

ICDP Report: Azerbaijan 2025

Name of organization: Normisjon Azerbaijan / Life Center

Name of your ICDP project: N/A

Contact person: Deborah Williams

Describe the main activities in 2025

The main activities in 2025 were completing training for the initial cohort of facilitators. This included running several caregiver courses in the first months of the year and completing the training in April.

The numbers trained (caregivers, facilitators, trainers) and types of beneficiaries (age, gender)

There are now 9 trained facilitators in Azerbaijan, 6 of whom are local citizens; the others are expats living in country. 15 caregivers successfully completed the entire course and received diplomas.

The total number of people that were affected by your work

During this year, there have been around 30 people who have been involved or impacted by the work.

Describe perceived impact on beneficiaries

During this initial period, the feedback has been quite positive, both from the facilitators and from the participants. The perception that this conversation and training around caring for children in an empathetic way would be helpful for this context seems to be accurate. The feedback from those who participated indicated that the guidelines were very helpful and caused them to think about how to interact with their own children or the children in their care quite differently.

Share a brief story that illustrates the impact of your work

Two teenage sisters participated in one of the caregiver courses. While they do not yet have children of their own, they are involved in caring for other's children on a regular basis. They both seemed to be quite impacted by the content of the course. They were able to apply what they learned immediately with the children they care for. At the same time, they reflected on how they plan to do things differently from the way they were raised if they have their own children one day. They saw how this could impact the next generation in significant and positive ways. It was encouraging for all of us to see how well received and impactful it was for these young women and gives us hope for the impact these principles could have on the next generation.

Any highlights you may like to share; special achievements, acknowledgements etc.

We are grateful for Magdalena's willingness to come and do the training for our initial cohort of facilitators! Her enthusiasm and encouragement as well as her experience and understanding of our context was invaluable.

Any difficulties encountered that you would like to share

This start-up period has been challenging. This has been due, in part, to various difficulties the facilitators have encountered which have limited their availability and time, as well as challenges related to getting commitments from people to participate in a weekly course for two months. There is also a value on expertise, and if a facilitator is not perceived as having the prerequisite expertise to speak on a topic, potential participants may be hesitant to commit. We are trying to creatively consider how to make adjustments that do not compromise the content but which could make it more accessible and attractive.

Describe any links/partnerships you have with other organizations, NGOs, UN, government agencies etc.

N/A

Your future project goals

Through thinking creatively about delivery mediums, we hope to help our facilitators organize some courses and begin to see the growth and impact of the ICDP training in this context.