

THE CURE FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

April/May/June 2021

She didn't ask for it!

Welcome to the second CURE Foundation Newsletter highlighting events and news from our community

Enjoy reading and stay in touch!

CURE - PROJECTS

Global Fund for Women - Integrated Securities for Women

Participants in the workshop "Integrated Securities for Women"

The aim of the project is to present a new model of creating security, to identify threats that marginalized groups of women (young activists, women's rights activists, women from the Police Network) face on a daily basis, and to map strategies for sustainability and survival. Security risks for activists and marginalized groups of women can be physically, emotionally and spiritually harmful, and permeate every aspect of life (body, mind, spirit, family, community, organization, etc.).

We organized a workshop "Integrated Securities for Women" which was attended by members of the Network of Police Officers. We are delighted that we have managed to create space to determine the organizational and personal strengths necessary to develop the concept of integrated security.

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Women Human Rights Advocates



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During the project "Women Human Rights Advocates", funded by the European Union and implemented by the CURE Foundation (CURE) and the Foundation for Women's Empowerment (FWE), we intend to contribute to the protection of respect of women's rights through programs that encourage women and young women to take affirmative action to eradicate all forms of discrimination in BiH with a special focus on minority and marginalized groups of women in ten (10) municipalities. The project lasts two (2) years during which we will work on strengthening the capacity of ten (10) organizations: Association of Citizens Psychological Center Sense from Banja Luka, Association of Women Maja Kravica from Bratunac, Association of Citizens Probuđ se (Wake up) Istočno Sarajevo, Association of Women Romkinja (Roma Women) Bijeljina, Women's Association Pašinke together with the Association Sigurno mjesto (Safe Place) from Zavidovići, Women's Association Nera Konic, Association Ženska vizija (Women's Vision) from Tuzla, Active Women Donje Moštre from Visoko, Women's Association Viba Mostar and Women's Association Srce i duša (Heart and Soul) Prokosovići, Lukavac. In addition, we will make recommendations for a better position of women that will be promoted in institutions at the local level. In the first year (2020) of the project implementation, we will work with five (5) NGOs in their local communities, and in the second year (2021) with the other five (5), also in their local communities.

The overall objective is to promote and protect women's rights through actions aimed at encouraging women's participation in suppression of all forms of discrimination in BiH.

The specific objective is to strengthen the capacity of women's civil society organizations (WCSD), activists and advocates with a focus on minority and marginalized groups of women in BiH.

The objectives of the project were identified based on the previous experience of the CURE Foundation in consultation with the applicant, FWE, conducted during the preparation of this proposal. A key shortcoming concerns the capacity and skills of WCSD and its members, defenders and activists to engage in women's rights issues and policy dialogue on sustainable conditions for minority and marginalized groups of women.

In May and June, we started holding the first round of workshops planned as part of the project. The focus of the first workshop was on building the capacity of organizations for institutional development.

With 10 selected women's civil society organizations (WCSD), representing minority and marginalized groups of women and at least 30 women and girls, defenders and activists target beneficiaries of the project, efforts shall be made to increase their capacity and knowledge in initiating local measures and creating concrete opportunities for the inclusion of minority and marginalized groups of women. Accordingly, the project activities will contribute to the following objectives:

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Activist Legacy - Stories of Women Behind the Conflict and Crisis in the Western Balkans

*June 08-10, 2021 Representatives of the Jelena Šantić Foundation Isidora, Bojana and Mirjana on a working visit to the Forgetting Children of War Association with President Agne Zubić.

Podcasts dedicated to the stories and promotion of women activists, as well as their joint achievements and successes, will be produced in Belgrade and Sarajevo. This will be a special opportunity to hear the voices and experiences of women about their struggle both in private and public life, and during the COVID-19 pandemic. The question of the achievements of activists from different backgrounds in different turbulent times in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Serbia is raised. We use various forms of communication to expand the audience on the topic of women's achievements during the war and conflict in the Western Balkans, and their transformation from individual activist women's collectives advocating for human rights through various practices: civil society organizations, artistic and cultural practices, academic communities.

