



**Making Child Protection a Right...Everywhere**

— 2021 —

A study on «**Child Sexual Abuse: The Lebanese Situation**» conducted by KAFA, Save The Children and the Ministry of Social Affairs in 2008, examining the occurrence of child abuse in Lebanon showed that:

**1 OUT OF 6 CHILDREN IN LEBANON  
IS SUBJECTED TO A FORM OF SEXUAL ABUSE**



**Child Abuse** refers to all forms of behavior and actions that result in actual or potential harm to a child's health, development or dignity. It includes 4 types:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological
- Neglect

## About himaya

himaya was founded in 2008 with the vision of **making child protection a right, everywhere.**

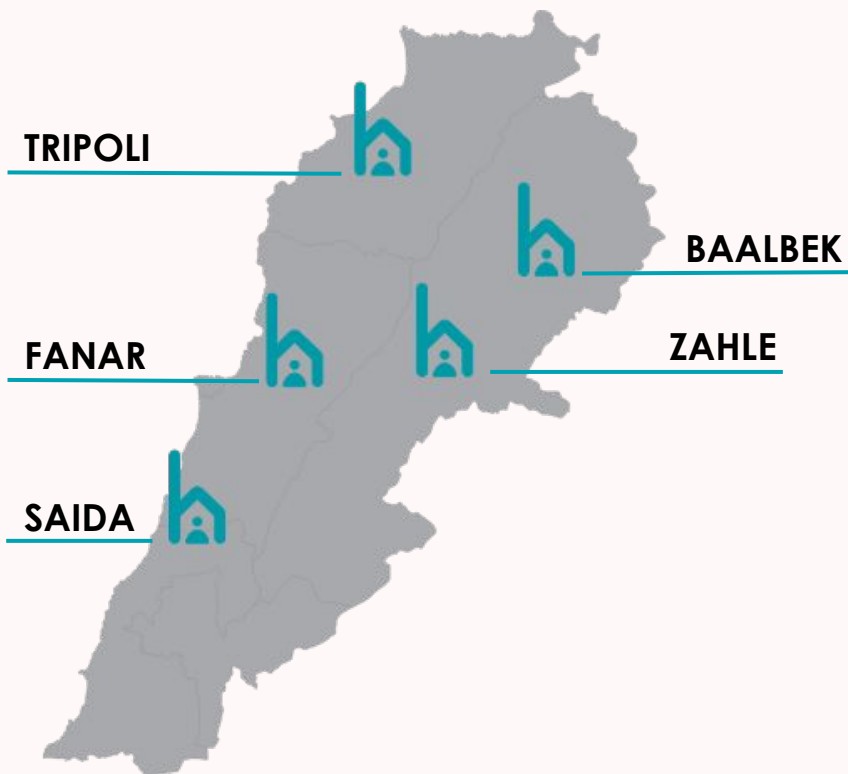
## OUR MISSION

To promote an environment suitable for the development of children and ensure their global protection via fighting and preventing child abuse.

## OUR OBJECTIVES

1. Change society's attitude towards children.
2. Ensure global follow up for the children subjected to abuse.

Our offices are distributed across Lebanon,  
covering the country from North to South, East to West



Our hotlines are available 24/7  
to respond to cases of child abuse

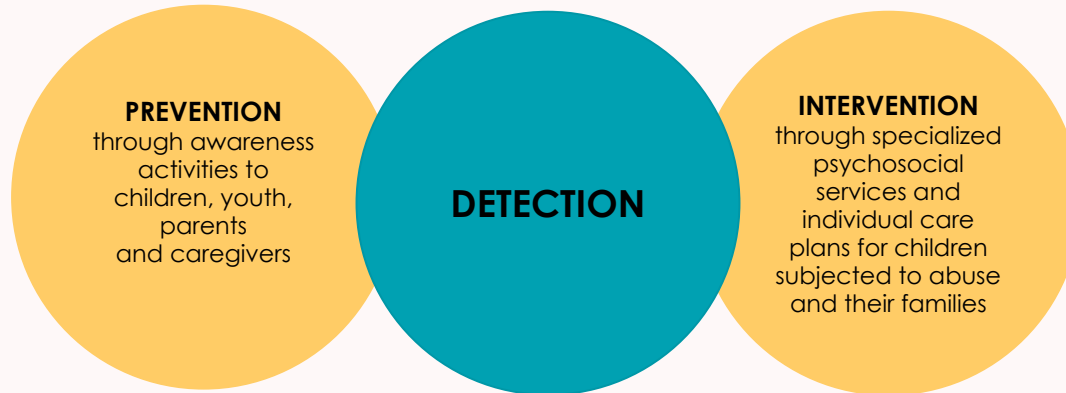
Beirut and Mount Lebanon **03 414 964**  
Central and West Bekaa **71 802 883**  
North Bekaa **79 300 419**  
North Lebanon **79 300 410/411**  
South Lebanon **76 450 753**



