Member-Led Session

ملتقى المؤسسات العربية الداعمة
Arab Foundations Forum

Sanad for Orphans

Reimagining Orphan Care:
A Shift Towards Family-Based Solutions

Date: July 31, 2024

Time: 15:00 – 16:15 EEST • 08:00 – 09:15 EDT

Location: Online

Session Outline

1. Alternative Care for Children & Youth without Parental Care
2. Transforming Institutional Care into Family Based Care (De-Institutionalization)
3. The Role of Philanthropists to Bridge the Gap
4. Building a Safe Transformation
5. A Safe & Smooth Transition to Family-Based Care

What is Alternative Care for Children & Youth without Parental Care?

Background

Alternative Care

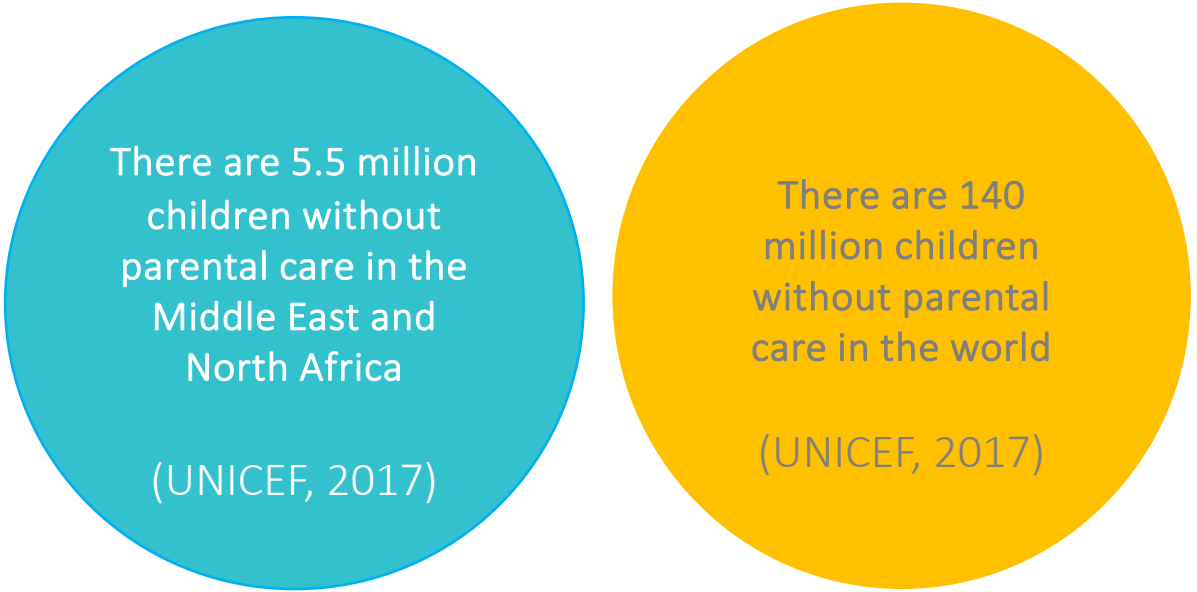
Any formal or informal arrangement set for a child who is living outside parental care

Children Without Parental Care

Any child who does not sleep in the care of a parent at night, under any circumstances and for any reason

UN Alternative Care Guidelines (2009)

Children without Parental Care Worldwide



Reasons behind Children's Placement in Care Homes

- **Poverty** leading to abandonment
- Out of **wedlock** birth
- **Losing** one or both parents
- **Being lost** from one's parents
- **Imprisonments** of parents
- Having severely **mentally ill parents**
- **Broken families** due to divorce or remarriage of a parent
- **War - Conflict**

UN Guidelines for Alternative Care

United Nations

General Assembly

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

64/142. Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children

The General Assembly,

It is an international document developed to assist and encourage Governments to promote and improve the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and to protect and promote the well-being of children without parental care. It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2009 and is a list of two main pillars:

