

Family
for every child



**How
We
Care**

By practitioners,
for practitioners.

Interpretation / interpretación / interpretação

1. Hover over the bottom of your screens so that the 'interpretation' icon appears.
2. Click on the 'interpretation' icon.
3. Select the language you would like to use - English, Spanish or Portuguese.
4. Select "mute original audio".

1. Desplácese sobre la parte inferior de sus pantallas para que aparezca el ícono de 'interpretación'.
2. Haga clic en el icono de 'interpretación'.
3. Seleccione el idioma que le gustaría usar: inglés, español o portugués.
4. Seleccione "silenciar audio original".

1. Passe o mouse sobre a parte inferior de suas telas para que o ícone de "interpretação" apareça.
2. Clique no ícone 'interpretação'.
3. Selecione o idioma que deseja usar - Inglês, Espanhol ou Português
4. Selecione "silenciar áudio original".

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Caring for Those Who Care: International Approaches to Supporting Kinship Care

A How We Care online event

Thank you for joining us! We will be starting shortly, please complete the opening poll while we wait for other participants to join.

¡Gracias por estar con nosotros! Pronto comenzaremos, complete la encuesta de apertura mientras esperamos que se unan otros participantes.

Obrigado por se juntar a nós! Estaremos começando em breve, por favor, preencha a enquete de abertura enquanto esperamos os outros participantes se juntarem.

Family for Every Child

- A diverse, global alliance of 41 local civil society organisations in 37 countries
- As an alliance we work with parents, extended family, children in alternative care, detention, and those on the move or without adequate care in their families of origin.
- Our goals: preventing family separation, strengthening families, ensuring high quality alternative care when needed and protecting children outside of any care
- Our two recent campaigns: United for Boys, Childhood on the Move. Our current campaign: Kinship Care.
www.familyforeverychild.org/Listing/Category/kinshipcare



Our work on Kinship Care

- Increased recognition and support for Kinship Care
- First care option for children outside of parental care

Work so far:

- *'The Paradox of Kinship Care'* (2019)
- *'Kinship care in sub-saharan africa: An asset worth supporting'* (2020)
- National scoping reports on Kinship Care: Ethiopia, Ghana, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, Liberia
- National Advocacy Strategies: Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Liberia and Rwanda.
- *Prioritising support to Kinship Care in response to COVID-19* (2020)



Kinship Care campaign (March - June 2021)

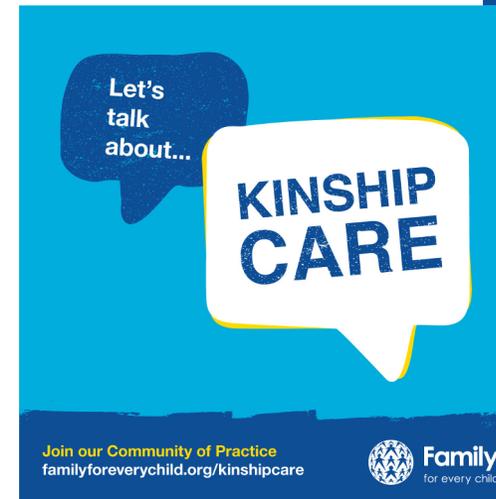
Raising awareness on Kinship Care - Benefits and Challenges;

Calling on Governments:

1. Invest in Kinship Care Research
2. Prioritise Kinship Care in decision making
3. Provide support to kinship care families

What you can do?

- Spread the word
- Join our Kinship care CoP
<https://changemakersforchildren.community/kinship-care>
- Join our webinars on kinship care





Caring for those who care: international approaches to supporting Kinship Care

Associação Brasileira
Terra dos Homens (ABTH)

Farm Orphan Support
Trust (FOST), Zimbabwe

Grandparents Raising
Grandchildren, New Zealand

www.howwecare.community

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Raum Batista, Associação Brasileira Terra dos Homens (ABTH), Brazil

- Raum represents ABTH in advocacy networks and promotes capacity building around family empowerment.
 - He is a social psychologist and systemic family therapist.
 - Raum has 15 years of experience working in the area of children's rights.
 - ABTH is one of the founding members of the Family For Every Child Alliance.
-

Blessing Mutama, Farm Orphan Support Trust (FOST), Zimbabwe

- Blessing is the Executive Director for Farm Orphan Support Trust of Zimbabwe (FOST). He is a seasoned development practitioner with over 19 years' experience: NGO project design, planning, implementation, and Monitoring & Evaluation in the areas of Childhood development, Rural Development, Education Development, Training Development and more.
- Blessing has consulted for REPSSI - conducting national and regional Psychosocial Support trainings for professionals.
- Blessing is the former Board Chairman for a Community Based Organization called Youth Dialogue Zimbabwe and is also a Trustee for Family for Every Child.



