



Two years after the 14 July attack, victim support remains essential

The Nice attack killed 86 people, wounded over 400 and traumatized thousands of others. Sorrow, grief, fear of another attack and the struggle to learn to live again and to build new projects are just some of the scars of psychological trauma that cause victims to relive the tragic night of 14 July 2016 every single day.

Thanks to French, European and American donors, Fondation de France mobilized the very day after the attack and has continued to provide support to the victims ever since. Over the last two years, it has already granted over €740,000 in the form of individual aid for the most vulnerable victims and funding for projects to improve victim support.

Key figures*

€1,396,821 collected for the victims of the Nice attack thanks to donations from all over the world

€745,160 expended so far

More than 3,000 people supported so far

*As of May 31, 2018

Association MONTJOYE : taking action in the aftermath of the attack

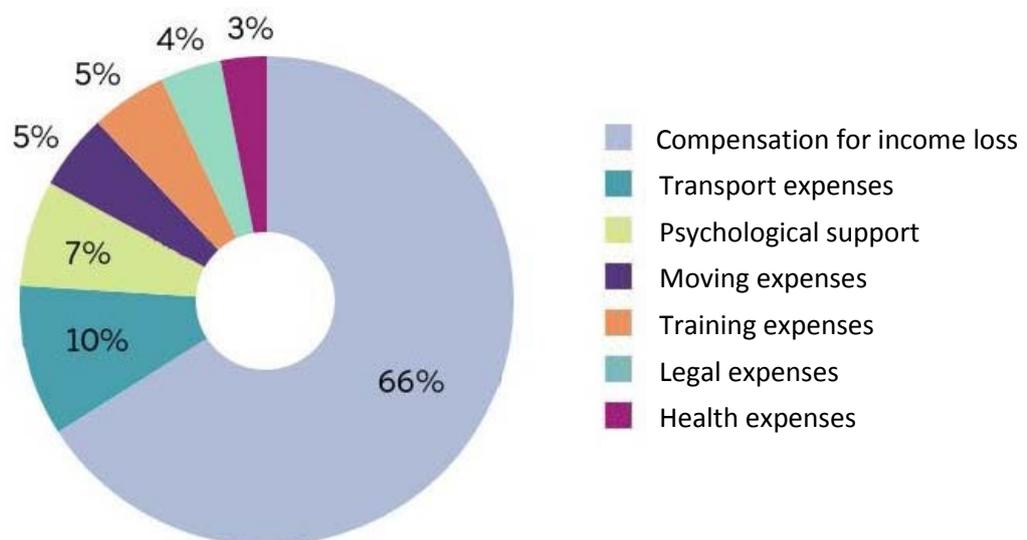
As early as July 15, 2016, Fondation de France began to support the strengthening of emergency and reception structures to act as closely as possible to the victims. To this end, it relied on various partners including the France Victimes network and more particularly the Nice-based association Montjoye, to which Fondation de France granted €45,000 to support the creation of a unique space of welcome for the victims. This information and assistance center enables victims to meet, under one roof, all the experts (lawyers, psychologists and social workers) and other players, including staff of French public administrations, capable of meeting their needs. Over the last two years, this center has welcomed more than 2,000 victims and still supports some 450 people in their various procedures.

See a video of this project at fondationdefrance.org

Acting for the long term : reconstruction

The needs of people affected by a terrorist attack – psychological support, legal assistance, social reintegration – may not necessarily show up immediately after the attack. Some people may need time to recognize and admit their psychological trauma - and this is particularly the case for those without physical injuries - or to plan new projects. Administrative and legal procedures can take several years. Support must therefore be long term, which is why Fondation de France continues to provide individual aid to victims and has already granted €339,632 for this purpose.

Detail of aid granted



Nice CHU university hospital: supporting healthcare personnel

In the streets where the attack occurred and in the wards where victims and their families were treated, hospital staff were also directly affected. All in all, some 9,000 healthcare professionals mobilized to help the victims.

