



## Christian Children's Fund - Belarus

### “COMMUNITY SERVICES TO VULNERABLE GROUPS”

### ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT

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### Component I “Supporting Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Belarus”

Author's Name:

Irina Mironova

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### Organizational Contact Information:

<b>CCF Belarus</b>  Irina Mironova Country Representative Christian Children's Fund, Belarus 39 Pushkin Avenue, office 16 Minsk 220092 Belarus  Phone: 375-17-257-77-08 (09) E-mail: <a href="mailto:irina@ccf-belarus.org">irina@ccf-belarus.org</a>	<b>USA Headquarters:</b>  Craig Stein Director, Grants Development and Management Christian Children's Fund 2821 Emerywood Parkway PO Box 26484 Richmond, Virginia 23261-6484, USA Phone: (804) 756-2700 Fax: (804) 756-2718 E-mail: <a href="mailto:CDStein@ccfusa.org">CDStein@ccfusa.org</a>
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Name of USAID office:

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Democracy, human rights and development

## **I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **A. PROJECT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES**

CCF's project "Supporting Orphans and Vulnerable Children" is aimed at reducing the number of children in Belarus being institutionalized in state-administered orphanages and boarding schools. The program's goals are to prevent institutionalization in selected communities of Belarus by supporting a cultural environment conducive to at-home family care and also to move children out of institutions into less restrictive environments when prior circumstances necessitate removal from their family home. The project targets 'social orphans,' i.e, children whose parents are living, but are unable to provide proper care or children who have been denied parental rights. The project's activities focus on working with families and social service professionals to maintain and reintegrate children within their original family units.

This component has three main objectives:

- To improve access to and further develop an integrated system of community-based prevention and rehabilitation services for families as well as institutionalized and at-risk children.
- To improve the quality of training and education available to social service providers and awareness of community members surrounding the development of favorable family environments for children.
- To provide technical assistance to the Belarus Ministry of Education (MOE) in order to strengthen the national regulatory and methodological base promoting de-institutionalization and to disseminate key learning's of the project throughout Belarus to build a foundation for replication and sustainability.

### **B. PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS**

Year 2 was characterized by **new level of community based social services** delivery. Community specialists participated in TOT workshops in YEAR 1 and 2 have started new types of services/programs for families and children at risk such as Parenting Skills Enhancement programs, Substance Abuse and Health Life Style, youth volunteer activity to support disabled children and their families, Life Skills Education for institutionalized children and youth.

CCF focused its efforts at **Community Advisory Boards** development as an arena for open discussion, participatory evaluation and decision-making process, cross-sector partnerships and project sustainability. Needs assessment and problem prioritizing conducted by CAB in each community became a platform for creation of strategic deinstitutionalization plan. CAB played essential role in identification of projects that are urgent to prevent institutionalization on the local level. Due to joint efforts of CAB members new Socio-Pedagogical Center was created in Kobrin.

Group of local child protection specialists completed **training course** of eight (8) Modules on **Child Protection Services** provided in partnership with Institute of Human Services (USA). The program was highly appreciated by the participants who expressed their wish to multiply these trainings for local multidisciplinary teams. As a result a national trainers' team was formed and passed ToT for Master trainers to replicate this program on the local level using translated modules and CCF-Belarus methodological support. Each community will implement this program within small grants awarded in the Year 2.

New **PRIDE pre-service methodology** in training perspective foster and adaptive parents was learned by community specialists. Along with substantial training they were supported by methodological manuals translated into Russian. New methodology was applied to new projects designed by four communities and supported by CCF in the Year2. Implementation of the program will be continued in the Year 3.

**Information and public awareness campaigns** aimed at child abuse and neglect prevention as well as development of alternative family type placement for orphans, promotion of family as the best option for full value development for a child were prepared in each community as a result of the additional capacity building on PR. Information campaigns will be implemented within small grants awarded in the Year 2.

In order to better respond to child abuse and neglect issues CCF facilitated further development of surveillance system generating facility-based information. Needs and resources for facility-based **Computer Database** installation and functioning were analyzed, submitted to CCF-Belarus and became a platform for new community projects supported in the Year 2.

CCF-Belarus kept momentum to influence on creation of **national policies/methodologies** in Belarus child protection system and out it on the right track according to the international standards and possible violation of human rights. Evident success was achieved as a result of the Procedure of child removal from the family development by Task Group and its further approval by 3 local Executive Committees. Task Group completed the second regulatory document "*Procedure of Investigation of Child Abuse and Neglect Cases*" that was highly appreciated by Belarus Ministry of Education.

National and oblast level **Round Tables** conducted in the Year 2 helped to disseminate project experience, best practices and methodologies for further replication and multiplication.

**New communities** located in Chernobyl zone were selected. Lessons learned from the previous year helped CCF to develop their capacity and involve them actively into the project activity

Mid-term evaluation was conducted in the Year 2 by DCOF evaluation team. Recommendations from Evaluation report written by Lucia Correl, DCOF expert, have been incorporated in on-going practice, new plans and project strategies.

In summary, thus far:

- The project activity was expanded to two new communities i.e. Chaussy and Volozhyn located in Chernobyl zone
- **Twenty two (22) small grants** for the total sum of **\$216, 246.7** were awarded;
- **Twenty eight (28) new prevention and rehabilitation services** were incorporated into community child protection system;
- The total number of direct project beneficiaries reached by prevention and rehabilitation services this quarter was **2, 024 people**. Among them **1500 were** children .
- About **231** specialists from **73** partner organizations from Kobrin, Orsha, Zhodino, Chaussy and Volozhin have been trained as the trainers in 13 subjects covering PRIDE program for perspective foster and adoptive parents, family centered approach to Child Protection Services, Parenting Skills Enhancement program, Health Education and Substance Abuse prevention, Youth Mobilization and Volunteer management, Life Skills Education, Proposal Writing, Monitoring and Evaluation.
- The Procedure of Child Removal from a Family developed by Expert Task Group was approved in **3 out of 5** Executive Committees as local regulatory document.
- Methodological recommendations for Investigation of Child Abuse and Neglect Cases was developed and recommended by Belarus Ministry of Education for incorporation into practice.

## **II. PROJECT ACTIVITY IMPACT**

### **OBJECTIVE 1**

**To improve access to an integrated system of community-based prevention and rehabilitation services for families, institutionalized children, and children at risk.**

- **Twenty seven (27)** new community based rehabilitation services were introduced into the child protection practice in new communities.
- **2, 024 people** (parents, orphans and children at risk) benefited from prevention and rehabilitation services
- **274** of disabled children having access to education, training and social assistance
- **652** orphans were enrolled in Life Skills education programs;
- **83 %** of orphans reporting improvement of knowledge and skills related to Life Skills trainings.
- **900** people were indirect beneficiaries through publications and Information Reference book publications
- **Five (5)** CABs in Orsha, Zhodino, and Kobrin continued its activity on strategic plan of child protection system development and de-institutionalization.

### **Prevention Services.**

Prevention services provided in Year 2 were targeted at individuals or groups in order to prevent the danger of escalation of normative problems into the crises, decrease risk of child abuse and neglect in the families. It included *Parenting Skills Enhancement Program*, aimed at decreasing family stress and enhancing family functioning, *Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention program* for school children, *integrated playgroups* to support disabled children and their families, *volunteer group activity* focused on inclusion of children with disabilities into activities of the peer groups.

#### **Activity: Parenting Skills Enhancement Program**

**Thirty three groups of parents (409 people)** from Zhodino, Orsha and Kobrin completed Parenting Skills Enhancement Program. Among them **30% (122 people)** were parents from the risk group (*parents who are under close supervision of social services and police because of their asocial behavior and inability to provide adequate care for their children*).

#### **As a result:**

- **87% of parents** who completed the Parenting Enhancement Program reported better understanding of the reasons of children's misbehavior and cope with it without violence;
- **86% of parents** reported improvement of their parents' skills and non-violent disciplinary methods;
- **86% of trained parents** assessed themselves as "responsible parents";
- **90% of parents** maintained optimal emotional contacts with their children;
- **68% of parents** started using methods of stress management and self-regulation.

#### *Parents' says:*

*Elena, a mother from Orsha: "...as a result of the classes I stopped doing everything for my son... now I respect myself and let my child making decisions himself and experience the outcomes of his own decisions..."*

#### *Trainers' says:*

*Olga, a trainer from Orsha: "...It was not only mothers who attended the class... grandmothers and fathers jointed them...it helped a lot in maintaining relationships within the family and in formulating the same and equal demands for a child..."*

#### **Activity: Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention Program**

**Fifteen groups (101 schoolchildren)** have been trained on Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention Program in Zhodino and Orsha communities. Three groups (32 children) are in training since September 2007.

#### **As a result:**

- **87, 7 % of schoolchildren** participating in the program reported improvement of knowledge and skills on healthy life style ; men's and women's reproductive health, drug abuse and HIV/AIDS.

#### **Activity: Life Skills Education training for institutionalized children.**

**Eleven groups (146 children)** from boarding schools and shelters as well as children at risk in Orsha, Kobrin, Zhodino and Volozhin had completed a Life Skills program that was followed up with classes on practical house hold skills development. Three groups of orphans and sheltered children (30 children) from Volozhin and Orsha are in training since September 2007.

**As a result:**

- **83% of teenagers** learned how to define personal positive characteristics; learned about interconnection between values, decisions and behavior; master effective communication; learned about defining and achieving goals, effective decision making and particularities of gender roles; formed the attitude towards parenting; practice methods of stress management; analyzed their opportunities to find a job.
- **Four hundred and six (406) institutionalized children** attended life skills development classes in Zhodino, Orsha and Kobrin using equipment purchased by CCF for these purposes. As a result children kept up sewing and carpentry skills, produced furniture (bedside tables, beds, tables) for the needs of the boarding schools, repaired old clothe and make new one.

*Children say:*

*Olga, 15 years old, "... As a result of the classes I learned how to communicate with other people effectively, how to ask questions properly and listen to answers...It was very helpful that we had a chance to discuss day-to-day situations and find different solutions taking into account not only my interest but the interests of other people as well... I started feeling that people respect me...my self-esteem has increased...This classes raised me as a PERSON!"*

Note:

Trainer's reports, developmental programs are available upon request at CCF-Belarus office

### **Care and Support for disabled children and their families**

This year community services aimed at support provision, facilitating inclusion, overcoming stigma and discrimination of disabled children and their families have been continued in Kobrin and started in Zhodino, Orsha and Chauy communities. Among such services are self-help groups, day care groups, integrated playgroups, and volunteer activity targeted at assistance for families with disabled children.

#### ***Activity: Community parents' associations***

*Parents support groups* and *parent association* help to overcome social isolation and serve multiple functions, including education and training, recreation and leisure, counseling and peer support.

Initiatives of parents were supported in the Year 2 within small grants scheme. In Kobrin active participants of local Parents' Association BelAPDliMI successfully implemented a project "Family Support Center" jointly with local Habilitation Center Centre, young volunteers from Kobrin school № 3. Reflecting the results of the small grant implementation new project was designed and submitted to CCF for funding to introduce new community-based services (mobile toy library and respite care).

Meetings of the **self-help group** were organized in Kobrin Habilitation Center. **Twelve (12) parents of disabled children** took part in the meetings aimed at self-help group capacity building. They got knowledge on involvement of new members into self-support activity as well as about methods of interaction with newcomers. The participants learned how to cope with negative emotions and analyzed different negative situations that they experienced in their day-to-day life. This activity was started within SDC supported project and then continued within small grant supported by CCF.

**Three-day Workshops "Building Partnership with Parents"** was conducted in Orsha (8th -10th of October, 2006) and Zhodino (12th -14th of October, 2006) by British expert Dr. John Harris for siblings, parents and specialists. As a result of the Workshops **26 specialists together with 23 parents of disabled children** from

Orsha and Zhodino identified and agreed about priority problems to be solved and possible joint actions. They better understood what kind of support parents and specialists together can provide for disabled children.

**Activity: Volunteer activity to support families with disabled children.**

Inclusion of children with disabilities, where it possible, into activity of the peer groups can promote healthy social interaction and beneficial growth experience for all participants.

