



2008 Annual Report of DIXI Resource Centre, Oslo

Objectives

DIXI works to help rape victims and their families, to disseminate information about delayed problems and subsequent injuries, and also to increase public awareness and prevention.

Method

DIXI works according to the help to help yourself method and complements the public assistance agencies.

Services

DIXI Resource Centre provides:

- One-to-one conversations for victims of rape and their families
- Discussion groups for victims of rape
- Discussion groups for families and friends
- Telephone advice
- Guidance by e-mail and text messaging
- Information about rights and obligations
- Themed evenings
- Information about the assistance agencies
- Talks at schools, for politicians, associations and the assistance agencies in general
- Free legal aid
- List of lawyers who can work on your behalf and psychologists/therapists whom we prefer to recommend
- Recommended reading list

DIXI's services are also available to boys and men who are the victims of rape.

History

DIXI Resource Centre was started on 26 November 1998.

From 1998 and until 6 February 2001 the centre was open once a week. The centre was granted start-up funding by the Norwegian Ministry of Justice. In addition, DIXI received financial support from the City of Oslo through funding for volunteer organisations. In 2001 Oslo City Council allocated NOK 300,000 in funds. This made it possible to establish a part-time salaried position (50%).

Since the centre opened and until 31 December 2008, DIXI has received 11,716 referrals.

2008

This year DIXI Oslo received a total of 2,740 referrals.

383 of these referrals came to us from the public assistance agencies. Users who have been in contact with the centre this year have been aged from 14 to over 60.

The majority of referrals have come from young clients. Many of them have been subject to teenage rape/date rapes committed by their contemporaries. These rapes often happen at home alone parties, class parties as well as at larger events. The centre received an influx of referrals this summer, particularly in July.

The statistics show 1,701 referrals from Oslo and 862 referrals from other municipalities, in addition to 161 anonymous enquiries. See the statistics. Those who contact DIXI may do so anonymously. It is therefore impossible to say with certainty how many of the anonymous calls come from Oslo, and how many from the rest of the country.

The centre is seeing an increasing proportion of referrals from the public assistance agencies seeking advice and guidance. Increasingly more specialists and politicians are making use of DIXI's expertise.

DIXI's website can be found at: www.dixi.no

Activity on the website once again saw a significant increase in 2008.

www.dixi.no had a total of 75,927 visits compared to 56,575 in 2007. This is an increase of 34.2%. This means that in 2008 the site received some 207 hits every day of the year. There were approximately 348,795 visited pages in 2008 compared to 200,465 visited pages in 2007, an increase of 73.9%. This means that every visitor views at least three pages on average.

Self-help groups

Throughout 2008, four discussion groups were held for women who had been raped. Three groups were started in the spring, and one in the autumn. One group that was started in the autumn of 2008 will finish in March 2009. Three groups have also had a semi-annual evaluation during the spring and autumn.

DIXI hires consultants on subjects the group members particularly wish to focus on, e.g. the counsel arrangement, rights and obligations in connection with reporting rape and compensation to victims of violence. For this purpose we have used the services of lawyers Thomas Benestad and Hege Salomon from law firm Salomon – Johansen. Psychotherapist Bjørg Tofte has lectured on feelings of shame and guilt, and gestalt therapist Kine Pretoriusen has lectured on sexuality.

The groups run for a period of three to four months. They meet once weekly, for two hours at a time. Those attending the groups always have a one-to-one chat with the group leader before joining the group. At the final group meeting a follow-up meeting is scheduled to take place about six months later.

The feedback from the participants in the groups has been excellent. DIXI has allowed the participants to complete anonymous evaluation forms at the follow-up meetings.

We have had two group leaders this year who have made an excellent contribution.

One-to-one conversations

The need for one-to-one conversations is significant. This work has high priority. Therefore the staff spend a considerable amount of time and resources on one-to-one conversations. The conversations take place both over the telephone and at the resource centre. In 2008 we had 1,260 users, and we additionally received 285 new users and 101 new enquires from family and partners as well as 79 family members who used the centre more than ever. Often the enquiries are from family members - usually a mother or father contacting us following their child being a victim of rape. We are also seeing an increase in referrals from the assistance agencies. In addition numerous enquiries are received by e-mail and text messages, particularly from young people.

