

# ALTERNATIVE CARE APPROACHES: PHILIPPINE EXPERIENCE

## What is Alternative Parental Care?

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Is a child care and placement services provided to children in especially difficult circumstances whose parents are unable to provide for their basic needs, temporarily or permanently, brought about by problems in the family relationships, illness, extreme poverty, lack of parenting preparation, etc., aggravated by lack of family support.

The alternative family care arrangements may be provided through adoption, foster family care, legal guardianship or residential care depending on the need of the child.

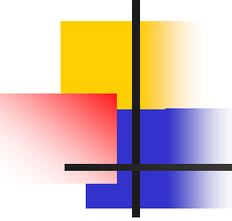
# Children Without Primary Care Givers

- 1993 Survey of households – 16% households have children below 12 years old



1:6 households – children without adult supervision

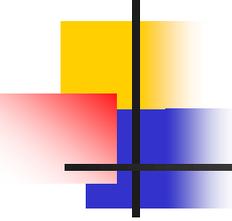
	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>
• DSWD Statistics – abandoned –	1079	1134
neglected -	2549	2560



# Types of Alternative Parental Care

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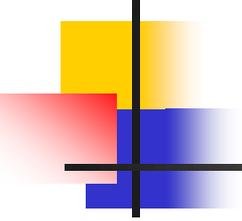
- **ADOPTION** – is a socio-legal process which enables a child who cannot be reared by his biological parents acquire legal status wherein he/she can benefit from new relationships with a permanent family. Adoption establishes a parent-child relationship resulting in the same mutual rights and obligations that exist between children and their biological parents
- **FOSTER / KINSHIP FAMILY CARE** – is the provision of planned substitute parental care to a child by a licensed foster family when his/her biological parents are unable to care for him/her temporarily or permanently



# Types of Alternative Parental Care

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- **RESIDENTIAL CARE** - provides 24-hour residential group care to children on a temporary basis whose needs cannot, at the that time, be adequately met by their biological parents and other alternative family care arrangements. It is an approximation of family life to children under the guidance of staff especially trained for this purpose.

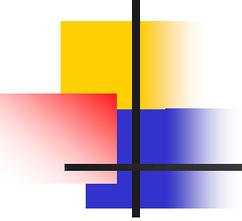


# Responses / Strategies and Approaches

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## **National Framework / Plans**

- Philippine National Strategic Framework for Plan Development for Children (Child 21)
- National Plan of Action for Children (NPAC)  
(Medium Term Plan / 2005-2010)
- Framework of Action against Commercial Sexual Exploitation (2000-200)
- Medium Term Strategic Framework for the Girl-Child

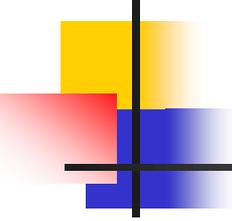


# Responses / Strategies and Approaches

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## Policy and Legislative Initiatives

- 1987 Constitution
- Family Code of the Philippines
- Presidential Decree No. 603 or Child & Youth Welfare Code
- RA 7610 (Special Protection of Children Against Child Abuse, Abuse and Discrimination Act)
- RA 8369 Family Courts Act
- RA 8370 Children's Television Act
- RA 8980 Early Childhood Care and Development Act
- RA 8972 Solo Parents' Welfare Act
- RA 9262 Anti Violence Against Women and Children Law
- RA 9208 The Anti-Trafficking in Person Act
- RA 9255 Providing Illegitimate Children the Right to Use the Surname of their Father
- RA 9231 The Act Prohibiting Employment of Children in Hazardous Areas
- RA 9288 The Newborn Screening Act
- RA 8371 Indigenous People's Right Act (IPRA)
- RA 8043 Inter – Country Adoption Law
- RA 8552 Local Adoption Act of 1998
- RA 7277 Magna Carta for Disabled Persons



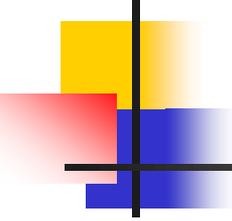
# Programs and Services for Children Without Parental Care

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- Alternative Family Care
  - Residential Care
  - Foster / Kinship Care
  - Adoption

## **Strategies**

- Organizing / strengthening Barangay Council for the Protection of Children
- Mobilizing Community Volunteers
- Establishment of ABSNET
- De-Institutionalization Policy

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- Turn-Around Time for Local and Intercountry Adoption
  - Standards for Operating Residential Centers
  - Standards for Centers of Excellence
  - ARUGA at KALINGA Project
  - Association of Child Caring Agencies of the Philippines
  - Adoptive Families Foundation
  - Foster Care Association of the Philippines
  - Foster Care Family Subsidy
  - Capability Building for Care givers
  - Child Protection Units in Hospitals and Precincts