

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I would like to thank you all for your wonderful presence within the *Shield of Athena Family Services*. Many of you have been with us for years, many more are constantly coming in. Without your help we could not have achieved our 26 years of existence and our various projects that are designed to help both communities and victims who have been exposed to conjugal and family violence.

Our network of services that includes our two centers in Montreal and Laval, and our Emergency Shelter, La Maison d'Athéna/Athena's House, has once again done a monumental job in servicing hundreds of women and children during this last statistical period. No one can imagine how proud we are to have been able to do so and with limited resources. Let us not forget many of our services are possible only through our fundraising efforts and donations.

We are very proud that we will be adding a new service next year: our **Second Step Resource** for women and children in Laval. It is a project that will amount to slightly over 4 million dollars; half of which will be paid by the government of Quebec and the rest through community and project support. The city of Laval has recently promised \$200,000 that will go towards our new resource. We will have a capital campaign in the fall to supplement this. As such we rely on all of you to spread the word so as reach out to as many new people as possible. Little by little we can do it.

Why the importance of this project? Every year there are thousands of women admitted to Quebec's Emergency shelters; thousands of them with their children are then in need of a second step refuge but there are only 11 in Quebec. So, from 2010 the Shield has embarked on a new challenge: establishing this resource within our existing network.

I would like to take this opportunity, along with our Executive Director, to thank the Board, the Staff, our Volunteers and Supporters for their dedication on the issue of violence against women.

With appreciation and love,

Chris Ann Nakis, President Shield of Athena Family Services Melpa Kamateros, Executive Director Shield of Athena Family Services

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES**

2016-2017 - April 1st 2016 to March 31st 2017

# CALLS RECEIVED BY OUR SERVICES FOR THE LAST STATISTICAL PERIOD

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The total number of calls made and received at the Montreal and Laval offices last year were 25,609.

Of these **8%** were from and to Board members and volunteers; **30%**, community organizations, the legal system, the police, private professionals, and the existing resources; **26%** were for Shield training from the schools or on projects such as the HBV in Montreal or CRE in Laval. Requests by the government, media and donations represented **10%** of the total calls. Client related calls for advocacy, service and referrals accounted for **26%** of all calls.



#### **CLIENT CALLS**

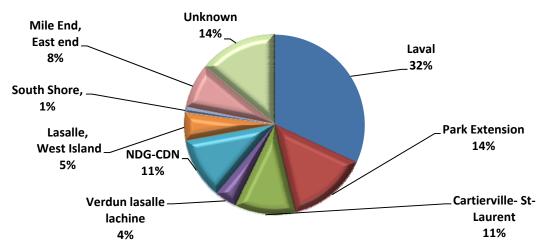
Some **2,008** calls were made by clients who were interested in using our services. From these, **1,495** or **74%** were made by old clients and 513 or **26%** from new ones.

32% all known calls were from Laval clients, 55 % from Montreal, 13 % unknown



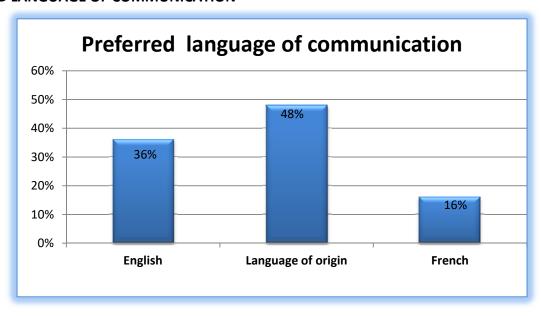
#### **CLIENT CALLS DEMOGRAPHIC**

### **NATURE OF CALLS- BASED ON 2,008 CLIENT CALLS**



**61.5**% of the client calls were for conjugal violence; **20**% were for children exposed to conjugal violence; **36**% were in English **48**% were made in languages other than French or English; **16**% were in French.

#### PREFERRED LANGUAGE OF COMMUNICATION



#### **AGES**

**53**% were made by women between the ages of 30-49; another **12**% were received respectively from women aged 50-59 and from women over the age of 60; **14**% were between 18-29 and **9**% were unknown.

#### **USAGE OF OUR SERVICES - CLIENTS**

This year we had a total of **877** clients both old and new, short and long term.

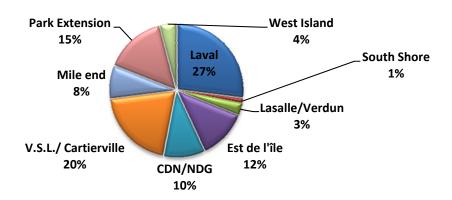
The following statistics and demographics are based **on 788 new cases**, long and short term that used the services at either of our centers in Montreal and Laval.

### **CLIENT PROFILE (BASED ON 788 NEW CASES)**

Who uses our services? According to our statistics, **99%** are women. The largest number of clients, **48%**, using the external centers was between the ages of 20-39; **30%** of them were between **40-59**; **5%** of them were sixty and over; and younger women under the age of twenty accounted for **4%** of the clientele. **13%** were unknown 56% of them were making \$30,000 or less annually; **73%** of them lived in Montreal and **27%** in Laval. **95%** of them came from different ethnic backgrounds and **for 26%**, their preferred language of communication was their mother tongue. **39%** preferred French and **35%** English.

## AREAS CLIENTS COME FROM (BASED ON 788 NEW CASES)

From 788 new people who tried to access our services, 73% were from Montreal and the surrounding suburbs. Over half (53%) came from multicultural areas such as Park Extension (15%), Ville St. Laurent (20%), CDN (10%) and (8%) from Mile End). Laval accounted for 27% of the client cases. The rest come from South Shore, Lasalle, Verdun, the East end and the West Island



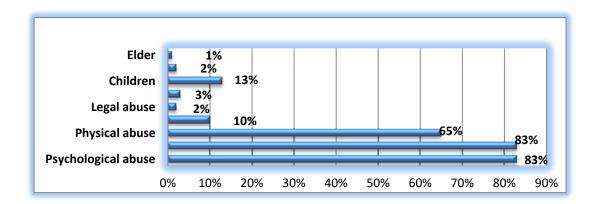
# **TYPES OF ABUSE (788 CASES OF CONJUGAL VIOLENCE-86%)**

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From the 788 new cases, 86%were victims of conjugal violence; of these, 83% were victims of verbal and psychological violence and 65% were living physical abuse. 10% were also victims of economic abuse. In 13%

of the cases problems referring to children being exposed to the violence were citied. *Please refer to the chart.* There is overlap in this sector.

#### **TYPES OF ABUSE**



For **26** %, or every one in four, of our clients, their preferred language of communication was their mother tongue. They received linguistically specialized services by our staff at the external centers of Montreal and Laval. The 14 languages that our caseworkers and social workers used in the intervention were: Arabic, Armenian, Bengali, Dari, English, Greek, Farsi, French, Russian, Tamil, Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi, and Spanish.

