



UPDATE ON CHILDREN WITHOUT APPROPRIATE CARE

Corinna Csáky

Chair of the Task Group on Children without Appropriate Care, Child Protection Initiative

c.csaky@savethechildren.org.uk

Welcome to the second Update on Children without Appropriate Care.

This update is for all staff working to support children without appropriate care, at all levels and in every region. It is part of a series of quarterly updates of policy, research, advocacy and programming news that will help you achieve change for children in this area.

CONTENTS

1. Learning Opportunities
2. Advocacy Opportunities
3. Programming Guidance
4. Policy / Advocacy Resources
5. Conference Updates

1. LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The CPI Task Group on Children without Appropriate Care will meet via teleconference on 7th June at 12 noon London time (British Summer Time). This is the second in a series of quarterly meetings to share information, foster learning and improve coordination. The Task Group currently has 30 members from staff working at every level and in every region. New members are warmly welcome. The minutes of the first Task Group meeting are available on Extranet. For more information please contact Corinna Csaky c.csaky@savethechildren.org.uk

A series of regional trainings on children without appropriate care are being planned in the second half of 2011. Following on from the successful pan-Asia training in Indonesia in November 2010, a follow-up training in Asia is being planned for late October and other trainings are now being organised for West and Central Africa, and the Middle-East and North Africa regions. Training is based on the global *Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children*. For more information please contact your CPI regional representative.

2. ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITIES

A high level global event on the Guidelines on the Alternative Care of Children will take place at the UN in October 2011. The event, hosted by the Government of Brazil in partnership with the NGO Committee on UNICEF Working Group on Children without Parental Care, will urge UN Member States around the world to implement the guidelines in their own countries. National and regional colleagues might like to propose meetings with their government representatives to coincide with this event in order to maximise this opportunity. For more information please contact the NGO Committee ngocommittee@unicef.org

The rights of children with disabilities will be debated at the UN General Assembly later this year. Children with disabilities are a thematic focus of the *Omnibus Resolution on*



the Rights of the Child – an annual UN Resolution in which Member States commit to implementing new policy and practice changes in their own countries. This is an important opportunity to profile the care needs of children with disabilities, including those in institutional care, in your own country. The Resolution will be debated in October 2011. However, Member States are likely to negotiate their position well in advance of that date.

Therefore, staff are encouraged to meet with their government to discuss this issue as soon as possible. For more information please contact Corinna Csaky

c.csaky@savethechildren.org.uk

A Conference on Family Strengthening and Alternative Care in Sub-Saharan Francophone Africa

is being held by Save the Children, the Better Care Network and UNICEF, in collaboration with key regional stakeholders, in February 2012 in Dakar, Senegal. The conference aims to mobilise and inspire actors and donors in Francophone Africa to become part of a region-wide initiative on Children without Appropriate Care. For more information please contact Claire Feinstein

ClareF@waf.savethechildren.se

The Day of the African Child, 16 June 2011, will focus on street children. Save the Children has decided to highlight children without appropriate care. To take part or to find out more please contact Chikezie Anyanwu
Chikezie.Anyanwu@save-children-alliance.org

A series of experts meetings on violence against children in institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean

is being held during May and June 2011. They are co-hosted by the Independent Expert to the UN Secretary General on Violence against Children, Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, and the UN Special Representative on Violence against Children, Marta Santos Pais. To find out more please contact Angels Simon

angels.simon@lam.savethechildren.se

3. PROGRAMMING GUIDANCE

A new Save the Children training pack on children without appropriate care will be published in the second half of 2011. This pack was originally developed for the pan-Asia training in 2010 and is primarily targeted at Asian countries. However, much of it is of relevance to any country. The training manual covers all aspects of work in this area including laws, policies, prevention and response work, and care and protection systems. For more information please contact Dominique Pierre Plateau

dominiquepp@seap.savethechildren.se

A manual on prevention and reintegration in relation to institutional care is now available on the CPI Global Resource Centre. This manual, produced by Save the Children UK in Bulgaria in collaboration with Everychild and Care, documents the development of prevention and reintegration services in Bulgaria during 2002 – 2005 and contains a wealth of experience and learning from which other countries can draw.

