



ABOUT US

**L'Amicale du Nid,**  
**A nationwide non-denominational,**  
**non-profit association (Loi de 1901)**  
**founded in 1946**  
Recognised as public-service organisation

## PURPOSE

- To reach out, welcome and support adults and minors at risk of becoming, having been or are currently involved in prostitution, so that they are able to integrate socially and professionally
- To implement initiatives aimed at all population groups to prevent prostitution
- To conduct information, training and research initiatives fostering a better understanding of prostitution as a phenomenon and sharing that knowledge

## VALUES

L'Amicale du Nid is a **non-denominational** association **independent** from all parties and organisations. It is committed to serving the principles of **liberty, equality, solidarity and respect for others**, but will condone neither a moralistic conception of sexuality, nor complacency with regard to the violence inherent in prostitution.

Its principles of action are based on the 2 December 1949 International Convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of Traffic of Others ratified by France in 1960, and the French April 13 2016 law implementing the abolitionist regime.

L'Amicale du Nid espouses the refusal of all forms of homophobia and transphobia, and of all forms of discrimination, racism and sexism.

L'Amicale du Nid firmly supports the belief that **prostitution is intrinsically incompatible with human dignity and equality between men and women; the human body cannot be construed as an object or piece of merchandise**. It refuses to liken it to a profession and wishes to build its action along consistent abolitionist lines, advocating for the ban of any form of sexual intercourse for payment, the non-penalisation of those who engage in prostitution and support so that they may achieve socio-professional integration.

**The Association's purpose is served by 200 employees in 11 départements across France. All those who turn to the association for support are addressed by professional social workers.**

The Association receives funding from the national government and local authorities by way of delegation of public service.

## PERSONS SUPPORTED AND INITIATIVES

**More than 5000 persons receiving support each year.**

### **Reaching out: going to people at their place of prostitution**

**M. age 54**, is a prostitute on a trunk road, working from a lorry. When we meet her at her place of prostitution, she tells us how she is currently struggling. She has left a violent husband, needs money to pay for her divorce, to pay for medical care for her child who is still in her home country and to pay her rent. She is drained, and overwhelmed by all of these problems. She does not want to come to her appointment at the centre and says that she cannot know what the next week will bring, and because of this, cannot make plans. We reiterate that we are there for her. Two weeks later, M. is at the walk-in centre as soon as it opens.

### **Support and assistance**

**A.B. age 26**, a native of Nigeria and victim to a prostitution network, first came to the association 3 years ago. We have supported her daily, along every step of her path. She gained legal status under the asylum procedure, then was granted social benefits (RSA), and registered as an active job-seeker in France. She took a French-language training course, then completed a paid internship with AAVA (workshops fostering adaptation to the working world). The Housing Department was able to offer her a 2-bedroom apartment with sliding lease in August 2011. We have been by her side throughout her settling in. A.B. is now proficient in French, but still has some trouble when it comes to administrative procedures. Managing day in and day out, with her baby and her first rightful housing has proven a heavy burden for this lone mother. A.B. has, little by little, found her bearings on her own and is now actively seeking a suitable form of daycare so that she can resume looking for a job, in the aid to individuals sector.

### **Housing**

**E.** first came to AdN in July 2000. Her livelihood was precarious and her work as a prostitute concurred with a number of hard addictions. Deeply scarred by disease, she had completely discontinued her care regimen and lost entitlement to her basic socio-administrative benefits. For one year and a half, her relations with the Centre have changed markedly: E. now explicitly seeks aid. The housing provided by AdN appears to have enabled her to cut off all contact with those who previously housed her and, through that, supported her addictive practices.

E. increasingly understands her difficulties from the health standpoint. She tells us of her struggle to leave her living place, which in turn impedes her desire to receive care. She has filed requests for in-home psychological care, as an initial step. Contact is being established with the roving unit of the Addictology Ward at St. Marguerite Hospital. E. has managed to see her request for AAH (subsidy for disabled adults) through to the end.

She was very affected by the recent death of her sister, but is now getting involved in the lives of her nephews and nieces, which gives her a positive role.

E. is respectful of the housing offered to her and takes pleasure in being involved in it.

## Housing



### Support toward integration into the working world

**B. a 51-year-old man** now lives with female appearance and identity. After several years of prostitution, she was sent to the Altair Support Hotline. She was then housed in a therapeutic coordination apartment.

From the very first weeks, B. told of her enjoyment in being in the workshop and receiving the additional income. Though she of course had debts, she was not overrun by them, and appreciated the workshop as place where she could be active – she who had seen herself as so remote from the working world and professional activity.

Being part of this reality gave her confidence. The tightness due to her own perfectionism and / or fear of doing poorly often left us little room to make comments or share criticism.

After a number of threats and assaults at her place of accommodation, experienced as a return to a previously-experienced violence, B. moved away, her situation stabilised and she was coping. The “I am good worker” stance faded, gradually giving way to willingness to be in an internship situation, learn and recognise her mistakes.

