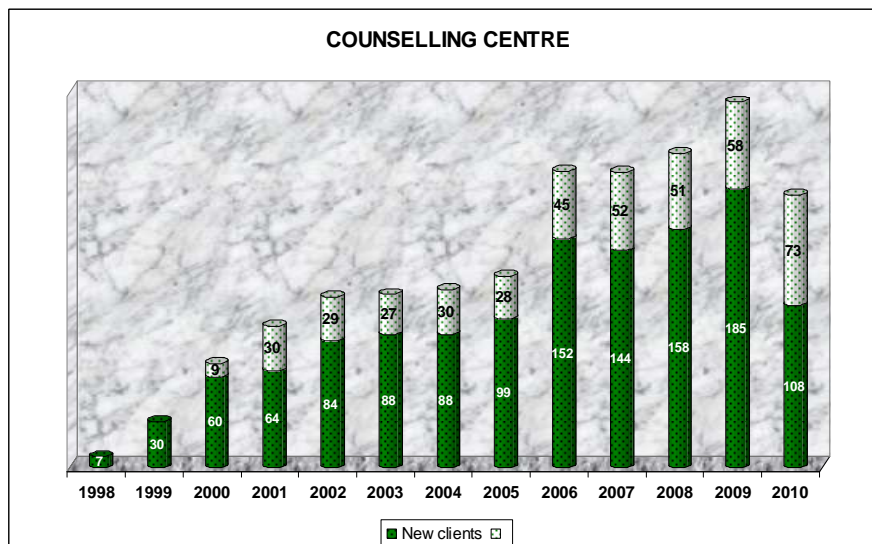


## Dear friends and donors,

we would like to thank you for your support and your continued confidence in the work we are doing. We greatly appreciate your help and hope our partnership will continue and develop further.

We would also like to take this opportunity to give you a recap of 2010 and share with you the exciting plans and challenges ahead for Acorus in 2011.

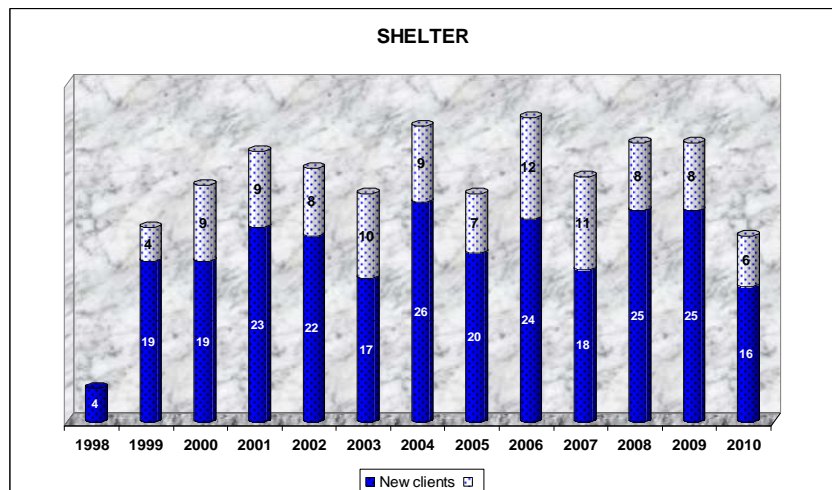
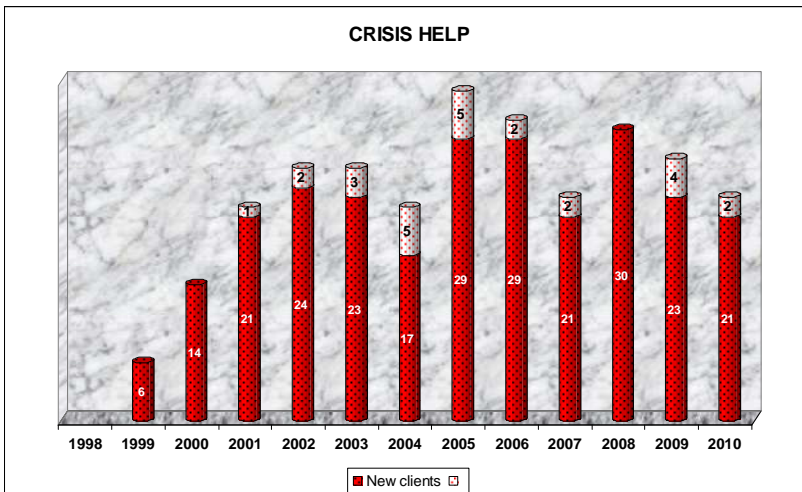
Thanks to your support, we ended last year on a positive note. The outpatient clinic, for which anticipated resources from the state were not received, successfully continued its important work. Thanks to a favourable lease agreement and your assistance, which took the form of both financial and material donations, we were able to keep our consulting services in operation without any restrictions. In 2010, a total of 177 women and 4 men received assistance from our centre.