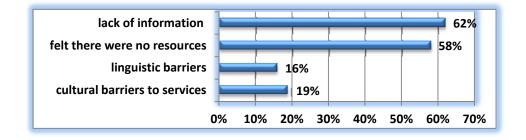
In addition to this clientele, there were **201 children** who had also been exposed to violence in the home who did not all receive services at our organization

## OTHER TYPES OF PROBLEMS (BASED ON 67 NEW CASES)

## **ACCESS PROBLEMS (67 NEW CASES-9%)**

As indicated before, most of the clients came to us because they were victims of conjugal and or family violence. Of these **9%** came to us because of access problems. The majority of them, or **62%** complained of a lack of information; **58%** said that there were no resources and **35%** cited the presence of linguistic and or cultural barriers.

#### **ACCESS PROBLEMS ON 67 CASES**



#### FAMILY PROBLEMS (BASED ON 25 NEW CASES-3%)

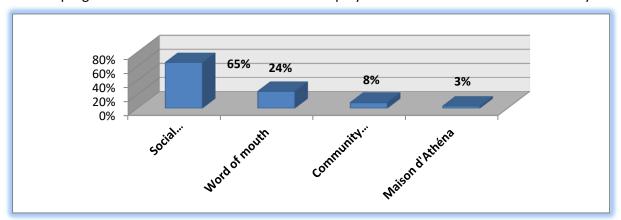
Types of issues encountered were parent child communication (56%), and extended family issues (28%).

#### **YOUTH (BASED ON 16 NEW CASES-2%)**

In **100**% of the cases, there was a communication problem between child and parent; in **12**, or **75**% there was an anti social behaviour that was shown; in **68**%, or **11** cases, there were academic and acting out issues in school; in **15** or **94**% of the cases there was some form of sexual assault including incest.

#### **SOURCE OF REFERRALS**

Nearly two thirds of our referrals, representing 65%, of our client cases, came from the existing social services network, hospitals, legal offices and mainstream services. 24% came directly from word of mouth, within the communities, and by other clients. We believe that most of the latter clients are a result of other clients who have been satisfied with the services and /or may have heard of the existence of our organization and of people who speak in their language of origins. Another 8% came directly from the community outreach programs and 3% were referred for follow up by the Maison d'Athéna after their stay at the shelter.



#### **CLIENTS- LONG TERM, NEW AND OLD (177 CASES)**

Out of 177 new and old long-term cases that were treated this year, **99%** of them dealt with conjugal violence (176 cases). An access case accounted for **1%**. Ninety-nine families headed by a single mother accounted for **56%** of the cases.

In this clientele there were **201** children who had been exposed to conjugal violence. There were a total of 88 new long term files created during this period representing *an increase of 9% from the previous period;* of these 11, representing 13% were former shelter residents referred to us by Athena's House.

#### **EX RESIDENTS**

This year, Athena's House, referred 25 ex residents to our external services after their stay at the shelter. Of these, 11 became long term clients, of which 50% required intervention and services in a language other than English or French. Ex shelter clients are receiving a continuum of services once they pass through our network and the availability of linguistically attuned services provides more options for success.

### SERVICES GIVEN- BASED ON 177 LONG TERM FILES OLD AND NEW

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There were impressive increases in the areas of individual consultations, legal clinics and information and advocacy. In all, there were 2,585 services provided to 177 long-term clients during the last statistical period. Most of the cases we received were linguistically challenged; multi problematic and needed specialized services as well as a concerted inter sectorial approach. The cases necessitated an ongoing intervention and follow up involving many sectors of the health and social services as well as, immigration, and criminal and civil procedures. Advocacy is also integrated into the actual services that are given in the different languages that we provide through our CI and our social workers. There is a 2-week waiting list for clients.

ТҮРЕ	2015-2016	2016-2017
ADVOCACY	438	723
INDIVIDUAL	288	352
YOUTH	21	34
ART THERAPY	32	46
HOME VISITS	5	9
SUPPORT GROUPS	4	4
LEGAL CLINICS	48	46
ACCOMPANIMENTS WITH SOCIAL WORKER	93	63
FAMILY	18	11
TELEPHONE	1,394	1265
REFERRAL	36	28
SUPPORT GROUPS	4	4
TOTAL	2341	2585

Please note that **26%** of the cases of the 177 long-term files, spoke only the language of origins and needed intervention by social workers or a Cultural Intermediary (CI) in that language. The languages were Arabic, Armenian, Bengali, Dari, Farsi, Greek, Hindi, Tamil, Russian, Spanish, Punjabi and Urdu.

All services given are adapted to the specific linguistic and cultural needs of the clients by the caseworkers and staff at the Shield of Athena at either the Montreal or Laval offices.

#### **SPECIALIZED SERVICES**

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#### **SUPPORT GROUPS**

Last year there were four support groups that were given for women victims of conjugal violence.

Two were given in French, one in English and one in Greek. A total of 21 women participated.

Betty Petropoulos, Director of Social Services; Maria Papadopoulos, tsp, Marie- Claude Simard, tsp, and Trisha Avolevan tsp facilitated. Three were in Montreal and one took place in Laval.

#### **ART THERAPY**

There were 42 sessions held with both women and children, in an individual or group format. Given by Lindsay Clark our Art Therapist at either the Montreal or Laval offices.

The services work well for young children and women who either have language problems or difficulties in verbalizing the violence that they have lived. Thirty-seven (37) sessions were held in Montreal and 5 in Laval.

#### SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND MOTHERS WHO HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE



Victims of violence who have children face additional challenges when separating from their abusive partners. Mothers at the Shield of Athena are supported in learning the consequences of violence on children and the mother/child dynamic.

They are given the tools to help their children develop healthy life skills, as we know; the best way to help children escape the consequences of violence is to help their mothers. Although the statistical period begins April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, due to a maternity leave, services were offered from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at a progressive return rate.

There were 34 youth consultations servicing 8 children ranging from 6 to 17 year of age, 18 family consultations and 17 parenting consultations with 7 mothers (1 Laval and 6 Montreal). **Cyndi Masi; tsp, Special Care Counsellor** 

## **USE OF THE CULTURAL INTERMEDIARIES (CI)**

FOR WOMEN VICTIMS OF CONJUGAL VIOLENCE WHO SPEAK ONLY IN THEIR LANGUAGE OF ORIGINS

In addition to the presence of our multilingual social workers, and caseworkers we have a service in place that provides linguistic access to women victims of conjugal and or family violence. They also participate in the community outreach programs when doing sessions in communities where there are language issues.

The Cultural Intermediary Service is designed to help women victims of conjugal and/ or family violence coming from ethno cultural communities better access the existing services. The cultural Intermediaries speak, read and write a third language and come from different ethnic backgrounds.

#### **ROLE OF THE CI**

They are not translators. Their mandate is to accompany abused women with their social workers during consultations so as to provide the necessary cultural and linguistic interpretations for intervention. The whole process is therefore less intimidating for the women and they have the opportunity to develop confidence with both their caseworker and the CI. The women victims also feel less isolated because a person of the same cultural background and origin is accompanying them in all the different steps needed to progress to a life without violence. The CIs accompany the women everywhere; police, municipal court, welfare.... etc.