She is willing to become quicker in her work, seeing improvement in that area as a necessary adaptation to the reality of the marketplace, and acceptance of constructive limitations.

Her next goals, in order to move toward a part-time job, will be: to improve her French, put together a career plan, show more sense of initiative, and, if possible, be able to work more quickly still.

## Healthcare Support

N. was directed to the association when she filed a suit against her domestic partner for pimping and violence. Prior to this, she had never turned to any social workers or physicians. A comprehensive support plan was drawn up, with the emphasis placed on healthcare. She urgently needed a specific procedure, as her teeth were becoming unrooted and she was at risk of losing them all. The support enabled her to agree to the need to receive care, file for social benefits and complete the paperwork.

### Prevention | 000 youth benefiting.

Prostitutional conduct in youth appears to be more and more frequent and commonplace, in particular with the use of the Internet. L'Amicale du Nid works with these young people to encourage them to reflect.

Male-female equality?

Consequences of prostitution?

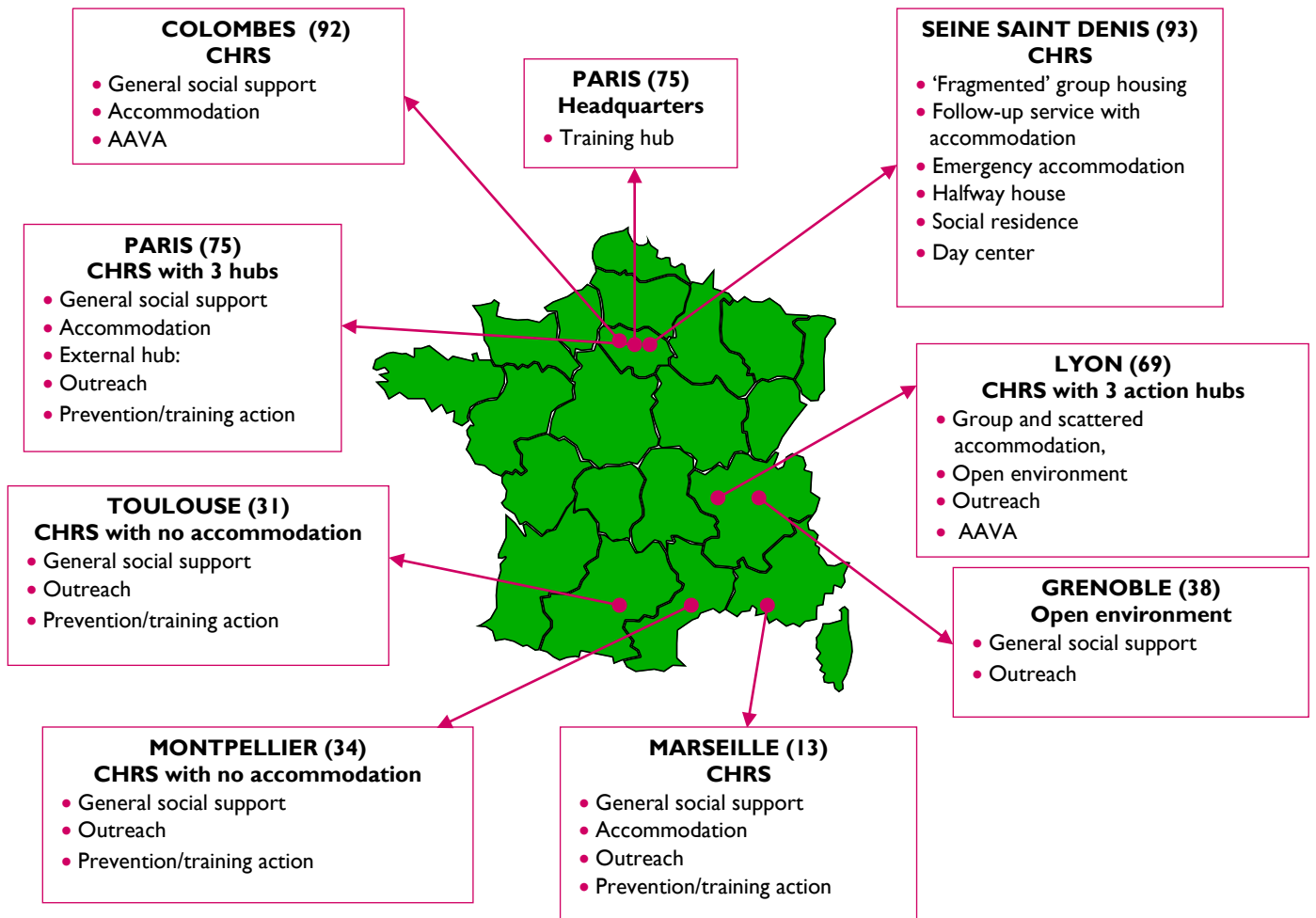


Knowing how to say no

How should we talk about sexuality?

**Training, awareness-raising for social workers** so that they can better identify and direct those in or at risk of becoming involved in prostitution.

# L'AMICALE DU NID, A NATIONWIDE ASSOCIATION



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