Her Majesty the Queen visited DIXI Resource Centre

In connection with the tenth anniversary of DIXI, Her Majesty the Queen visited DIXI on Thursday 23 October. This was a big day for all of us. The Queen was received by chairman of the board Ivar Westhagen and General Manager Herdis Magerøy.

24 guests had assembled at the centre for this special occasion. Guests represented both DIXI and the assistance agencies.

General Manager Herdis Magerøy provided the Queen with information on the centre's work. Lawer Hege Salomon talked on the rights of rape victims and Mia Gundersen Leiliénhof on the significance of the DIXI Resource Centre.

The General Manager then gave the Queen a tour of the centre, before the Queen met some of the centre's users.

The Queen's visit was heartening and very important to DIXI and its users.

The DIXI Award

The DIXI Award is given to a person or company that has worked with particular tenacity and determination to help victims of sexual assault. In DIXI's view this subject should receive more attention, and we want to show that we closely follow the work that is being done in this field.

The 2008 DIXI Award was presented to member of the Storting André Oktay Dahl representing the Conservative Party (H).

The prize was presented during DIXI Oslo's anniversary seminar on 26 November at Håndverkeren in Rosenkrantzgt. 7.

Rape is a subject in our society that is still taboo, particularly amongst boys/men who have been raped.

André Oktay Dahl has made a significant contribution by being open about his own story as a rape victim. As a politician he has for several years been concerned with pointing out that boys and men are often neglected in many public debates because they are the "wrong" sex, whether the issue is abuse, eating disorders or rape. These are things that may be interconnected. Regardless of the sex that is exposed to rape, this is an important issue to him.

He has made a strong contribution towards openness around the rape of boys and men. André Oktay Dahl has distributed information and put the spotlight on the rape of boys and men, which currently is little discussed. Through this work he has been of great help and inspiration to others. He has brought the rape of men to the public's attention.

DIXI views this as a great support in the work with rape victims.

André Oktay Dahl is therefore a worthy winner of the 2008 DIXI award.

The DIXI Award comes in the form of a special ceramic statue created by potter and artist Siv Andersen, Sandnes www.sivandersen.no

Activities

Raising DIXI's profile

Work has been actively undertaken to raise awareness of DIXI's services with the aim of raising the profile of the service. DIXI has distributed a lot of information material.

Outreach work is a key focus area for DIXI. During the spring we had a bus campaign that lasted for two weeks. During the course of the year we had an informational film called "It happened, and it changed everything" made by Sundland & Bang – Steinsvik. The film was shown at cinemas for two months in late autumn, and is also available on You Tube and DIXI's website. The film was also shown on TV2 on Christmas day. DIXI has also had posters printed that have been sent to schools and other relevant institutions. The poster was made by Sundland & Bang – Steinsvik. There has also been a campaign through Helseinfo that distributes brochures to various health centres and hospitals around the country, and we have also advertised in newspapers and magazines.

This year we were visited by the manager and a nurse from the abuse reception that has been established at Hammerfest hospital. They came to learn about DIXI's work.

Sørumsand school organized a stand for DIXI, and they received a lot of information material.

DIXI on the road

DIXI Oslo celebrated its tenth anniversary on 26 November, and in connection with this it was decided to arrange a trip. One of DIXI's focus areas in the time ahead is women from minority groups and rape. It was decided to travel to Sarajevo in Bosnia Hercegovina.

ACCTS

We had been tipped off about a centre for women (ACCTS) that have been victims of torture and rape. Consultant Vilde Mordal (who speaks Bosnian) arranged an appointment with the centre's manager.

The president of ACCTS is Alisa Muratcaus. ACCTS has premises in an old wooden building from the Ottoman Empire. The building is 500 years old and houses a Moslem café and carpet dealer on the ground floor. Alisa met us downstairs and escorted us to the offices and premises on the first floor.

The premises were small and were provided by the municipality. Alisa did not know how long they would be available, and was anxious that they might be evicted at any time.

ACCTS is an organization for the victims of torture during the war in the former Yugoslavia, which lasted from 1992 to 2001. The war in Bosnia lasted from 1992 to 1996.