From June 9 to 10, 2021, representatives of the Jelena Šantić Foundation Isidora, Bojana and Mirjana paid us a working visit. During their stay, we organized and held several working meetings with members of the CURE Foundation.



Advocating for Women's Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina

With the support of the Swedish feminist Foundation Kvinna till Kvinna, the CURE Foundation continues with advocacy activities to improve the position of women and girls in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the next #24 months, our primary focus will be on digital advocacy through the addressing of #20 topics that directly relate to issues affecting the position of women in BiH. We will discuss education, employment, eco-feminism, self-care, violence against women, women's rights and burning issues. We will have the opportunity to work in the #4 local community where we will support women's rights defenders in defining local advocacy plans. As part of our commitment to the economic empowerment of women survivors of violence, we will continue our advocacy activities aimed at creating inclusive employment policies, and we will develop a

practical handbook on these policies.

With the support of the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, the CURE Foundation is introducing a new feminist digital advocacy activity this year.

Our digital studio is ready and the first online event will take place on Wednesday, June 15, 2021 starting at 6 p.m. Follow us on our official FB channel #IIVE

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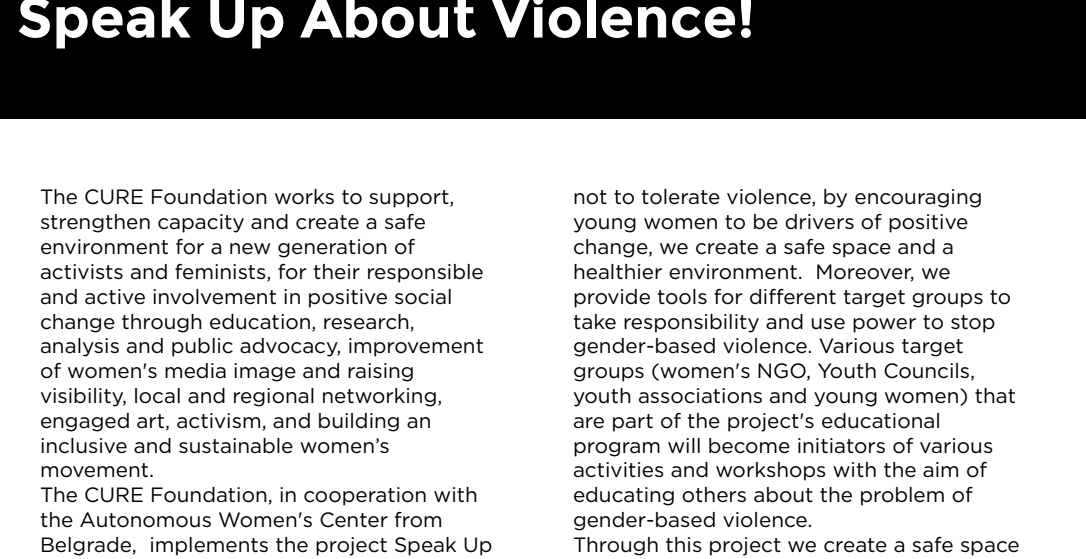
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Capacity Building of the Women's Network of BiH

With the support of the TRAG and OAK Foundation, the CURE Foundation, as a coordinating organization, continues to build the capacity of the organizations which are members of the BiH Women's Network. Through the award of grants for technical support of the organization, members will have the opportunity to strengthen their internal capacities, and they will be able to participate in a workshop on capacity building. We will organize our annual advocacy conference where the emphasis will be on issues of violence against women and how members of the WNBH can directly in their local community support women who have survived any form of violence and discrimination.

Our website www.zenskamreza.ba will continue to provide an opportunity and information to all those working to raise awareness about women's rights, and we will directly offer the rights of women and girls in BiH.



Speak Up About Violence!

The CURE Foundation works to support, strengthen capacity and create a safe environment for a new generation of activists and feminists, for their responsible and active involvement in positive social change through education, research, analysis and public advocacy, improvement of women's media image and raising visibility, local and regional networking, engaged art, activism, and building an inclusive and sustainable women's movement.

