935 EUR from the ‘Pope for Ukraine’ Initiative and 62,889 EUR from UNICEF for emergency and recovery projects in Luhansk region, and 30,859 EUR from Caritas Austria for international capacity building project in Ukraine, Romania and Moldova. In addition to this, SOS Ukraine implemented 2 large PSA-led grant projects: international project on youth economic empowerment funded by EU and emergency response project funded by DRA (Netherlands), continuing in 2019. In these projects, for the first time, we are cooperating with other Ukrainian and international NGOs as partners within the consortiums (Alliance for Civil Rights, Dorcas, Terre des Hommes). Our biggest corporate donor in 2018 was P&G, giving 37,365 EUR in cash (international project with SOS USA and SOS Russia) plus 10,056 EUR in hygienic and household cleaning goods for the FSP families. Other major donors were J&J, which invested 16,771 EUR in educational project, and KFC, which gathered 10,079 EUR from selling charity stickers in their restaurants. Other companies, which made cash contribution last year, were: Porshe, Oriflame, Radisson and iC consulenten. Contribution from individuals through donation boxes, web-site, SMS-charity and sporadic donations in 2018 amounted to 3344 EUR. We also received donations in kind (clothes costing 18,133 EUR) from an NGO in Luhansk as additional support for the conflict-affected families.

## 7. HR/HRD

*Which trainings, networking and knowledge sharing activities for programmes were organized by national PD team?*

During 2018, the following trainings were organized for programmes by national PD team:

Training for foster parents “Cooperation with biological relatives of foster children”.

Roundtable discussion together with foster parents, concerning “Procedure of interaction of multidisciplinary team regarding foster children and foster families, who are prone to deviant behavior”.

Common trainings for FBC and FS colleagues “Child protection: family-oriented approach”. Training program “School of pedagogy of trauma”.

Training “Effective prevention and response to violence against children”.

Training for all FS co-workers on RBM approach. Workshop on experience exchange between FS staff working in different locations.

Preparation of regional trainers-consultants on the institutional care reform. Advocacy training.

During the year our colleagues participated in working groups at the Ministry of Social Policy, workshops, roundtables with local authorities and shared our knowledge and experience with partners. All these actions were aimed at successful partnership and collaboration.

## 8. Good practices

*Please provide information on innovative, interesting, good practices that should be documented next year for regional and global knowledge sharing.*

In 2018, the Kyiv program actively co-operates between FBC and FS units during the process of reintegration of children in FBC foster families into biological families. In 100% of cases, reintegration is a collaborative effort. For the current year, there were 6 such cases, in all cases, the children were returned to the biological family.

 ***The work is carried out by the following algorithm:***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FBC Action | Who | FSP Action | Who |
| Work with foster parents on preparing children for reintegration | Conducted by a specialist in social work with the involvement of a psychologist and supervisor | Initial assessment of the needs of the biological familyCore assessment of family needs | Conducted by FS case manager  |
| Psychodiagnostics of a child (readiness for meetings with biological parents, psycho-emotional state) | Conducted by a psychologist at the request of a social worker | Assessment of parenting potential | Conducted by FS specialists |
| Work with the child in preparation for moving (conversation, game form, social contact card, desired card, etc.) | Conducted by foster parents with the involvement of a specialist in social work and a psychologist |  |  |
| Organizing and conducting joint meetings between children and biological parents (FSP and FBC specialists present at the meetings) |
| Organization and conduction of a meeting of a multi-disciplinary team, network meetings (as needed) |
| Work with the child in accordance with the of individual development plan | FBC specialists | Work with parents in accordance with the plan of individual development of the family | FS specialists |
|  |  | Organization of training for parents under the program "Strong Parents - Strong Children" (raising the parent's potential) and preparing recommendations for the upbringing of children | FS specialists |
| Assessment of the child's readiness for movement. Organization of moving to a biological family | Conducted by a psychologist and specialist of social work, accompanied by a foster family, with the involvement of foster parents and the child | Advising biological parents on the peculiarities of their child (daily routine, habits, friends, hobbies, etc.). | FS specialist based on information from a foster parents and social worker FBC  |
| Preparation of information on the results of working with parents and children for the State Commission for the Protection of Child Rights, participation in the decision to move the child to the biological family |
| Moving a child |
|  |  | Revision of individual development plan of the family | Conducted by a specialist in social work FS |
|  |  | Continuation of social support within 3-6 months | Conducted by a specialist in social work FS |

 **Youth program:**

 One of the best practices of the Youth Program when working with adolescents and young people is the Pedagogy of Adventure. In the Youth Program, this methodology has been used for 4 years.

 For the Pedagogy of Adventure routes were chosen in the Carpathian Mountains. In 2018, 20 participants of the Youth Program had the opportunity to go for 2 trips to the Carpathians.

