

Annual report 2015

Composition of the board:

The day-to-day board was comprised of the following persons:

Mr. W. van den Broek, chairman/ treasurer
Ms. M. Bous-Vocking, secretary
Mr. J. Lansen
Ms. M. Muthert
Mr. E.Schwarz

Advisors:

Ms. M.Mannesse
Ms. F.Meijer-Degen

During 2015, the day-to-day board gathered two times.
Also there were three working meetings where not all board members were present

Reputation:

To realize its goals, the Hijman Degen Foundation remains dependent on external financial aid. The Hijman Degen Foundation has a limited number of donors.

The Hijman Degen Foundation qualifies as a public benefit organization (*algemeen nut beogende instelling* or *ANBI*). As a result thereof, donors could benefit from certain fiscal advantages when making donations.

Activities:

In 2015 no training was given.

We received a request for art therapy training from the Emma Foundation in Iraqi Kurdistan to train the staff to provide help to the raped Yezidis women. As a result of the safety conditions these trainings could not take place in 2015. Once it is safe enough these trainings can be given. The trainings will be provided in cooperation with the War Trauma Foundation.

A request to provide trainings in “art therapy and trauma treatment’ within a Syrian refugees camp in Domiz could not go through due to financial reasons, despite numerous efforts on our side. We hope that the necessary means for these important trainings will become available this year.

Furthermore, we received various requests to provide trainings, primarily from Asia. Unfortunately, these trainings could not take place, due to a lack of financial means.

This year we have approached several organizations to raise awareness of the expertise present within the Hijman Degen Foundation.

The new Hijman Degen Foundation website is ready and we are very happy with the result.

Ms. F.Meijer-Degen wrote an article on art therapy for a magazine called Intervention, journal of mental health and psychosocial support in conflict affected areas (March 2014/volume 12/number 1).

The article is titled: "Art therapy for mental health workers in areas affected by violence: a rarely explored resource".

Training manual "Coping with loss and trauma through art therapy":

The training manual that was written by Ms. Fiety Meijer has been completely sold out. However, it is still possible to order the manual on demand. The manual is mostly ordered by persons working in institutions in low-wage countries. For each such order it is assessed whether or not the manual should be distributed for free

In 2015 the following contacts were made:

IRCT, Copenhagen

Kirkuk Center for Torture Victims, Iraq

The Dutch and Danish Red Cross

Médicins sans frontières (*Artsen Zonder Grenzen*)

The co-operating Dutch aid organisations (*Samenwerkende Hulporganisaties Nederland*)

NIDOS, The Netherlands

WarChild, The Netherlands

War Trauma Foundation, The Netherlands