**himaya** responds to child protection needs of **all children and families** on the **Lebanese territory** regardless of their **nationality, gender, political beliefs, religion** or **ethnic background**, while ensuring the **best interest of the minors and their families** through its two main programs,

the **Prevention** & the **Resilience** programs

that work in close collaboration to ensure **safe referral** for cases and **adequate** and **timely intervention**



# PREVENTION PROGRAM

Our **Prevention Program** is on-ground and online working on



**Raising awareness** among communities on child abuse

**Enhancing** adults' parenting skills



**Strengthening** children's self-protection skills and **capacitating** children at risk of any form of abuse



**Creating** child-friendly spaces "Safe Parks"



**Capacitating** youth, community members and stakeholders on child protection and life skills topics so they become active Child Protection agents in order to raise awareness within their community

In 2019, the Prevention Program implemented **a new approach** to reach **a bigger number of children**.

In fact, the main objective was not only to **raise awareness** on child protection and help children **build self-protection skills and life skills** but also, to **identify and refer cases of** abuse to the resilience program.

**This is why we have created and constructed a network of child protection agents spread out across Lebanon.**



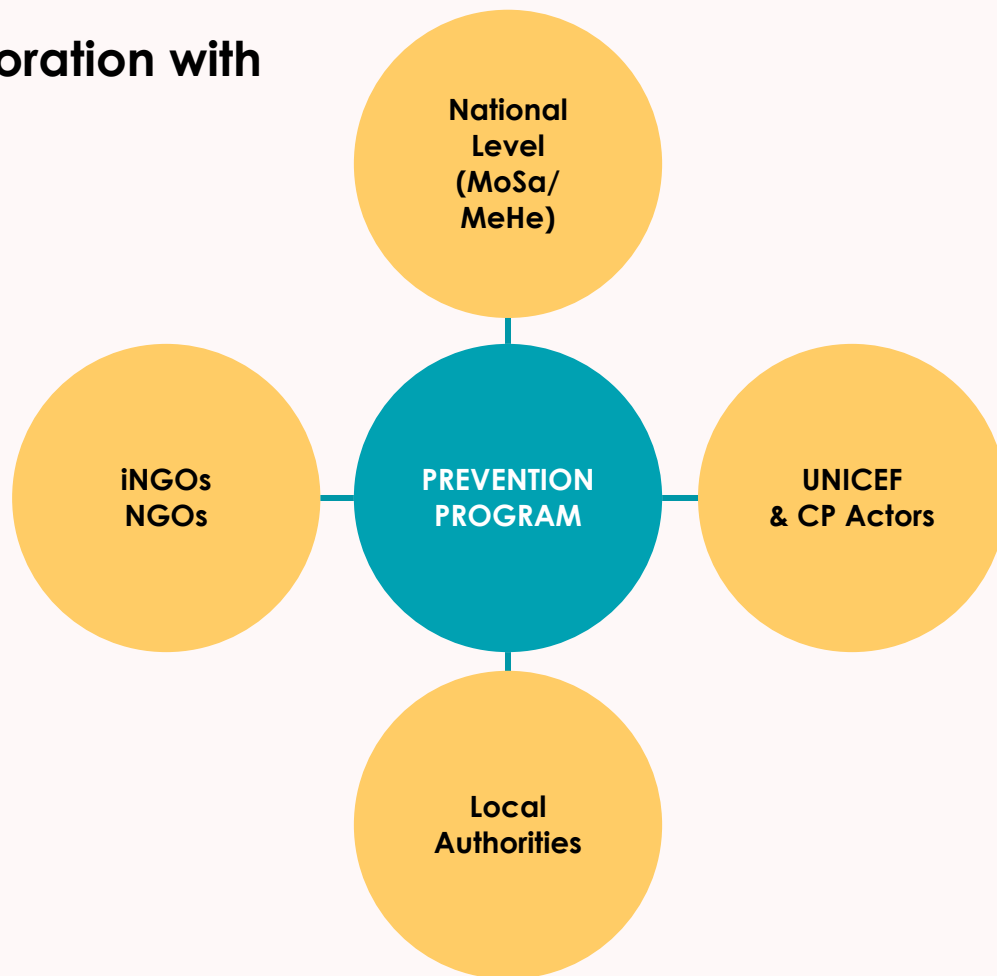
## Child Protection topics for parents and caregivers include:

- Bullying
- Children's Rights, Responsibilities and Neglect
- Dealing with Emotions
- Friendship and Love
- Gender Based Violence
- Health and Hygiene
- Internet Safety
- Learning Support
- Multiple Intelligences
- Parent - Teacher Relationship
- Peer Pressure
- 4 Types of Child Abuse
- Physical and Psychological Abuse
- Positive Discipline
- Risk and Consequences of Early Marriage
- Sexual Abuse
- Sexual Education
- Sexual Identity and Sexual Orientation
- Stress Management

## Child Protection and Life Skills topics for children include:

- Child's Rights
- Self-image and Self-confidence
- My Life
- My Future
- Respecting Diversity
- Relationships: Friendship and Love
- Non-Violent Communication
- Team Work
- Gender Based Violence
- Health and Hygiene
- Internet Safety
- Bullying
- Physical Abuse
- Psychological Abuse
- My Body is Mine (Sexual Violence)

## We work in collaboration with



## NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2020 THROUGH THE PREVENTION PROGRAM

57,183

THROUGH  
COMMUNITY  
BASED  
INITIATIVES

3,519

THROUGH  
FOCUSED &  
STRUCTURED  
ACTIVITIES

641

COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS  
TRAINED ON CP  
& LIFE SKILLS  
INTERVENTIONS

18,502

PARENTS  
SENSITIZED

52

COMMUNITY  
INITIATIVES



# RESILIENCE PROGRAM

Our **Resilience Program** intervenes with the child subjected to abuse by:

- **Assessing** the **risk of abuse**, the **vulnerability** of the child, the **resources** of the family and the **opportunities** in the surrounding environment
- **Protecting** the child from being exposed to **further abuse** in his/her environment
- Providing **psychosocial** and **legal support** to the child and his/her family
- **Strengthening the resilience** of the child and his/her family to overcome abuse in individual and group settings by offering **tailored intervention plans**
- **Intervening in between countries** to protect foreign children on Lebanese territory and children with dual nationalities who are subjected to abuse



Our **Resilience Program** follows 4 key principles through  
**A Child and Family Centered Approach**

- Survival and development
- Non discrimination
- Child participation
- Best interest determination

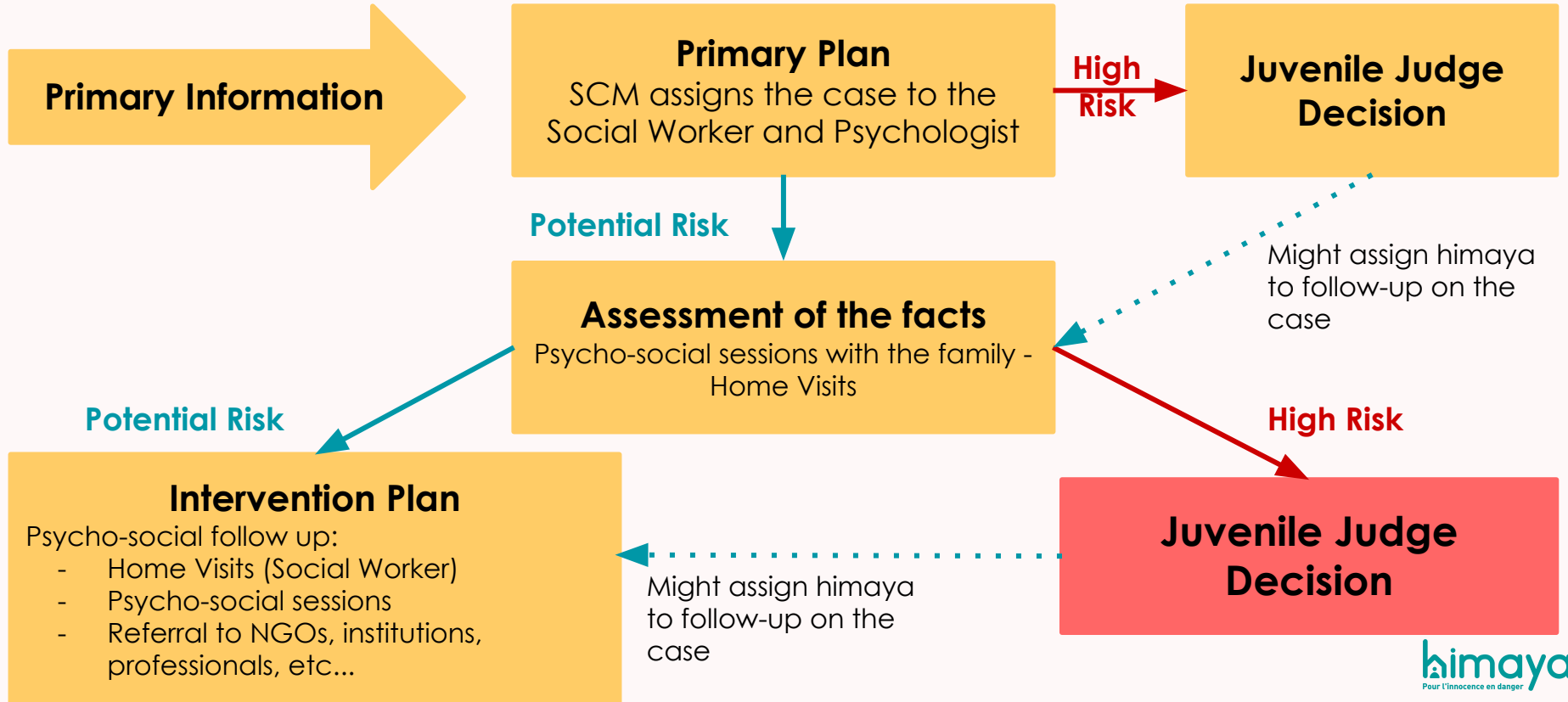
The **specialized resilience team** is composed of:

- Psychologists
- Social Workers
- Senior Case Managers
- Psychiatrists

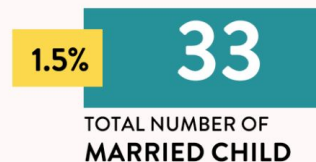


## The Resilience Program Intervention

Interventions are in accord with law 422 and the national SOP for the protection of minors in Lebanon



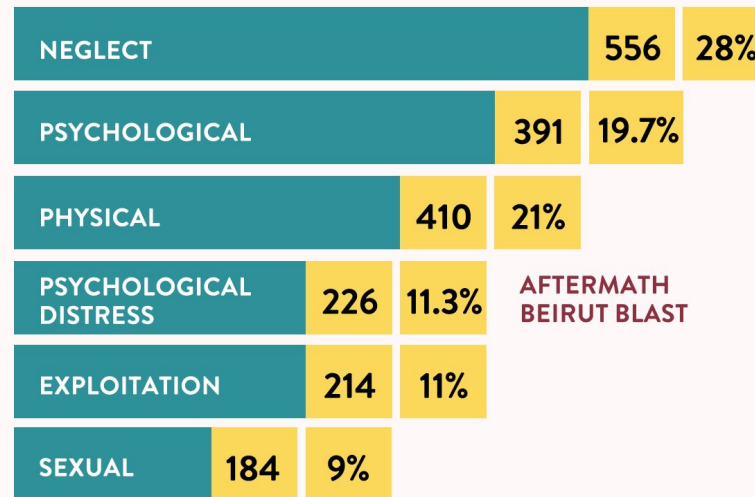
## NUMBER OF CASES REACHED IN 2020 THROUGH THE RESILIENCE PROGRAM



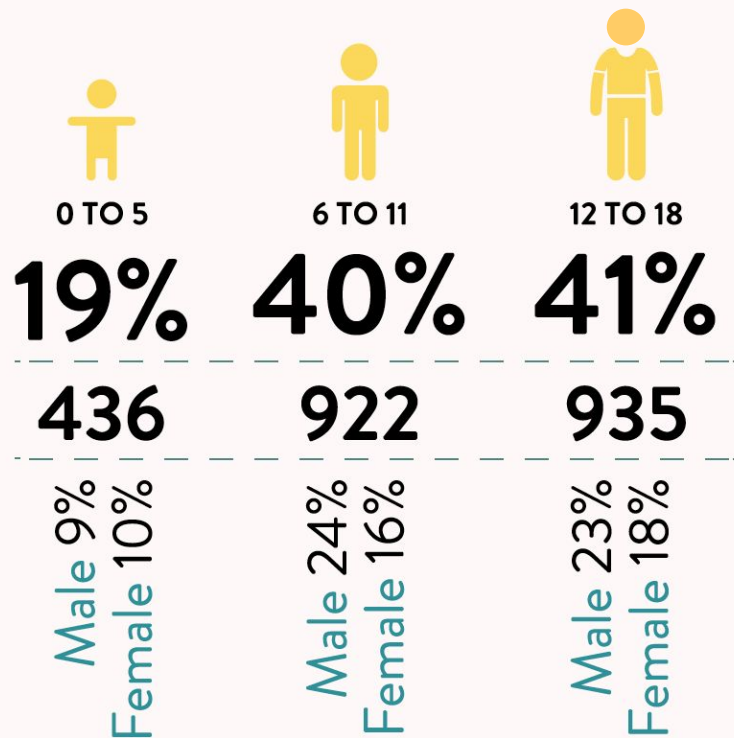
During 2020, a total of **2293 new cases** were received and assessed on a monthly basis in all offices as our hotlines were highly solicited notably after the Beirut blast.