All of the CIs receive an ongoing training on conjugal and family violence. Although most of the services given are done with SW's, the CIs also work with women at the external services and with the ex residents of Athena's House. They assure a permanent telephone access for many hours a week so as to respond to requests for assistance by people who phone in and cannot speak French or English. They are also in charge of translating the different outreach and public awareness tools produced by the Shield and participating when required at the outreach sessions.

#### **USE OF CULTURAL INTERMEDIARIES**

There were 74 women from ethnic communities who benefitted from the CI services during this statistical period. They include ex residents and external clients that passed through our shelter and centres. They include both long term and short-term clients. A total of 925 interventions were made in 8 different

languages; Arabic, Urdu, Punjabi, Russian, Bengali, Spanish and Tamil. They also received women referred to us in the context of the Laval Project established with the 3 shelters in Laval.

It is important to note that the CI were used in **50**% cases that were referred to the external services for follow up after their stay by the Maison d'Athena. At the centers they were also used with many cases that were referred to us directly from communities, the health and social services and private professionals. Last year, there was a **26**% increase in the number of services provided by the CI and a **21**% in the number of women that benefitted from them.

Please refer to Laval report.

#### SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED BY CI

It is also important to note that the CI performed support services on their own with the clients so as to facilitate the role of the Social Workers who were very busy with newer clients. In the total number of accompaniments indicated below, **22** were completed by the CI on their own.

#### **USE OF CI 2015-2016**

WOMEN	74
LANGUAGES	8
Services	Services
Consultations	148
Accompaniments	45
Consults/Tel	48
Calls	339
Legal clinics	4
Home visit	1
Active listening/ref	340
Total	925

#### **USE OF SERVICE OVER A THREE-YEAR PERIOD**

Please note the table below that indicates, a 21% increase in the number of services and a 23% increase in the number of clients from 2014.

This department is supervised & trained by Maud Pontel.

#### **USE OF THE CI -3 YEAR COMPARISON**

	2014-2015	2015-2016	2017-2016
WOMEN	61	60	74
LANGUAGES	8	8	8
Interventions	763	733	925

The above numbers also include the pilot project in Laval with the three shelters regarding the use of our CI with women who do not speak the language and are presently housed in their shelters.

## **SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

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## **CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY - DECEMBER 16, 2016 - MONTREAL OFFICES**

• 115 women and 96 children got financial assistance and free clothing. 25 clients received the Gazette Christmas Fund cheques. 110 families received baskets, worth 250\$ each from the Hellenic Appeal Foundation. Eight mothers and their children received 500\$ each from the Montreal Hellenic Golfers Association. Clients received new clothing donated by Suzy Shier; boots donated from la Canadienne and shoes from Browns. Other gifts were provided by École Socrates-Démosthène, Campus Démosthène.

This is our largest activity for clients during the year and is coordinated by Betty Petropoulos, tsp, Director of social services and Maria Papadopoulos, tsp, Clinical Supervisor. Longstanding donors for this event are: Suzy Shier, the Hellenic Appeal, the Hellenic Golf Association, the Montreal Gazette and many others.

#### EASTER ACTIVITY – APRIL 22, 2016, MONTREAL OFFICES

68 women and 43 children benefitted with free clothing and the activity. Fifty-five (55) families received food baskets donated by the Hellenic Appeal. Children received chocolates that were donated. Donors of this event were the Hellenic Appeal. Coordinated by Betty Petropoulos, tsp, Director of social services and Maria Papadopoulos.

## **NETWORKING**

The organization is a member of many regional and local tables and committees on conjugal and family violence as well as regional health and social services committees in both Montreal and Laval. The organization has taken an active role in the development of policies and strategies on conjugal violence particularly in the area of providing services for women and children coming from vulnerable clienteles in Quebec.

# A total of 183 hours were dedicated by the SOAFS staff for networking on the following committees and organizations

RESOURCE	PARTICIPANTS
Table de Concertation en violence conjugale de Montréal	Melpa Kamateros, <b>membre du CA</b>
Table sur la violence conjugale et l'agression sexuelle de Laval	Maria Kokkoris
Table de concertation sur la condition féminine de Laval	Marie Claude Simard, Hasmyk Manchurian, Maud Pontel
Table de concertation en violence conjugale Secteur Nord de Montréal	Maud Pontel
Regroupement de Francisation	Hasmyk Manchurian
Regroupement des maisons de l'île	Maria Kokkoris
SOS Violence Conjugale	Maria Kokkoris, <i>membre du CA</i>
Comité femmes de Parc Extension	Marie Claude Simard
Comité vigile PDQ 33	Polly Tsonis
AGIR (Laval)	Betty Petropoulos, DSS, Maria Papadopoulos, tsp
La Table de concertation des organismes au service des personnes réfugiées et immigrantes (TCRI)	Melpa Kamateros, Marie Claude Simard
L'Alliance des maisons d'hébergements <i>nouveau</i>	Melpa Kamateros, Maud Pontel
Comité de suivi multi organisme sur le VBH nouveau	Melpa Kamateros, Maud Pontel
Comité de suivi recherche VBH, nouveau	Melpa Kamateros, Maud Pontel

### MULTILINGUAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH DEPARTMENT



In 1994, the SOAFS developed a pilot community outreach project for the Greek community that was culturally and linguistically attuned to the community's needs. The success of this pilot project has lead to the establishment of a community outreach department through which information about family violence, the laws and police procedure is transmitted to ethnic communities in their language of origins. This is done through made to measure information sessions and through extensive work with its community partners and the ethnic media.



Polly Tsonis, Marie-Claude Simard and returning co-ordinator, Maud Pontel, worked with several community groups and organizations this past year to organize sessions on conjugal and family violence in Montreal and Laval.

In total, **52 sessions** were held and **1,097 people** were reached. There were **7 languages** used, including French, English, Arabic, Bengali, Urdu, Tamil and Spanish.

Over half, 71% of the sessions were held in schools, 17% were with community groups and 12% were held at the Shield premises. The different themes were conjugal violence, 73% (38 sessions), HBV, (7) sessions, 13%, legal (6 sessions) 12%. Other issues such as elder abuse accounted for 2% of the total number of sessions.

## **SPECIALIZED OUTREACH WITH COMMUNITIES**

There were 6 activities done in Arabic, English, Bengali, and Urdu. These were done with the Shield's law students and focussed on issues such as divorce, alimony, sponsorship, child custody and sexual assault.

#### MIDI LAVAL PROJECT

Last year there were **15 outreach sessions** that were done with **five other Laval organizations and schools or at the Shield offices in Laval**. In addition to women's groups and immigrant resources, many were held at Saint Maxim high School on the topic of HBV. *The person responsible for this department is Polly Tsonis*.

### PRESENTATIONS & REPRESENTATIONS

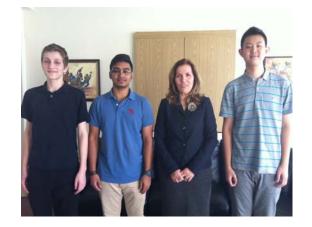


The Shield of Athena regularly presents on its various multilingual and specialized services. This past year, the organization's staff gave **8 presentations** to educational and social service institutions, as well as to a national sports team.

