



**TOGETHER
WE CAN PREVENT
CHILD ABUSE**
today, not tomorrow



SOCIETY FOR
THE PREVENTION
OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

www.eliza.org.gr



1995

The story of the ELIZA Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children begins with the true story of a little girl, named Elisa, who never had the chance to spread her wings. Divorced parents. A caring father who stood by her, but died young. A “sick” mother drowned in drugs and a “healthy” state, where formalities crush the essence. Elisa died from abuse at the age of 6.

In New York, Elisa’s story becomes a TIME magazine cover and the inspiration for the “Never Again” manifesto and the passing of “Elisa’s Law”, which redefines the responsibilities of the state and social services, on matters pertaining to child protection.

Elisa’s tragic death leads to an initiative for action. Marina Karella and her husband, Prince Michael of Greece, lead the drive to found the non-profit ELIZA Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, in Greece.



2008

2009

2010

2013

We open the first Model Home for the therapy and rehabilitation of abused and neglected infants and preschool children in Greece, in collaboration with the SOS Children’s Villages of Greece. Since March 2016, when its administration was fully passed to the SOS Children’s Villages of Greece, the Home continues to offer essential and outstanding services.

We launch the first National Campaign against physical abuse of children in Greece, with two TV spots: “*Hide and Seek*” and “*How long will you wait before you speak up?*” and the distribution of two parent’s guides: “*You are not born a parent, you become one*” and “*Shaken Baby Syndrome*”.

In collaboration with the “one child, one world” Organization and with the aim of preventing domestic violence and supporting vulnerable families, we set up the community program “STEP by STEP”.

In collaboration with the US universities of YALE and IOWA and the Medical School of the University of Athens, we commence the training of **physicians, nursing staff and health professionals**, involved with children, throughout Greece. At the same time, we expand our training to police officers, judges and prosecutors, since, without their involvement the circle of protection remains incomplete.

2016



In collaboration with the 2nd Pediatric Department of the University of Athens, we found the Child Safety Care Unit - 'Sofia Varvitsiotis' at the P. G. A. Kyriakou Children's Hospital in Athens. It constitutes the first Unit for abused children in Greece and its immediate goal is to identify the symptoms of abuse or neglect in infants and children, before it is too late.

With the "Safe Touches" Program and the collaboration of the "New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children", we teach children how to protect themselves from sexual abuse, while simultaneously training parents and teachers.

2017

2018



2019

We continue all our ongoing programs, looking forward to establishing hospital-based units for abused children in all University Pediatric Departments in Greece. Simultaneously, we are constantly open to new challenges, wherever there is the greatest need.

WE DEPEND SOLELY ON PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR OUR LIFE-SAVING WORK

According to scientific research, in Greece:

- 1 out of 2 children has been the victim of at least one incident of physical violence
- 1 out of 5 children has been the victim of an incident of sexual abuse
- Children under the age of 4 run a higher risk of death from abuse
- 9 out of 10 cases of severe child victimization remain unidentified and without protection and management

OUR WORK IN NUMBERS SO FAR



2.700 parents

have learned how to recognize and cope with the symptoms of sexual abuse

2.110 teachers & educators



have received instruction on the multidimensional phenomenon of abuse and their role in the prevention and management of such cases



2.600 children
aged 5-9

were taught how to protect themselves from sexual abuse through workshops conducted in schools



61 infants
& children

have been cared for at the Model Home founded by ELIZA and the SOS Children's Villages of Greece



1.350
police personnel

were trained in a series of 9 workshops throughout Greece on how to recognize and protect abused children

360 families & **720** children



that live under conditions of poverty and social exclusion have been supported by the "STEP by STEP" program

1.450 health professionals



have received scientific training aimed at the improvement of management mechanisms on and off hospital premises



75 judges
& prosecutors

were informed of the international framework for the protection of abused children

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US

- **online** via www.eliza.org.gr with credit card or debit card charge
- **via bank deposit:** Alpha Bank, Account number: 115002002020047, IBAN: GR 98 0140 1150 1150 0200 2020 047, National Bank of Greece, Account number: 10429665226, IBAN: GR 58 0110 1040 0000 1042 9665 226