The Resilience Team collaborated with ISS partners on **18 cross-border cases** (from Germany, UK, Australia, Canada, France, Switzerland, Netherlands, Belgium, and Cyprus). We were able to support 25 children (12 families) with welfare assessment, tracing for biological caregiver, kinship assessment and counselling on obtaining papers.

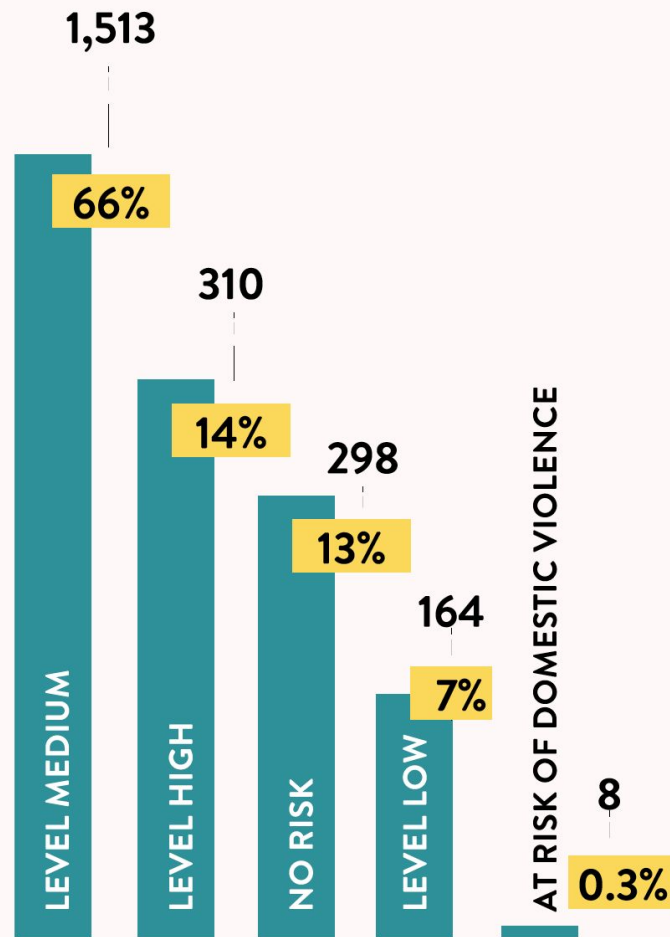
The team was also able to recommend **4 families out of 13 for inter-country family reunification**, thanks to himaya's partnership with UNHCR.



