

International Alternative Care Conference

Geneva, 3 to October 2016



A better future is possible

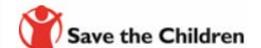
Marie JENNY

International Social Service

Hosts



Partners



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- The CRC (Preamble, arts. 20 and 21) and the CRPD (Preamble, art. 23) fully recognise the right of every child to grow up in a family environment.
- The UN Guidelines promote the creation of mechanisms to prevent children with disabilities or other special needs from being placed unnecessarily in institutions (para. 34). In addition, they give 'priority to family- and community-based solutions' for children without parental care (para. 53).

A better future is possible

- An ISS project dedicated for disabled children without parental care
- Main goal : Enhance alternative care opportunities for children with disabilities in residential care institution (RCI)



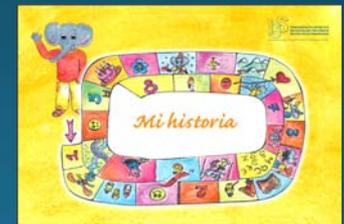
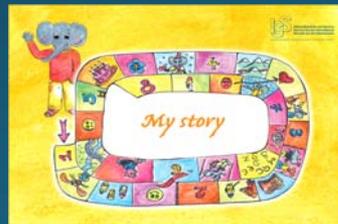
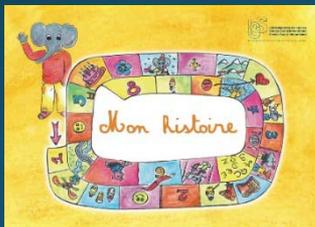
Identify the individuals needs of children

« Observing the child enables us to give more attention to the child » *one caregiver in Burkina Faso*

In Burkina Faso : 71% of the caregivers consider that the observation techniques learnt during the training help them to know how to identify individual needs and provide individual nurturing.

Promote individual case plan

- Promote staff meeting to discuss the situation of 1 particular child and reflect on :
«What is the plan for this particular child for today and tomorrow to develop his/her potential ?»
- Lesson learnt : Using Lifebook for children as an incentive tool to observe and collect data/information on children



Promote individual care

- Basic and simple recommendations on an **adapted and stimulating environment** can :
 - increase the well being of the children
 - Promote their potential
 - be used to support families of origin, specialised foster care and RCI staff :



Provide Technical assistance to gouvernements

- To prevent the separation of the child with his/her family

In Mexico : Family strengthening through respite care (short term foster care), in-home care, support group, community day care

- To develop family based care for children with disabilities living in RCI :

In Mauritius : Specialised foster care program for children with disabilities and behavioural troubles

Still many challenges to improve alternative care opportunities

- **Social work : keystone of alternative care**
 - Essential investment in social work : Increase number of social workers + Access to ongoing training
 - Manual for professionals: Promote family life for children with disabilities in residential care

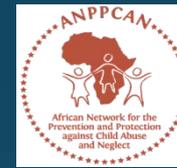
Available on line in 3 languages :

www.iss-ssi.org



ISS works in collaboration with its members and a myriad of partners to implement this program on a global level, share expertise and promising practices.

Do join us to help disabled children to live in a family setting !



Thank you for your attention !

