



## Annual Report 2019

### Message from the President

In 2019, Kids Empowerment was again able to function thanks to the generous pro bono contribution of its institutional partners, volunteers and a terrific team of interns and volunteers.

Our work is becoming more visible thanks to our communications, membership in several umbrella organizations and participation in international forums. In 2019 we were able to join the COFRADE and work within this network promises to be fruitful in the coming years.

I would particularly like to thank interns from the Université de Paris-Sud, IES Abroad Paris, CEA Study Abroad Paris and Kids Empowerment's team of volunteers without whom none of this would have been achieved in 2019.

A new web-designer joined our team in the summer which was a great relief and we were able to resume the construction of our online tools since.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Caroline L. Newman", is written over a horizontal line.

Caroline L. Newman  
Kids Empowerment Executive President

## **ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION**

Kids Empowerment is a registered NGO in France founded in 2016. Created by a team of lawyers who identified a gap in meeting the needs of children on the move. The organization aims to empower children and youth, as well as advocate for the compliance of international law and children's rights.

### **Our Mission:**

The rate of migrant children in Europe is on an unprecedented rise. For the period of 2016-2020, addressing this issue is our priority. Political, economic and social variables have displaced families and individuals, and the result is kids who are highly vulnerable who often become targets of trafficking, experience lack of access to education, experience alienating language barriers, and/or poverty. Many of these children receive very little, if any, relief aid. Presently, because there is a lack of clarity and precedence in policies, states are often unable or unwilling to implement appropriate legal action. The resulting divisions between and within states regarding the application of international law is an enormous obstacle to the rights of migrant children. Our mission at Kids Empowerment is to encourage host and reception countries to comply their laws and policies with the standards and protocols of international law, so that migrant children cannot just survive—but thrive—in their host countries.

### **Our Vision:**

All children are equally safeguarded without discrimination all over the world.

### **Our Values:**

Non-discrimination

Diversity

Empowerment

Rule of law

Safeguard

## **ACTIVITY REPORT 2019**

### **Country Reports:**

Kids Empowerment completed the country reports project started in 2017 and added its last publications on Spain, Costa Rica and Slovakia. These reports aim to describe the legal frameworks affecting migrant children in reception countries, identify successful and constructive practices, and highlight practices that are in need of improvement.

### **EmpowerMIE:**

Kids Empowerment built on efforts from 2017 and 2018 to aid in the development of a mobile application that would assist unaccompanied minors in navigating administrative and legal requirements for integration in France. Several grant proposals to get funding for this project were sent to donors. The difficulty to obtain the necessary funding led Kids Empowerment to review its approach in the development of the tool. **Soul Food** has become a partner and the unaccompanied minors cared for by their organization will actively participate in the elaboration of the tutorials for the app which reduces the costs considerably and will enable the empowerment of a small group of unaccompanied minors in Paris.

### **Data Base:**

Nirali Jain joined our team towards the end of the year and together with Tatiana Lizotte has been working on expanding the information of our online library from the extensive library of case law, legislation and legal reports relating to children on the move collected and analyzed during our research.

### **Legal Guardianship Training:**

Tatiana Lizotte started developing the platform for the online training of legal guardians in Europe. Additional modules have been finalized and tested by Kieran McTague and Mary Emile-Wagler. Further, two tool kits were created with the help of our partner Central European University's Applied Policy Project. Students Sahar Haq and Bruno Hasa travelled to Finland and the Czech Republic to prepare the country specific tool kits for these 2 countries. We are grateful to

have been able to cooperate with CEU on this project which will enable the online training to be a practical tool for legal guardians in these two countries.

**Workshops with children of asylum seeking families in Paris:**

In partnership with association Aurore, Kids Empowerment facilitated hands on learning workshops with migrant children at the Temporary Shelter La Caserne in Paris. Up to 13 children participated in the weekly workshops. Pauline Vigan and Mary Emile-Wagler animated the workshops which focus was to teach both francophone and non-francophone children housed with their families at the shelter their legal rights within France in an easily understood and child-friendly presentation of information. Using interactive games and group work, Kids Empowerment was able to not only provide these children information about their rights, but also allow non-francophone children to grasp both familiar and unfamiliar concepts in French.

**Communication:**

Thanks to the active contribution of Alejandra Bastida, Kids Empowerment is listed with Global Owls which helps its visibility worldwide.

Caroline Newman attended the international conference celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child at the United Nations headquarters in Geneva on November 18, 19 and 20, 2019. Kids Empowerment booklets were widely distributed during this event to participants from UN member states.