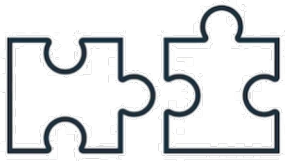
Guiding Principles for Alternative Care

Necessity

Children enter the alternative care system only when necessary

Suitability

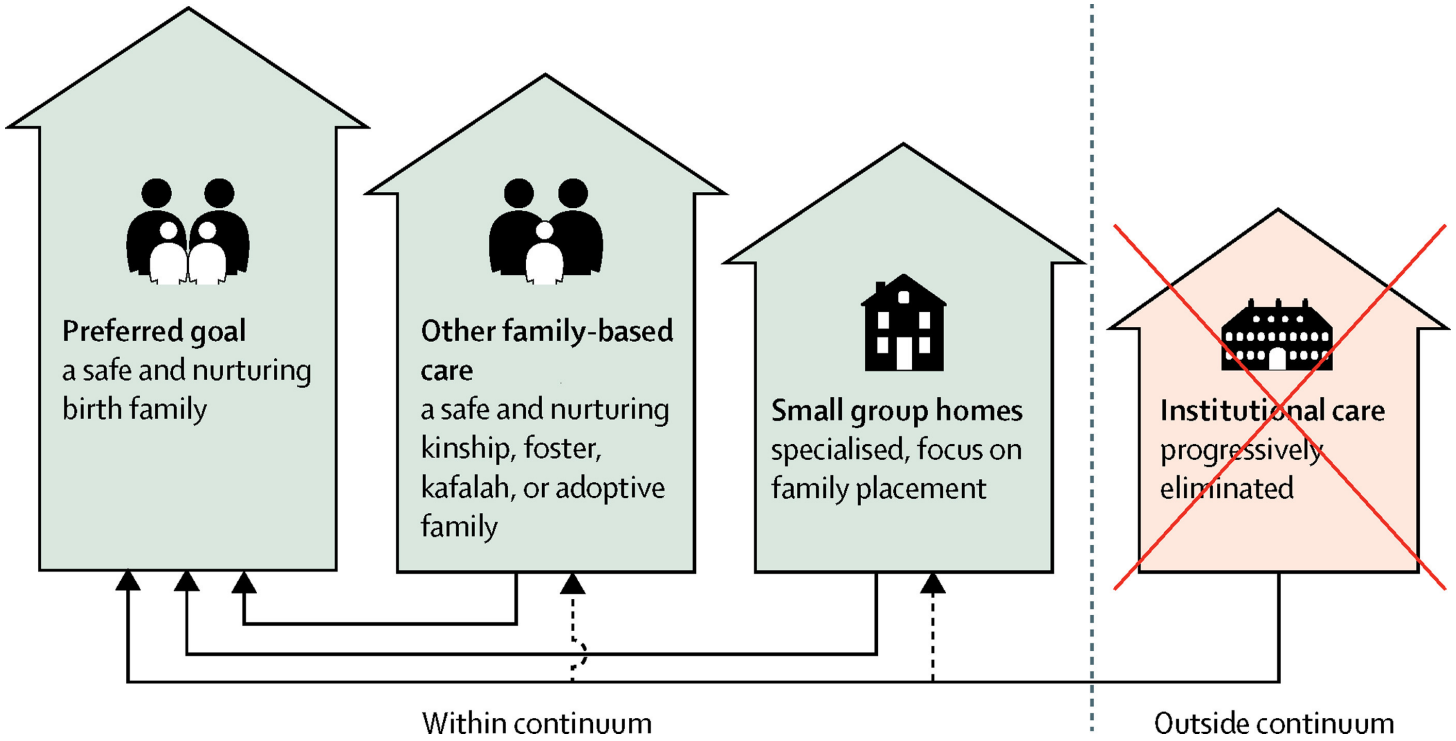
Choosing the most appropriate place of care to the needs and circumstances of each child



Transforming Institutional Care into Family Based Care

(De-institutionalization)

Alternative Care Forms & the Child Best Interest



Institutional Homes?

Large orphanages with large numbers of children, 50, 100, 200 and more.