Womens' section

Alisa talked of the organization's women's section that we were visiting. Approximately 1000 women are affiliated with the organization. Most (approx. 63%) come from Eastern Bosnia, but there are also women from the Romani people (gypsies), and from all population groups in the country. All of the women have been in concentration camps and have been subject to torture, including rape.

Now these women are "forgotten" by the government, they are poor and without rights.

ACCTS is working towards improving the position of these women by trying to obtain housing, jobs and education. Some receive a small pension from the state (approx. 100 Euro per month), and a few (approx. 75) also have temporary residences. The women are not respected by the authorities and feel forgotten.

Finance

The centre receives KM 20,000 in support per year from the authorities. This constitutes about NOK 80,000, and is far too little to make much of a difference. Neither is it regular support. Finances are unstable and unpredictable. Alisa is of the opinion that the Government needs to change its attitude towards those who are vulnerable in the community.

Demonstration

On Friday 9 May (the day we arrived) the centre had arranged a demonstration in support of victims of torture. Both the Prime Minister and members of the cabinet were invited, but none showed up. The demonstration gathered more than 3,000 people.

Support

ACCTS has received support from several organizations internationally. A German organization has contributed furniture for furnishing the premises. FOCUS from Norway has contributed PCs for computer classes. On completion of courses, participants receive a diploma. They have succeeded in finding jobs for two women!

Focus has also provided support for a sewing school. The sewing school provides 250 women with something to do and has both basic and advanced courses. The organization also received UN support for a sewing project two to three years ago. The centre has established a website with the help of an English organization. The web address is: www.accts.org.ba. Here you can find more information on the organization. Internet was installed three months ago. The women attend the centre all week except Saturday and Sunday. The teachers are from Alisa's organization. The age of users is between 18 and 65.

Through sewing work and social interaction the women gradually open up and start to talk of what they have experienced. Many of them find it very difficult to speak of what they have been through. A lot of them have not even told their families about what they have been victim of. There are also many that have been thrown out of their homes and communities after being raped. Some of these experience having to move back to their home towns where they have lost everything and also have to live in the same communities as their assailants. These women have a particularly hard time.

Strong meeting

35,000 raped women have no government-operated rape reception centre! The meeting with Alisa was emotional. She has herself spent time in a concentration camp and has now been president of the organization for eight years. She manages to keep going, for as she says: “the women deserve so much better”. We were given a tour of the work rooms, which consist of a room with PCs, a small office and two small connected sewing rooms. The contrast to DIXI’s light and attractive offices is great. Here it was both cramped and dismal, but there are six sewing machines and seven PCs. We agreed to return on the following Monday to meet the women who worked in the sewing rooms.

When we returned to the centre on Monday morning, Alisa had just received a call from a minister and had to leave for a meeting. We were invited into the sewing rooms to the women who worked there. It was an emotional meeting with several strong women.

Luckily Vilde accompanied us, and she was really put to the test as interpreter. The women spoke very little English, and there was a lot to be discussed.

We were told several strong stories, also concerning what the centre had meant to them. Several of them said that they wouldn’t be alive if it wasn’t for the centre. There they received support, something they didn’t get elsewhere. We were shown what they worked on. They had created an exhibition of the things they produced. There were handbags of several types, traditional slippers with pearl embroidery and polar bears as hand puppets. The polar bears were made for a German company, who supplied the material for production. A shoemaker supplied the soles for the slippers, and the women sewed the uppers and did the embroidery. When the sewing room was small, the women worked shifts. Some in the morning and some in the afternoon. There was a lot of humour and great warmth amongst the women. They said that they had been devastated when they started at the centre, and gave the centre the credit for giving them back their dignity. Several of the women had participated in the award-winning from “Grbavica” from 2006 by Jasmila Zbanic.

There were copious amounts of coffee and warm hugs from all round. It was moving to see the warmth they displayed towards each other and us.

Impressions from the trip

The impression from the centre filled our hearts.

Meeting women that had been in concentration camps and who were victims of mass rape gave us insight into unwanted pregnancies, dangerous induced abortions, unwanted children and unending violence and pain. We had read about this before, but meeting the women, talking with them and hearing their stories gave us knowledge we would not have just by reading of it. For example that the rape of women is used as a strategy in warfare. The rape of women is consciously used as a method of breaking down the enemy. Physically meeting these women gave DIXI a wider perspective.