The CURE Foundation, in cooperation with the Autonomous Women's Center from Belgrade, implements the project Speak Up About Violence! The goal is to strengthen different women of all ages who will act as bearers of positive social change, creating a safe and positive environment to improve the quality of everyday life of women and other socially marginalized groups. The primary focus of the project is to make young girls (14-20 years old) and peer educators (18-25 years old) feel safer from sexual and gender-based violence in youth relationships. By educating young people

not to tolerate violence, by encouraging young women to be drivers of positive change, we create a safe space and a healthier environment. Moreover, we provide tools for different target groups to take responsibility and use power to stop gender-based violence. Various target groups (women's NGO, Youth Councils, youth associations and young women) that are part of the project's educational program will become initiators of various activities and workshops with the aim of educating others about the problem of gender-based violence.

Through this project we create a safe space - private and public using various media tools (internet platforms, new media platforms, social networks, etc.) to empower young women to talk about gender-based violence in youth relationships.

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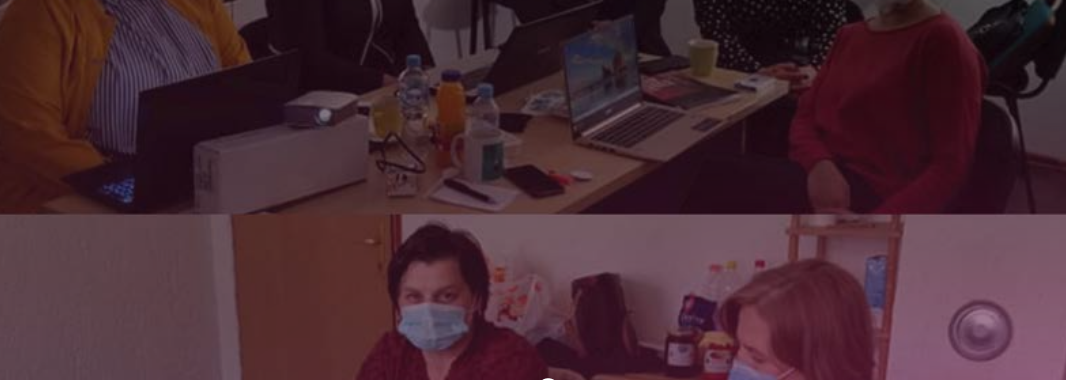
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CURE - INITIATIVES

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Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative

April 12, 2021 - workshop for members of the Association of Women Križeva - Iskra, Zavidovići

Through cooperation with the Foundation for Women's Empowerment, the CURE Foundation introduced women's organizations to capacity building in the online sphere of activity, continues to build themselves through social networks, as well as which tools can be useful to such associations. As part of the Initiative, it is planned to raise awareness of the importance of using online tools and platforms, and how to present basic information about an association and its work.

Until the end of March, one-day workshops were organized for women's organizations, which the Foundation for Women's Empowerment supports through the agenda "Never quit living the life" in Konjic, Mostar, Zavidovići, Lukavac (Prokosovići) and Visoko. In April, one-day workshops were also organized in Zavidovići, Tuzla and Sarajevo.

The goal of this Initiative is to provide women's associations with resources and tools, and to educate members of the association on the basis of information literacy, and how they can use social networks for their self-promotion and promotion of their self-empowerment/organizations.

On April 16, 2021, a workshop for members of the RENESANSIA Association, Sarajevo was held, and on April 21, 2021 for members of the Association of Women PAŠINKE, Hajderovići, Zavidovići



Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative

May 2021 - members of the Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative in Tuzla at a workshop on the development of the initiative for 2021-2023

Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform is an activist group that seeks to ensure greater protection of human rights and freedoms in the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with a special focus on the gender perspective. The Initiative was launched by activists and organizations from all over BiH, who want to encourage all citizens to use their voices and energy and willingness to interact to contribute to meeting the goals of the Initiative.