This year new volunteer groups consisting of schoolchildren were created in Chausy, Volozhin and Orsha.

Work of youth volunteer groups created additional cycle of community support to families raising handicapped children. Young volunteers implemented activities to match the needs and aspirations of disabled children and their families.

**As a result:**

- **One hundred forty two (142)** volunteers from Orsha, Zhodino, Kobrin and Chausy carried out **26** cultural/leisure activities for disabled children from Habilitation Centers (New Year Ball and Christmas celebration, St. Valentine’s Day, Boy’s Day, Mother’s Day, Kindergarten Leaving Party, etc. as well as home visits; walk and play activity). These activities were attended by **344 participants**.

**Activity: Integrated playgroups for typical and disabled children**

Integrated playgroups for typical, disabled and at risk children in Kobrin, Zhodino, and Orsha consist of developmental programs, programs of social interaction and adaptation for children while their parents are at Parenting Classes. *Three* integrated groups have been started in Chausy since September 2007.

**As a result:**

- **Four hundred thirty two (432)** non-disabled children, children at risk and children with disabilities were involved in **52 integrated playgroups**, creative and development activities in Zhodino, Orsha and Kobrin.
- **Seventeen (17) unique developmental programs** for integrated playgroups were prepared by community trainers.
- **Ninety three (93)** children from at risk group (22%) were involved into playgroup activity in Zhodino, Orsha and Kobrin.

Note: Reports including lists of the participants, analyses of pre-post evaluation forms and focus group discussions notes are available from the CCF-Belarus office upon request.

**Rehabilitation Services**

*Six (6) Calls for Proposals* were announced by CCF. As a result **22** new projects were approved for the total amount of \$216 296. 78. By the beginning of September 2007 *twelve (12) projects* have already been registered in the Department of Humanitarian Aid. The others are in the process of registration.

The selected projects are aimed at strengthening capacity of at risk families, alternative care development, services provision for disabled children and their families; expansion to new geographic locations rehabilitation services for alcohol addicted and their co-dependant relatives, strengthening community-based child protection system, Database on children at risk installation and functioning in a network format, information campaigns on child abuse and neglect prevention as well as alternative care development. (For more information, please see *Annex 1*).

The following projects were in the process of implementation in Year 2:

<i>Projects</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Location</i>
1. “Family University”	Youth NGO “Healthy Choice”;	Town of Zhodino
2. “Host Family”	Educational Establishment Divin	Divin village,

	Boarding School for Orphans and Children Without Parental Care	Kobrin district
3. "Family Support Center"	NGO "Kobrin Branch of Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth	Kobrin
4. "Together for a "Special" Child"	Republic NGO "Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth	Kobrin, Orsha, Zhodino
5. "A Way for Recovery"	Republic NGO "Mothers Against Drugs".	Kobrin, Orsha, Zhodino
6. "Future without Violence and Abuse"	NGO "Focus Group"	Zhodino
7. "Education of future foster parents on PRIDE program"	Educational department of Chausy Executive Committee	Chausy
8. "Information campaign on alternative care development"	Chausy Social-pedagogic center	Chausy
9. "Future Without Violence and Abuse"	NGO "Focus Group"	Zhodino
10. "Support Service as a form of assistance for women and children suffered from domestic violence"	NGO "Radislava"	Kobrin, Orsha, Zhodino, Chaussy, Volozhyn
11. "Educative program for candidates to foster parents"	Orsha Social-pedagogic center	Orsha
12. "Educative course for future foster parents"	Zhodino Social-pedagogic center	Zhodino
13. "A family to every child"	Volozhin region Social-pedagogic center	Volozhin
14. "Children against violence"	Kobrin Territorial Center of Social Support of Population	Kobrin
15. "Childhood without violence"	Zhodino Social-pedagogic center	Zhodino
16. "Let's say "no" to child abuse"	Volozhin region Social-pedagogic center	Volozhyn
17. "Informational campaign on alternative care development");	Orsha Social-pedagogic center	Orsha
18. "Development of preventive services to strengthen family capacity and to prevent child abuse and neglect"	Orsha School #20	Orsha
19. "A Way to Recovery-2"	National NGO "Mothers against Drugs"	Kobrin, Orsha, Zhodino, Chaussy
20. Prevention of social orphanage in institutions working in child protection system"	Volozhin state regional Social-pedagogic center	Volozhin
21. "Prevention of social orphan hood through creation of favorable conditions for family support, strengthening family upbringing and development of children life skills".	Educational department of Zhodino Executive committee	Zhodino
22. "Prevention of social orphan hood through introduction of family-centered approach to institutions of child protection system"	Educative department of Chausy Executive committee	Chausy

23. "Assistance to prevention of social orphanage through creation of favorable conditions for family support, strengthening family upbringing and development of children life skills"	Social-pedagogic center of Orsha	Orsha
24. "Cross-sector cooperation on child and family protection through creation of unified informational record system"	Educative department of Chausy Executive committee	Chausy
25. "Creation of network database on child protection in Orsha"	Educational department of Orsha Executive committee	Orsha
26. "Zhodino Social Network"	Educational department of Zhodino Executive committee	Zhodino
27. "Family Support Center - 2"	Kobrin branch of Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth	Kobrin

**Results of small grants implementation.**

- 23 new prevention and rehabilitation services were provided in local communities within small grants supported in the first year.
- The total number of beneficiaries (vulnerable groups) directly assisted by the CCF grantees was **574**. Among them:

Guest families - 26  
 Orphans – 142;  
 Families at risk – 63;  
 Children with disabilities – 177;  
 Children at risk – 20  
 Parents of disabled children - 146

# of visits of families with disabled children to new services – 244;

Number of indirect beneficiaries (general public) reached through information campaign - **116, 779**.

For more information, please see PMP annual report in Annex 1.

**Educational Establishment Divin Boarding School for Orphans and Children without Parental Care**

- Club activity for Guest families
- Placement of orphans into alternative care
- Information dissemination about guest families

**Project beneficiaries:**

Guest families	26
Orphans placed into guest families	132
Orphans placed into foster care	4
Orphans placed into guardianship	4
Orphans reunified with biological family	1
<i>total</i>	<b>167</b>

Indirect beneficiaries of the project activity – **6 435** reached through publications, concerts and interviews.

**NGO "Kobrin Branch of Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth"**

- Club activity for families with disabled children (self-help group activity)

- Home visit by volunteers
- Parenting Skills Enhancement Program
- Psychological counseling for parents
- Integrated playgroup activity
- Information dissemination about services for disabled children and their families

**Project beneficiaries:**

Families with disabled children	26
Disabled children	36
Orphaned children	1
<i>total</i>	<b>63</b>

Indirect beneficiaries of the project activity – **25 000** (the audience of local TV and radio)

**Youth NGO “Healthy Choice”**

- Social pedagogic counseling for families at risk;
- Club activity for families at risk;
- Club activity (playgroups) for children at risk;
- Informational support of families at risk;
- Activity on integration of families with disabled children and families with children at risk, attending the club

**Project beneficiaries:**

Families at risk	20
Children at risk	20
Parents of disabled children	18
Disabled children	26
<i>total</i>	<b>84</b>

Indirect beneficiaries of the project activity reached through publications in local mass media - **1256** people.

**Republic NGO “Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth”**

- Toy library for disabled children;
- Special ergo-therapeutic equipment for children with disabilities;
- Lawyer consultations for parents of disabled children;
- Trainings for parents of disabled children and specialists working with them.
- Recreation retreat for disabled children their parents
- Information Reference book about services available for families and children with disabilities in Zhodino, Orsha and Kobrin

**Project beneficiaries:**

# of visits of families with disabled children to new services	200
Disabled children	115
Parents of disabled children	102
<i>total</i>	<b>373</b>

Indirect beneficiaries of the project activity reached through publishing and dissemination of the information reference book about community services for disabled – **900**.

Indirect beneficiaries of the project activity reached through publications – **34 188**.

**Republic NGO “Mothers Against Drugs”.**

- self-help groups for alcohol addicted;
- self-help groups for co-dependant relatives;
- information dissemination to support alcohol addicted and their relatives.

**Project beneficiaries:**

Alcohol addicted	12
Co-dependant relatives	31
<i>total</i>	<b>43</b>

Indirect beneficiaries of the project activity – **49 000** (the audience of local radio in Orsha, Zhodino and Kobrin). The general public in Kobrin is the same as in the project of NGO “Kobrin Branch of Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth”.

Note:

Original applications, lists of participants and Partnership Agreements are available from the CCF-Belarus office upon request.

New prevention service:

As an output of the activities organized within first and third project objectives a unique *prevention service* such as **Child Abuse and Neglect Rapid Response Team** has been created in Zhodino. Child Abuse and Neglect Rapid Response Team is a municipal multidisciplinary unit created in this town due to the project Task Group activity and participation of the local team of specialists in Child Protection trainings. This service helps to react rapidly to the situation of child abuse and neglect, to start working with a family as a unit to maintain its capacity. It’s gives more chances for early detection of risk families and successful prevention/rehabilitation interventions.

Equipment purchasing

Needs assessment conducted by CCF in project assisted communities resulted in special agreements for equipment and vitamins acquisition, as well as Internet access provision for 15 poorest community services for total sum of 44 014.95 USD. Equipment for such services as Habilitation Centers for Disabled Children, Centers of Social Support, and Boarding Schools for orphaned children, shelters was purchased. As a result three new PC stations for community and school coordinators, equipment for training rooms, social apartments for shelters, sewing machines and carpentry tools were purchased to develop practical life skills of orphaned and sheltered children, prevention and rehabilitation services.

The purchased equipment created a basis for implementation of prevention and rehabilitation services such as Parenting Skills Enhancement Program, Life Skills Education Program, Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention Program.

Lists of equipment and financial reports are available at CCF-Belarus office upon request.

**Activity: Community Advisory Board Establishment**

The CABs represent community involvement in the planning and development of services that is extremely important for project implementation, management and its further sustainability. It is the community voice that will remain to find solutions and advocate for needed services and funds after the CCF project ends.

This year CCF put its efforts to ensure that the service is genuinely desired and embraced by the local community as well as build indigenous support for continued activities after the project ends, analyses of selection criteria for people using community services. In order to achieve it CCF staff assisted Orsha, Zhodino and Kobrin CABs in strategic planning process for de-institutionalization and prevention of social orphan hood. As a result the most acute problems were identified, as well as needs for additional services. The existing resources and perspective projects were discussed and prepared.

This strategic planning exercise helped local specialties to avoid sporadic process of new project selection and put project/services development process within strategic frameworks. All new projects submitted this year came were results of thoughtful analyses and further approval of/by Community Advisory Boards.

CABs were instrumental not only for the development of strategic thinking skills but also for advocacy and lobbying. The evidence success is creation of Kobrin Socio-Pedagogical Center. In September 2006 after

analyses of strengths and weaknesses of the existing child protection system CAB members pointed out absence of coordination body in their town. They came to conclusion that Kobrin child protection system could not be developed effectively without creation of Social Pedagogic Center aimed at coordination of child protection activity. This problem was discussed several times later on at CAB meetings. As a result the authorities recognized the problem and on 25<sup>th</sup> of May, 2007 Kobrin Local Executive Committee has passed a decision about establishment of Kobrin Regional Social Pedagogic Center. They re-allocated 15,000 USD in the local budget and financed the Center. In addition some piece of equipment for the Center was purchased through CCF project.

## **OBJECTIVE 2**

***To enhance the professional training and education of social service providers and awareness of community members with regards to the development of favorable family environments for children.***

In the Year 2 CCF continued capacity building for local specialists. Trainings on Parenting Enhancement Program; on Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention Program; on Life Skills Program; on Volunteer Management and on volunteer group activity were carried out for the specialists from new communities. Series of workshops for multidisciplinary team of the specialists on Child Protective Services and PRIDE pre-service program were completed.

It total **231 specialists** increased capacity on above mentioned topics within the Year 2. All of them were provided with Manuals, Books and video materials that can be helpful while working on different programs with children and families at risk, institutionalized and sheltered children.