Now it feels natural to approach women from other cultures than our own. We know more about their traumas and struggle for survival in a system that is unable or unwilling to meet women who have experienced war and been exposed to horrendous abuse. As one of the women said: “The men leave the war with honour and glory. We leave the war with shame, guilt and a bad reputation”.

Here is [ACCTS' website](#).

The UN Security Council designates sexual violence and rape in armed conflicts as war crimes: read more on this here: <http://www.aftenposten.no/nyheter/uriks/article2494807.ece>

Visit from "Women in Need" from Sri Lanka

In mid-December we were visited by representatives from "Women in Need", who operate a crisis centre in Sri Lanka. Savithri Wijeseikera, director and lawyer, and Dilrukshi D Alvis head and program coordinator, arrived with consultant Bjørg Spillum from the Directorate of Integration and Diversity and Nina P Menon. They were invited to Norway to obtain more information on the work of the crisis centre, and came to us to learn more about DIXI's work. They were both very eager to learn more and to set up something similar modelled on our work and methods from DIXI.

This was also an instructive and interesting meeting for us. Their website is: www.winsl.org

Themed evenings and anniversary seminar

Themed evenings:

The spring's first themed evening was held on 22 April on the theme Dissociation, by psychologist Trine Anstorp. She has long experience from work with dissociation issues and started with how we could understand dissociation, what this is a typical reaction to, and – not least – what is required to start to relate more actively to oneself and what troubles you. Trine Anstorp is co-author of the book "Dissociation and relation traumas" (Universitetsforlaget) – published in 2007. This is the first time a book on traumas and dissociation has been published in Norwegian, by Norwegian professionals based on Norwegian experiences.

In June we arranged "I used to think it was about food". Clinical social worker Elsa Nybø introduced the topic. She has worked with people that have a difficult relationship to food for many years. The latter themed evening was arranged at DIXI.

During the autumn several themed evenings were arranged for the users. The first was about sexuality and was introduced by Kine Pretoriusen from the Support centre against incest (SMI), Oslo

Information on "Joining the workforce" introduced by Thomas Knutsen from NAV Alna. He talked on illness compensation, rehabilitation compensation, disability contributions and vocational rehabilitation.

During the year DIXI has also arranged a photo weekend, cookery course (Thai cuisine) and a pre-Christmas event in December for making Christmas snacks with the users.

Anniversary seminar

On 26 November we organized an anniversary seminar with 174 participants.

Master of ceremonies was Martine Aurdal.

Lecturers:

Minister of Justice and the Police, Knut Storberget, opened the seminar.

Anna Luise Kirkengen: Rape reaches the cells – and becomes a cause of illness. Professor, physician and senior researcher at UIT, NTNU and Aker University Hospital

Andre Oktay Dahl: on the rape of boys and men.

Herdis R. Magerøy: History and future plans, general manager

Greetings from Vilde Mordal, DIXI consultant

Cultural feature with song from Sigrid Skutvik

Linda Kristin Jakobsen: Minorities, consequences and the understanding of rape. Different cultures – different ways of thinking.

Vice-chairman at the Crisis centre in Follo IKS

Bachelor's degree in Understanding International Culture with emphasis on the Middle East and North Africa.

Has participated in preparing an education package on forced marriages for the schools in Follo.

Arranged study tour for Norwegian refugee consultants to Iran.

Karen Margrete Sæbø, "The traces in the body after violence and abuse", certified body analyst and psychotherapist. Specialist in psychiatric and psychosomatic physiotherapy.

Feedback has exclusively positive for the themed evenings and the anniversary seminar with the excellent lecturers.

Attendance at the year's themed evenings and anniversary seminar has been good, with broad representation from clients, friends and family and professionals alike.

