



Perspectives from the Ground:  
Local Practices and Challenges of  
the FORM Project for Foster Care  
of Unaccompanied Minors in  
Cyprus.



# Foster Care in Cyprus - Procedures



**Application  
for foster**

**First  
Trainings**

**Psychosocial  
Assessment**

**Psychological  
Assessment**

**Final  
Report**

**Committee  
for the  
Assessment  
of Foster  
Families**

**Reassessment  
every 2 years**

**1**

**2**

**3**

**4**

**5**

**6**

**7**

# Foster Department

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- Each foster family assigned a social worker and a psychologist
- Monitor and support foster family
- Regular meetings with foster parents
- Social Worker - unannounced visits at the foster house
- Cooperate with Social Welfare Services (legal guardian - Legal responsibility and decisions on matters concerning children in foster care)



# Implementation of Form Project

- 9 staff members trained (psychologists and social workers)
- 6 cases of foster parents



# Implementation

## Training - kinship foster parents

- Psychoeducational and experiential workshops on unaccompanied minors profile (PTSD, mentalisation, attachment styles, prevention for drug use etc.)



**HOPE**  
For Children



# Support Groups for Foster Parents



Coordinator: psychologist

Aim:

- Connect, share thoughts and feelings and offer solutions
- Work on ambivalence tolerance
- Reduce feelings of loneliness



Κάθε κηφιά μπορεί να συμβογι  
 είναι αιδρωτο του μπορεί να σε  
 και να σε βοηθηου να ξετερας  
 της απντηης σου σκευης.

κατα  
 γραφει

## Help cultivate a network for foster families

- Fun Day for foster families.
- Christmas event for foster families

τη αναδοχης.



Η θωακη, η ροση &  
 η γιορνη διαθεης που  
 προσερε το παιδι ειναι  
 αυτ που τον επρε στω  
 αναδοχη

Η αναδοχη μας εχει φερ  
 αριστους ραφες και σπ  
 δευτες. Η καρδια μας  
 ρηται τα πιο "σοβα  
 και δελεαστικα". Ο  
 και η βοοτηρια να  
 το εγω" μας να εια  
 σε ομορφες ψυχες  
 παιδι η μας και  
 αρωματισ!



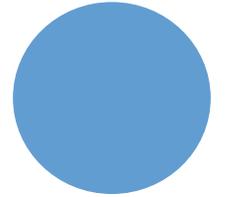
Fostering has allowed me to find new  
 and spread moments, which I hadnt  
 experienced before. It has shown me  
 that even in dark places, beautiful things  
 can be found, and cared for. :)

Αλλα ο Χριστος ειναι  
 αγαπη και ελπις  
 Η ελπις αυτη που μας  
 η ζωοταια

# Supervision

Supervision for psychologists and social workers (separately)

Supervision for the all members of the team





# Implementation

Training other professionals

# Challenges that exist in our field

- Understaffed
- Frequent change of the legal guardian of the child
- No legal framework (yet)
- Limited research
- Need of specialized translators
- Not enough awareness for unaccompanied minors and foster care
- Lack of specialized educational and cultural friendly support





THANK YOU!