### **Activity: Training program for the multidisciplinary team of specialists on organization of child protective services**

**Multidisciplinary team (33 people)** consisted of representatives of Departments of Education, schools, police, child protection services, shelters and social-pedagogical centers as well as health care from 5 project sites took part in series of workshops on Family-centered Child protective services conducted by experts from IHS (USA). They were:

*Assessment and investigation in family- centered approach to child protective services (20-22<sup>nd</sup> of October, 2006)*

*Learning lab (practical tools) –10-12<sup>th</sup> of November, 2006)*

*Case planning in family- centered casework (25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> of January 2007)*

*The effects of Child Abuse and neglect on Child development (16-18<sup>th</sup> of February, 2007)*

*Separation, placement and reunification in family- centered approach to child protective services (23-25<sup>th</sup> of March, 2007)*

In addition in the last quarter there were 2 workshops with international specialists. They were **“Multidisciplinary teamwork” (27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> of April, 2007)** and **“Substance Abuse Treatment and Counseling” (11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> of May, 2007).**

As the follow-up of this training program a national trainers team on child protection was formed out of 20 persons. They will disseminate and replicate training program on child protection on the local level. This group has passed through ToT for Master Trainers on 31<sup>st</sup> of May -3<sup>rd</sup> of June; and 12-15<sup>th</sup> of June, 2007 to increase proficiency.

### **As a result of training course on Child Protection Services:**

- **100 % of the trainees** learned about family centered approach to child protective services, engaging families, family assessment, investigation process and case planning, the effects of child abuse and neglect on child development, separation, placement and reunification; about the importance of building partnership in order to provide excellent service, benefits of a great partnership; barriers and strategies for a partnership; characteristics of effective service; conflict management; about the crisis intervention in the situation of alcohol and drug abuse, building relationships with a drug or alcohol abusing person and his/her relatives, changes in the family in the situation of drug or alcohol abuse, AA meetings as a method of treatment/support to substances abusing people and their families.
- As a result of ToT for Master trainers **75 % of the trainees** learned about of adult learning principles, types and particularities of active methods of learning, model of interactive teaching, working with difficult trainees, working in pair with other trainer;
- **Five (5) proposals** were developed and submitted to CCF for funding aimed at replication of this program on the local community level.

**Activity: Preparation of local ToT group on alternative care.**

Twenty eight (28) local community specialists took part in series of **workshops PRIDE model, ToT methodology and Teamwork** (30<sup>th</sup> of November – 3<sup>rd</sup> of December, 2006; 8-10<sup>th</sup> of February, 16-17<sup>th</sup> of March, 14-15<sup>th</sup> of September 2007). These workshops ended up pre-service PRIDE training program.

The participants represented services involved in alternative care provision for orphans and children at risk as well as specialists of the higher educational institutions.

**As a result:**

- **100% of the participants** obtained knowledge on how to use a family's experiences in preserves training as a major part of the assessment process; to assist the family in looking at their past experiences and to relate these experiences to their potential ability and willingness to fulfill the tasks associated with the role of foster parents and/or adoptive parents; mutual assessment and decision-making in training perspective foster/adoptive parents, at-home consultation, its agenda and particularities; creating a Family development plan as tool to for supporting foster parents; principles of adult learning and its incorporation into PRIDE; interconnection between competences, objectives and methods of teaching; standards of conducting training; approaches in training different generations; principles of team work.
- **64, 7 % of** participants started practicing obtained knowledge and skills in training perspective foster and adoptive parents within small grants;
- **Four (4) projects** were submitted to CCF for funding to incorporate PRIDE program into local community practice to train perspective foster and adoptive parents. All projects are registered in the Department of Humanitarian Aid.

*Mick Polowy, the author of PRIDE methodology and the workshop trainer:*

*...the group demonstrated an excellent grasp, and working knowledge of the guiding principles/themes/topics upon which the PRIDE Program is based ...they displayed an exemplary amount of motivation to learn how to conduct the Foster PRIDE/Adopt PRIDE Training Program. They invested an enormous amount of energy in completing all of the many small group activities and expressed enthusiasm when debriefing the activities that the trainer demonstrated... they worked diligently in attempting to apply what was being taught to the realities of the children and families in Belarus. Their questions and concerns illustrated a sincere commitment to doing what is in the best interest of the children and families in need of family foster care and adoption services."*

**Activity: Training of Trainers (ToT) on Parenting Enhancement Programs in targeted communities (Volozhin, Chausy and Zhodino)**

Six (6) ToT workshops (April 23-25 and May 21-2; May 14-16 and June 5-7; September 17 – 19 and September 24-26) were conducted for community specialists from Volozhin, Chausy, and Zhodino.

Forty six (46) community specialists were trained on Parenting course curriculum, adults learning techniques, interactive methods of teaching, working with different types of participants. Special attention was given to M&E of the results of parenting education

Nine (9) trainers from Kobrin practicing Parenting Skills Enhancement Program had a chance for professional development and experience exchange through participation in the *Camp for Trainers of Parenting Course and Integrated Children Playgroups on 15-17<sup>th</sup> of March, 2007.*

**As a result:**

- **95% of the participants** reported improvements in specific knowledge and skills such as understanding the process of group work, adults learning techniques, interactive methods of teaching, working with different types of participants, implementation of M&E system;
- **Three (3) groups** on Parenting Skills Enhancement programs (36 parents) have been started in Chausy since September 2007.

**Activity: Trainings of Trainers (ToT) on Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention Program**

Thirty (30) community specialists from Chausy and Volozhin participated in series of workshops on new approaches to HIV/AIDS prevention, Reproductive Health, Substance Abuse Prevention, Interactive methods of work with children and youth in Health Education (27-29<sup>th</sup> of March, 3-5<sup>th</sup> of April, 19-21<sup>st</sup> of April; 10-12<sup>th</sup> of May; 17-19<sup>th</sup> of May, 13-15<sup>th</sup> June; 6-8<sup>th</sup> of September, 13-15<sup>th</sup> of September, 2007). The program will be ended up with Test session in October 2007 where participants show their ability to work with different age groups of children on different training issues.

To increase capacity of Kobrin and Orsha communities series of ToTs were continued in partnership with the NGO "Cooperation for Children's Future" within its UNICEF funded project. **Twenty eight (28) specialists** from these towns were trained on such topics as: *New Approaches for HIV/AIDS Prevention; Reproductive Health: prevention of abortions among teens; Prevention of smoking and alcohol abuse among teens; Risk factors: drug abuse and HIV/AIDS.* These trainings were carried out together with the local trainers participating in Master training.

**As a result:**

- **90% of participants** reported about improvement of their knowledge on training topics;
- Groups on Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention will be started by the end of October after completion of the testing training.

**Activity: Training of Trainers (ToT) on Life Skills Program**

Thirteen (13) participants completed ToT sessions on Life Skills Program on 26-28<sup>th</sup> of February (Part 1) and 19-21<sup>st</sup> of March (Part 2). They were provided with knowledge on methods of organizing trainings for teens, characteristics of teenagers, as well as how to teach them basic life skills (money management, meal preparation, employment skills and etc.).

**As a result:**

- **93% of participants** reported about improvement of specific knowledge and 50% will start working next year.
- **Two (2) groups** on Life Skills Program (20 children) has been started in Volozhin boarding school in April 2007;
- Three groups (30 children) are in training in Volozhin and Orsha since September 2007 and two groups on will be started in each community in October 2007.

**Activity: Trainings on Volunteer Management**

*Training on Volunteer Management* was organized on 20-21<sup>st</sup> of April, 2007 in Minsk in order to provide new services in the area of care and support for disabled children and to support volunteer group managers from Chausy and Volozhin communities.

To strengthen the capacity of the volunteer group members in services provision for disabled children series of additional trainings had been carried out. Among them were *Volunteer Camp* (30<sup>th</sup> of October – 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2006), trainings on *Making Video Films* (11-13<sup>th</sup> of December, 29-31<sup>st</sup> of January), on *Debates methodology* (21-22<sup>nd</sup> of February) and training on *Art therapy and Play Therapy* in Zhodino and Kobrin (7-8<sup>th</sup> of September; 21-22<sup>nd</sup> of September).

**As a result:**

- **Three (3) new** volunteer groups were formed and started its activity in Volozhin, Chausy and Orsha;
- **Eighty one (81) participants** attended additional capacity building for volunteer group members.
- A **video film** “*We are together*” was made by volunteers and presented on local TV channel. This film is about volunteer activity in the Habilitation Center and aimed at attracting the public attention to the problems of children with special needs.

**Activity: Additional Capacity Building**

Additional capacity building events ensured quality of project implementation and stimulated initiatives for child protection system development on the local level.

**On March 05, 2007** CCF-Belarus staff held training session on **Project Cycle Management** for local coordinators from new communities (Chausy and Volozhin). Community coordinators signed contracts and were acquainted with their job description, project’s annual/monthly plans, forms for reporting/planning.

To improve the quality of the reports received from the grantees a **Workshop “Monitoring and Evaluation: Reporting Tools” on March 06, 2007** was conducted for organizations implementing small grants awarded in the Year 1. As a result a Reporting Form developed by CCF-Belarus Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist was presented and participants had practiced how to feel it to reflect the results achieved within their small grants.

To develop information campaigns aimed at alternative care development as well as child abuse and neglect prevention additional capacity building **Training on PR** was conducted for *twelve (12)* community specialists on 13-14<sup>th</sup> of March, 2007. As a result participants were acquainted with stages of information campaigns, pyramid of behavior changes, evaluation of the current situation, target groups of the campaign and required resources, tools that can be used and submitted 5 projects for CCF funding. All projects were approved and registered in the Department of Humanitarian Aid.

To increase capacity of staff involved in rehabilitation services provision for families and children and to prevent institutionalization of children *fifteen (15) specialists* took part in the training “**Social work with disadvantaged families**” on 22-23<sup>rd</sup> of June, 2007. The participants obtained knowledge on social network map creation, interviewing within social investigation process, maintaining contact with clients, cycle of work with family contact network, development of case plan to support family based on the results of the network meetings.

**6 Calls for Proposals** were issued this year with aim to replicate knowledge received through Child Protection and PRIDE training programs, to prevent social orphan hood and strengthen families, to conduct information campaigns on alternative care development and prevent violence against children, as well as to install a network version of the Database about families and children at risk. Selection of the service providers was accompanied by *five (5) workshops on Proposal Writing* (on 7-8<sup>th</sup> of December 2006; 12<sup>th</sup> of March; 5-6<sup>th</sup> of April; 27, 28- 29<sup>th</sup> of June, 2007) that helped representatives of the community social services develop their proposals and submit them to CCF for funding. As the result **22 projects** were awarded in the Year 2 for the total sum of **\$216 296, 7**.



### **OBJECTIVE 3**

**To provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Education in Belarus in order to strengthen the national regulatory and methodological base in the area of de-institutionalization and family support and to disseminate key learning's of the project throughout Belarus to build a foundation for replication and sustainability.**

#### **Activity: Technical Task Group Meetings**

In the Year 2 series of Technical Task Group meetings (22<sup>nd</sup> of December 2006, 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2007, 17<sup>th</sup> of August 2007) were targeted at development of the *Procedure of Investigation of Child Abuse and Neglect cases*.

Galina Rudenkova, The Head of the Department of the Ministry of Education, provided an expert conclusion for both the Procedure of Child Removal from the Family and Procedure of Investigation of child abuse and Neglect cases as well as the Procedure of child removal from the family. She recommended them for implementation in the communities and dissemination on the national level.

#### **Activity: Dissemination and Replication activity.**

To disseminate new methodology and terminology formation on community and national levels CCF conducted series of **Round table discussions**: (25<sup>th</sup> of January, Minsk; 21<sup>st</sup> of June, Kobrin; 12<sup>th</sup> of September, Zhodino; 18<sup>th</sup> of September, Kobrin; 20<sup>th</sup> of September, Volozhin; 26<sup>th</sup> of September, Orsha; 28<sup>th</sup> of September, Chausy). The Round Tables allowed to define concrete steps to implement Procedures developed by Task Group into local practice that will correlate with the President Decree #18 "About Additional State Measures of Child Protection in Disadvantaged Families" (November 2006).