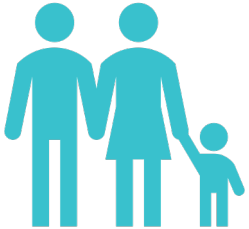
Consequences of Institutional Care

- Institutions are often characterized by inherently **harmful living arrangements**.
- May experience forced **fixed routines** not tailored to children's individual needs.
- Frequently deprived of the **ability to make choices** that suit children's best interests.
- Regularly **isolated** from their biological families and local communities.
- **Endure physical, psychological, emotional and social harm** – with consequences that last a lifetime.
- More likely to **experience violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation**.

De-institutionalization Meaning

Reduce separation of children from their families

Reintegration of children into their biological families



Promote Alternative Families (Kafala)

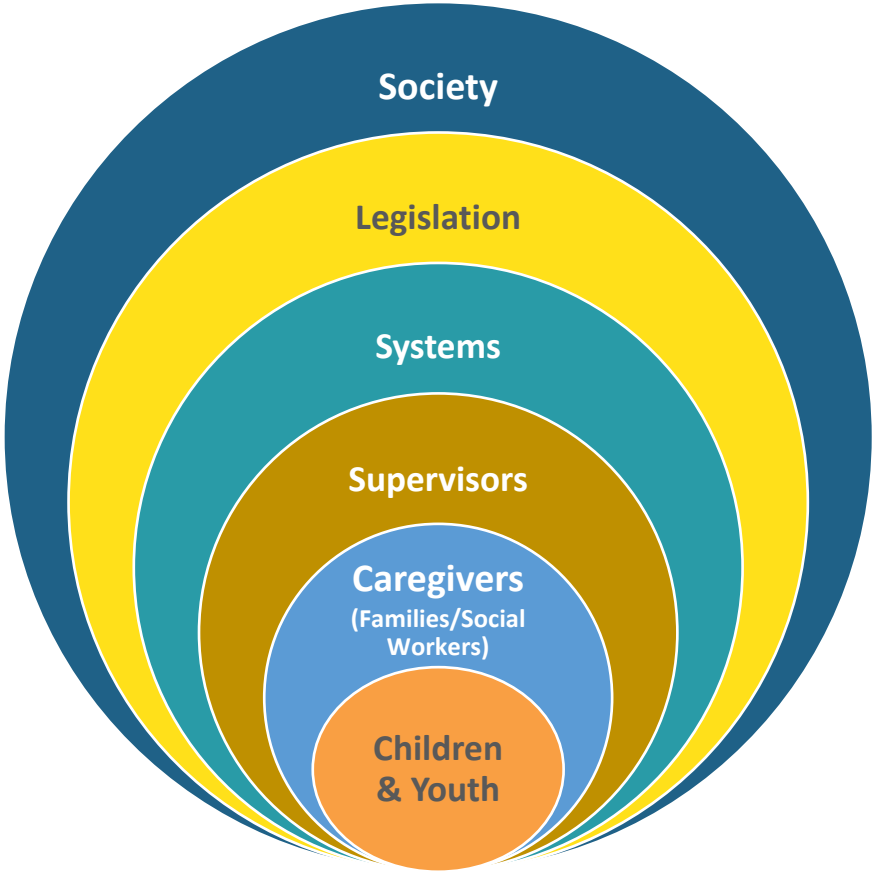
Reduce large-scale social care institutions