At the end of the year we held a press conference on the topic "The impact of the economic downturn on people at risk for domestic violence." Participation on behalf of the media was great and we are glad that the topic of domestic violence could once again be talked about publicly.

We also had the opportunity to present to the public a new outpatient clinic. We held an Open Day on 25 November, which was also the International Day Against Violence Against Women. The clinic premises welcomed government representatives as well as colleagues from NGOs, donors and friends as well as some women who came to seek help.

At the shelter, women and children found gifts under the tree, generously provided by you. We wish to share our heartfelt thanks for your kind assistance, as these small treats made their Christmas a lot more bearable and joyful. We also were pleased to improve the environment of the shelter with new floor coverings in the office and the community room where children's programs are held. These improvements help make for a more welcoming and comfortable stay for the women and children. In 2010, 45 women and 34 children used our 'crisis beds' while seeking shelter from domestic abuse



***Last year, was very challenging because of a lack of funding for comprehensive services, but we look back on it as successful because we were able to keep all our services. This means we were able to meet the dreams of many children and also continue our awareness building campaigns; raising the issue of domestic violence in our society. All of this we have accomplished thanks to your kind and continued support. We thank you!***

## **In 2011 we plan to:**

- Promote the DMS password. Proceeds from the collection will be donated to support our non-stop phone help line and ACORUS Counseling centre. You can find instructions on how to support us here.

<http://www.acorus.cz/cz/english.html>



- A month-long media campaign. The campaign will focus on reaching those at risk of domestic violence, offering direct practical assistance. We will take this opportunity to invite them to confront the violence that affects them, is threatening to their lives and health and to come to us for possible solutions. At the same time, the project will appeal to the general public, encouraging those interested in these issues to talk more about it and listen to those who have suffered. The campaign should take place through various media (newspapers, radio stations, outdoor media such as city-light displays, banners, posters in public transportation, in restaurants, etc.)
- A trip with the children to Safari or Dinopark
- In collaboration with our dear friend Alan Honan we are also planning a thank you event to share our gratitude to all of you who have kept faith in our association and for your repeated support, without which we would be unable to keep the complexity of our services or help people at risk of domestic violence.

## **How you can get more involved:**

- Password DMS and the media campaigns are still looking for financial partners. If you, your company, or someone you know would be interested in assisting please contact - lenka.starkova@acorus.cz .
- Our shelter and clinic have an ongoing list of items we need. Please click here for a list of our most immediate needs. You can find instructions on how to support us here <http://www.acorus.cz/cz/pomahaajte-s-nami/vecny-dar.html>
- We are always looking for creative ideas and people to share ideas on how we can spread the word about Acorus, the work we do and the problem of domestic violence. We welcome your ideas, please share them with [lenka.starkova@acorus.cz](mailto:lenka.starkova@acorus.cz)





**In conclusion, we want to thank you once again for everything you have done for Acorus and the people we help. We appreciate your commitment and kind willingness to lend your support. We also want to thank you on behalf of all the men, women and children who use the services of the shelter, non-stop help line or out-patient clinics. We look forward to our continued partnership in the year to come.**

