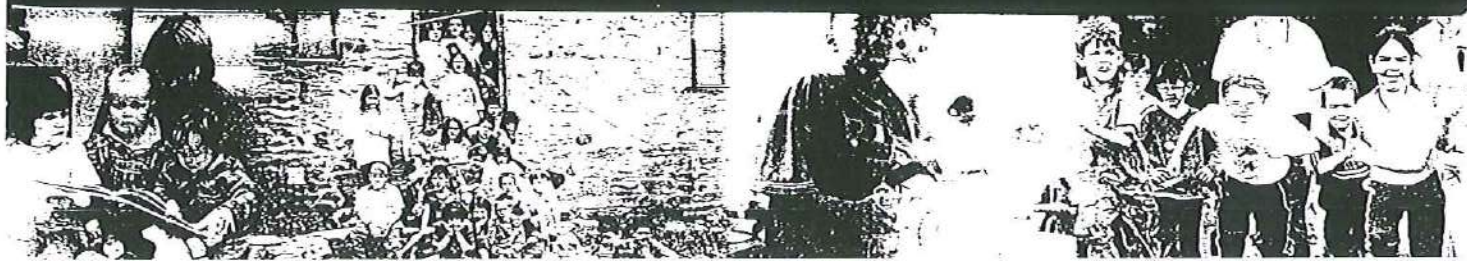




**Models**  
for the  
**Social and Economic**  
**Inclusion**  
of  
**One Parent Families**

**The European Network of One Parent Families (ENOPF)**

**February 2000**



centres in Northern Ireland. The Youth Achievement Award Scheme, which recognises and credits young people's achievements through youth work, has been included in the programme. The Teens Project hosted Gingerbread's first youth conference entitled "Seen and Heard" in May 1999. The conference was designed to enable participants of the project, both past and present, to voice their opinions and to have a say in the future planning of the project.

## 2. Erika Biehn

Verband alleinstehender Mutter und Vater (VAMV)  
BAG - SHI  
Beckumer Str 50  
59555 LIPPSTADT  
Germany  
00 49 2941 78930  
00 49 2941 78930  
erika.biehn@lippstadt.net

The Association of Single Mothers and Fathers (VAMV) was founded in 1967 in the Swabian Herrenberg by Luise Schoffel as "Association of unmarried mothers". Today, VAMV with more than 9,000 members is protecting within the Federal Republic of Germany the interests of more than two million single-parent families- so families in which unmarried, separated, divorced or widowed parents live with their children. VAMV also represents newly composed families, where children entitled to maintenance are there. About which there is, however, no exact data known.

VAMV is divided into

- Federal Association
- Regional Associations
- Local Associations and Contact Offices

### The Federal Association

exercises an influence on legislation, points out within its public relations the special relations the special situation of single parents and their children, and protects- in co-operation with other organisations, institutions and associations in the Federal Republic of Germany- the interests of single-parent families. Beyond that, they inform single

parents and also press and public with the information-brochure "Information's for Single-Parent-Families" which comes out 8-10 times a year, and publishes a pocketbook regularly updated

### So I manage to live by myself

which contains all important and necessary information for single parents.

### The Regional Associations

keep contact with ministers, organisations, institutions and political parties of their "Lander" (federal states) and intend to influence especially the regional legislation. They promote and support the creation of local associations and contact offices.

### The Local Associations and Contact Offices

above all serve for exchange of experience and the mutual help and support. The offer of the local associations and regional contact offices conforms to the particular wishes and needs of their members; including round-tables, information, consultation and advice, as well as political actions in order to make evident local grievances as for example family and child hostile housing, a lack of care-institutions for children etc.

Because VAMV is a self-organisation all members are active themselves within their own personal possibilities and make efforts for the acknowledgement and improvement of the situation of single-parent families.

## 3. Vivie Papadimitriou and Aikaterini Diovousiotou

Family and Child Care Centre  
75, Skoufa str.,  
GR-106 80 Athens  
Greece  
00 30 1 36 37 547  
00 30 1 36 39 758

The Family and Child Care Centre (FCCC) is a non-governmental organisation founded in 1997 by specialised functionaries with long experience in matters pertaining to social welfare, education and advisory service. The aim of the Centre is the support of the family through the altering of integrated social

services; the local development of under-privileged areas and the support of individuals threatened by social exclusion.

The contemporary problems, as presented by FCCC, very often combined with pilot initiatives, have set the bases for the confrontation of problems concerning the family in the context of a wider family policy. An innovative contribution of FCCC is also the introduction of the experience and know-how of other European countries in Greece.

The FCCC's professional personnel, responds to the problems they are called to solve through an integrated and systematised professional personnel (social workers, psychologists, teachers, special pedagogues, lawyers, sociologists, etc.) while, at the same time, they have at their disposal a large number of external co-workers.

The sectors of FCCC's interest are:

1. Families facing family, social and work problems.
2. Parents with school age children having difficulties of adaptation to their school environment: of children that have dropped out of compulsory school attendance, and of teenagers/ adolescents seeking a job in some occupational framework (vocational orientation etc.)
3. One parent families.
4. Elderly lonely people.
5. The long-term unemployed and those who have low/little/few professional qualifications.
6. The refugees and immigrants.
7. People who suffer from mental disorders.

The Family and Child Care Centre is established in Athens, Perama and Hymettus. Some of the Centre's services have been available, at certain times, in areas of Kareas, Alimos, Melissia and Vyronas.

In the area of Perama there is a day centre for children and adults, offering mental, social and legal support which provides

consultation support to the families (social service-diagnostic and therapeutic unit).

With regards to one-parent families the centre offers support to the mother and provides childminders to the disposal of mothers attending occupational institution programmes.

The FCCC has implemented and participated in many social programmes. Among these in 1999 was participation in the "On-going Vocational Training Programmes" conducted by the Greek Ministry of Labour with the financial support of the European Union. The Centre has been certified by the Greek authorities to offer social services to the following under privileged social groups;

1. Disabled people
2. Immigrants and refugees
3. One-parent families

The FCCC has a long history of organising seminars and conferences on many aspects of social exclusion from a European perspective. It is represented and co-operates with many European and International Organisations.

At present one of the research studies undertaken by FCCC is The One-Parent family in the society of to-day.

4. **Ali Fermandeh and Philip Longren**  
Humlorna  
Torsplan 7  
STOCKHOLM S - 11364  
Sweden  
00 46 8 344 017  
-00 46 8 344 861  
humlorna@wineasy.se  
www.users.wineasy.se/humlorna

Parental Power is a parent's organisation offering a psychological approach. EMRIS deals with single mothers rights in society for example visiting hours after abuse, divorce or separation Other groups deal with a few different small groups with projects such as holiday camps or children's activities. There is now an agenda of new broad political aims. Therefore there are three types of association