### PER TYPE OF ABUSE



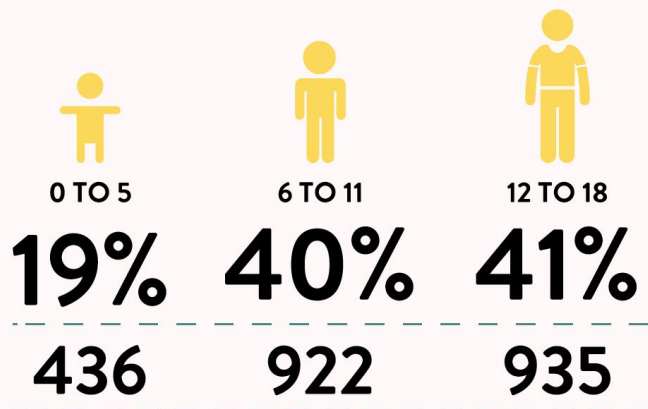
PER AGE RANGE



PER RISK LEVEL



## PER GENDER

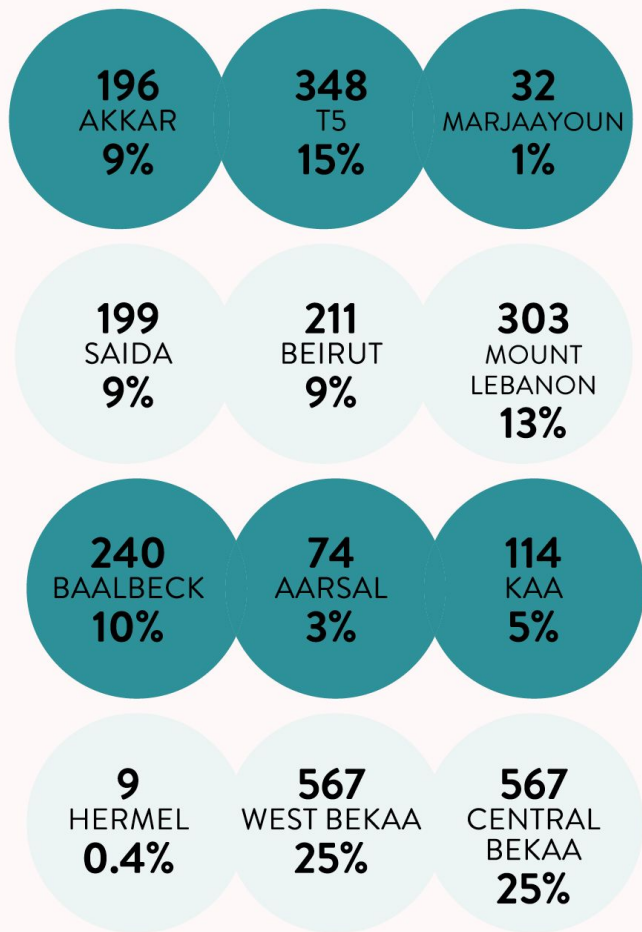


## PER AGE PER GENDER

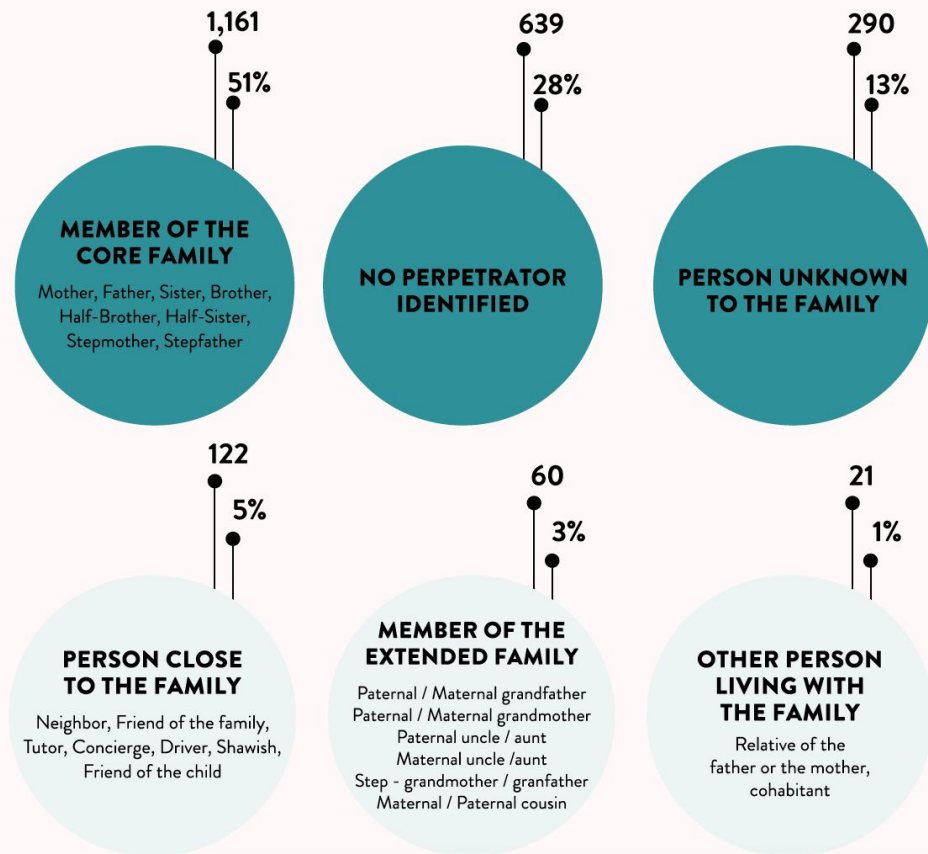
SOURCE		PERCENT
himaya Team member	226	9.9%
Prevention Team	354	15.0%
Prevention Caregiver	26	1.0%
Prevention CBO	8	0.3%
Citizen	172	7.7%
INGO's	993	43.0%
Local NGO	156	7.0%
Judges and General prosecutor	13	1.0%
MOJ Representative (Ministry of Justice)	21	1.0%
Public School	3	0.1%
MOSA (Ministry of Social Affairs)	9	0.4%
Private Practice Professional	10	0.4%
Residential care	1	0.04%
Specialized Institution	2	0.1%
Hospital	1	0.04%
Municipality	2	0.1%
Media Entity	3	0.1%
UPEL without Judge Assignment	9	0.4%
Beneficiary Himself/Herself	8	0.3%
ISS (International Social Services)	16	0.7%
Member of the family	251	11.0%
Private School not trained on CPP (CPO)	2	0.1%
Private School trained on CPP (CPO)	7	0.3%

## PER SOURCE OF REFERRAL

## PER REGION



## PERPETRATOR PROFILING



# LEGAL UNIT

Our **Legal Unit** works on:

- The amendments of child protection and alternative care laws in Lebanon, mainly law 422/2002 on the Protection of Juveniles in Conflict with the Law and/or at Risk
- The implementation of a pilot project on family-based alternative care

In 2018, himaya signed a contract with the Ministry of Justice and has become **mandated to handle legal protection cases in the North Governorate**.