DATE	COMMUNITYORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION	FACILITATOR	TOPIC
June 13	Montreal Alouettes Athletic Team	Melpa & Polly	CFL policy on conjugal violence
August 12	12 <sup>th</sup> Edition of The World Social Forum	Polly & Marie Claude	Overview of Shield & family violence
September 12	Montreal Alouettes Administrative Team	Polly & Marie Claude	CFL policy on conjugal violence
October 19	Colloque: Collège Rosemont Intervention auprès des jeunes en contexte de diversité	Maud	Honour based Violence
October 20	Colloque: Les journées provincial de réflection: Les violences basées sur l'honneur: État des lieux 2016	Maud	Honour based Violence
November 8	McGill University	Melpa & Betty	Overview of Shield & family violence
November	John Abbott College	Maud & Siran	Overview of Shield & family violence
December 5	Universite de Montréal: Class of professor Madeline Lamboley	Marie Claude	Shield/intercultural interventions/

The CFL chose The Shield as the Montreal organization to present the CFL's new national policy on conjugal violence to the Montreal Alouettes. On June 13, 2016, representatives of the organization went to the Alouette's training camp at Bishop's University in Sherbrooke and gave a presentation to the team and coach Jim Popp. On September 12, we presented to the organization's administrative team at their Montreal offices.

## **WORKING WITH SCHOOLS**



The Shield of Athena also works closely with the educational system. This year, several members of

the staff gave **5 PRESENTATIONS** to students from Lower Canada College, Trafalgar, Saint Anne de Lachine and College Breboeuf for projects such as the Youth Philanthropy Initiative.





## **EMPLOYEE AND VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

- The total number of hours spent on training volunteers, interns and employees on the organization's specialized and intervention services is: **2918**.
- Some of the areas that the staffs was trained in includes: forced marriages, HBV and victims rights.

  Total: 98 hours

The staffs was also involved in the training of the volunteers, cultural intermediaries and the interns from McGill, Concordia, Université de Montréal and John Abbott College. **Total: 2820** 



	# of people	# of hours
School Interns	7	2788
Volunteer Training Sessions	8	32
Trainings taken by staff	10	98
Total	25	2918

## TIME SPENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Meeting	Number	Time spent	% of time spent	% meeting
Project & services	54	216h	32%	28%
development				
Board / fundraising/ Adm &	90	242h	36%	46%
HR.				
Networking/ Visibility	51	210h	32%	26%
Total	105	CCOL	1000/	1000/
Total	195	668h	100%	100%

**The Executive Director** is seen to spend the majority of her time, **46%**, in meetings for fundraising, HR, administration and with the Board. Networking , representation , presentations and outreach and other efforts regarding the promotion of the visibility of the organization, represent **26% of meetings.** Finally, **28%** are for Project and services development

#### TRAINING TO PROFESSIONALS

Due to the Shield's expertise and specific approach when offering services to victims coming from ethnic communities, co-ordinator Maud Pontel provided 2 trainings to workers at other centers.

November 15, 2016	L'intervention auprès des	Action ontarienne contre la
	femmes immigrantes et issues	violence faite aux femmes,
	des communautés	Ottawa (50 personnes)
February 23, 2017	ethnoculturelles victimes de	Centre des femmes de Laval (10
	violence conjugale	personnes)

## **TEAM SUPERVISION**

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Staff member	Team supervision	# of	# of
		hours	meetings
Clinical supervisors	Supervision of shelter resident cases	700	50
Clinical supervisors	Supervision of cases at external offices	50	50
Coordinator	Supervision of Cultural Intermediaries	800	400
Executive director	Supervision, staff, committees	264	88
Total		1814	588

## **VOLUNTEER IMPLICATION**

This year, the Shield of Athena had **151 volunteers.** The total volunteer time amounted to: **6699 HOURS**. The person responsible is Polly Tsonis; co-ordinator.

## **VOLUNTEER TRAINING SESSION**

A volunteer training session took place this year on: September 27, 2016. The staff trained 8 volunteers

- a) the organization's services,
- b) family/conjugal violence
- c) an overview of a volunteer's role.

#### PROJECTS -Laval

October 2016 - October 2017

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**MIDI-** L'Intervention spécialisée et sensibilisation concertée: Pont entre la société et les communautés vulnérables."

#### **PURPOSE OF PROJECT**

In September 2016 the organization signed an entente with MIDI, for the project "Intervention spécialise et sensibilisation concertée: Pont entre la société et les communautés vulnérables."

Through this project, outreach sessions will be done in Laval, with shelters, schools and many community organizations. The outreach will be done through the Cultural Intermediaries, trained community workers who speak different languages who will be present to assist vulnerable clienteles that speak neither French nor English.

The themes of the outreach are conjugal violence, honour based violence and forced marriage, the existing resources and legal issues. Information that is not easily accessible. A total amount of 40,000\$ has been given for this program that will terminate in October of 2017. To date, 15 sessions have already been done within the last statistical period. *Please refer to enclosed annex*.

## **NEW PROJECT: SECOND STEP RESOURCE IN LAVAL**

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From 2010, the Shield of Athena Family Services has engaged funds for the purchase and development of a Transition Home, a Second Step resource for women and children victims and exposed to conjugal and or family violence after their stay in a shelter.

The project has received the approval of the Table de Concertation de Laval, La Table en condition Feminine de Laval, three shelters, Lina, Esther and Prelude, the CISS of Laval and the City of Laval. The technical assistance team that has been working with the SOAFS is Réseau 2000. In December of 2015, the SHQ confirmed the reservation of 17 units for this resource. In May 2016 the organization signed and acquired the property in Laval. Recently the organization was informed by the SHQ that the criteria had been met for the conditional engagement of the project. We foresee breaking ground in the fall of 2017 if all goes well.



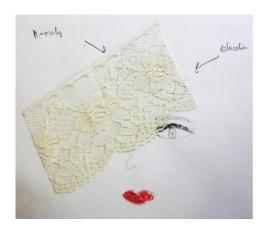
## **SPECIAL EVENTS & ACHIEVEMENTS: 2016-2017**

#### HBV Web site - www.formartionvbh.com

Our website<u>www.formationvbh.com</u> on honour based violence was created last year so as to make information accessible to as many people as possible on the different tools that were developed within the past few years by our organization on this issue. Through the website caseworkers will be provided with continuous information that will both inform and train them on the issue as well as provide access to tools and guidelines that can enhance screening and intervention on honour based violence cases.

The definition of this issue as developed by the Shield and our partners, includes a form that can be used regarding departure, a section that contains testimonials by victims of HBV that have passed our services and finally a part on resources if the reader wants to further their knowledge on this issue. The launch of this website was connected with the event held on International Women's day, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March at the Guzzo cinema in Laval. The film by Quebec filmmaker Raymonde Provencher, "Crimes without Honour" was also viewed by the 200 people present that day. The website was made possible through funding received by the *Secretariat à la condition féminine, du Québec*.





