

# One year after July 14

## “Give for France”: in action

The terrorist attack on July 14, 2016, at Promenade des Anglais in Nice, caused 86 deaths and physically injured more than 400 people, leaving thousands more still traumatized today.

Thanks to numerous expressions of solidarity from French, European and American donors, Fondation de France has been able to support thousands of victims, physically and psychologically injured. We want to share an overview of the situation, one year after the tragic event.

### Key figures\*

- €1,300,845 collected for the victims of the Nice attack thanks to donations from all over the world
- €453,682 expended so far
- 3,000 people supported

\*As of May 31, 2017.

## Taking emergency action: help for victims

### More than 3,000 people supported

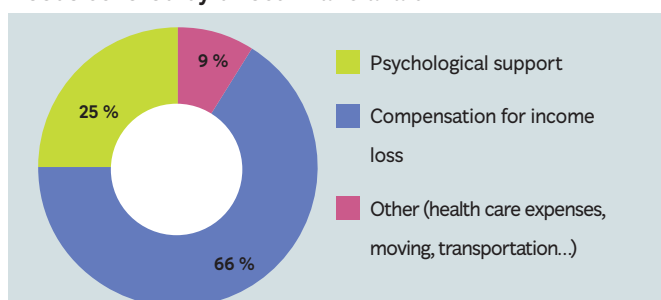
As early as July 15, 2016, Fondation de France mobilized to help direct and indirect victims of the attack. Fondation de France quickly sent staff to Nice to meet the main organization supporting victims – a member of the *France Victimes* network, partner of Fondation de France – and the managers of the Lenval Hospital located on Promenade des Anglais. Main objectives were both to improve the support offered to victims and to strengthen the assistance network.

### Direct aid to victims

Since July 2016, Fondation de France has already met the immediate needs of 132 victims. The average amount of financial assistance provided is €2,884, which covers psychological support for those shocked by the tragedy, and legal assistance in order to get a compensation or financial support to cover living expenses for those who lost their income sources. Some victims find themselves unable to work again and with no financial resources.

In some cases, Fondation de France also provided support for people in distress who were awaiting compensation. The National Fund for Victims of Terrorist Attacks – the National victims’ compensation fund – has received thousands of requests, requiring several months to process each demand.

### Needs covered by direct financial aid



*“Beyond financial aid, we felt supported. Less alone”.  
B. family*

Moreover, many victims were not recognized as such by the National victims’ compensation fund as they were “not directly-exposed” – for example people who were not directly standing in the truck’s way or people physically hurt by the panic-stricken crowd or even those who provided assistance to victims.

Fondation de France also supports these victims, who suffer the psychical consequences of this tragic event as well.

*“With the help of Fondation de France, I was recognized as a victim. It is very important, this helped me pass a milestone on the road to recovery”.  
Véronique*

Individual aid is limited to €10,000 in order to support as many people as possible.

### Better care provided by emergency organizations

Victims of terrorist attacks need more than medical emergency assistance. Over the following weeks, the healing and recovery process requires appropriate assistance. This is why Fondation de France supports the reinforcement of the pediatric psychiatry unit at Lenval Hospital in Nice.

### Lenval Hospital in Nice: providing better care for children

Over 1,200 children and teenagers have already been admitted to the pediatric psychiatry unit of Lenval Hospital. Among them were 24 children aged less than three years old, including six babies born on the night of July 14.

Considering that the nursing staff was overwhelmed with requests, Fondation de France granted €195,414 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.

Please find a video about this project on [www.fondationdefrance.org](http://www.fondationdefrance.org)

# Taking long-term action: reconstruction

Psychological support, legal assistance, social reintegration... The needs of those affected by a terrorist attack may not necessarily show up immediately after the attack. Some people may need time to recognize and admit their psychological trauma, all the more so for those who are physically unharmed. The administrative and legal processes can take several years.

Support for victims must therefore be long-term. Fondation de France is committed to ensuring assistance for a period of two to three years in order to support the work of those who assist the victims on a daily basis.

“ *New requests keep arriving every week.* ”

**Interview with Thierry Baubet, President of the volunteer expert committee “Give for France” within Fondation de France; pediatric psychiatrist of Avicenne Hospital in Saint-Denis; chief of emergency medical-psychological units in Saint-Denis.**

## **One year after the tragic event in Nice, what is the situation?**

We launched the “Give for France” program while people in France were still under the shock of unimaginable tragic events. Conceived as an emergency program at first, we later realized that the aid needed to be maintained for a longer duration. New requests keep arriving every week. There were more requests six months later than on the day after the attack. We are responding to people who still suffer from the effects of post-traumatic stress one year later. Some of these people are now realizing they can no longer bear to live in the city where the event took place, some find it difficult to cope with a social life. We also support associative projects to assist people in the long term, such as art therapy projects or therapeutic stays.