#### **As a result:**

- New methodological documents developed by Task Group were disseminated among **147 Round tables participants** representing Ministry of Education, national educational institutions, police, health care and education authorities from the targeted communities;
- The Procedure of Child Removal from a Family developed by Expert Task Group was approved in **3 out of 5** Executive Committees as local regulatory document;

The results of the project implementation were reflected in the local mass media.

Zhodino local newspaper "*Zhodinskaya Naviny*" – circulation 6329 copies - published series of articles (06<sup>th</sup> of December 2006; 03<sup>rd</sup> of May and 2<sup>nd</sup> of June, 2007) about the results of the Family Club activity implementing in Zhodino within the small grant of NGO "Healthy Choice", about the CAB meetings as well as volunteer group activity.

*Olga Misevich, Community Project Coordinator*, announced the results of the project implementation in *Informational Bulletin "Orsha Alliance" #19* (circulation 299 copies) published by Orsha Public Club. This bulletin also reflected such project activities as a Round Table "*Rehabilitation of Teenagers at Risk*" conducted by CCF-Belarus and Vitebsk Oblast Executive Committee and self-help groups for alcohol addicted and their co-dependant relatives created within the small grant supported by CCF-Belarus.

To increase the prestige of foster families in the local community article on alternative care development and to was written in "*Arshanskaya gazeta*" on 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2007 (circulation 5677 copies).

The role of CCF-Belarus in orphan hood prevention and implementation of the President Decree #18 "On Additional State Measures for the Protection of Children in Disadvantaged Families" was presented in "*Arshanskaya gazeta*" on 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, 2007 (circulation 5677 copies).

Results of the small grant "*Host Family*" supported by CCF-Belarus and implemented by Divin Boarding School (Kobrin region) were presented in the local newspaper "*Kobrin sky vestnik*" (circulation 7060 copies)

in the articles dated by 14<sup>th</sup> of October and 23<sup>rd</sup> of May, 2007, as well as in the local newspaper “Zaria” (circulation 17 540 copies) in the article dated by 10<sup>th</sup> of March.

Series of interviews on local TV and radio were organized by NGO “Kobrin Branch of Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth” (Kobrin) and NGO “Mothers Against Drugs” (Kobrin, Orsha, Zhodino) to inform the population about new community based rehabilitation services.

***Activity: Exchange visits***

To acquaint local community specialists with the model of rehabilitation services provision for women and children suffered from domestic violence within a Crisis Center ***an exchange visit to Crisis Center of NGO “Radislava”*** was organized on 14-15<sup>th</sup> of March, 2007 for 10 representatives from 5 Territorial Centers of Social Provision located in project targeted communities. As a result NGO “Radislava” in partnership with these Centers designed a project for training the staff of 5 Territorial Centers of Social Provision. The project got funding and was registered in the Department of humanitarian Aid.

A ***study visit to Lithuania*** was organized on 26-29<sup>th</sup> of September, 2007 to acquaint ***nine specialists*** involved into alternative care development with the successful experience of orphanages reformation into family type units. Galina Rudenkova, the Head of the Department from the Belarus Ministry of Education, directors of boarding schools and child protection specialists from local communities visited Lithuanian Ministry of Social and labor affairs, municipal offices of child, youth and family issues as well as former children’s institutions that passed through transformation into family type units. It inspired them for the start up the transformation process in their communities.

***Participants say:***

*Galina Rudenkova, The Head of the Department in the Ministry of Education: “...The study visit showed the results that neighboring country achieved in reformation of the institutions for orphaned children... The most important thing we were impressed is the government provides its project-oriented funding for all institutions for orphans...It stimulates in them result-oriented thinking and fostering innovations and new ideas...”*

*For more information, please, see Annex 2*

### **III. CHALLENGES/ CONSTRAINTS**

- Long and unclear process of small grants registration in the Department of Humanitarian Aid –the project partners managed to go through the project registration process as the topics were extremely acute for the community and supported by local administration;
- Low level of NGO involvement in project implementation due to the limited number of NGOs (if any) in targeted communities – it is expected to announce a Call for Proposals for NGOs from all over the country to design innovative projects next year
- Lack of result-and-project oriented approach in local state services providers – coaching and other support interventions will be conducted by CCF staff next year

### **IV. LESSONS LEARNED**

- President Decree #18 “About Additional State Measures of Child Protection in Disadvantaged Families” (November 2006) totally corresponds to the concept of the project and supports its implementation of the project activity on multidisciplinary team development on the local level. It stimulates the communities for project design in this area.
- The enthusiasm of new selected communities helped them to keep up with the other communities and start the process of new services development.
- CABs became the community voice that helped to find solutions and advocate for needed services

### **V. PROJECT CHANGES**

Additional funding to prolong OVC project were acquired. As a result of project implementation the Concept Paper for the Year 4 was developed and submitted for approval.

### **VI. COORDINATION/ COOPERATION/COST SHARING**

#### **• CCF, HQ**

CCF-Belarus has held weekly project review meetings in Minsk. These meetings strengthened project management, performance, and integration leading to enhanced cooperation and communication between project staff.

*On November, 26 - December, 3* Mary Moran, CCF HQ Program Specialist and Bonica Dave, Grants Officer took part in the Monitoring and Evaluation visit to project sites together with DCOF/USAID Evaluation Team. They discussed project results and future plans with CCF-Belarus Office as well as clarified the details in organized PRIDE trainings.

*On June 1-2* Michelle Poulton, CCF Vice-President had meetings with CCF-Belarus office to monitor the project performance, advice on improvements and coordinate plans for the future.

#### **• USAID**

CCF-Belarus project staff together with USAID –Minsk worked on preparations for mid-term project evaluation by DCOF experts.

Within mid-term evaluation in *27<sup>th</sup> of November – 4<sup>th</sup> of December* CCF-Belarus project staff, CCF HQ specialists, Lynne Shaberg , Lucia Corell ( DCOF-Washington), Nancy Godfrey ( Director of the Office of Health and Social Transition from USAID Regional Mission for Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus), Larisa Komarova ( USAID-Minsk Program Development Manager) and Jahor Novikau (USAID CTO) conducted joint evaluation visits to the project sites . They had meeting with project partners and discussed the project achievements. Project perspectives were discussed.

*On 21st of March, 2007* Chuck Howell (USAID-Country Coordinator), Larisa Komarova (USAID-Minsk Program Development Manager) and Jahor Novikau (USAID CTO) had a meeting with Irina Mironova, CCF-

Belarus Chief of the Party and Mariana Ananenko, CCF-Belarus Project Manager to discuss the results of the project implementation.

On 20<sup>th</sup> of June, 2007 Peter S. Argo, USAID - Deputy Director, Chuck Howell (USAID-Country Coordinator) and Jahor Novikau (USAID CTO) and had a meeting with Irina Mironova, CCF-Belarus Chief of the Party, Mariana Ananenko, CCF-Belarus OVC Project Manager and Alexei Golontsov CCF-Belarus HIV/AIDS Project Manager, to discuss the progress and results of project implementation as well as a mid-term report prepared by DCOF Evaluation Team.

On 26<sup>th</sup> of June Alexandra Braginski , USAID Team Leader for Ukraine/Moldova/Belarus (Washington DC), Peter Wiebler , Director of Democracy and Governance Office (USAID Regional Mission, Kiev , Ukraine) and Chuck Howell (USAID Country Coordinator, Belarus) visited CCF-Belarus office and met with Irina Mironova, CCF-Belarus Chief of the Party. They discussed cooperation with local and national government.

- ***Coordination with Ministry of Education of Belarus***

Irina Mironova, CCF-Belarus Chief of the Party, Nadezhda Karaseva CCF-Belarus Child Protection Specialist, and Ms. Galina Rudenkova, Senior Specialist on Child Protection and De-institutionalization of Ministry of Education met at CCF office. CCF-Belarus staff promoted new approach to the development of effective child protection system, multidisciplinary approach, adaptation of international experience in Belarus. Significant progress in formulation of joint vision was achieved, new ways for partnership with the Ministry of Education identified.

CCF-Belarus Child protection Specialist was invited by the Ministry of Education as an expert to provide her input to the Report about support for disadvantaged families and children at risk.

Irina Mironova, CCF-Belarus Chief of the Party, Mariana Ananenko, CCF-Belarus Project Manager, Nadezhda Karaseva CCF-Belarus Child Protection Specialist, Mr. George Butrim, a Head of the Department of Social Work and Upbringing of Ministry of Education, Ms. Tamara Sheremet, Chief Inspector and Ms. Galina Rudenkova, a Consultant of the Department of Social Work and Upbringing of Ministry of Education had joint meeting at CCF-Belarus office on 12<sup>th</sup> of January, 2007 to discuss project achievements and perspectives, to share accumulated experience.

- ***Cost share and leveraging***

Within the reported period SDC sponsored some activities provided by CCF-Belarus in the town of Kobrin. The total cost-share with SDC for this year was **11, 093.46USD**. This is calculated on the services for disabled children, their families, and training with international expert for the specialists, parents, siblings and young volunteers. This contribution provides better access to social services as well as integration of disabled children and their families to the community.

## **VII. ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

Annual plan of the project was developed and submitted in August 2007 to USAID CTO, Yahor Novikau.

## **VIII. PROJECT MANAGEMENT & STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

To implement the project the following staff changes took place this year:

***Nadezhda Karaseva***, Child protection Specialist has left the project and ***Elena Chesnovich*** replaced her in planning, management and control over effective implementation of the child protective initiatives, coordination of local child protective initiatives on local and national levels.

### ***Staff Review meetings***

CCF-Belarus has held weekly project review meetings in Minsk. These meetings strengthened project management, performance, and integration leading to enhanced cooperation and communication between project staff.

#### ***Staff development***

- Irina Mironova, CCF-Belarus Country Director and Nadezhda Karaseva, CCF-Belarus Child Protection Specialist took part in *International Visitor Leadership Program on Domestic Violence Prevention on 8<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2006 sponsored by US Department of State* . As a result of the program they were acquainted with a wide spectrum of rehabilitation services, crises interventions, training programs for the specialists, advocacy and lobbying developed in USA. They learned about the role of US Government, local authorities and NGOs in identification and prevention of domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, developed new contacts with peer organizations and networks.
- On the 4-6<sup>th</sup> of June, 2007 Nadezhda Karaseva, CCF-Belarus Child Protection Specialist and Irina Zenovich, Family Support Specialist, took part in the *International Seminar* on the development of the family based services for orphans and children deprived of parental care in *Kiev, Ukraine*. They were acquainted with the experience of alternative care development in Ukraine, Moldova, Bulgaria, Romania and carried out a presentation of state care system for orphans and children deprived of parental care in Republic of Belarus and mobilization of community resources for deinstitutionalization of children.