Drawn by victim of HBV

#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION: MARCH 23, 2017 LAVAL



Viewing of the film on HBV by Raymonde Provencher, "CES CRIMES SANS HONNEUR"

Around 200 guests from different organizations, levels of the government, police, shelters and elsewhere gathered at the Cinema Guzzo Pont Viau in Laval to preview the film and launch the new Shield website on HBV.

COLLOQUE : "Les journées provinciales de réflexion: les violence basées sur l'honneur: État des lieux 2016", in collaboration with the Comité VBH. Octobre 20, 2016

The conference was a follow up to what had been done in Quebec in the past year on the subject of HBV and was also meant to enhance learning and exchange of information around the issue of honour based violence. The Shield was a proud partner in this conference and contributed largely to all aspects that were studied, such as intervention, screening and case studies. Many Shield employees presented including Maud Pontel, Siran Nahabedian tsp, Marie Claude Simard, tsp, and our CI Leeza Sultana.



#### **FUNDRAISING & COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

## Membership Launch 2016-2017

**On June 17, 2016** The Shield of Athena launched its annual membership campaign at the Baton Rouge, downtown Montreal.









The evening's entertainment included a dancing performance from la Troupe Folklorique Grecque Syrtaki and a hilarious performance from The Comedy Nest's, Gino Durante.

## **ANNUAL ART AUCTION, NOVEMBER 2016**

**250 people** gathered on Sunday November 13 at the Marché Bonsecours in Old Montreal, for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Art Auction, under the High Patronage of his Excellency Nicolas Sigalas; Consul General of Greece.

Chris Nilan was the Patron of the event. Eramelinda Boquer; CJAD and Tony Marinaro; TSN 690 were the Mc's of the evening. The Shield of Athena's recognition award went to graphic designers Stefanie Sosiak and Mark Grinberg for their decade long contribution towards the branding and marketing of the organization.





## **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

Several individuals, groups and businesses this year offered their support to The Shield of Athena and we would like to thank them all for their generosity.



- September 15-30 McGill School of Architecture organized an exhibit entitled: "Beyond the Expected" to raise awareness on family violence
- The Gap & Old Navy Employees raised funds and donated gifts for some of the Shield's clients.
- Agence Marini donated new boots and shoes from Brown's and La Canadienne.
- Suzy Shier provided new clothing for the clients that was distributed at Chrsitmas and Easter
- École Socrates-Démosthène, Campus Démosthène gathered Christmas donations for some of our most impoversished families.







# **EXTERNAL SERVICES**

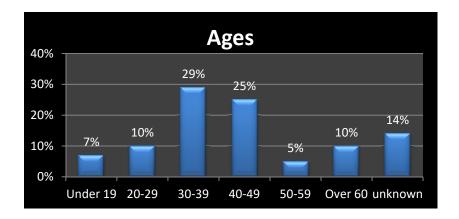
**LAVAL 2016-2017** 

## **CLIENTS**

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In Laval we had a total of 231 cases, old and new, long and short term.

#### THE FOLLOWING ARE BASED ON 212 NEW CASES



### **AGES**

- **54%** Were between the ages of 30-49
- 10% were from 20-29
- 10% were 60 and over
- **5%** were from 50-59
- **7%** were under 19
- 14% were unknown

#### PREFERRED LANGUAGE OF COMMUNICATION

- > 35% spoke English
- > 43% spoke French
- **22%** of these clients spoke neither English nor French

#### **ETHNIC ORIGIN**

- > 96% were from different ethnic communities
- > 3% were of French origin
- > 1% were of English origin

#### SOCIOECONOMIC

- > 18% made 15,000 or less annually
- ➤ 48% of the clients were making up to 30,00 annually
- **28%** made from 30-40,000
- **6%** made from 40,000 up

#### SOURCES OF REFERRAL

- **51%** of the total referrals came from the CSSS, Youth protection, hospitals and the existing social services network
- > 36% were word of mouth referrals from one client to another and within communities
- > 10% were from the outreach or elsewhere
- **3%** were ex residents of the shelter.

# NATURE OF PROBLEMS (there is an overlap)

## **CONJUGAL VIOLENCE 83 % (177 CASES)**

- > 57% of the cases presented physical violence
- > 80% had psychological and verbal abuse;
- > 12% of the cases presented economic problems also;
- > 17% of cases included children who had been exposed to violence and or abused .
- > 5% presented sexual abuse.
- > 2% presented drug abuse
- > 3% had elements of elder abuse

#### **ACCESS 13% (25 CASES)**

- > 85% cited that there was a lack of information.
- > 32% said that there were linguistic barriers
- > 70% said that there no resources available;
- > 7% spoke of cultural barriers

## **FAMILY 2% (5 CASES)**

Of these, **100%** dealt with communication issues between parents and children.

## **YOUTH CASES 2% (5 CASES)**

Of these, 100% presented communication issues; 80% presented with sexual assault and incest; 20% presented anti social behaviour.

During the past year there were **39** long term files old and new. They received the following services.

#### **GENERAL SERVICES**

	2016-2017
Accompaniments	19
Telephone	687
Advocacy	59
Referrals	18
Individual	78
Family	16
Youth	11
Art Therapy	5
Legal clinics	12
Home visits	3
Support groups	1
Financial Assistance	39
Total	948

This year there has been an increase in family and youth services as our childcare specialist has returned from maternity leave. There has been a decrease in the number of advocacy services as fewer women presented with language barriers and the procedure was not as problematic as with the 22% that could not express

themselves without the use of the CI. During the last period there were **62** children that had witnessed violence in the home; not all of them received services.

### **SPECIALIZED SERVICES**

#### LINGUISTIC SERVICES GIVEN AT THE LAVAL OFFICES

In the last statistical period intervention was done in languages other than French or English. These other languages included, Arabic, Armenian, Bengali, Farsi, Greek, Spanish, and Punjabi. A total of 22 services were provided through the CI to ex shelter residents and clients of the organization. A total of 21 services were also provided through the Laval pilot project in collaboration with the City of Laval and the three shelters, Maison Lina, Maison Esther and Prelude.

#### **SUPPORT GROUPS**

There was one support group provided in Laval in Greek. Facilitators were Betty Petropoulos tsp, DSS and Maria Papadopoulos, tsp, clinical supervisor.

#### **ART THERAPY**

Our Art Therapist Lindsay Clarke, worked with both mothers and children at the Laval offices, who had been exposed to violence. She completed 5 sessions in Laval



# SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR MOTHERS WHO HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO CONJUGAL VIOLENCE

Services offered were parenting consultations, family consultations(16 sessions) including mothers with their children and youth consultations (11 sessions).

Economic Assistance: Two times within this period

- December 16, 2016 and April 2017
- During these two activities thirty nine clients benefitted.

## **PROJECTS** –Laval

\_\_\_\_\_

#### **NEW PROJECT- October 2016-October 2017**

MIDI- L'Intervention spécialisée et sensibilisation concertée: Pont entre la société et les communautés vulnérables."

#### **PURPOSE OF PROJECT**

In September of 2016 the organization signed an entente with MIDI, for the project "Intervention spécialisée et sensibilisation concertée: Pont entre la société et les communautés vulnérables."