The legal Unit and the Resilience Program ensured **a safe placement with families for 27 children** throughout 2020. Himaya provided them with support on different levels: psychological, social, special needs, baby needs, medical, and other in-kind donations.

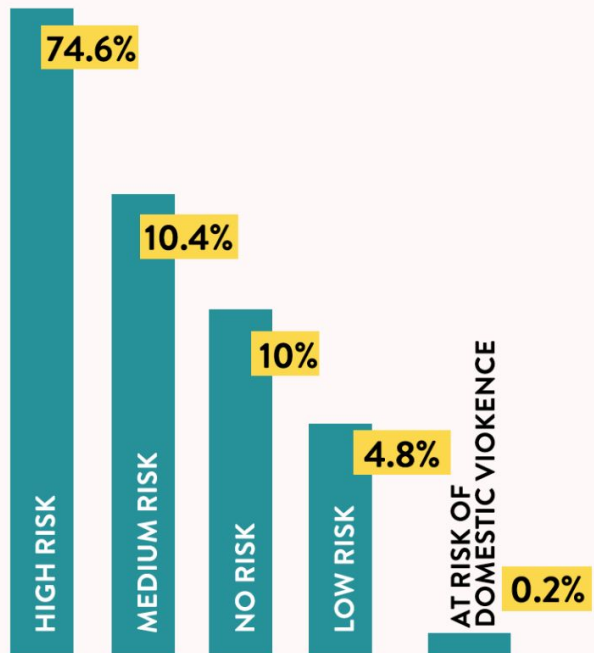


417

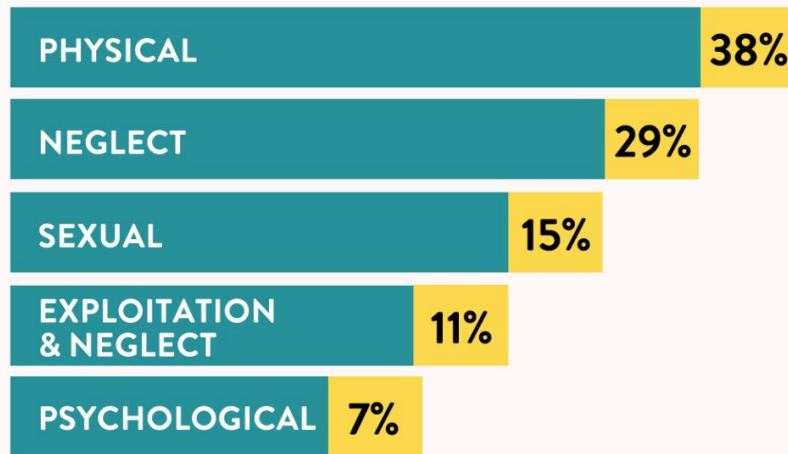
TOTAL NUMBER OF  
CASES

24.22%

TOTAL NUMBER OF  
PROTECTION FILES  
OPENED IN 2020



PER RISK LEVEL



PER TYPE OF ABUSE

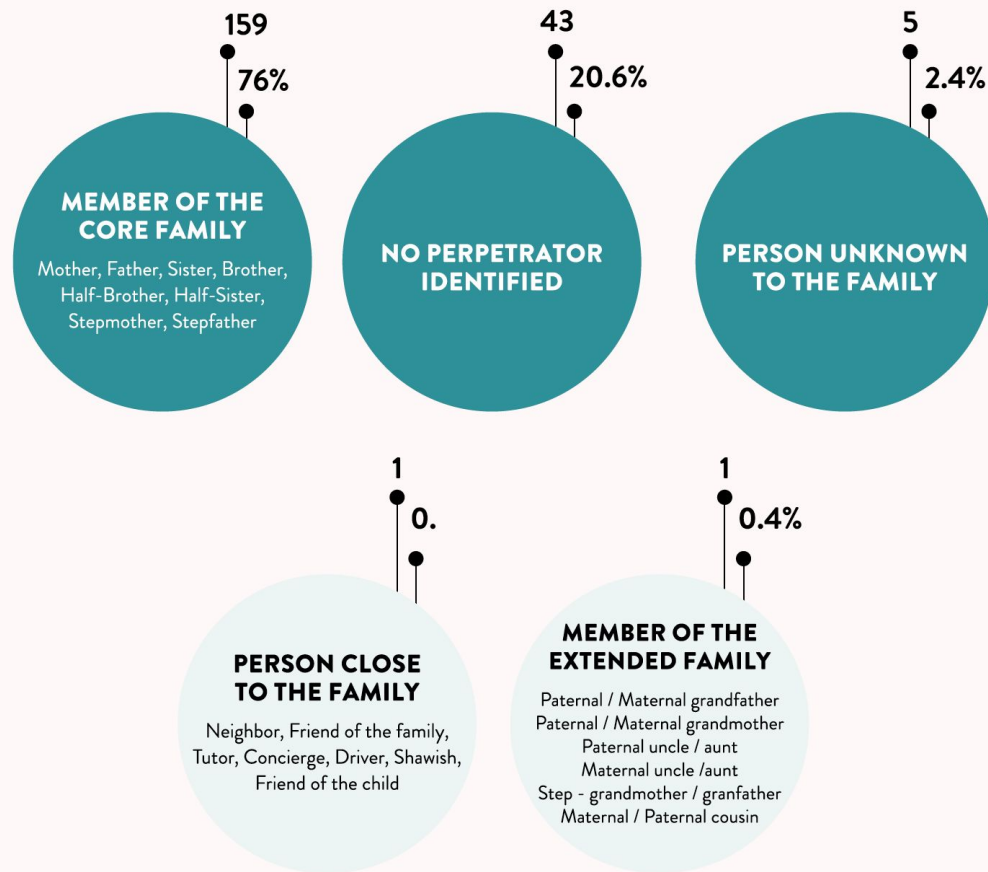
The Legal Protection Unit in the North handled **417 cases of child abuse** in 2020.

**209 new cases** were received in 2020, in **76%** of those cases, the perpetrator was a member of the victim's family.

**46.8%** of child abuse high risk cases were at risk of separation from their parents/caregivers.

Following the judicial decision and himaya's legal intervention, family separation was prevented in **65.3%** of the cases.

**34.7%** of the children were separated from their parents/caregivers, **41.1%** benefited from family-based placements and **58.9%** were placed in residential care (20 out of 34 children)



## PERPETRATOR PROFILING

# **CAPACITY BUILDING & RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Our **CBRD Department** works on:

- **Developing the skills of professionals** working with children by providing them with specialized training sessions and workshops related to child protection
- **Developing Child Protection Policies** for organizations to support them in preventing violence against children and responding to child protection concerns by setting clear procedures and guidelines with all stakeholders within the organization
- **Aligning himaya's programs** with best practices, as well as innovative and research-based approaches, and contributes to advancing research in the child protection sector in Lebanon

In 2020, CBRD integrated new content to the training sessions usually given, which include:

### ONLINE SAFETY

Given the additional risks online since children are now more and more learning remotely.

### TRAUMA SENSITIVITY

Dealing with children suffering from emotional distress and/or trauma given the many traumatic events of 2020.



## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS REACHED IN 2020 THROUGH THE CBRD DEPARTMENT

**829**  
PARTICIPANTS

**80**  
TEACHERS

From Ahliyah School on  
Online Safety and Trauma  
Sensitivity

**20**  
CHILD PROTECTION  
OFFICERS

From 15 schools across  
Lebanon on dealing effectively  
with children in the aftermath  
of a traumatic event

**120**  
COMMISSIONERS

From the Lebanese Scouting  
Federation on how to properly  
handle situations of children  
dealing with signs of trauma

**97**  
GENERAL SECURITY  
OFFICERS

**106**  
MUNICIPAL POLICE  
OFFICERS

**15**  
SCHOOLS

**222**  
SCHOOL STAFF

**101**  
NON CP ACTORS





# COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

## Our **Communications Department** works on:

- Creating awareness campaigns to encourage people to speak up and break the silence around violence against children
- Engaging the private sector in socially responsible initiatives that aim to raise awareness about child abuse and break the taboo





The Communications  
Department reached  
**2M+**  
**individuals**  
**In 2020**  
through initiatives  
and campaigns



# If you see or suspect a child being abused, contact himaya

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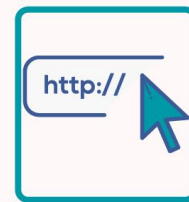


## SOCIAL MEDIA



@himayaleb

## E-HELPLINE



www.himaya.org

## IN PERSON



Visit our offices

## EMAIL



info@himaya.org



ما تخبّي... خبر

**SPEAK UP!**



@himayaleb



**UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency



Service social international – Suisse  
Internationaler Sozialdienst – Schweiz  
Servizio Sociale Internazionale – Svizzera  
International Social Service – Switzerland



**LHF** Lebanon  
Humanitarian  
Fund