#### **V. BUDGET**

SF-272 (this report is will be submitted under separate cover)

**DEINSTITUTIONALIZATION OF ORPHANS IN BELARUS**

Indicator	Definition & Unit of Measure	Community	Period	Total Individual s	Male	Female			
<b>1</b>	Number of children (sex-disaggregated) that have been meaningfully served			Zhodino	2007	<b>428</b>	235	193	
				Orsha	2007	<b>424</b>	203	221	
				Kobrin	2007	<b>603</b>	317	286	
				Chausy	2007	<b>5</b>	0	5	
				Volozhin	2007	<b>40</b>	22	18	
		<b>Total</b>			<b>1500</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>Orgs</b>	
<b>2</b>	Number of both the individuals and organizations assisted by OVC project to increase their technical capacity/ability to advocate for/provide services to vulnerable children			Zhodino	2007	<b>66</b>	2	64	<b>22</b>
				Orsha	2007	<b>39</b>	3	36	<b>15</b>
				Kobrin	2007	<b>39</b>	3	36	<b>14</b>
				Chausy	2007	<b>41</b>	0	41	<b>11</b>
				Volozhin	2007	<b>46</b>	3	43	<b>10</b>
		<b>Total</b>			<b>231</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>73</b>	

Type of service	Total Individuals	Zhodino	Orsha	Kobrin	Chausy	Volozhin
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\* The table details vulnerable children disaggregated by sex and types of services with number of times they were used by the targeted children:

Integrated groups of children from families attending long-term Parenting Course	432	58 (32m-26f)	163 (81m-82f)	211 (102m-109f)		
Life skills program - long-term training course	652	42 (22m-20f)	57 (23m-34f)	27 (9m-18f)		40 (22m-18f)
Life skills program - visiting social apartment		209 (117m-92f)	84 (40m-44f)	193 (107m-86f)		
Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention long-term Course	133	46 (21m-25f)	87 (39m-48f)			
Alternative forms of children care - regular visits to guest, foster families	141			141 (81m-60f) in Divin		
Toy Library - regularly use special set of toys for disabled	99	61 (36m-25f)	20 (12m-8f)	18 (11m-7f)		
Special ergo-therapeutic treatment	12	4 (2m-2f)	4 (2m-2f)	4 (2m-2f)		
Night care group	8	8 (5m-3f)				
Day care for children with disabilities	18		9 (6m-3f)	9 (5m-4f)		
Volunteer Activities for children with disabilities	5				5 (5f)	

\*\* The table details organizations and a type of OVC substantive assistance provided to them

Names of Organizations	Community	Type of OVC assistance		
		Training	Grant	Equipment

1	Social Pedagogical Center	<b>Zhodino</b>	Training	Grant	Equipment
2	School No9	Zhodino	Training		Equipment
3	School No5	Zhodino	Training		
4	School No2	Zhodino	Training		
5	School No6	Zhodino	Training		
6	Gimnasium No1	Zhodino	Training		
7	Kindergarten No17	Zhodino	Training		
8	Kindergarten No19	Zhodino	Training		
9	Kindergarten No4	Zhodino	Training		
10	Kindergarten No8	Zhodino	Training		
11	Kindergarten No1	Zhodino	Training		
12	Boarding School	Zhodino	Training		Equipment
13	Territorial Center of Social Support of Population	Zhodino	Training		
14	Commission on Juvenile Delinquents Issues	Zhodino	Training		
15	Inspection on Juvenile Delinquents Issues	Zhodino	Training		
16	Habilitation Center for children with disabilities	Zhodino	Training		Equipment
17	Department of Health	Zhodino	Training		
18	Department of Education	Zhodino	Training	Grant	
19	NGO "Healthy Choice"	Zhodino	Training	Grant	
20	NGO BelAPDiMI "Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth"	Zhodino	Training	Grant	
21	National NGO "Mothers against Drugs"	Zhodino	Training	Grant	
22	NGO "Focus Group"	Zhodino		Grant	
23	Social Pedagogical Center	<b>Orsha</b>	Training	Grant	Equipment
24	School No10	Orsha	Training		
25	School No19	Orsha	Training		Equipment
26	School No20	Orsha	Training	Grant	
27	School No6	Orsha	Training		
28	Orphanage	Orsha	Training		
29	Habilitation Center for children with disabilities	Orsha	Training		Equipment
30	Commission on Juvenile Delinquents Issues	Orsha	Training		
31	Inspection on Juvenile Delinquents Issues	Orsha	Training		
32	Territorial Center of Social Support of Population	Orsha	Training		
33	Department of Health	Orsha	Training		
34	Department of Education	Orsha	Training	Grant	

35	Department of Internal Affairs	Orsha	Training		
36	NGO BelAPDliMI "Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth"	Orsha	Training	Grant	
37	National NGO "Mothers against Drugs"	Orsha	Training	Grant	
38	School No9	<b>Kobrin</b>	Training		Equipment
39	School No3	Kobrin	Training		
40	Boarding school Divin	Kobrin	Training	Grant	Equipment
41	Commission on Juvenile Delinquents Issues	Kobrin	Training		
42	Inspection on Juvenile Delinquents Issues	Kobrin	Training		
43	Habilitation Center for children with disabilities	Kobrin	Training	Grant	Equipment
44	Territorial Center of Social Support of Population	Kobrin	Training	Grant	Equipment
45	Shelter Borisovka	Kobrin	Training		Equipment
46	Kinderdorf Kobrin	Kobrin	Training		
47	Department of Health	Kobrin	Training		
48	Department of Education	Kobrin	Training		
49	NGO "Kobrin branch of Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth"	Kobrin	Training	Grant	
50	NGO BelAPDliMI "Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth"	Kobrin	Training	Grant	
51	National NGO "Mothers against Drugs"	Kobrin	Training	Grant	
52	Habilitation Center for children with disabilities	<b>Chausy</b>	Training		Equipment
53	Boarding school	Chausy	Training		Equipment
54	School No1	Chausy	Training		Equipment
55	School No2	Chausy	Training		
56	Kindergarten No4	Chausy	Training		
57	Kindergarten No5	Chausy	Training		
58	Territorial Center of Social Support of Population	Chausy	Training		
59	Department of Education	Chausy	Training	Grant	Equipment
60	Department of Health	Chausy	Training		
61	Social Pedagogical Center	Chausy	Training	Grant	Equipment
62	Commission on Juvenile Delinquents Issues	Chausy	Training		
63	Department of Health	<b>Volozhin</b>	Training		
64	Habilitation Center for children with disabilities	Volozhin	Training		Equipment

65	Territorial Center of Social Support of Population	Volozhin	Training		
66	School No1	Volozhin	Training		
67	School No2	Volozhin	Training		Equipment
68	Boarding school	Volozhin	Training		Equipment
69	Department of Education	Volozhin	Training	Grant	
70	Social Pedagogical Center	Volozhin	Training	Grant	Equipment
71	Commission on Juvenile Delinquents Issues	Volozhin	Training		
72	NGO "YMCA"	Volozhin	Training		
73	NGO "Radislava"	<b>Zhodino, Orsha, Kobrin, Chausy, Volozhin</b>	Training	Grant	



## Overview of progress of micro-grants in frames of “Community services to vulnerable groups” contracted by CCF in 2006-2007

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### The general list:

#### I. RESULTS OF MICRO-GRANTS IMPLEMENTATION contracted in 2006:

1. Youth NGO “Healthy Choice” (project “**Family University**”);
2. Educational establishment "Divin State Boarding School for Orphans and Children Without Parental Care" (project “**Host family**”);
3. NGO “Kobrin branch of Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth” (project “**Family Support Center**”);
4. NGO BelAPDiMI “Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth” (project “**Together for a “Special” Child**”);
5. National NGO "Mothers against Drugs" (project “**A Way to Recovery**”);

#### II. ACTIVE MICRO-GRANTS contracted in 2007:

1. NGO “Focus Group” (project “**Future Without Violence and Abuse**”);
2. Educational department of Chausy executive committee (project “**Education of future foster parents on PRIDE program**”);
3. Chausy Social-pedagogic Center (project “**Information campaign on alternative care development**”);
4. NGO "Radislava" (project “**Support Service as a form of assistance for women and children suffered from violence**”);
5. Orsha Social-pedagogic center (project “**Educative program for candidates to foster parents**”);
6. Zhodino Social-pedagogic center (project “**Educative course for future foster parents**”);
7. Volozhin region Social-pedagogic center (project “**A family to every child**”);
8. Kobrin Territorial Center of Social Support of Population (project “**Children against violence**”);
9. Zhodino Social-pedagogic center (project “**Childhood without violence**”);
10. Volozhin region Social-pedagogic center (project “**Let's say "no" to child abuse**”);
11. Orsha Social-pedagogic center (project “**Informational campaign on alternative care development**”);
12. Orsha School #20 (project “**Development of preventive services to strengthen family capacity and to prevent child abuse and neglect**”);

#### III. LIST OF GRANTS ON REGISTRATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATION), subcontracts 2007.

1. National NGO "Mothers against Drugs" (“A Way to Recovery-2”)
2. Volozhin state regional Social-pedagogic center ( project “Prevention of social orphanage in institutions working in child protection system”)
3. Educational department of Zhodino Executive committee ( project “Assistance to prevention of social orphanage through creation of favorable conditions for family support, strengthening family upbringing and development of children life skills”)
4. Educative department of Chausy Executive committee ( project “Prevention of social orphanage through introduction of family-centered approach to institutions of child protection system”)
5. Social-pedagogic center of Orsha (project “Assistance to prevention of social orphanage through creation of favorable conditions for family support, strengthening family upbringing and development of children life skills”)
6. Educative department of Chausy Executive committee ( project “Cross-sector cooperation on child and family protection through creation of unified informational record system”)

7. Educational department of Orsha Executive committee ( project “Creation of network database on child protection in Orsha”)
8. Educational department of Zhodino Executive committee ( project Zhodino Social Network”)
9. Kobrin branch of Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth (project “Family Support Center - 2”);

#### I. RESULTS OF MICRO-GRANTS IMPLEMENTATION contracted in 2006:

<i>NGO name:</i>	Youth NGO “Healthy Choice”	
<i>Project name:</i>	“Family University”	
<i>Project duration:</i>	01.08.2006 - 01.08.2007	
<i>Project status:</i>	Finished	
<i>Services established:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Social pedagogic counseling for families at risk;</li> <li>✓ Club activity for families at risk, including families with disabled children;</li> <li>✓ Club activity for children at risk, including disabled children;</li> <li>✓ Informational support of families at risk</li> <li>✓ Integration activities for families with disabled children and families and children at risk, who attended the clubs.</li> </ul>	
<i>Project locations:</i>	Zhodino	
<i>Number of beneficiaries:</i>	Families at risk	20
	Children at risk	20
	Parents of disabled children	18
	Disabled children	26
	<i>total</i>	<b>84</b>
<b>OUTCOMES:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Integration of families and children at risk with families with disabled children</i> happened at 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the project, adding to the project’ effect. Families with disabled children took part in the club activities and final action on healthy life. This integration helped the families to understand and share common family values, find problem solutions, increased mutual understanding between parents and their children.</li> <li>▪ The participants of the clubs note the <i>raise of ability to deal with social, personal and interpersonal problems, harmonization of family relations and improvement of attitude towards healthy life style.</i></li> </ul>		
<b>PLANS FOR THE FUTURE:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The sustainability of the project is reached thanks to close collaboration during all the project realization period between “Healthy choice” and project partners - Zhodino Territorial Center of Social Support of Population, where the project activities take place, as it is <i>planned to continue the clubs’ activities</i> in the Center after the end of the project.</li> </ul>		

<i>Name:</i>	Educational establishment "Divin State Boarding School for Orphans and Children Without Parental Care"
<i>Project name:</i>	“Host family”

<i>Project duration:</i>	20.07.2006 - 20.07.2007	
<i>Project status:</i>	Finished	
<i>Services established:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Club activity for Guest families</li> <li>✓ Placement of orphans into alternative care</li> <li>✓ Information dissemination about guest families through advertising and information campaign in Divin area (thematic actions, publications in local newspapers)</li> </ul>	
<i>Project locations:</i>	Divin, Kobrin area	
<i>Number of beneficiaries:</i>	Guest families	26
	Orphans placed into guest families	132
	Orphans placed into foster care	4
	Orphans placed into guardianship	4
	Orphans reunified with biological family	1
	<i>total</i>	<b>167</b>
<i>Indirect beneficiaries:</i>	Reached through publications	<b>6435</b>
<p><b>OUTCOMES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 clubs for 26 guest families were implemented (1 club for “new” guest families and 1 club for families who have been hosting orphans for several times); they have formed the backbone of alternative care families in the communities.</li> <li>▪ The geography of alternative care families was expanded to 12 villages and cities.</li> <li>▪ Due to the club activities and wide advertising and information campaign in the region representatives of the community note that attitude of local population was significantly improved not only to orphans, but to the alternative care families and thanks to that such high results were achieved: 37 families are continuing to be guest families, 7 new guest families appeared, 141 orphans used family type care.</li> </ul>		