**Networks:**

**COFRADE**

On April 5th 2019, Kids Empowerment joined the Conseil Français des Associations pour Les Droits de l'Enfant (COFRADE). COFRADE is the main French umbrella association addressing child rights in France. It aims to ensure the proper implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in France. By coordinating the work of its member associations, COFRADE seeks to promote the rights of the child and advocates with public authorities. This opportunity has enabled Kids Empowerment to engage in a major strategic litigation project with other members of the COFRADE at the end of 2019.

## Keeping Children Safe (KCS)

Pauline Vigan, KE KCS Focal Point attended the KCS Working Group and Annual Members Conference held in London on May 8 and 9. The Working Group gave the opportunity to bring together a variety of experiences and contexts from across the KCS network, as well as offered the Opportunity to create guidance for practitioners and managers. Issues covered during the session included Victim/Survivor Centred Approach, and how the network can support its partners. Only two French NGOs were represented Kids Empowerment and Humanity Inclusion / Handicap International France.

## **2019 Human Resources**

### Board Members:

Dr. Christophe-Claude Charles-Alfred - *Co-founder and Vice President (term: 2019-2022)*

Giulia Franchi - *Treasurer (term: 2017-2020)*

Anna Kurdova - *Co-founder (term: 2019-2022)*

Caroline Newman - *Co-founder and Executive President (term: 2019-2022)*

Pauline Vigan – *Secretary General (term: 2019-2022)*

### Operational Team:

Mary Emile-Wagler – Editing

Giulia Franchi – Accounting

Nirali Jain – Database

Rachel Kadar - Communications

Niki Khonkarova – Fundraising

Anna Kurdova – Project Management

Tatiana Lizotte – Web design

Kieran MacTague – Communications

Diana Martirosyan – Project Implementation

Caroline Newman – Programs/Overall Management

Maximilian Newman – Web Maintenance

Micheala Petruso – Editing

[Artur Safaryan](#) – Project Coordination

Rukman Vissimbayev – Project Implementation

The following Legal Experts have contributed to Kid’s Empowerment projects in 2019:

Luciana Apicella

Christophe-Claude Charles-Alfred

Anna Kurdova

Caroline Newman

Camille Oberkampf

**2019 Board Meetings and Decisions:**

The board held 3 formal meetings in 2019 during which managerial decision where approved. In order to allow flexibility in the operations of the organization the board has worked remotely and board members have been solicited to pre-approve decisions by mail on numerous occasions.

**FINANCIAL REPORT****Statement of Activities as of December 31, 2019**

<b>Expenses</b>		<b>Revenue</b>	
<b>COST OF OPERATIONS</b>	<b>161,72</b>	<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>1 085,00</b>
Rental	89,87		
Insurance	71,85	Donations	1 025,00
<b>OTHER EXTERNAL SERVICES</b>	<b>902,79</b>	Membership fees	60,00
Miscellaneous	180,00		
Travels	625,91		
Bank fees	96,88		
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>1 064,51</b>	<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>1 085,00</b>
Net Income	<b>20,49</b>		

**Statement of Financial Position as of December 1, 2019**

Assets		Liabilities	
<b>INTANGIBLE ASSETS</b>	<b>210,00</b>	<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>4281,58</b>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT</b>	<b>4036,78</b>		
Credit Card Payments to be deposited	36,78		
Cash in Cash Equivalent	4000,00		
<b>PETTY CASH</b>	<b>34,80</b>		
Petty Cash	34,80		
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>4281,58</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>4281,58</b>

*All amounts are in €.*

Kids Empowerment’s income, which comes entirely in the form of voluntary contributions from the public, totaled 1 085€ as of December 31, 2019.

Total expenditures of **1 064,51€** are mainly related to our participation on various events to enhance our visibility as well as ongoing project development.

The amount of cash available in the bank as of December 31st 2019 equals 4 000€.

The year 2019 was closed with a positive net income amounting to 4 281,58€."

## **2020 OUTLOOK**

### **EmpowerMIE:**

In 2020, Kids Empowerment will seek an animator to create the tutorial content of the app with a small group of young unaccompanied minors in partnership with Sould Food. Kids Empowerment hopes to move forward in the creation of an interactive model for the application EmpowerMIE with adapted solutions to present information in various forms such as cartoons, graphs, and short movies that will be easily understood and accessible to migrant children in France.

### **Legal Guardianship Training:**

Kids Empowerment aims to finalize the online training and make it available in English Early 2021.