Through this project, outreach sessions will be done in Laval, with shelters, schools and many community organizations. The outreach will be done through the Cultural Intermediaries, trained community workers who speak different languages who will be present to assist vulnerable clienteles that speak neither French nor English.

The themes of the outreach are conjugal violence, honour based violence and forced marriage, the existing resources and legal issues. Information that is not easily accessible. A total amount of 40,000\$ has been given for this program that will terminate in October of 2017. To date, 15 sessions have already been done within this last statistical period. *Please refer to enclosed annex*.



This year, our shelter was open for 365 days, twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. During the 365 days of regular operation, we housed 68 women and 22 children, a total of 90 people during this last statistical period. The average stay of women was 33 days and the occupancy rate was 89%.

## ETHNIC ORIGINS AND LANGUAGES OF COMMUNICATION

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**49**% of the women we accommodated this year at *La Maison d'Athéna* were not Canadian citizens. They were sponsored and non-sponsored permanent resident, refugees, refugee claimants, student visas, with few having no immigration status at all. **In all, 75**% **of our clients were born outside of Canada.** 

Status	Number	%
Canadian citizen	35	51%
Sponsored permanent resident	22	32%
Non-sponsored permanent resident	5	7%
Refugee claimant	1	2%
Refugees	2	3%
No status	1	2%
Student Visa	2	3%
Total	68	100%
Country of birth	Number	%
Canadian born	17	25%
Born outside of Canada	51	75%
Total	68	100 %

Of the number of women who we provided housing to 54, or 79%, came from 26 different ethno-cultural communities.

Of these **68** women, **12** or **(18%)** had severe linguistic barriers and difficulties in communicating in either French or English. The languages they spoke are the following: Arabic (7) Farsi (1), Tamil (1), Bengali (1), Spanish (2). The various languages spoken by the caseworkers at la *Maison d'Athéna* were a great asset that allowed us to be of assistance to the vast majority of these women regardless of their inability to communicate in English or French. Languages on site included: Arabic, Armenian, Creole, Spanish, Greek, Farsi, Dari, Italian, Portuguese, English and French. Our trained cultural interpreters at the Montreal office spoke Arabic, Bengali, Punjabi, Urdu, Hindi and Tamil. It is important to note however, that even if the client possessed an adequate knowledge of French or English, it was always much easier for the women to express themselves in their language of origin. If there is a language that is not spoken in house by a member of our staff, we enlist the services of a translator in order to communicate with the client. These translators are from the *"Banque d'Interpretes"*. This year, we did not use this service.

## **AVERAGE AGE OF OUR CLIENTS**

The ages of the women who stayed at the shelter this year are as follows:

Ages	Number	%	Decrease/
			increase
13-17	0		
18-25	15	22%	Increase 9%
26-30	14	21%	
31-35	9	13%	Increase 3%
36-40	18	26%	Increase 20%
41-50	4	6%	
51-60	5	7%	
61+	3	5%	
Total	68	100%	

This year, **56%** of our clients were young women from 18-35-age category. Our biggest increase however was one of **22%** in the 36-40 age group that accounted for another **28%** of our clients. We had fewer women from forty-one to sixty plus who combined, accounted for **17%** of our clientele. **Observation:** This shows that younger and younger women are recognizing the issue of conjugal violence and coming to shelters for services on conjugal violence.

#### CHILDREN ACCOMMODATED

Ages	Number
Less than one year old	6
1-4	9
5-8	5
9-12	2
13-15	0
16-18	0
Total	22

## THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEMS

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Among the 68 women we accommodated this year, 82% endured violence at the hands of their partners/expartners while 7% experienced violence within a family context, 2% had a mixture of conjugal and family violence, 3% had conjugal violence with honor based violence also present, 3% were HBV cases and another 3% were Family violence mixed with HBV. In all, 9% of the cases presented elements of HBV.

Number of clients	Type of violence	%	Definition
56	Conjugal violence	82%	Spouses & ex partners
5	Family violence	7%	In laws
1	CV & FV	2%	Spouse and In-laws
2	CV &HBV	3%	Forced Marriage
2	HBV	3%	Parents
2	FV + HBV	3%	Parents
68		100%	

#### **BREAKDOWN OF HBV CASES**

Source of Referral	Number
Police	3
SOS	2
Friend	1
Shelter	1
Total	7

It is interesting to note that the ages of the young women who presented with HBV were between 20-29 and counted for the 9% increase in that age group.

#### **TYPES OF ABUSE**

We accommodated women who have lived through different types of violence. **78%** of the shelter residents this year were victims of physical violence, while **42%** of the women had also experienced economic and/or sexual violence. Psychological and/or verbal violence was present in **100%** of the cases.

#### **SOURCES OF REFERRAL**

The women accommodated this year were referred to our shelter by various organizations and/or individuals. 57% came from the SOS line, 7% from other shelters, 12% from Health and Social services, CLSCs and hospitals, DYP, 13% from the police and the rest from multiple sources, such as community resources and former clients.

Source	Number	%	Last year
SOS Violence Conjugale	39	58%	43%
CLSC	5	7%	10%
Hospitals	2	3%	7%
Youth protection	1	2%	3%
Other shelters	5	7%	10%
Police	9	13%	17%
Community resources	4	6%	8%
Referred by BASF (external clients)	3	4%	2%
Self-referred	0		
Other Professionals	0		
Schools	0		
Total	68	100%	100%

#### OBSERVATIONS-SOURCE OF REFERRALS

This year the number of clients sent to us by SOS Violence Conjugale comprised the largest number of referrals 58%; 19% of our clients were also referred to us by health and social services and the other shelters.; 13% were sent by the police and the rest, 11% by community resources and the BASF external offices.

#### **PROFILE OF OUR CLIENTS**

The women who used our services were only minimally aware of their rights and of the resources available to them. As per the shelter workers' observations, women were likely to be unaware of their legal status, unaware of the fact that conjugal violence is a criminal offence in Canada and their legal rights here in Canada, primarily as a result of the social isolation they experienced at the hands of their partner. This vulnerable situation puts women at a disadvantage, particularly those women who come from ethno-cultural communities.

#### SERVICES OFFERED AT THE SHELTER

- Individual consultations This year, our case workers held 750 individual consultations compared to 567 for last year, indicating an increase of 32%. From the 750 consultations, 162 or (22%) of them were in a language other than English or French. These languages are: Arabic, Farsi, Bengali, Spanish, Farsi/Dari and Tamil.
- Accompaniments Our caseworkers offer a service for clients who need accompaniment to their external appointments such as: court, legal aid, welfare employment programs, etc. This year, our caseworkers carried out 122 accompaniments. Out of the 122 accompaniments 38, were done in a language other than English or French. This means that 31% were done with either a CI, or a social worker.
- **Telephone consultations** The shelter staff dealt with **7164** calls this year. Of these, **3428** were consultations with victims of abuse who were residents, ex-residents and non-residents of the shelter.
- Legal information consultations Each client is given the opportunity to consult with a student from the McGill University Law Faculty. The law students are not at liberty to give legal advice; they can only share legal information regarding the client's rights. If the clients choose to exercise their rights, we refer them either to legal aid, or to a lawyer. This year, our law student had 6 legal clinics.