<i>NGO name:</i>	NGO “Kobrin branch of Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth”
<i>Project name:</i>	“Family Support Center”
<i>Project duration:</i>	19.07.2006 - 19.07.2007 (was prolonged to 30/09/2007)
<i>Project status:</i>	Finished
<i>Services established:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Club activity for families with disabled children (self-help group activity)</li> <li>✓ Parenting Skills Enhancement Program</li> <li>✓ Integrated playgroup activity</li> <li>✓ Home visit by volunteers</li> <li>✓ Physiological consultation of parents</li> <li>✓ Information dissemination about services for disabled children and their families</li> </ul>

<i>Project locations:</i>	Kobrin	
<i>Number of beneficiaries:</i>	Parents of disabled children	26
	Disabled children	36
	Orphaned children	1
	<i>total</i>	<b>63</b>
<i>Indirect beneficiaries:</i>	Reached through local TV	<b>100000</b>
<b>OUTCOMES:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parents of children with disabilities has benefited by <i>strengthening family capacity</i> and <i>improved their emotional condition</i>: 14 parents rebuild a room for Family support center, which later will be used for the activities of the NGO, 22 mothers and 4 fathers are participating in clubs activity; in addition to the project activities a self-help group for parents with autistic children was created, 10 parents had participated in Parenting Skills Enhancement Program, 14 mothers got psychological consultation, 1 father and 7 mothers took part in a training for disabled children and their parents.</li> <li>▪ <i>Integration of 35 disabled children</i> (17 girls and 19 boys) and 1 orphaned girl - sibling and the volunteer group took place through participation in integrated play groups and home visits by 25 volunteers – schoolchildren who were trained in frames of the project.</li> <li>▪ A wide <i>information campaign</i> with showing reportages on local TV about integrated playgrounds and volunteer activities was made <i>breaking stereotypes</i> about relationship to disabled children</li> <li>▪ The experience of the project was disseminated on the round table, held September 2007</li> <li>▪ The project activities are continuing and expanded into a new project involving disabled children who don't attend to Habilitation center approved by CCF Belarus, the project is in the process of registration</li> </ul>		

<i>NGO name:</i>	National NGO "Mothers against Drugs"	
<i>Project name:</i>	"A Way to Recovery"	
<i>Project duration:</i>	09.08.2006 - 09.08.2007	
<i>Project status:</i>	Finished	
<i>Services established:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Self-help groups for alcohol addicted;</li> <li>✓ Self-help groups for co-dependant relatives;</li> <li>✓ Information dissemination to support alcohol addicted and their relatives.</li> </ul>	
<i>Project locations:</i>	Zhodino, Orhsa, Kobrin	
<i>Number of beneficiaries:</i>	Alcohol addicted	12
	Co-dependant relatives	31
	<i>total</i>	<b>43</b>

**OUTCOMES:**

- *Self-help groups* are being created in the targeted communities. Despite the distrust of the local population to the possibility of problem solving using self-help group’s methodology in a small city conditions, 5 self-help groups for alcohol addicted and for co-dependent were formed and implement their activities according to the 12 steps program as a result of wide information campaign.
- After almost 1 year of project implementation *leaders of self-help groups* for alcohol addicted and co-dependent appeared in the communities. And, according to the expert’s opinion, this could be considered as a significant result for such a short time in the conditions of a small city.
- Now the continuation of the project focused more on groups’ sustainability and expansion to new community – Volozhin and to the deepening of knowledge and experience exchange for the leaders of the groups is approved by CCF Belarus, project is the project is in the process of registration.

<i>NGO name:</i>	NGO BelAPDiMI “Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth”	
<i>Project name:</i>	“Together for a “Special” Child”	
<i>Project duration:</i>	17.07.2006 - 17.07.2007 (was prolonged to 30.09.2007)	
<i>Project status:</i>	Finished	
<i>Services established:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Toy library for disabled children;</li> <li>✓ Special ergo-therapeutic equipment for children with disabilities;</li> <li>✓ Lawyer consultations for parents of disabled children;</li> <li>✓ Trainings for parents of disabled children and specialists working with them on care for disabled child</li> <li>✓ Information reference book about community services for disabled</li> <li>✓ Recreation retreat for disabled parents and children</li> </ul>	
<i>Project locations:</i>	Zhodino, Orhsa, Kobrin	
<i>Number of beneficiaries:</i>	Number of visits of Families with disabled children to new services	200
	Disabled children	115
<i>Indirect beneficiaries:</i>	Reached through dissemination of information reference book about community services for disabled (issue)	900
	Reached through publications (issue)	<b>34188</b>

**OUTCOMES:**

- A new and highly appreciated service for children – toy library was introduced in the communities, which was supported by study visit and trainings in a specialized and experienced NGO “Open Doors”, 99 children has already used the toy library;
- Ergo-therapeutic equipment is being introduced and used in daycare – groups in the Habilitation centers of the communities, 12 children are using it, and according to the specialists reports it makes a significant impact to child health improvement;
- Specialized trainings on care for disabled child were attended by 50 participants (including 23 parents of disabled children);
- Local BelAPDI branches were supported by 2 trainings on organizational development;
- 49 parents had used the lawyer consultations;
- Integration festival for 45 participants (among them 15 disabled children and 30 family members) with different kinds of educative and integration activities was held, participants’

feedback strengthen that it unified and supported them, helped to know each other better;

- Information reference book about community services for disabled was issued and introduced to Local BelAPDI branches, Habilitation centers, policlinics, 300 copies in each community, 900 in total.

## II. ACTIVE MICRO-GRANTS contracted in 2007:

Organization Name	Project name	Contract signed	Amount \$	Transfer date	Project dates
<b><i>Development of Services for children and women, suffered from abuse and neglect</i></b>					
NGO "Radislava"	Support Service as a form of assistance for women and children suffered from violence	15.06.2007	24 964,00	22.06.2007	27.08.2007 27.08.2008
<p><b>Description:</b> It is planned to improve the personnel competence and create information and consultative system on the problem of abuse and neglect, a crisis center for children and women in Kobrin community would be created in frames of the project as a pilot model.</p> <p><b>The goal</b> of the initiated project is to improve availability of services for children and women, suffered from abuse and neglect in Kobrin, Zhodino, Orsha, Volozhin and Chausy.</p> <p>Project <b>objectives</b> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Training of personnel for working with children and women, suffered from abuse and neglect. This objective would be implemented though series of educative activities for Social centers' personnel such as trainings on the following topics: crisis centers as a form of helping victims of abuse and neglect, emergent help through a phone consultation, particularities of individual consultation in crisis centers, group therapy in crisis centers, shelter as a particular form of help to victims of abuse and neglect, prevention of child and women abuse and neglect, innovative services and technologies for helping children and women abused and neglected.</li> <li>✓ Creation of information and consultative system on abuse and neglect problem for the risk groups, specialists, local authorities and local community in general. This objective would be done through creation of information materials on the problem of abuse, creation of a web-cite on the problem, where consultations for victims of abuse and neglect would be also available, issue of 6 information bulletins on project implementation and realization of anti-abuse program, creation of data-base on children and women abuse, issue of a manual for working with children and women suffered from abuse and neglect.</li> </ul> <p>The project will be implemented in collaboration with local Territorial Centers of Social Support of Population and local Educative departments.</p>					
<b><i>Alternative care development through introduction of PRIDE program</i></b>					
Educational department of Chausy executive committee	Education of future foster parents on PRIDE program	04.06.2007	4 999,00	04.06.2007	26.06.2007 26.06.2008
Orsha Social-pedagogic center	Educative program for candidates to foster parents	20.06.2007	4 942,00	21.06.2007	04.10.2007 04.07.2007
Zhodino Social-pedagogic center	Educative course for future foster parents	19.06.2007	4 573,00	20.06.2007	06.08.2007 06.06.2008
Volozhin region Social-pedagogic center	A family to every child	19.06.2007	4 481,00	20.06.2007	22.08.2007 22.08.2008
<p><b>Description:</b> The goal of these projects is increase of foster and adoptive families in the communities through education of perspective foster parents on PRIDE program.</p>					
<b><i>Information campaigns on child abuse and neglect prevention</i></b>					
Kobrin Territorial Center of Social Support of Population	Children against violence	31.05.2007	4 735,00	06.06.2007	10.09.2007 10.07.2008
Zhodino Social-pedagogic center	Childhood without violence	19.06.2007	4 992,00	20.06.2007	06.08.2007 06.08.2008

Volozhin region Social-pedagogic center	Let's say "no" to child abuse	19.06.2007	4 987,00	20.06.2007	22.08.2007 22.08.2008
<b>Description:</b> The goal of the projects is to form public awareness about impossibility of child abuse and neglect and increase information level about existing Child protection services through implementation of social advertising campaign					
<b>Information campaigns on alternative care development</b>					
Chausy Social-pedagogic center	Information campaign on alternative care development	04.06.2007	4 999,00	04.06.2007	27.06.2007 27.06.2008
Orsha Social-pedagogic center	Informational campaign on alternative care development	20.06.2007	4 664,00	21.06.2007	04.10.2007 04.10.2008
<b>Description:</b> The goal of the projects is to attract public opinion to the possibilities of fostering and adoption in the community. The project will support PRIDE training program.					
<b>Development of preventive services</b>					
Orsha School #20	Development of preventive services to strengthen family capacity and to prevent child abuse and neglect	11.04.2007	4 999,00	13.04.2007	04.10.2007 04.10.2008
<b>Description:</b> The goal of the project is prevention of child abuse and neglect, creation of favorable environment for strengthening family capacity through implementation of programs for the risk group families. The target group of the project is 120 members of risk families (workers of Orsha line industrial complex and their children, children attending kindergartens #1, 3 and their parents). Within the project framework it is expected to raise public awareness towards the problem of child abuse and neglect through conduction of round tables for the specialists working with children at risk at the beginning and at the end of the project as well as social interactive performances for families at risk. This would be accompanied by issuing thematic leaflets. It is planned to strengthen the risk families' capacity by means of Parenting Skills Enhancement Program implementation in kindergartens #1, 3 and joined activities such as thematic photo-exhibition and actions for the families, who completed this program. The Parenting Skills Enhancement Program is a service introduced by CCF in Orsha and that is highly appreciated by the community, so the project would replicate the Program to new educational institutions.					
NGO "Focus Group"	"Future Without Violence and Abuse"	11.04.2007	5 577,00	13.04.2007	12.06.2007 12.06.2008
<b>Description:</b> The goal of the project is child abuse and neglect prevention, creation of favorable environment for children's and youth's development through trainings for youth and specialists, psychological counseling provision as well as development of informational materials for them. The target group of the project is 68 pupils (15-19 y.o.) of the Zhodino evening school. At the beginning of the project it is expected to equip training room that will be used later on for project activities implementation. It is planned that local specialists working on the problem of child abuse and neglect prevention together with NGO "Focus Group" will develop methodic recommendations to conduct educational activities on family values formation. Regular thematic meetings for evening school pupils will be carried out in the training room within the project. Four seminars for pupils will be organized to form knowledge and skills on effective conflict resolution in the family. At the end of the project accumulated experience and developed methodology will be spread out among other specialists working on child abuse and neglect prevention in Zhodino. To do this 2 seminars and a Round Table will be organized for Zhodino community specialists. Project activities will be supported by issuing thematic leaflets for children. Thematic leaflets, methodological materials developed as a result of the project implementation as well as other materials on the issue will be available on a web-page.					

