

*DOMINE – ORGANIZATION FOR PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS*

*The crisis caused by Covid-19 resulted in a shadow pandemic, which hit women the hardest. During the isolation measures, the Counseling center recorded 75% increase in violence compared to the same period last year, which corresponds to world trends. Women are left without work, roof over their head and out on the street. During that period organization's telephone was available 24/7, and public appeal was made to help women victims of violence. That way, Domine became a crisis center for temporary accommodation and help to women and victims of domestic violence. Women stayed in empty apartments provided by citizens. The trend continued in the fall and since mid-September, 2 women have been temporarily accommodated for 8 days, 8 packages of financial and material help have been provided, and 7 applications are being processed. The experience of the crisis has shown that there is a lack of social services of temporary accommodation in the crisis center, and that the practice of using public housing for permanent accommodation of women victims of violence hasn't been developed. Also, there's a growing trend of risk of poverty for women victims of violence which is particularly worrying given the coming winter.*

*The goal is to strengthen Domine's advocacy position towards local government in the field of prevention and protection of women victims of violence and victims of domestic violence, having in mind the adoption of the budget for next year and the local elections in 2021. This will be achieved through field research (mapping the needs of women victims of violence affected by the crisis); by writing a research report and using the conclusions and experiences of women in the advocacy campaign for the creating a public housing fund for women survivors of violence and for the opening of the first crisis center for women victims of violence in Croatia.*

*Target groups are local government, Split Commission for Gender Equality, women and other victims of domestic violence.*