Teenagers and young people from 16 to 21 years are involved in the campaigns. Before that, they undergo the following training: instructing on collecting a backpack, on using tourist equipment, distributing products among all participants, explaining the route of a hike, working with a map, briefing on safety measures in a hike, scheduling duty during the hike.

 Adventure Technique helps to develop the personality of the child, develops independence and confidence, strengthens self-esteem, a sense of control over their lives. Children learn to adhere to the rules and make compromises, learn how to work in a team, analyze and anticipate the results of their own actions, help overcome negative traumatic experiences, by filling life with strong positive emotions and new positive successful experiences. Adventure pedagogy develops children's confidence in teachers and members of the group, promotes the ability to build teamwork and loyalty to each other.

 Also, to achieve a therapeutic goal, conditions are created for the transfer of experience to everyday life: every evening the whole group analyzes what was done, what difficulties and challenges arose, how they were overcome.

 In addition, while studying nature, children learn to appreciate it and find harmony in communicating with it.

Participation in hikes attracts children and is an incentive to fulfill their commitment to learning and participating in the Youth Program throughout the year.

## 9. Other

**ERP SOS CV Ukraine 2018:**

The main chievements:

* Programme activities in non-government controlled area were saved;
* Staff in Luhansk was saved;
* LDW was held in September;
* Monitoring visit to non-government controlled territory carried out and Risk Management Matrix was developed;
* recommendations on a more integrated programmatic approach towards SOS Children’s Villages emergency and longer-term responses (GER Project) were provided

Statistics of ERP beneficiaries:

* 295 children from 150 families in Luhansk city, NGCA;
* 165 children from 87 families in Stanitsa Luhanskaya (contact line);
* 53 children from 27 families in Severodonetsk;
* 52 children from 24 families in Starobilsk.

ERP beneficiaries received the following services:

* Individual/group psychotherapy;
* Speech therapy, classes with correction pedagogues;
* Educational support including individual tutoring;
* Parenting support;
* Material support;
* Medical support;
* Classes on safety and first aid.

Thanks to the long-term partnership with UNICEF, 100% of children were provided with winter clothes in Luhansk (NGCA).

**Public Funding projects 2018:**

**Ukraine - Joint Humanitarian Response Phase IV**

Geographical focus - Donetsk and Luhansk oblast non-government-controlled area and government-controlled area (contact line rayons).

Project objective – to provide emergency assistance and protection of the most vulnerable families affected by the humanitarian crisis in Eastern Ukraine.

Project implemented in consortium Dorcas, Terre des hommes and SOS Children’s Villages.

As of December 31, the project has the following results:

* Provision of holistic support (psychological, pedagogical, social, material support) to 289 families with 579 children, within the framework of stationary centers in Stanitca Luhanska and Luhansk. The activity was provided on the basis of case management technology and assessment of the individual needs of families.
* Satisfaction of the identified basic needs of 1414 children under three years old and of 1069 parents living along the contact line (food kits);
* 459 beneficiaries were referred to Multi-Purpose Cash program realized by Dorcas;
* 38 trainings for specialists of local authorities were conducted. Trainings were conducted on the following topics: "Stabilization of the emotional state of children, parents and specialists in supporting professions affected by the military conflict and living on the contact line" – 15 trainings; "Taking into account the principle of "Do not harm" in the process of providing social services to families with children" – 19 trainings.
* A three-day training for local NGOs and government partners on "Assessing the needs of the community for providing services to families with children" – 4 trainings. The total number of participants is 515.

**Project “Strengthening the community to meet the needs of vulnerable children and their families in the Luhansk region”** (funding by UNICEF)

The implementation period from June 15, 2018 to December 31, 2018.

Location – Lugansk (non-government-controlled area).

During the period of implementation of the project, 120 families received comprehensive support (189 children).

From December 2018, another 62 families (102 children) were taken on social support.

Services provided: 449 psychological counseling, 244 pedagogical counseling, 87 children received speech therapy services.

Mobile team specialists carried out 71 trips to remote villages of the Luhansk region. In total, 4448 beneficiaries are covered by the services of the mobile team, of which 4,022 children and 426 adults. 2,832 children took part in the Playbas events. 3955 beneficiaries raised their awareness of key protection issues (including MRE). During the visits, 260 psychological and awareness-raising group events were held, covering 2,092 beneficiaries, of whom 2,044 children and 48 adults, provided 5,887 services.

Families, project participants were provided with NFI according to individual needs of families. 120 children from 73 families received clothing. 60 families recived beds and mattresses for children, desks, chairs, bed linen, towels, blankets for children, backpacks.

From October to December 2018, 12 webinars for local specialists were condacted.