**III. LIST OF GRANTS ON REGISTRATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATION), subcontracts 2007.**

<b>Organization Name</b>	<b>Project name</b>	<b>Contract signed</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>	<b>Transfer date</b>	<b>Start of registration</b>
<i>Development of Services for alcohol addicted and their relatives</i>					
National NGO "Mothers against Drugs"	"A Way to Recovery-2"	12.09.2007	\$24 195,00	12.09.2007	September 2007
<i>Strengthening multidisciplinary cooperation and increasing professional competence of local child protection specialists</i>					
Volozhin state regional Social-pedagogic center	Prevention of social orphanage in institutions working in child protection system	09.08.2007	\$9 885,00	14.08.2007	August 2007
Educational department of Zhodino Executive committee	Assistance to prevention of social orphanage through creation of favorable conditions for family support, strengthening family upbringing and development of children life skills	15.08.2007	\$9 856,50	04.09.2007	September 2007
Educative department of Chausy Executive committee	Prevention of social orphanage through introduction of family-centered approach to institutions of child protection system	15.08.2007	\$9 649,00	15.08.2007	August 2007
Social-pedagogic center of Orsha	Assistance to prevention of social orphanage through creation of favorable conditions for family support, strengthening family upbringing and development of children life skills	24.09.2007	\$9 008,80	25.09.2007	September 2007
<i>Creation of a computer network with access to electronic data-base on disadvantaged families and children at risk</i>					
Educative department of Chausy Executive committee	Cross-sector cooperation on child and family protection through creation of unified informational record system	28.09.2007	\$24 851,00	28.09.2007	October 2007
Educational department of Orsha Executive committee	Creation of network database on child protection in Orsha	28.09.2007	\$19 862,00	28.09.2007	October 2007
Educational department of Zhodino Executive committee	Zhodino Social Network	28.09.2007	\$15 371,08	28.09.2007	October 2007
<i>Development of services for families with disabled children in Kobrin</i>					
Kobrin branch of Belarusian Association of Assistance to Disabled Children and Youth	Family Support Center - 2	15.08.2007	\$4 999,00	15.08.2007	August 2007



## CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S FUND, Inc. Representative Office in Belarus

### ***CCF-Belarus organizes a study tour to Lithuania for specialists of Belarusian state child care institutions***

To acquaint the specialists of Belarusian boarding schools and decision makers from the Ministry of Education with the experience of successful reformation of institutions for orphaned children into family type units and alternative care development, CCF-Belarus organized a cross-border study tour within the *Supporting Orphans and Vulnerable Children* project.



***During the meeting with the specialist of Lithuanian child care institutions***

The need for such experience exchange opportunities continues to grow as the process of orphanages reformation has just started in Belarus, and there is still no clear national strategy developed.

**On September 26-29**, first cross border study tour to Lithuania was organized for **nine** Belarusian specialists from Kobrin, Orsha, Volozhin, Chausy and Zhodino and a representative of the Ministry of Education responsible for alternative care development programs.

The program of the study tour was designed to present best practices of 3 Lithuanian institutions which have successfully passed the process of reformation into family type units during the post soviet period – “Pastoge” temporary care institution, and two children’s homes in Antazavė and Kaunas.

During the tour the participants had a series of meetings with the specialists of the Ministry of Social and Labor Affairs of Lithuania (Department of Child, Youth and Family), the Kaunas municipality agency for children's rights protection, and the NGO “Confederation for the Children”. The participants had a chance to talk to managers of the reformed institutions and to learn about some lessons learned during the transformation process.

Evaluating the results of the visit, Belarusian specialists noted that most of practices and methods presented will be used in their work. In

particular, they pointed out that the visit inspired them

- to create day care centers for children at risk to support relations with biological family;
- to reorganize the boarding schools through introduction of the siblings reunification scheme and creation of family-based groups;
- to make amendments in the national legislation to stimulate specific projects oriented allocation of state funds.



***Participants of the study tour***

***Galina Rudenkova, Head of the Social Work Department, Ministry of Education: “...The study tour showed the results achieved by the neighboring country in reformation of the institutions for orphaned children... What impressed us most was the practice of allocating state funds for specific projects and activities in all institutions for orphans...It encourages the staff to come up with new ideas and stimulates result-oriented thinking “***

# Comments to PMP of OVC Project

Report covers time period of Year 2 of the Project (October 2006-September 2007)

## *Project Overall Impact*

### *Indicator I. Number of children using alternative care*

Indicator I measures the number of orphans and sheltered children who use alternative care (foster families, guardianship, adoption).

In Year 2 the number of children from five target communities – Zhodino, Orsha, and Kobrin, Chausy, and Volozhin - who were using alternative care as a result of community-based prevention and rehabilitation services initiated by the project reached **97** people and made the total number of those who enjoy alternative care 658 children, which corresponds to the planned target with the slightest deviation of -2.

### *Indicator II. Number of children returned to biological family*

In Year 2 the number of children from 5 target communities who were returned to biological family as a result of community based prevention and rehabilitation services initiated by the project reached **126** which is +6 compared with the target.

### *Indicator III. Number of institutionalized children*

Indicator III measures number of institutionalized children, that is, those who were kept in orphanages/boarding schools, and shelters. In Year 2 Indicator of the total number of such children equals **856**, out of whom 595 were kept in orphanages and boarding schools, and 261 – in shelters. The increase of the number of institutionalized children in the targeted communities by 106 compared with the PMP target is explained by re-distribution of children between orphanages and boarding schools, that is, the children are moved to an institution not by territorial criteria, but by the capacity of the institution. Thus, children get to institutions in targeted communities from the communities that are not served by OVC project.

This factor cannot be controlled by the Project, and is of force-majeur category.

### *Indicator IV. Ratio of children prevented from being institutionalized*

The system of tracking children at risk is not adequate to be able to identify all children and families that really need interventions to protect the child from being institutionalized. This indicator is **not applicable** and it will be impossible to measure it appropriately within the period of OVC project implementation.

## **Objective 1**

*Indicator 1.0. Number of children (sex-disaggregated) that have been meaningfully served.*

### **a) Zhodino**

In Year 2 due to the new services started in the community within CCF-supported project **428** children (235 boys and 193 girls) – which is +128 compared with the target - received one or more need-based services on a regular/long-term basis. For detailed data see Sheet “Indicators 1.0. and 2.0. detailed” of PMP

### **b) Orsha**

In Year 2 due to the new services started in the community within CCF-supported project **424** children (203 boys and 221 girls) – which is +174 compared with the target - received one or more need-based services on a regular/long-term basis. For detailed data see Sheet “Indicators 1.0. and 2.0. detailed” of PMP

**c) Kobrin**

In Year 2 due to the new services started in the community within CCF-supported project **603** children (317 boys and 286 girls) – which is +353 compared with the target - received one or more need-based services on a regular/long-term basis. For detailed data see Sheet “Indicators 1.0. and 2.0. detailed” of PMP

**d) Chausy**

In Year 2 due to the new services started in the community within CCF-supported project **5** girls – which is +5 compared with the target - received one or more need-based services on a regular/long-term basis. For detailed data see Sheet “Indicators 1.0. and 2.0. detailed” of PMP

**e) Volozhin**

In Year 2 due to the new services started in the community within CCF-supported project **40** children (22 boys and 18 girls) – which is +40 compared with the target - received one or more need-based services on a regular/long-term basis. For detailed data see Sheet “Indicators 1.0. and 2.0. detailed” of PMP

*Indicator 1.1. Number of visits by community members including families, orphans, and children at risk for new prevention and rehabilitation services.*

**a) Zhodino**

In Year 2 parents and children of the community enjoyed the following prevention and rehabilitation services:

Service	Visits by families (parents)	Visits by children	Total visits
Parenting Course	536		<b>2529</b>
Playgroups		743	
Life Skills		461	
Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention Course		138	
Volunteers Activities		105	
Toy Library		61	
Ergo-therapeutic treatment for disabled		4	
Self-Help Groups for alcohol-abused	50		
Integrated groups	152	266	
Night care group for disabled		8	
Recreation retreat		5	

**b) Orsha**

In Year 2 parents and children of the community enjoyed the following prevention and rehabilitation services:

Service	Visits by families (parents)	Visits by children	Total visits
Parenting Course	1448		<b>3904</b>
Playgroups		1304	
Life Skills		426	
Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention Course		261	
Volunteers Activities		91	

Toy Library		20	
Ergo-therapeutic treatment for disabled		4	
Self-Help Groups for alcohol-abused	336		
Day care group for disabled		9	
Recreation retreat		5	

**c) Kobrin**

In Year 2 parents and children of the community enjoyed the following prevention and rehabilitation services:

Service	Visits by families (parents)	Visits by children	Total visits
Parenting Course	1288		<b>3334</b>
Playgroups		605	
Life Skills		355	
Volunteers Activities		280	
Alternative families (guest, guardian, foster) - Divin		141	
Clubs for Guest Families	260		
Ergo-therapeutic treatment for disabled		4	
Toy Library		18	
Self-Help Groups for alcohol-abused	40		
Clubs for parents with children with disabilities	260	20	
Day care group for disabled		9	
Trainings for parents of disabled children (BelAPDI Branch)	16		
Psychological Consultations (BelAPDI Branch)	14		
Parenting Skills Enhancement (BelAPDI Branch)	10		
Day care group for disabled		9	
Recreation retreat		5	

**d) Chausy**

In Year 2 parents and children of the community enjoyed the following prevention and rehabilitation services:

Service	Visits by families (parents)	Visits by children	Total visits
Parenting Course	240		<b>480</b>
Playgroups		228	
Volunteers Activities		12	

**e) Volozhin**

In Year 2 parents and children of the community enjoyed the following prevention and rehabilitation services:

Service	Visits by families (parents)	Visits by children	Total visits
Volunteers Activities		4	<b>4</b>

*Indicator 1.2. Number of visits by children and adolescents with disabilities for new educational and social services.*

**a) Zhodino**

In Year 2 children and adolescents with disabilities in the community enjoyed the following new educational and social services that appeared during the period CCF project implementation:

Service	Visits by disabled	Total visits
Playgroups	375	<b>714</b>
Volunteers Activities	105	
Toy Library	61	
Night care group	8	
Ergo-therapeutic treatment for disabled	4	
Integrated groups	156	
Recreation retreat	5	

**b) Orsha**

In Year 2 children and adolescents with disabilities in the community enjoyed the following new educational and social services that appeared during the period CCF project implementation:

Service	Visits by disabled	Total visits
Volunteers Activities	91	<b>129</b>
Toy Library	20	
Day care group	9	
Ergo-therapeutic treatment for disabled	4	
Recreation retreat	5	

**c) Kobrin**

In Year 2 children and adolescents with disabilities in the community enjoyed the following new educational and social services that appeared during the period CCF project implementation:

Service	Visits by disabled	Total visits
Playgroups	255	<b>591</b>
Volunteers Activities	280	
Toy Library	18	
Ergo-therapeutic treatment for disabled	4	
Clubs for parents with children with disabilities	20	
Day care group	9	
Recreation retreat	5	

**d) Chausy**

In Year 2 children and adolescents with disabilities in the community enjoyed the following new educational and social services that appeared during the period CCF project implementation:

Service	Visits by disabled	Total visits
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Volunteers Activities	12	<b>12</b>
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**d) Volozhin**

In Year 2 children and adolescents with disabilities in the community enjoyed the following new educational and social services that appeared during the period CCF project implementation:

Service	Visits by disabled	Total visits
Volunteers Activities	4	<b>4</b>

*Indicator 1.3. Number of community-based services provided in targeted communities.*

**a) Zhodino**

Current value of the indicator is **42** types of services. Such a value of +15 services has become possible due to the projects implemented by local social and educational institutions and NGOs that were supported by CCF and aimed at developing additional services in the communities. Another reason is that local specialists trained by CCF started to put their new skills into practice.

As an output of the activities organized within first and third project objectives a unique prevention service such as Child Abuse and Neglect Rapid Response Team has appeared in Zhodino in January 2007. Child Abuse and Neglect Rapid Response Team is a municipal multidisciplinary unit created in this town due to the project Task Group activity and participation of the local team of specialists in Child Protection trainings. This service helps to rapidly react to the situation of child abuse and neglect, to start working with a family as a unit to maintain its capacity. It gives more chances to a family for successful reunification.

For detailed data see Sheet “List of Services” of PMP

**b) Orsha**

Current value of the indicator is **35** types of services. Such a value of +7 services has become possible due to the projects implemented by local social and educational institutions and NGOs that were supported by CCF and aimed at developing additional services in the communities. Another reason is that local specialists trained by CCF started to put their new skills into practice.

For detailed data see Sheet “List of Services” of PMP

**c) Kobrin**

Current value of the indicator is **40** types of services. Such a value of +12 services has become possible due to the projects implemented by local social and educational institutions and NGOs that were supported by CCF and aimed at developing additional services in the communities. Another reason is that local specialists trained by CCF started to put their new skills into practice.

