

Profile

Prevention of Gender Violence in Matagalpa



Centro Especializado de Atención a la Mujer

CEAMUJER

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Data of the Organization

Name of the institution:	CEAMJER, Specialized Center for the Care of Women
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Web page	www.ceamujer.org
Legal Nature:	Non-governmental organization

1.1 Geographic location:

The Organization is located in the Department of Matagalpa and Jinotega, located in the north-central part of the country, it has a border with Honduras in the department of Jinotega. The total population of the region is 959,791 inhabitants. Matagalpa has 13 municipalities and Jinotega is made up of 8 municipalities, making a work area of 23 municipalities. These are municipalities with an urban municipal seat, but 68% of the population is rural.

1.2 Legal nature and date of incorporation:

CEAMUJER is a Non-Profit Civil Association, Decree of the National Assembly No. 6481, published in La Gaceta No. 211 of November 8, 2011. Registered with Perpetual Number before the Ministry of the Interior No. 5098.

1.3 Number of partners and staff of the institution

It has a General Assembly of 20 comrades, a Board of Directors of 7 people, and a workforce of 11 people.

We developed our work in 2 departments in the north of Nicaragua, Matagalpa and Jinotega. We work with a Network of promoters and Human Rights Defenders of 252 people, 68% are women, and a social network of 830 community leaders. Some 2,600 families per year benefit from our actions, 60% of them being children and adolescents.

CEAMUJER is made up of four programs aimed at the promotion and defense of human rights, gender equality, the prevention and punishment of violence against women and girls, access to justice, strengthening of local resources, and the exercise of citizenship, access and protection of water resources and citizen participation and advocacy.

1.4 Background

In 2008, a group of women with 21 years of average professional experience in addressing gender violence, from a gender equity and human rights approach, specialized in legal, psychological, educational, communicational, organizational, environmental, managerial and economic, decide to gather their skills, experiences and knowledge to form an organization, to provide support, facilitate processes, provide legal coverage and professional advice, in these same fields of action.

- **Vision of CEAMUJER**

A democratic society, with gender equality, respect for human rights, protection of children and social justice, in the exercise of citizenship and with the participation of women, in relations of respect for diversity and the environment, being an organization committed, a reference in the defense and promotion of the rights of women and children of the strengthening of local resources and promoter of citizen participation and advocacy.

- **Mission of CEAMUJER**

We are an organization of women of civil society, which defend the application and enjoyment of human rights in Nicaragua, the rights of women and children, the right to live free of violence, with autonomy, facilitating the exercise of citizenship, the search for economic, social and environmental alternatives that improve our standard of living, with an ecological and socially sustainable development approach. Working with the poor and excluded from our society, especially women and children. We promote the construction of a society with equity, without gender violence, in a culture of peace and social justice, with respect for diversity and human dignity.

1.5 Justification for this Project

Due to the lack of free legal assistance and counseling services, the limited accessibility to the state justice system, mainly in rural areas, CEAMUJER provides services and legal coverage, as well as psychosocial and economic support to women and families who suffer or they are survivors of gender-based violence, including girls, boys and adolescents who live in homes where they suffer abuse and violence because of their vulnerability.

According to our data, CEAMUJER has attended to 2018, a total of 11,780, justice plaintiffs in cases of physical, psychological, patrimonial and sexual violence, child support for children from their parents, guardians of minors, divorce at will of women, legalization of property on behalf of women, (houses and land), and obtaining of citizen identity documents. All these situations and cases are closely related to situations of violence or inequity suffered by women, children and adolescents, which guarantees ample professional experience in the defense of rights.

To guarantee access to justice and respect for the rights of women and girls who are plaintiffs, multiple factors must be fought, including the lack of economic resources for women to sustain themselves within a process that is long, revictimizing, exhausting and painful emotionally. It is also necessary the psychological support that gives the victim emotional strength and empowerment to get ahead.

Women, girls, boys and adolescents, who have suffered physical, psychological, sexual abuse, threats, persecution and attempted murder or femicide, are benefited by being provided with legal advice, psychosocial and economic support for food, transportation and accommodation, during the days that they need to stay in the city to lodge a report, carry out forensic and psychological examinations, as well as the days of the judicial hearings of their case.