- Art therapy Art Therapy is an emotionally supportive service offered to clients to foster their confidence around self-expression, both verbally and non-verbally using art materials. The art therapist facilitates a creative process for clients to work through traumatic experiences, regulate stress and anxiety, increase self-esteem and develop a practice of personal insight and reflection. Clients are also invited to attend art therapy groups which facilitate a sense of empathy, peer learning, normalizing stigmatized experiences and a sense of community. The sessions are facilitated by our professional Art Therapist and the length varies from 30 minutes to 2 hours. In total the Art Therapist conducted 120 individual art therapy sessions; (95 with women and 25 with children) and 29 group art therapy sessions; (16 adult groups, 13 family/mother-child dyads.) In total 36 women and 11 children participated in art therapy services.
- Info activities We offer information activities on the different aspects and dynamics of conjugal violence, as well as other pertinent topics, such as stress-management, interpersonal growth and tools to help cope with the consequences of conjugal and family violence. The duration for a typical session is of 1 and a half hours. These activities allow residents to speak about their experiences, in a safe space while breaking isolation in sharing their experience with the other residents. There were a total of 26 information sessions on conjugal violence and a total of 29 different women benefitted from these sessions.
- **Economic assistance** It can happen that our clients arrive at the shelter with little or no personal belongings. We therefore offer them economic assistance that can consist of second-hand and new clothing. Each client **(68)** who resided at the shelter received a welcome package including toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.), in addition to the above clothing. Furthermore, at their departure from the shelter, women were offered essential household items, such as cutlery, plates and glasses. Their children were also provided with free clothes, diapers and baby formula. **A total of 90 women and children were provided with material and economic assistance during the last statistical period.**
- Demystification of the social services network and the laws This is ongoing and is considered a specialized service. Obviously the 18% of our clientele who had severe language issues benefited from this service since the information was given to them in their language of origins. Women coming from ethnic communities are doubly vulnerable because most of them present severe linguistic and or cultural blocks that may impede them from knowing basic issues regarding their rights and accessing the health and social services network.
- Advocacy This is ongoing and integrated into most of the services that are given such as in the accompaniments, consultations with the government and elsewhere. Again, this is necessary due to the presence of linguistic and cultural blocks that impede access to the services. In addition to the 22% of consultations that were given in the language of origins, 31% of the accompaniments were done in a language other than English or French.

• Follow up services — Once a client is ready to leave, their needs are assessed and they are given information regarding the external services for follow up for themselves and their children. This may be a follow up of a series of consultations, support, economic or legal services. This year, of the 25 clients that were referred to the external services upon their departure from the shelter, 11 became long-term clients and received external services at either Montreal or Laval. Half of those referred necessitated intervention in languages other than English or French.

## **ACTIVITIES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

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This year, La Maison d'Athéna conducted activities such as:

- a) Spa Day (1) 7 participants
- b) Ardene shopping spree (1) 7 participants
- c) Photo Shoot for Valentine's Day (1) 9 participants
- d) Gardening (5) 8 participants
- e) Cooking Groups (7) 17 participants
- f) Photo Shoot for 2 moms and their children (2) 6 participants

A total of 17 activities were organized and 54 women and children participated. The objective of these activities was to strengthen group cohesion and to stimulate client's creativity and self-esteem.

## **TRAININGS**

Shelter workers participated in 3 trainings this year: A total of workers participated.

- 1) Interventions en contexte de Violence Conjugale; March 14, 2017
- 2) Les violences basées sur l'honneur : État des lieux ; Octobre 20, 2016
- 3) La chartre des droits des victimes; May 18, 2016

# ACTIVITIES & SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR MOTHERS AT THE SHELTER

The services for mothers and children at La Maison d'Athéna are set in place to offer support and guidance to mothers who have been victim of conjugal violence and children who have been exposed to this violence.

Their time at the shelter allows them to rebuild a nurturing mother/child relationship where they can learn positive parenting strategies to maximize their children's potential as they embark on their new life adventure. Although the statistical period begins April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, due to a maternity leave, services were offered from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at a progressive return rate.



#### The statistics for this period are as follows:

### A) CHILDREN - Youth consultations

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To meet children on an individual basis and offer them a safe space to express their emotions, their concerns and their experiences with family/conjugal violence. These sessions are tailored to meet the specific needs of each child as all children are impacted by violence differently. **14** youth consultations took place. **8 children participated.** 

#### **B) MOTHERS - Parenting Consultations**

## **OBJECTIVE**

To offer mothers whose children have been exposed to violence support and skills to help their children adapt to the changes in their lives. The individual consultations assess the specific needs of each mother and personalized programming is created to cater to those needs. **31** parenting consultations took place. **7** moms participated.

#### C) PARENTING GROUPS

## **OBJECTIVE**

To offer mothers parenting information, allow them a space to reflect on shared experiences of parenting in abusive relationships as well as preparing mothers for the new experience of being single parents. **3** Parenting groups. **8** moms participated

#### **FOOD SERVICES**

At the Maison d'Athéna we try and provide the resident with as much comfort in the surroundings as possible. The easiest way to make people feel at ease is by providing them with food that is familiar to them and part of their culture. Every time new residents come to the shelter their medical history and their cultural and dietary needs are reviewed by our staff. For religious women coming from the Muslim community halal meat is provided; for women coming from the South Asian communities or others where there is large-scale vegetarianism, more such meals are planned. The menus are adapted so as to reflect the cultural, religious and medical realities of the clients and their children. In general, the Canadian Food Guide is applied so as to also try and teach good eating practices for the residents and the children. On occasion the staff also involve the women and the children at times in food preparation, as to create a warm environment for them.

Eating together with the clients also provides the staff with insights on their lives in another setting and promotes bonding with their children. Including the residents in certain aspects of food production also promotes feelings of bonding and belonging.

All necessary precautions are taken so as to promote the necessary level of hygiene that is needed during a community setting such as the one that exists at the shelter.