In order to assess the impact of the attack on all these professionals and direct them, where necessary, to the type of psychological support they need, Nice university hospital launched ECHOS, a study of healthcare staff at Lenval and Pasteur hospitals and of medical students and residents actively involved at Nice university hospital's forensic institute. A total of 1,000 people took part in this study to which Fondation de France allocated €40,000.

[Lenval Hospital in Nice: children heavily affected by the tragedy](#)

Of the 1,200 children and teenagers admitted at Lenval hospital over the last two years, 350 still require care, particularly very young children with symptoms associated with post-traumatic stress.

Considering that the hospital staff was overwhelmed with requests, Fondation de France granted €255,414 to conduct the following initiatives:

- Special training for all staff assisting traumatized families;
- Creation of psycho-sensory therapeutic groups for traumatized children aged 18 months up to six years of age;
- Pediatric psychiatric research to explore the consequences of exposure to a terrorist attack, with the aim of improving care;
- Assessment of a therapeutic digital tool to treat psychological trauma in children.



[Needs persist](#)

A combination of the sheer number of people affected, a lack of personnel sufficiently well trained in psychological trauma, and the exhaustion of psychiatric care and victim support professionals- who have now been on the front line for two years- has brought about a huge need for psychological support. To meet this need, it is vital to provide additional, complementary and innovative care that new technology is now making possible – smartphone apps, remote consultations and any other tools to be developed.

Furthermore, one of the specificities of the Nice attack is that it has affected entire families across the generations. As you may remember, the attack took place while whole families were enjoying the National holiday on the *Promenade des Anglais*. All these children, parents and grandparents try to cope with their own anguish with at the same time the fierce will to support their loved ones. But how can you help others when you suffer from psychological trauma yourself? To us, being able to offer psychological care based on a family-wide approach is of vital importance. The aim is to enable every family member to address their problems and those of their loved ones, to find support as parents and to help every family member to regain autonomy in a calmer environment.

While support for families is of key importance, the specific issue of helping young people is particularly critical. The consequences of mourning and trauma come on top of the usual difficulties all teenagers experience. Although there are often no outward signs of difficulty or distress, there is still a real need for support. But young people can sometimes be very outspoken in their reticence to consult a psychologist or psychiatrist. It is therefore essential that young people can be offered a wide range of tools and therapies. In these circumstances, mediation therapies such as art therapy, animal-facilitated therapy and body psychotherapy can be a very effective way of helping reticent teenagers.

Last but not least, it is also essential to develop adapted responses to propose to Nice's socially and culturally diverse victims.

[Enduring support](#)

Two years after that tragic night, the victims' psychological distress remains a reality. Motivated by the wish to provide support to all those who need it as they try to rebuild their lives, Fondation de France will continue to take action to help victims until the funds allocated to this cause run out.

[Prevention actions to fight radicalization](#)

While helping victims and their families, Fondation de France also decided in 2015 to support 7 associative structures taking actions aimed at young people, in order to prevent the radicalization of teenagers (11-15 year olds).

Thanks to the projects supported, 1,200 young people benefited from media education actions, teaching them to fight against misinformation and to develop their critical thinking. All projects have been completed, apart from the one run by the film school *La ciné-fabrique*, intended to accompany for 3 years a cohort of 300 teenagers (from the age of 12 until they turn 15) in order to have them reflect successively on issues of indoctrination, rumor and propaganda, in connection with their school programs.



Although all these projects were conducted over a limited period of time, they highlighted the need to teach young people to unravel information and to sharpen their critical thinking. This is why media education has since been integrated into Fondation de France education program.

[Thank you for your support](#)

Fondation de France is grateful for your dedicated support and wishes to say a massive thank you to all of you. Your support has been essential to take decisive action for the victims and to develop the critical thinking of youth.

More on fondationdefrance.org