As a result of joint effort of CCF and local Community Advisory Board established within OVC project, Kobrin local Executive Committee passed a decision to open a Socio-pedagogical Center which will provide a series of need-based services for children and families at risk. It is a Success Story of the project and of the community.

For detailed data see Sheet “List of Services” of PMP

**d) Chausy**

4 new services started in Chausy plus to the existing base-line 20 for families and children at risk. The total number of services reached **24**, which corresponds to the planned target with the slightest deviation of -1.

The number of services and activities will grow substantively in the nearest future as the trained trainers will start their programs in October 2007

**e) Volozhin**

2 new services started in Volozhin plus to the existing 20 for families and children at risk. The total number of services reached **22**, which has the deviation from the planned target of -3.

The number of services and activities will grow substantively in the nearest future as the trained trainers will start their programs in October 2007

*Indicator 1.4. Number of orphaned children enrolled in life skills development programs.*

**a) Zhodino**

Current value of the indicator is **251** children, which is +101 to the target. Children got access to life skills development program due to the fact that local trainers trained by CCF started implementing the program. The program is implemented in 3 groups at the Boarding school. In addition to that the children develop practical skills in a social apartment equipped at Social Pedagogical Center by CCF, and in special classes at the boarding school.

**b) Orsha**

Current value of the indicator is **141** children, which is -9 to the target. The indicator is a little lower than planned because the boarding school where part of the activities was implemented was closed.

The children who are involved in life skills course got access to the program due to the fact that local trainers trained by CCF started implementing the program. The program is implemented in 2 groups of children at the shelter in Socio-pedagogical Center.

**c) Kobrin**

Current value of the indicator is **220** children, which is +20 to the target. This number of children got access to life skills development program due to the fact that local trainers trained by CCF started implementing the program. The program is implemented in two groups of children at Divin Boarding School and for children at Borisovka shelter. Kids from the shelter develop practical life skills using sewing and washing machines and social apartment.

**d) Chauzy**

Current value of the indicator is **not available** because local trained trainers just started their activities in life skills in October 2007.

**e) Volozhin**

Current value of the indicator is **40** children from Boarding school, which is +10 to the target.

*Indicator 1.5. Ratio of enrolled orphaned children reporting improvements of specific knowledge and skills related to trainings topic.*

The improvement of specific knowledge and skills of the orphaned children demonstrates the **average** value of **83%** compared with the target of 55%.

Percentage of participants reporting improvements of specific knowledge and skills is 92% in Zhodino, 91% in Orsha, 84% in Kobrin, 63% in Volozhin. The level of improvement is not yet measured in Chauzy where the course is not finished.

*Indicator 1.6.*

*Number of community members including families, orphans, and children informed through informational and referral system.*

Currently informational and referral booklets have been published only in one of the OVC-supported local projects. The total number of copies distributed in 3 targeted communities is **900**.

*Indicator 1.7.*

*Number of community organizations/ services integrated into and using informational and referral system.*

Number of organizations providing social services and included into the published informational and referral booklets is: 27 for Zhodino (10 national, 13 local state organizations and 1 national, 3 local NGOs), 36 for Orsha (10 national, 19 local state organizations and 1 national, 6 local NGOs), 34 for Kobrin (10 national, 17 local state organizations and 1 national, 6 local NGOs). The number exceeds substantively the target of 5 organizations for each of the communities.

*Indicator 1.8.*

*Number of Community Advisory Boards established in project targeted communities.*

This indicator is registered and corresponds to the target. **One** Community Advisory Board is established **in each** of the five targeted communities.

*Indicator 1.9.*

*Number of community members participated in Community Advisory Boards work.*

People in target communities feel really interested and committed to the objectives and opportunities of Community Advisory Boards. So the number of the participants is **13** in Zhodino, **14** in Orsha, **8** in Kobrin, **10** in Chausy, **15** in Volozhin. The number exceeds the target of 7 people for each Community Advisory Board.

The participants of the Boards include the variety of communities' stakeholders and represent:

- in Zhodino:
  - o Local Administration/Deputy Head of the Local Authority
  - o The Head of the Department of Education
  - o Police Juvenile Inspection
  - o Commission on Juvenile Delinquents Issues
  - o Child Protection Specialists
  - o Director of the Social and Pedagogical Center
  - o Local Center of Social Support of Population
  - o NGOs
  - o Mass Media
  - o Church
  - o Health Care
  - o Representative of Industrial Factory
  
- in Orsha:
  - o Department of Education
  - o Social Pedagogical Center
  - o Habilitation Center for Disabled Children
  - o Police Juvenile Inspection
  - o Local Center of Social Support of Population
  - o Commission on Juvenile Delinquents Issues
  - o Health Care

- School
- NGO
- in Kobrin:
  - Local Center of Social Support of Population
  - Department of Education
  - Commission on Juvenile Delinquents Issues
  - Health Care
  - NGO
  - School Volunteers Group
  - Local Press
  - School
- in Chausy:
  - Department of Education
  - Commission on Juvenile Delinquents Issues
  - Health Care
  - Child Protection Specialist
  - Social Pedagogical Center
  - Habilitation Center for Disabled Children
  - Boarding school
  - School
  - Local Center of Social Support of Population
  - NGO
- in Volozhin:
  - Child Protection Specialist
  - Health Care
  - Local Center of Social Support of Population
  - Commission on Juvenile Delinquents Issues
  - Social Pedagogical Center
  - Habilitation Center for Disabled Children
  - Boarding school
  - School
  - Department of Education
  - NGOs
  - Mass Media
  - Technical school

## **Objective 2**

### *Indicator 2.0.*

*Number of both the individuals and organizations assisted by OVC project to increase their technical capacity/ability to advocate for/provide services to vulnerable children*

In Year 2 the additional group of local trainers was trained in the topics identified in the communities as most important to fill in the gaps in dealing with the issues that cause risky situations for children if not properly handled.

The topics/areas of special attention are as follows: Health Education and Substance Abuse Prevention, PRIDE course dealing with the issues of alternative care for children, Child Protection, and Life Skills, Volunteer Management, Proposal Writing, PR. Groups of local trainers were trained from each of the five target communities. Local trainers are invited to

educational courses from organizations of special significance for child and family care. Thus, the organizations get their own specialists capable to use innovative approaches to child care issues and multiply the acquired knowledge and skills.

Organizations were assisted by CCF through trainings, grants, and equipment provision.

By communities, the following number of people was trained and the following number of organizations was reinforced:

- Zhodino - 66 people, 22 organizations
- Orsha - 39 people, 15 organizations
- Kobrin - 39 people, 14 organizations
- Chausy - 41 people, 11 organizations
- Volozhin – 46 people, 10 organizations

For detailed data see Sheet “Indicators 1.0. and 2.0. detailed” of PMP

*Indicator 2.1.*

*Ratio of participants reporting improvements of specific knowledge and skills related to trainings topic.*

Current value of the participants’ progress for the reporting period compared with 85% target is the following:

<b>Location</b>	<b># pars</b>	<b># pars reporting improved knowledge and skills</b>	<b>% pars reporting improved knowledge and skills</b>
<b>Zhodino</b>			
	66	66	<b>100%</b>
<b>Orsha</b>			
	39	35	<b>90%</b>
<b>Kobrin</b>			
	39	35	<b>90%</b>
<b>Chausy</b>			
	41	39	<b>95%</b>
<b>Volozhin</b>			
	46	43	<b>93%</b>

*Indicator 2.2.*

*Ratio of participants reporting practical use of obtained knowledge and skills in services for family and children.*

Current value of the participants’ progress for the reporting period compared with 70% target is the following:

<b>Location</b>	<b># pars</b>	<b># pars reporting improved knowledge and skills</b>	<b>% pars reporting improved knowledge and skills</b>
<b>Zhodino</b>			
	66	46	<b>70%</b>

<b>Orsha</b>			
	39	28	<b>72%</b>
<b>Kobrin</b>			
	39	25	<b>64%</b>
<b>Chausy</b>			
	41	27	<b>66%</b>
<b>Volozhin</b>			
	46	29	<b>63%</b>

The lower ratio of specialists in Kobrin, Chausy and Volozhin is explained by two main reasons: 1 – not all the trained people have started to implement their knowledge in practice so far, as they finished their training course a short time ago; 2 – some of the trained people changed their jobs and that slowed down or even blocked their practical application of knowledge and skills.

### *Indicator 2.3.*

*Number of community members reached through public awareness events/actions, publications and outlets.*

The following coverage of community members was reached in the reported half-year period:

The results of the Round Table on the successful implementation of Parenting Skills Enhancement Program conducted in **Zhodino** on 06<sup>th</sup> of December 2006 were covered in the local newspaper “*Zhodinskaya Naviny*” – circulation 6329 copies.

The results of the Family Club activity implementing in **Zhodino** within the small grant of NGO “Healthy Choice” were covered in the local newspaper “*Zhodinskaya Naviny*” – circulation 6329 copies. So the estimated coverage of community members is approximately 6000.

*Olga Misevich, project Community Coordinator*, announced the results of the project implementation in *Informational Bulletin “Orsha Alliance”* #19 (circulation 299 copies) published by **Orsha** Public Club. This bulletin also reflected such project activities as a Round Table “*Rehabilitation of Teenagers at Risk*” conducted by CCF-Belarus and Vitebsk Oblast Executive Committee and self-help groups for alcohol addicted and their co-dependant relatives created within the small grant supported by CCF-Belarus.

To increase the prestige of foster families in the local community article on alternative care development was written in “*Arshanskaya gazeta*” – **Orsha** - on 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2007 (circulation 5677 copies).

So the estimated coverage of community members is around 5000.

Results of the small grant “*Host Family*” supported by CCF-Belarus and implemented by Divin Boarding School (**Kobrin** region) were presented in the local newspaper “*Kobrin vestnik*” (circulation 7060 copies) in the article dated by 14<sup>th</sup> of October.

Results of the small grant “*Host Family*” supported by CCF-Belarus and implemented by Divin Boarding School (**Kobrin** region) were presented in the local newspaper “*Zarya*” (circulation 17 540 copies) in the article dated by 10<sup>th</sup> of March. .

Public was also covered by the interview broadcast by local Kobrin radio. The interview about services for disabled children and their families was given by the leader of NGO BelAPDI local branch. The radio covers the whole population of Kobrin region which is about 90000, so the estimated number of listeners is around one-fifth of the population – about 18000.

So the estimated total coverage of community members is around 18000.

In all the targeted communities the total estimated amount of audience of public awareness events/publications reaches about **29000** people, which is lower compared with the target of 73000. Nevertheless, beginning with October 2007 four of five communities launch Public Awareness Campaigns in 5 local projects through publications in Kobrin and Chausy, video campaign in Orsha, and audio campaign in Zhodino. The campaigns will permit to reach the planned targets in the coming several months.

### **Objective 3**

#### *Indicator 3.1.*

*Number of regulatory and methodological documents/ standards/ criteria developed;*

The value for this indicator in **1**, and it corresponds to the target. The Procedure of Child Removal from the Family Local was accompanied by legal acts developed and submitted to Executive Committees in five targeted communities.

In addition to that the Task Group managed to develop a draft of Procedure of Investigation of Child Abuse and Neglect Cases. Currently it goes through finalizing and fine-tuning stage.

#### *Indicator 3.2.*

*Action Plan as a common framework for incorporation of developed documents into practice is available.*

**Action Plan** is developed and it describes the steps and timeframe for the creation of necessary legal child protection documents.

#### *Indicator 3.3.*

*Number of stakeholders reached through project's dissemination and replication activities.*

The developed Procedure and criteria of child removal from the family were disseminated among 252 child protection specialists from all over the country representing social pedagogic centers and shelters, juvenile delinquency departments, municipal committees on under-aged cases as well as child protection units as a result of four national round table discussions in Minsk.

In addition to the four round tables were held on the Procedure of Investigation of Child Abuse and Neglect Cases. 69 more specialists took part in the events.

So the total number of stakeholders reached through dissemination and replication activities in Year 2 is **321**, which is +221 to the target.