# Maria Kokkoris, Coordinator Athena's House, La Maison d'Athéna





# **ANNEX 1 - COMMUNITY OUTREACH SESSIONS**

DATE	COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION	FACILITATOR	# OF PEOPLE	HRS	Language
April 7	Université de Montréal	Trisha & Marie Claude	45	2.5	French
April 9	Centre d'éducation Des Adultes Les Berges	Marie Claude	18	2	French
April 9	Centre d'éducation Des Adultes Les Berges	Marie Claude	23	2	French
April 11	College Mont Morency	Polly	25	2	French
April 12	YWCA	Polly & Marie Claude	10	2	French
April 26	YWCA	Polly	12	2	English
May 9	École secondaire Saint-Maxime	Marie Claude & Siran	25	2	French*HBV
May 9	École secondaire Saint-Maxime	Marie Claude & Siran	25	2	French*HBV
May 11	École secondaire Saint-Maxime	Marie Claude & Siran	15	2	French*HBV
May 11	École secondaire Saint-Maxime	Marie Claude & Siran	14	2	French*HBV
May 12	École secondaire Saint-Maxime	Polly & Siran	15	2	French*HBV
May 12	Université de Montréal	Trisha & Marie Claude	45	2.5	French
May 13	École secondaire Saint-Maxime	Polly & Sabrina	16	2	French*HBV
May 16	École secondaire Saint-Maxime	Marie Claude & Sabrina	16	2	French*HBV
May 17	Centre d'éducation Des Adultes Les Berges	Polly	24	2	French
May 17	Centre d'éducation Des Adultes Les Berges	Polly	18	2	French
May 25	Bois de Boulogne	Polly	22	2	French
May 26	Bois de Boulogne	Polly	21	2	French
June 1	Bois de Boulogne	Polly	40	2	French
June 28	Shield of Athena Legal Clinic: Alimony	Effie & CI	10	2	English/Arabic/Urdu/Bengali
July 13	Shield of Athena Legal Clinic: Divorce	Effie & CI & Marie Claude	10	2	English/Arabic/Urdu/Bengali

July 15	Shield of Athena: Sexual Assault	Marie Claude & Effie	6	2	English/Urdu/Bengali
July 20	Shield of Athena Legal Clinic: Sponsorship	Effie & CI & Marie Claude	35	2	English/Arabic/Urdu/Bengali
August 24	Annual Friendship Picnic Jarry Park			4	English/Arabic/Urdu/Bengali
September 3	Lester B Pearson Adult education Nursing students from India	Polly	12	2	English
September 14	CLAVA: elder abuse LAVAL	Marie Claude	15	2	French
October 3	Bois de Boulogne	Polly	25	2	French (Arabic & Armenian speaking students)
October 4	Bois de Boulogne	Polly	21	2	French (19 Arabic, 1 Armenian, 1 Spanish
October 6	Bois de Boulogne	Polly	40	2	French (37 Arabic, 2 Armenian, 1 Russian)
October 21	Centre Communautaire Bon Pasteur	Polly	12	2	French
October 24	Centre Communautaire Bon Pasteur	Marie Claude	12	2	French
October 25	Y des femmes	Polly	13	2	French
November 8	Y des femmes	Polly	12	2	English
November 24	Legal Clinic: SOAFS Immigration	Geraldine & irini	15	2	French/English
November 25	Centre Communautaire Bon Pasteur	Polly	12	2	French
November 30	Femmes du Monde Cote des Neiges	Polly	15	3	French/English
December 1	Centre Yves Thériault	Polly	25	2	French
December 2	SOAFS Legal Clinic: Divorce & Child custody	Geraldine/Effie	15	2	French/English
December 6	Centre des Femmes Dynamiques de Laval	Polly & Cyndi	25	2	French/Italian
January 12	Bois de Boulogne	Polly	36	2	French
January 12	Bois de Boulogne	Polly	38	2	French
January 20	Centre Communautaire Bon Pasteur	Polly	18	2	French (Syrians, Afganis, Armenians)

January 23	Centre D'Education Des Adultes Les Berges	Polly & Kavita	19	2	French
January 27	Centre Communautaire Bon Pasteur	Polly	18	2	French (Rumanian, Armenian, Spanish, Arabic, Pakistani)
January 27	Centre D'Education Des Adultes Les Berges	Polly & Hasmik	21	2	French
February 3	Centre D'Education Des Adultes Les Berges	Polly & Leeza	19	2	French
February 8	Centre D'Education Des Adultes Les Berges	Polly & Rabiaa	42	2	French
February 10	Centre D'Education Des Adultes Les Berges	Polly & Hasmik	19	2	French
February 14	Y des Femmes	Polly	12	3	English
February 22	Y des femmes	Polly	15	3	French
March 24	Bois de Boulogne	Polly	35	2	French
March 27	Centre Communautaire Bon Pasteur	Polly	16	2	French
March 30	Bois de Boulogne	Polly	30	2	French

• # SESSIONS: 52

• # people reached: 1097

# **Annex 2 - MEETINGS WITH SCHOOLS**

DATE	SCHOOL	PROJECT	TOPIC	HRS	WHO
April 13	Lower Canada College	YPI	Overview of the Shield	2	Polly &
		Finals			Melpa
April 28	Trafalgar	YPI	Overview of Shield of	2	Polly &
		finals	Athena		Chris
					Ann
March 1	Saint Anne de Lachine	YPI	Overview of the Shield	2	Polly
March 17	College Breboeuf		Interview about non profit	1	Melpa
March 21	Saint Anne de Lachine	YPI	Overview of the Shield	2	Polly

## **OVERVIEW OF STATISTICAL REPORT**

April 1st 2016-March 31st 2017

# People reached by our services & activities

ACTIVITIES & SERVICES	PEOPLE REACHED	QUANTITY
Clients External & Shelter	967	External: 877 Shelter: 90
Presentations: universities, social services, schools	455	13 presentations
French classes	42	2 sessions: Winter & Spring
Economic Assistance	183 women & 139 children (External & shelter clients)	Easter activity Christmas activity
Volunteer	151	6699 hours
Employee & Volunteer Training	25	2918 hours
Workshops & Activities for projects	225	<ul><li>Annual Eid Picnic</li><li>Launch of HBV website</li></ul>
Media Programs	25000 * estimate	11 media appearances including: 105.1 Mike FM, CTV, CJAD, CBC, Suburban, Global, Breakfast television,
Community Outreach (info. Sessions)	1097	*52 sessions in 7 languages *6 Specialized Activities in Arabic, Bengali, Urdu, English
Social Activities	500	3 SOAFS events/activities *Membership Launch *Art Auction *International Women's Day

28, 784 people were reached during this statistical period through our various services and activities

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016-2017**

#### **Executive Committee:**

President: Chris Ann Nakis Secretary: Ismini Fistouris Treasurer: Ben Martone,

Executive director and founding member of the Shield: Melpa Kamateros

**Board members:** Eramelinda Boquer, Elizabeth Condax, Julia Krane, Tatiana Londono, Litsa Pelonis, Me Isabelle Poulin, Ana Isabel Rodrigues, Barbara Vokral.

**Coordination:** Polly Tsonis

Administrative team: Hasmik Manucharian, Roxane Mills, Ginette Surprenant

#### **Social Services:**

Betty Petropoulos tsp, Social Services Director; Maria Papadopoulos tsp, Clinical Supervisor; Nanor A. Sinabian tsp., Trisha Avolevan tsp., External Services.

#### Athena's house:

Maria Kokkoris, Co-ordinator; Evelyne Chéry, int; Yolette Chéry, int; Lindsay Clarke, Art therapist; Cyndi Masi, tsp and Child care specialist; Christina Little, int; Siran Nahabedian, tsp; Christina Scalia, int.

#### **Outreach department and interpretation services:**

Maud Pontel and Marie-Claude Simard, co-ordinator; Farah Malik Naz, Jeyamalar Premathasan, Rabia Sellaouti, Leeza Sultana.

#### **Special Thanks:**

Elvira Sigunis, weekly volunteer.



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Shield-of-Athena-Family-Services

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