As an informal group, the Initiative brings together 35 civil society organizations and activists that work continuously to understand the concepts of sex and gender, peace, freedom and human rights. They drafted a document entitled "Platform of Women's Priorities for Constitutional Reform and Amendments to the Constitution of BiH from a Gender Perspective" in which they advocate sensitization and changes to the Constitution from a gender perspective with a vision to achieve egalitarian and legal participation of women and men in both private and public spheres of life in BiH.

Mission: The Initiative advocates that the BiH Constitution ensure greater protection of human rights and freedoms with a special focus on the gender perspective.

Vision: Gender-just equal rights and opportunities

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Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative

The members of the Initiative Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform have defined five priorities within the reform process of the Constitution of BiH, and have created gender-sensitive Amendments on this basis.

These priorities are:

1. Application of the gender-sensitive language in the Constitution of BiH;
2. Introduction of inclusion measures in the Constitution of BiH in order to accomplish full sex and gender equality;
3. Amendments to the existing Catalog of Fundamental Rights with provisions regarding unique health, social and family care;
4. Affirmation of a higher level of judicial and legal protection of human rights and freedoms; and
5. Introduction of the principle of direct democracy in the process of constitutional reform.

Members of the Initiative believe that the reform of the Constitution of BiH must represent the consensus of not only political actors but also of all citizens on essential issues that define the future framework for a common life. Having this in mind, the constitutional reform process must include women as much as men.



Women's Court

The thirteenth regular meeting of the Women's Court - Feminist Approach to Justice was held in Tuzla on June 10 and 11, 2021, organized by Women in Black from Belgrade, HO HORIZONTI from Tuzla and the CURE Foundation from Sarajevo. This meeting is a continuation of the Women's Court process - the process of feminist ethics of care and responsibility, was attended by 13 witnesses at the Women's Court from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and the Republic of Serbia, as well as by organizers, therapists, and friends/associates of this Court.

The meeting took place in an extraordinary working and solidarity atmosphere, thanks to the dedicated, sincere and creative contribution of all participants. We thank you for your trust, warmth, love ...

Matijević and Azra Fazlić had the opportunity to participate in the training of Module I within the project Supporting Access to Justice and Social Services in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina for Women's Rights (Zenica) and the Association of Women Romkinja (Bijeljina). This was a great combination of sharing experiences, knowledge, expressed desire and willingness to change! We are delighted to be involved in this process, and to be able to get information, work on ourselves, and become a person of trust in our local communities by the end of the year. This training is funded by the EU.

On June 16-18, 2021. Denija Hidid, a member of the CURE Foundation team, participated in the Project Cycle Management training held at the Garden City Hotel in Konjic. The training helped her to improve her project cycle management capacity, and to obtain information on the principles and phases of the project cycle.

On June 7-9, 2021. members of the CURE Foundation team Selma Hadžihalilović, Sata Radulović and Denija Hidid, as well as volunteers and external associates Anđelka