The Role of Philanthropic Organizations to Bridge the Gap

Key Gaps in the Alternative Care System

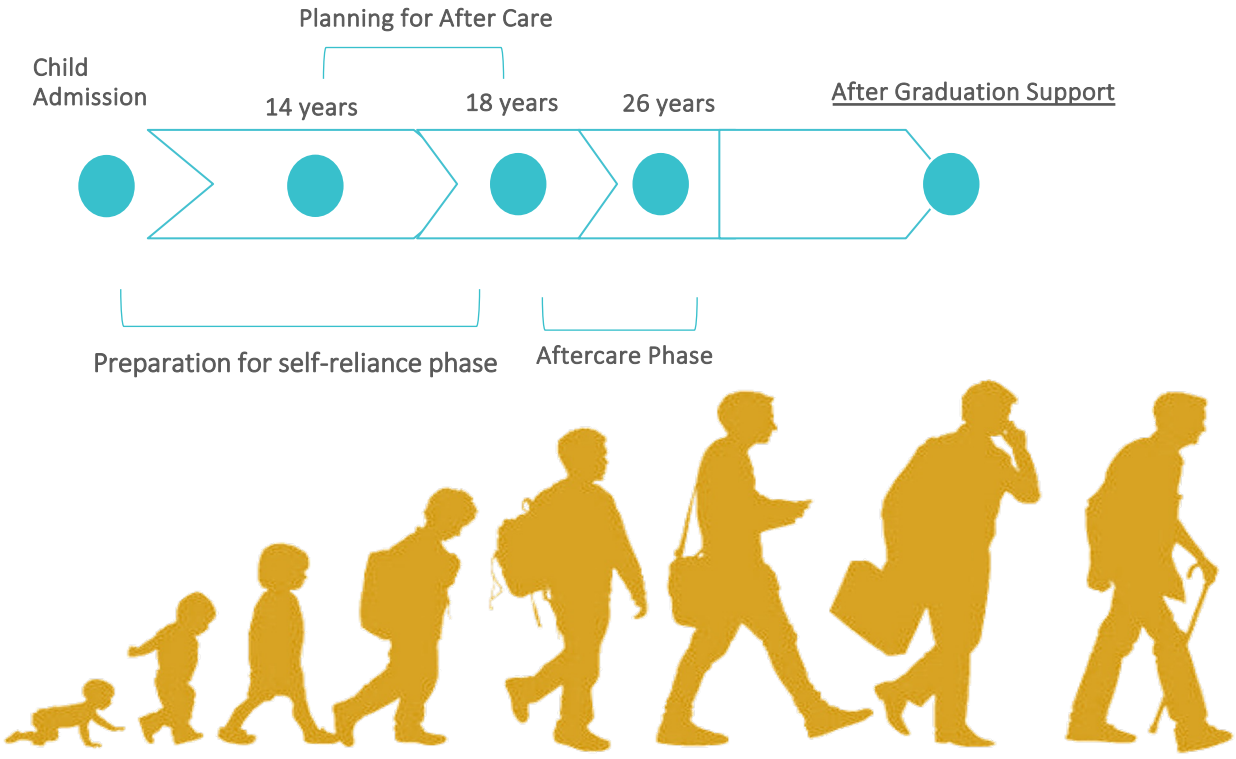
- Prevention Mechanisms
- Legislation Framework
- Social Workforce
- After Care System
- Specialized Local NGOs
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Case Management
- Awareness
- Orphanages for Children with Disabilities
- Family Reintegration
- Research

How to achieve sustainable development for children and youth without parental care?



A Safe & Smooth Transition to Family-Based Care

Child Development Stages in Care Homes

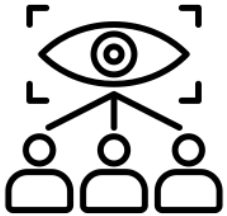


Key Steps Towards Family-Based Care

Understand the Context

- ✓ Demographics
- ✓ Psychographics
- ✓ Gaps
- ✓ Leverage Point

Create a Shared Vision



- ✓ Include all stakeholders

Develop a Roadmap

- ✓ Short Term and Long Term
- ✓ Divide it into Phases
- ✓ Work on the Root Causes

Assess Readiness

- ✓ Legislation
- ✓ Systems
- ✓ Workforce
- ✓ Culture
- ✓ Financial Resources

Key Principles for Designing Interventions/Programs for Children & Youth without Parental Care

Rights-Based

Child Centric

Trauma Informed

Participatory

Social Integration

Holistic

Sustainable

What's Next?!

- **Learn more…**
- **Include them…**
- **Contact us…**

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Thank You