Lectures

DIXI has held lectures at Skedsmo upper secondary school for those in the second and third years. We have also held lectures for the youth service in Oslo. On

13. June the general manager held a lecture at Veksthuset. This is a treatment facility for drug users that has several branches around the country. A staff representative from each of the various branches participated. It was a very good meeting. I was also given a good tour by one of the users at the centre. Veksthuset in Oslo has a great location at Gaustad in Oslo. DIXI has also been in Trondheim giving a lecture to AUF. The centre has further held two lectures for JURK (legal advice for women), once at DIXI, and once at JURK. Information has also been provided to students from various parts of the country, amongst them Alta, as well as to social education students from Akershus University College (HIAK) and to students from Sweden on exchange programs in Norway. Comprehensive school pupils who have been involved in projects on rape and sexual abuse have also been in touch with us for advice and guidance.

Those who attended showed considerable interest in the topics highlighted, and the subsequent feedback has been positive. There has been a considerable increase in information to schools and assistance agencies from DIXI this year as well.

Meetings with political authorities

During the course of the year meetings have also been held with politicians to inform them about DIXI's objectives, services and activities.

DIXI was visited by Minister Anniken Huitfeldt of the Ministry of Children and Equality who was accompanied by Hilde Knotten from the Department of Family Affairs and Equality and Henrik Mevold from the Department of Communications. There have also been meetings with the justice fraction of the Labour Party, the chairman of the justice committee Anne Marit Bjørnflaten, and Thomas Breen, Ingrid Heggo and Hilde Magnussen. We have also met with Andre Oktay Dahl (Conservative) from the justice committee.

We have also had meetings with deputy mayor Aud Kvalbein (Christian Democratic Party), Oslo municipality, Ola Elvestuen – Chairman of Oslo Liberal Party, and a meeting with Bente Arnesen, adviser and council secretary for the council for the disabled of the Health and Welfare Department of Oslo municipality

DIXI is also used as a hearing panel for the ministries in cases that concern our specialist area.

Teamwork

Our partners are the police, the Sexual Assault and Rape Clinic, the Crisis Centre, the Support Centre against Incest (SMI), and other relevant bodies within the public assistance agencies. Each year we visit some of our partners.

It is essential to DIXI that we build up a solid network.

Trial project with legal assistance

Introduction

DIXI Resource Centre Oslo applied by letter of 30 January 2008 for financial support for a duty lawyer scheme at the centre (cf. attachment no. 1). The Ministry of Justice informed by letter of 30 May 2008 that the Ministry allocated 168,556 for 2008 for the project (cf. attachment no. 2). In connection with the grant it was required that a report should be prepared with an account of experience with the project etc.

The implementation of the duty lawyer scheme:

The practical implementation

The duty lawyer scheme has been implemented in accordance with the guidelines that were set up, and the funds have been used for the objectives for which they were applied.

The duty lawyer scheme has resulted in 84 requests. This is a significant increase from 2007 when the duty lawyer received 32 requests in five months.

The number of requests indicates that there is a real need for legal assistance that is not satisfied amongst rape victims. One can safely conclude that the duty lawyer arrangement has been a success.

The centre has actively informed about the service, both directly to those who contact the centre and on the internet, etc, as well as distributing information. Advertisements have been placed in the weekly press (magazines directed at target groups - Det Nye and Mann).

Information in Urdu and Arabic has also been distributed. The information has been sent to relevant bodies amongst assistance agencies directed at these target groups.

Following this there have been regular lawyer meetings at the centre, with two hours every Thursday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The arrangement with two hours has proven to be practical. On only one occasion has it occurred that it has not been possible to process all requests on the same afternoon. We shall continuously evaluate what is most practical or whether the arrangement should be extended to three hours, which was the original plan.

The duty lawyer scheme has in accordance with the premise been implemented by the lawyer/legal assistant being present at the centre for direct availability for users. The centre has arranged a separate room, with a telephone, computer equipment (including internet access, etc) where the victim and lawyer/assistant lawyer have been able to talk uninterrupted. In addition the duty lawyer has taken enquiries over the telephone and by e-mail. It must be mentioned that the lawyers/assistant lawyers on this duty scheme have also helped with regard to telephone enquiries outside the ordinary duty scheme.

Number and type of cases

In 2008 84 enquiries were registered.

The bulk of the cases have concerned rapes, violence and incest. The greatest number of cases thus concern sexual violence. 18 cases concerned violence in close relationships. The questions were almost equally distributed between specific and general issues.

Issues that have been raised have to a large degree been of a criminal character. A fair number of cases have not been possible to register under the listed options, but are registered under the group "other cases". There have also been questions related to compensation, housing conditions, working conditions, etc.

