

# Supporting the most vulnerable and fostering access to education and employment opportunities in Albania

Albania, a country rich in history and cultural heritage, has made remarkable progress in its economic and social development. However, many challenges persist, hindering equal opportunities for all citizens. Economic decline, youth emigration, and social exclusion continue to impact access to education, employment, and essential services, particularly for disadvantaged communities.

As part of the Nando and Elsa Peretti Foundation's commitment to promoting human dignity and social inclusion in 2024, the Foundation extended its support to six impactful projects in Albania, focusing on most vulnerable, children, youth, Roma communities, and people with disabilities. By investing in education, vocational training, and community development, these initiatives aim to empower individuals, strengthen communities, and create sustainable opportunities for a brighter future.

## **Establishing the 72-Hour Emergency Center for victims of abuse and their children in Tirana**

Grantee: Linja e Këshillimit për Gra dhe Vajza (Counseling Line for Women and Girls)

Location: Tirana, Albania, Europe

Grant Cycle: 2025-2028

Type of Grant: three-year program support, Human Welfare & Rights

Website: [hotlinealbania.org](http://hotlinealbania.org)

The Counseling Line for Women and Girls (CLWG), founded in 1996, is a leading civil society organization in Albania dedicated to promoting gender equality, protecting human rights, and combating gender-based violence. With nearly three decades of experience, CLWG provides direct services, legal aid, advocacy, capacity-building, and public awareness to address domestic violence and discrimination, while actively shaping Albania's legal framework on gender-based violence, justice reform, and media ethics.

As part of its commitment to promoting human dignity and supporting the most vulnerable, the Nando and Elsa Peretti Foundation (NaEPF) supports CLWG in the creation of a 72-Hour emergency shelter in Tirana. This initiative fills a critical gap in Albania's support system, providing survivors with immediate protection and specialized assistance to escape cycles of violence and begin rebuilding their lives. In addition to offering a safe space, the center will facilitate crisis intervention services, including psychosocial support, legal assistance, and referrals to longterm support programs.

The center will accommodate 140 women and children over an 18 month period, offering them a secure and confidential space to escape immediate

danger. During their stay, survivors will receive 24-hour security, basic necessities (food, clothing, hygiene products), and medical assistance. The shelter will be staffed with three social workers and support personnel to ensure round-the-clock care. Additionally, survivors will be linked to long-term housing solutions, employment services, and legal assistance, ensuring a pathway toward reintegration and independence.

**NextGen Leaders:  
Leadership and Entrepreneurship Development  
Program in Shkoder**

Grantee: Consulting and Development Partners  
Location: Shkoder, Albania, Europe  
Grant Cycle: 2025-2028  
Type of Grant: three-year program support, Human Welfare & Rights

Consulting and Development Partners (CODE Partners), established in 2012, fosters economic growth in Albania by supporting marginalized individuals and building inclusive, multi-generational communities of engaged citizens through education and cultural programs centered on ethical leadership. Its activities include vocational training, tourism promotion, employment opportunities, cultural programs in education, arts, and music, as well as business development, networking, and humanitarian initiatives.

As part of its commitment to promoting human dignity and social inclusion, the Nando and Elsa Peretti Foundation (NaEPF) supports CODE Partners' NextGen Leaders programme focused on enhancing the entrepreneurial skills and competencies of youth. The initiative provides sustainable solutions for developing micro and small businesses owned by youth and fosters leadership qualities, such as democracy, vision, integrity, resilience, and communication, among the participants.