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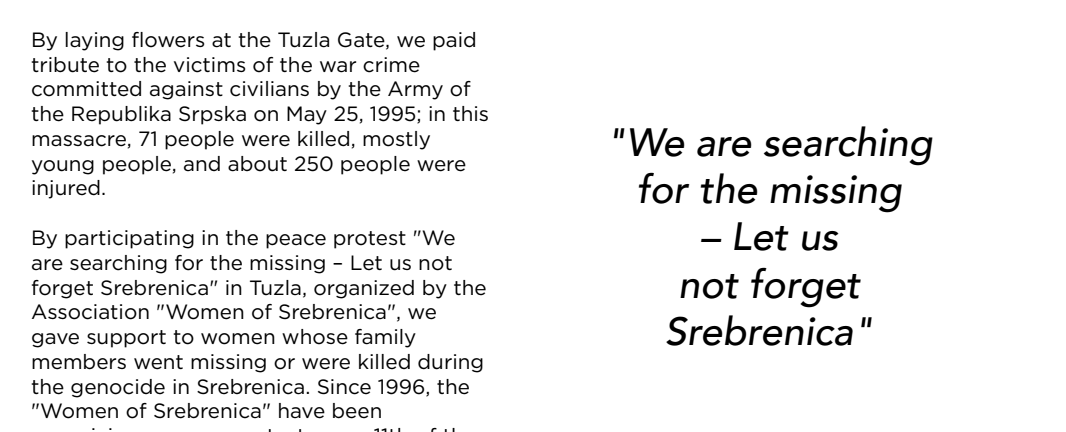
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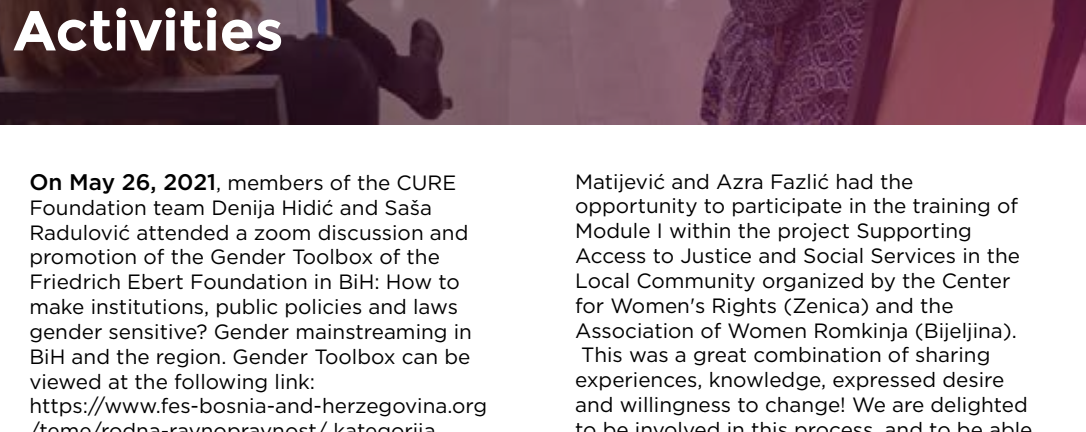
Women's Court



By laying flowers at the Tuzla Gate, we paid tribute to the victims of the war crime committed against civilians by the Army of the Republika Srpska on May 25, 1995; in this massacre, 71 people were killed, mostly young people, and about 250 people were injured.

By participating in the peace protest "We are searching for the missing - Let us not forget Srebrenica" in Tuzla, organized by the Association "Women of Srebrenica", we gave support to women whose family members went missing or were killed during the genocide in Srebrenica. Since 1996, the "Women of Srebrenica" have been organizing a peace protest every 11th of the month in memory of the Srebrenica genocide, demanding the truth about their killed and missing relatives, as well as justice - punishment of all perpetrators.

"We are searching for the missing - Let us not forget Srebrenica"



Additional Activities

On May 26, 2021. members of the CURE Foundation team Denija Hidid and Sata Radulović attended a zoom discussion and promotion of the Gender Toolbox of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in BiH: How to make institutions, public policies and laws gender sensitive? Gender mainstreaming in BiH and the region. Gender Toolbox can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.fes-bosnia-and-herzegovina.org/teme/rodna-rodnaravnost/kategorija/STUJUE>

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CURE - ToRs

The CURE Foundation announced two calls in April:

1. for the purpose of drafting the Guide for Economic Empowerment of Women which will serve as a source for all institutions working on the development of employment policies and programs designed for socially marginalized women in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
2. for the purpose of mapping and analyzing existing policies and programs for the employment of socially marginalized women, especially women survivors of domestic violence, in accordance with the recommended advocacy actions conducted by the CURE Foundation in recent years in the context of economic empowerment of women.

This analysis will be used as a basis for the further development of advocacy actions for the economic empowerment of women and will serve as a contribution to the article on the economic position of women for the next CEDAW shadow report.

The preparation of these documents is one of the activities carried out by the CURE Foundation within the project **Advocacy for Women's Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which is led and supported by Kvinna Till Kvinna.**



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