In 2007 all enquiries came from women. In 2008 however, the duty lawyer received 12 enquiries from men. Those who contacted us included both persons who had not been in contact with a lawyer previously, and persons who had already had contact with other lawyers.

30 of the enquiries involved people who would not have contacted a lawyer without DIXI's duty lawyer scheme. This indicates that the duty lawyer scheme works as intended and that it is a low threshold service that reaches more users than traditional lawyers. A significant number of cases were referred on to legal assistance/investigation.

Individual cases have resulted in time use of between approx. 10 minutes and 90 minutes in connection with the actual duty scheme. Some cases/enquiries are quickly resolved, while others have taken considerably longer. It should be noted that several cases have led to follow-up beyond the assistance provided by the actual duty lawyer scheme.

Those who have made contact have received help from lawyers/legal assistants with experience from the type of cases the centre works with.

Result

The Centre has seen that the number of enquiries has increased significantly and that the implemented marketing measures have been effective.

It also appears that there is an increase in enquiries from persons with minority group backgrounds. However, this is not based on statistics. This will be specifically recorded in 2009. Interpreters have not been used. This indicates that the centre still faces a challenge in reaching recently-arrived aliens or minorities that are very isolated from Norwegian society.

It has not been recorded whether those who have been in touch are homosexuals/lesbians. It would be difficult to register this without enquiring, and this would seem unnatural during a duty lawyer session and could offend potential users.

The Centre expects that the number of users will continue to increase as the scheme becomes more widely known. In connection with this is desirable with improved financial support with respect to distributing information on the scheme.

In the centre's opinion, the duty lawyer scheme has produced good results. The responses that the centre has received from the victims/clients are extremely positive. The centre is aware that the scheme has already resulted in substantial payments of compensation to victims of violence.

Continued duty lawyer scheme

An application for support for a duty lawyer scheme for 2009 will be submitted.

The aim is to extend the duty lawyer scheme and the positive results this has had for the users.

In order to reach more users/make the scheme more widely known, it is desirable with information/advertising funds. One particular aim is to make the scheme known to under-age victims, immigrants and homosexuals.

This year DIXI has cooperated with lawyer firms Salomon – Johansen AS and Andersen & Bache-Wiig AS for the project.

Artistic expression

The Flaatenbjørk company has produced the performance Sexual Empathy vol 1. They started touring various counties with the production in 2007. During the autumn of 2008 they toured Oslo. The performance deals with and studies the problems surrounding sexual actions, sexually demeaning actions and the term grossly negligent rape. DIXI provided them with good advice as well as flyers containing information about rape. Follow their 2009 performance plan at www.seksuellempati.no

The Brage Theatre in Drammen

The Brage Theatre in Drammen will be putting on the performance "When the trains pass". In connection with this, we were visited by theatre manager Terje Hartvigsen. He came to a meeting to learn more about DIXI's work, rape and sexual abuse.

About the story:

Jonny and his freinds have decided to trick Sussie P. The whole school knows that Jonny would never go out with someone like her. However, Sussie P doesn't know that, and one day

the joke goes too far. Jonny's girlfriend saw it all, and now she has decided to tell what really happened.

The subject:

Sexual abuse amongst youths is a problem on the increase in current society. In "When the trains pass" an apparently everyday and harmless situation develops into an act of crime. The performance puts the spotlight on boys' and girls' views on power, identity and sexuality. The keywords are love relationships, guilt and betrayal.

The play is written by Swedish Malin Lindroth. It has been a great success at Dramaten in Stockholm, and the Brage Theatre is the first Norwegian theatre to produce the play.

It's target audience is youths and adults and it lasts for approx. 45 minutes.

www.brageteateret.no

Skills enhancement/staff development

Qualifications amongst full-time and part-time staff in 2008 is as follows:

General manager: auxilliary nurse in social education with special education in psychiatry, own experience

Specialist consultant: other education, unskilled, own experience

Specialist consultant: university college/gestalt therapist

Office assistant: other business/administrative education

Hired-in:

Group leader: university college/gestalt therapist

Everyone who works at DIXI receives regular guidance through external supervisors. This is both individual and in groups. Instruction is given a high priority to ensure a healthy working environment, security and to prevent burnout. Appraisal interviews are carried out with all employees. DIXI Oslo is a member of the HSH employers' association, Department of Health and Social Services. This ensures that we remain up-to-date on the regulations in the professional arena. We spend time developing a good personnel policy that is suited to DIXI Oslo.

