

SPOTLIGHT ON PREVENTION OF FAMILY SEPARATION

VIDEO SUMMARY

In Uganda, it is estimated that 80% of children living in institutional care have a living family member. In many cases a parent will place their child in residential care because of poverty or the misconception that their child may receive better care in a residential facility setting.

In this film you will hear from Juliet, the Executive Director of Abide Family Center, an organization that aims to keep children in families rather than residential care. We suggest you watch the film with other practitioners or colleagues so you may discuss these questions as a group.

DISCUSSION POINTS

- Juliet shares with us that many parents are at risk for surrendering their children to a residential care unit because of poverty.

We learn that counseling is key to educated parents on the importance of family care. How do you see this working in your culture? What do you think the challenges would be?

- Juliet explains that when Abide started they would host families in emergency housing. Families that were in emergency housing had less success once graduating Abide's programs. This is an important lesson learned in dependency. How do you balance the services your organization provides while promoting independence?
- Grants are given equally, despite the number of children in any given home. Juliet expresses her desire to have a sliding scale for grants and assistance depending on family size. Do you think this would make their program stronger, or should it be equal across? Why?

FURTHER READING

You can find resources and tools to explore global practice and learning on the BCN website.

On IG Activities: <https://goo.gl/QcRIwr>

On Family Strengthening: <https://goo.gl/2GdAxj>

On Uganda: <https://goo.gl/qj3e9N>



TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Income Generating Activities

An intervention which imparts vocational skills or provides capital/commodities that enhance the capacity of individuals or groups to generate income.