1.6 The project will contribute to improve the life of women and girls

In Nicaragua, one of the greatest problems continues to be gender-based violence against women, adolescents and girls; which has increased its severity and the forms of manifestations; At the national level, 28,500 crimes of gender-based violence were reported, 30% of which were sexual crimes for girls under 14 years of age. The statistics of the Institute of Legal Medicine reveal that 60% of the victims are women, 45% are victims of domestic violence, 31% of physical violence and 23% of sexual violence. As an expression of violence against women, 76 femicides were recorded in 2012, 72 in 2013, 65 in 2014, 53 in 2015, 49 in 2016 and 58 in 2017 and 22 so far in 2018.

In the department of Matagalpa, 4,500 cases of violence per year were reported (published by the National Police, 2013). Matagalpa is the second department with the highest rates of violence against women and girls

Therefore, gender-based violence is the main concern for our organization, not only because of the high incidence of violence, but also because of the helplessness of

women and their children. The State of Nicaragua, for political reasons, has annulled the application of laws that protect women and girls, has eliminated the Women's Commissariats, a police agency that cared for women and girls who are victims of gender violence.

The training of volunteers who promote and protect human rights and women's rights will help the victims to report their aggressors and obtain justice.

In the same way, the promotion of legal assistance and psychological support counteracts the lack of access and attention to the cases of people affected by this type of violence.

General Goal

The objective of the project is to prevent and punish gender-based violence directed towards women and girls in the department of Matagalpa, strengthening the capacities of the network of promoters and defenders of human rights and women's rights.

Crosscutting themes:

- Promote gender equality and women's empowerment.
- Human rights approach.
- Prevention and sanction of gender-based violence against women, children and adolescents.
- Respect and promotion of children's rights.
- Development of local capacities.

2 Project Actions

2.1 How do we develop our work?

- Providing legal assistance to women, girls and boys who have suffered physical, psychological or sexual violence.
- Representation of women and children victims of violence and gender in criminal trials.
- Emotional and economic support for the development of the process of reporting, investigating and prosecuting women and children victims of domestic and/or sexual violence.
- Legal attention and legal representation to women who demand the custody and guardianship of their daughters and sons, alimony and divorce.
- Coordination actions with civil society organizations and networks actions to support victims and social complaints.

- Coordination actions with agencies of the civil and criminal justice system, which facilitate access to justice and contribute to the agility of the processes in terms of reducing the emotional and the economic costs for the victims.
- Develop information, awareness and education processes with justice institutions and networks of promoters of human rights and women's rights.
- Develop preventive and educational radio campaigns in order to reduce the occurrence of violence against women for reasons of gender and motivate the complaint once it has occurred.
- Research processes about the occurrence of cases of gender violence and access to justice.

2.2 Promotion of the Children and Adolescents Rights

CEAMUJER develops various actions aimed at promoting and protecting the children and adolescents rights, which are linked to gender violence and sexual abuse within the home.

Our work focuses on analysis, research and actions that facilitate the application and practice of the children and adolescents rights, based on the laws that protect them and access to justice.



We promote as a priority the right not to suffer any type of violence in the home, the school and the community, the right to a name, a surname and a nationality, assumed as access to citizen identity, the right to food, to the guardianship and guardianship based on the best interests of children and in an integral way the development of children in a safe and optimal environment for their development.

2.3 The strategies to be developed in this project are:

- Legal coverage for children and adolescents who have suffered some type of violence, including sexual violence.
- Psychological care for children and adolescents who have suffered some type of violence, including sexual violence.
- Representation of children and adolescents victim of crimes of violence, including sexual violence in criminal trials.
- Emotional and economic support for the development of the process of reporting, investigating and prosecuting children and adolescents and their

families.

- Legal coverage and legal representation for children and adolescents, through the representation of mothers or guardians who demand the guardianship of their children, taking into account the best interests of children.
- Legal coverage and legal representation for children and adolescents, through the representation of mothers or guardians who demand alimony, taking into account the best interests of children.
- Coordination actions with State institutions, civil society organizations and networks that work for the children and adolescents.
- Coordination actions with civil and criminal justice system organizations, actions that facilitate access to justice and contribute to the agility of the processes in terms of reducing the emotional costs for girls, boys and adolescents victims.
- Legal attention to children and adolescents who demand the registration or obtaining of birth certificates.
- Process of recognition of daughters and sons through notarial actions.
- Develop preventive and educational radio campaigns in order to promote the practice and application of the rights of children and adolescents.