The staff attend courses and training days that are relevant and of interest within each individual's area of responsibility so as to keep professionally up-to-date. Amongst other things, employees have participated in courses on trauma and the conference "Black on white - incest" arranged by the Support Centre against Incest.

We have participated at the specialist days at Gaustad where the theme of the year was "Complex traumas and dissociation". Here focus was on violence and abuse, the health of refugees and prevention of suicide.

In November we participated at "The First International Conference on Survivors of Rape", which was held in Århus, Denmark.

The general manager has completed a mandatory HSE course arranged by Noraudit.

Library

DIXI has some exciting, interesting and informative books on loan. We feel it is important to amass a rich library, both of specialist books and fiction. Some of our books and journals must be read at the centre.

Media

DIXI has been active with respect to the media and has provided statements and interviews on current issues to radio, TV and the daily and weekly press. The press is an important forum

that is instrumental in putting the spotlight on rape and sexual assaults, which are a major social problem.

The Board of Directors at the DIXI Resource Centre Foundation, Oslo

A new Board of Directors took office on 1 March 2006.

The members of the board are: Chairman of the Board Ivar Westhagen - associate professor and civil engineer, board member Therese Wingaard – shipping agent, board member Heidi Minde – gestalt therapist, board member John Steineger- doctor and specialist in psychiatry, board member Marianne Grimsø leader of the County Social Welfare Board and board member Herdis Ragnhild Magerøy – General Manager of DIXI Oslo.

DIXI's premises

DIXI is located at Arbinsgt.1, 3rd floor. The premises are currently satisfactory. No changes are planned, except required maintenance. The premises have a lift and are accessible to disabled people.

Opening hours

Our opening hours are currently Monday to Friday 09.00 to 15.00. This year the centre extended its opening hours on Wednesdays to 09.00 to 20.00.

How to get in touch with us?

DIXI Oslo Tel no: 22 44 40 50 Fax:22 44 40 55 Mobile 930 58 070.

E-mail: dixi@dixioslo.no

We are bound by a duty of confidentiality! Our services are free of charge.

Finance

In 2008 DIXI received a total of NOK 3,350,000 from public authorities, divided between NOK 670,000 from the City of Oslo and NOK 2,680,000 in government funding.

Joint project with the Norwegian Ministry of Justice: Free legal aid NOK 168,556

NOK 40,000 was paid to the Board of Directors in 2008.

As shown in the accounts, the funds were utilised in accordance with our objectives. DIXI Oslo employs Heiene regnskap AS and chartered auditor Erik Enger from BDO Noraudit Oslo DA

In 2008 DIXI has had the following employees:

General Manager and Consultant in full-time employment.

One consultant in 50% employment and office assistant/consultant in 40% employment

Hired-in: Approximately 0.5 FTE.

Total of 3.4 FTEs

As of 31 December 2008. Number of permanent FTEs: 2.9. All employees are women.

The wage framework within the HUK area forms the basis.

All employees have occupational injury insurance, collective life insurance and accident insurance through HSH and a pension arrangement through Sparebank1.

Future requirements

As the funding for 2009 is in place, DIXI can continue its work on rape as a serious problem to society.

Work must continue in all areas where DIXI is active and the need for DIXI's services is on the increase, according to statistics. The number of referrals that DIXI has received over the years has increased and illustrates the need for the resource centre.

Our clients' needs suggest e.g. extended opening hours.

This means that there is a need for additional resources at the centre to enable us to meet our clients' requirements.

In 2009 DIXI will prioritise the work to reach out to boys and men as well as minority groups and emphasise that DIXI is a service for them too.

Date

DIXI Resource Centre Oslo
The Board of Directors

Ivar Westhagen
Chairman of the Board

Herdis Ragnhild Magerøy
General Manager and Board Member

Heidi Minde
Board Member

John Steineger
Board Member

Therese Alf Andersen
Board Member

Marianne Grimsø
Board Member