4. POLICY / ADVOCACY RESOURCES

Standard advocacy messages on children without appropriate care are now available on the Extranet. These were developed by the CPI, in consultation with the Task Group on Children without Appropriate Care, to assist staff and partners to advocate at all levels on this issue. For more information please contact Corinna Csaky
c.csaky@savethechildren.org.uk

Template presentations on the Guidelines on the Alternative Care of Children are available on the CPI Resource Centre. These presentations, produced by the Better Care Network, aim to assist staff and partners working at every level and in every region to raise the profile of the *Guidelines* and support



their implementation. For more information please contact Ghazal Keshavarzian
gkeshavarzian@unicef.org

A Save the Children position paper on inter-country adoption will shortly be available on the Extranet and CPI Global Resource Centre. This short paper summarises the key debates surrounding inter-country adoption and sets out Save the Children's collective policy position and advocacy messages. For more information please contact Lena Karlsson
lena.karlsson@rb.se

A new policy report on sexual violence against children with disabilities will shortly be available on the Extranet and CPI Global Resource Centre. The report, co-written by Save the Children and Handicap International, highlights how social and structural discrimination against children with disabilities makes them especially vulnerable to protection problems, including sexual violence. It puts forward key recommendations and is part of our ongoing advocacy towards the Omnibus Resolution on the Rights of the Child (see above). An advocacy briefing on this report is also available. For more information please contact Corinna Csaky
c.csaky@savethechildren.org.uk

A policy paper on the reintegration of children who have been in alternative care is now available on the CPI Global Resource Centre. This position, entitled '*Elaborating a Lifelong Plan: Family Reintegration*', was produced by International Social Service and reflects Save the Children's own views and priorities.

Everychild has produced two new policy reports in relation to children without appropriate care. The first, '*Positively Caring*', examines how to improve the care of children affected by HIV. The second, '*Scaling Down*', looks at how to reduce, reshape and improve residential care around the world. For more information please contact Marianne Sladowsky
Marianne.Sladowsky@everychild.org.uk

5. CONFERENCE UPDATES

The Quality in Alternative Care Conference took place in Prague, Czech Republic 4-6 April 2011. The conference website now hosts a wealth of useful global technical materials as well as podcasts, news, articles and presentations
www.quality-care-conference.org/Results/Pages/default.aspx

The 4th Forum on the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) took place 18-20 March 2011 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. 97 activists from 23 countries attended and several recommendations were agreed and put forward to the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. For more information please contact Chikezie Anyanwu
Chikezie.Anyanwu@save-children-alliance.org

The Social Welfare Workforce Strengthening Conference: Investing in those who care for children, took place in South Africa in November 2010. The conference provided an opportunity for country teams to develop realistic, time bound plans to address workforce challenges and to contribute to stronger more effective social service and child protection systems. For more information visit,
www.ovcsupport.net/s/index.php?c=96

The 2010 FICE Congress: Celebrating the Courage to Care in a Diverse World, took place in South Africa in December 2010. The full presentations from speakers and presenters are now available online at
www.fice2010.org.za/presentations/index.html



and finally....

Congratulations to the Indonesia programme for securing 1 million US dollars to support a five-year programme on deinstitutionalisation. Well done to all of those who took part in this important bid!

Thanks to those of you who fed into the Care Definitions consultation. This initiative, led by Save the Children, together with the global-level NGO Working Group on Children without Adequate Parental Care (Geneva branch), seeks to facilitate agreement on some key terminology relating to the care of children. Over 40 responses were received from organisations working around the world. The results are currently being analysed by an independent consultant and will be published in due course. For more information please contact Bill Bell b.bell@savethechildren.org.uk

31 May 2011

Corinna Csáky

Chair of the Task Group on Children without
Appropriate Care, Child Protection Initiative

c.csaky@savethechildren.org.uk