

SPOTLIGHT ON TRANSITIONING FROM MALAIKA BABIES HOME TO PROFESSIONAL FOSTER CARE

VIDEO SUMMARY

Children thrive better in family settings rather than institutional care. In this film you will hear from Maureen, a social worker at Child's i Foundation, an organization that believes all children belong in families. Child's i Foundation successfully transitioned their residential care facility to an emergency foster care program.

We suggest you watch the film with other practitioners or colleagues so you may discuss these questions as a group.

DISCUSSION POINTS

- Maureen speaks about the damage long term residential care can cause. While institutional care has been mostly phased out in developed countries, throughout the developing world residential care is still actively used.

Do you see this in your community? How can we address the damage residential care can cause and work towards safe family placements for children?

- Maureen spoke to how the attachment foster carers had with the children in their homes was much stronger versus the attachment they had in the residential facility. Foster carers open up their hearts and homes to children who often leave.

How can you support families processing through the grief and loss this separation brings?

- What are the benefits and disadvantages to paid foster care versus community based foster care?

FURTHER READING

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

On Foster Care: <https://goo.gl/WIzihW>
<https://goo.gl/7b7YNf>

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



TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Foster Care

Foster care is a care arrangement administered by a competent authority, whether on an emergency, short-term or long-term basis, whereby a child is placed in the domestic environment of a family who have been selected, prepared and authorised to provide such care, and are supervised and may be financially and/or non-financially supported in doing so. Informal foster care is where a child is taken into care without third-party involvement. This may also be spontaneous fostering if it is done without any prior arrangements.