## **What are the needs of the people assisted?**

It is essential to understand the very specific nature of providing assistance to victims of terrorist attacks. Neither the general public nor the victims themselves are familiar with the administrative, legal and medical procedures, which are complex and extremely long. For some victims, it is only after overcoming this step that they become aware of their own psychical and social suffering.

Let us say a word about the victim status. The support from the National Fund for Victims of Terrorist Attacks (FGTI) is fundamental for the recovery of a person. As a matter of fact, the recognition of their pain, their anguish and the irreversible “before/after” event in their lives is vital on their road to recovery. Now, the issue of the “improvised rescuers” is very significant. Those who assisted the victims immediately after the attacks were themselves completely shocked and are often facing the same sort of issues as direct victims. However, they have not been officially recognized as victims: this undermines their potential for personal recovery.

## **How will Fondation de France keep on helping victims?**

We have organized a seminar with the organizations supporting victims and some victims themselves to assess how best to use the funds still available. We have detected specific vulnerability in people who were already fragile before the attacks. Any existing social or mental distress provide a fertile ground for long-term effects of post-traumatic stress. Some people still feel so anguished that they are absolutely incapable of returning to their professional activity. Even if recovery is of course possible, it is usually a long process and will not erase trauma and pain, which become part of everyday life for a very long time. Beyond essential psychological support, other kinds of assistance must be therefore also considered. The assistance of professional social workers offered by organizations supporting victims seems to be increasingly necessary. In fact, they can propose diverse solutions tailored to each victim’s situation, responding as closely as possible to a variety of situations.



*Fondation de France supported the creation of an information and assistance space for victims at Association Montjoye. Discover this project through a video available on [www.fondationdefrance.org](http://www.fondationdefrance.org)*

# Acting for tomorrow: prevention

---

While supporting victims and their families, Fondation de France also works to prevent the radicalization of teenagers (11-15 year olds) by focusing on three particular goals: reconstruction of social ties; renewal of solidarity action based on respect, tolerance and freedom; and development of the critical thinking of youth with respect to the media and social media.

Fondation de France currently supports 7 different projects.

## Developing the critical thinking of youth

How should we take a step back, learn to verify information sources and deconstruct conspiracy theories? Four significant projects – involving important French mass media such as France Inter or Cinéfabrique School in Lyon – are helping teenagers to sharpen their critical thinking from middle school onwards.

## Deconstructing radical indoctrination on social media

The prevention project also focuses on social media, which constitutes adolescents' main source of information and exchange. Social media is where the best and the worst influences meet. Three projects devoted to these communication channels are currently supported.

You can find more details about these projects at [www.fondationdefrance.org](http://www.fondationdefrance.org).



The 'Interclass' project gives teenagers an opportunity to work closely with journalists (here at France Inter radio station) and learn how to analyze and package information.

# Thank you for your generosity!

---

It was very touching to see the unprecedented support of so many diverse donors.

Support came in numerous ways, from letters and drawings from schools, to fundraisers, to anonymous donors, to restaurants, companies, foundations, and more.

We sincerely thank everyone for their incredible concern and generosity.

## Working with volunteers

Fondation de France mobilized a volunteer expert committee to allocate grants to non-profit organizations. It analyzes all requests received on a case-by-case basis with complete independence and high responsiveness. The committee is multi-disciplinary and thus brings together people with various areas of expertise.

The full list of committee members is available on [www.fondationdefrance.org](http://www.fondationdefrance.org)

Fondation de France thanks these volunteer experts for their assistance. Their responsiveness has helped Fondation de France to assist the victims of the terrorist attack in Nice as early as July 15, 2016. Between reception of the request and execution of the payment, the average time for providing financial aid is around 16 days.

## Acting with you

Beyond the necessary responses in terms of helping victims and healing from radicalization, Fondation de France provides long-term support for initiatives that encourage tolerance, respect for differences, and peaceful coexistence.

*"We were here on July 15; we are still here today. And we will be here tomorrow". Christian Meillassoux, volunteer correspondent for Fondation de France in Nice.*

40 avenue Hoche  
75008 Paris  
Tél.: +33 1 44 21 31 00  
[fondationdefrance.org](http://fondationdefrance.org)

Fondation  
de  
France