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG), New Zealand

- Established in 2001, GRG grew out of a grass roots movement of support groups responding to the difficulties facing kin carers. GRG saw grandparents struggling to adjust to their roles as caregivers, and facing financial, social, and mental health difficulties.
- GRG provides grandparent caregivers across New Zealand with advocacy support, community outreach and support groups, information resources, and a trauma-informed education programme called SALT - “Simply Acquired and Learned Techniques™”.
- Kate Bundle, Chief Executive.



Associação Brasileira Terra dos Homens: Brazil

Focus on extended family of origin



In Brazil, the *family of origin* concept includes the extended family, both in cultural and legal terms.

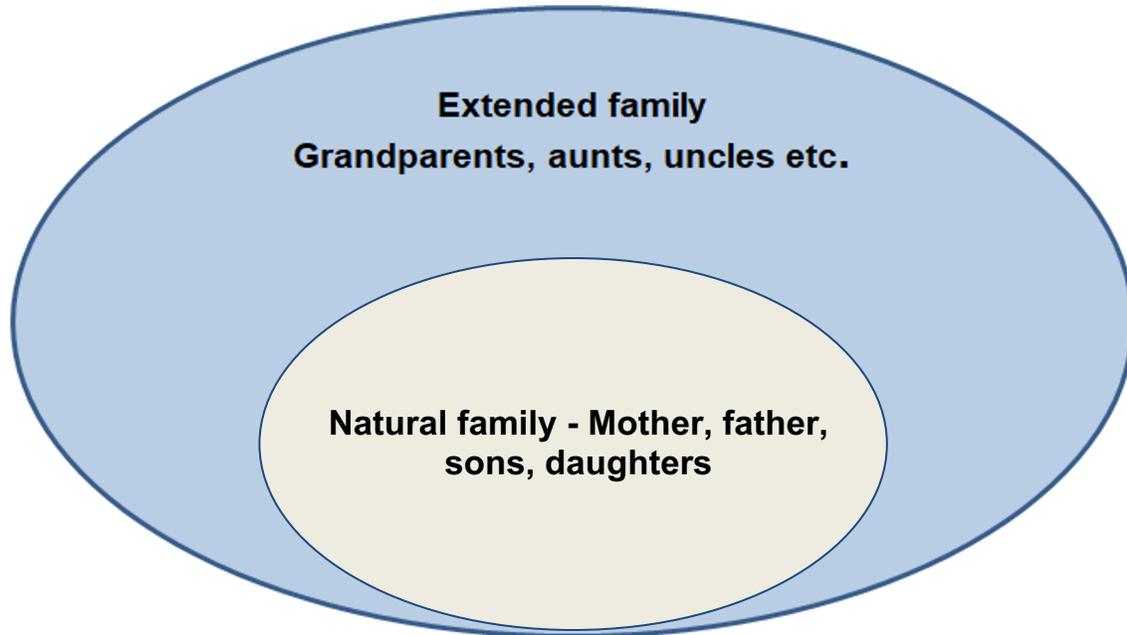
In cultural terms:

- It is common for children and adolescents to live with grandparents, aunts and uncles; this situation does not necessarily imply risk.
- Special Protection is only needed in family contexts where rights are violated.
- A question of *formal versus informal care*.

In legal and normative terms:

- The Statute of Children and Adolescents of 1990 with updates in 2009/2014/2016/2017 defines: NATURAL FAMILY AND EXTENDED FAMILY AS A PRIORITY IN MAINTENANCE OF THE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LIVING
- National PLAN for Family and Community Living – National Council of Social Assistance + National Council of Childrens' and Adolescents' Rights - 2009 defines: FAMILY OF ORIGIN (NUCLEAR FAMILY + EXTENDED FAMILY) AS A PRIORITY

Natural/Nuclear or Extended Family



- Normative documents on Family Care: Foster Family Service does **not** include caring in the extended family - unlike in other countries.

Family and Community Living: Prevention and Protection

1. **Prevention:** To avoid family breakdown and avoid children's departure to the streets or to formal foster or institutional care

ABTH preventive work - sample: 40 families and 79 children (2021)

- 75% cases of teenage pregnancy
- 45% do not live with the father figure - father
- 15% live with nuclear and extended family and 10% with grandparents only
- 10% live with their mother only

ABTH preventive work:

- Family Interviews
- Home visits
- Group of Parents and/or grandparents
- Refer to services/partners



Family and Community Living: Prevention and Protection

2. **Protection:** Supporting children through exit from the streets or from foster or institutional care, to reintegrate back into the family of origin - the nuclear and/or extended family

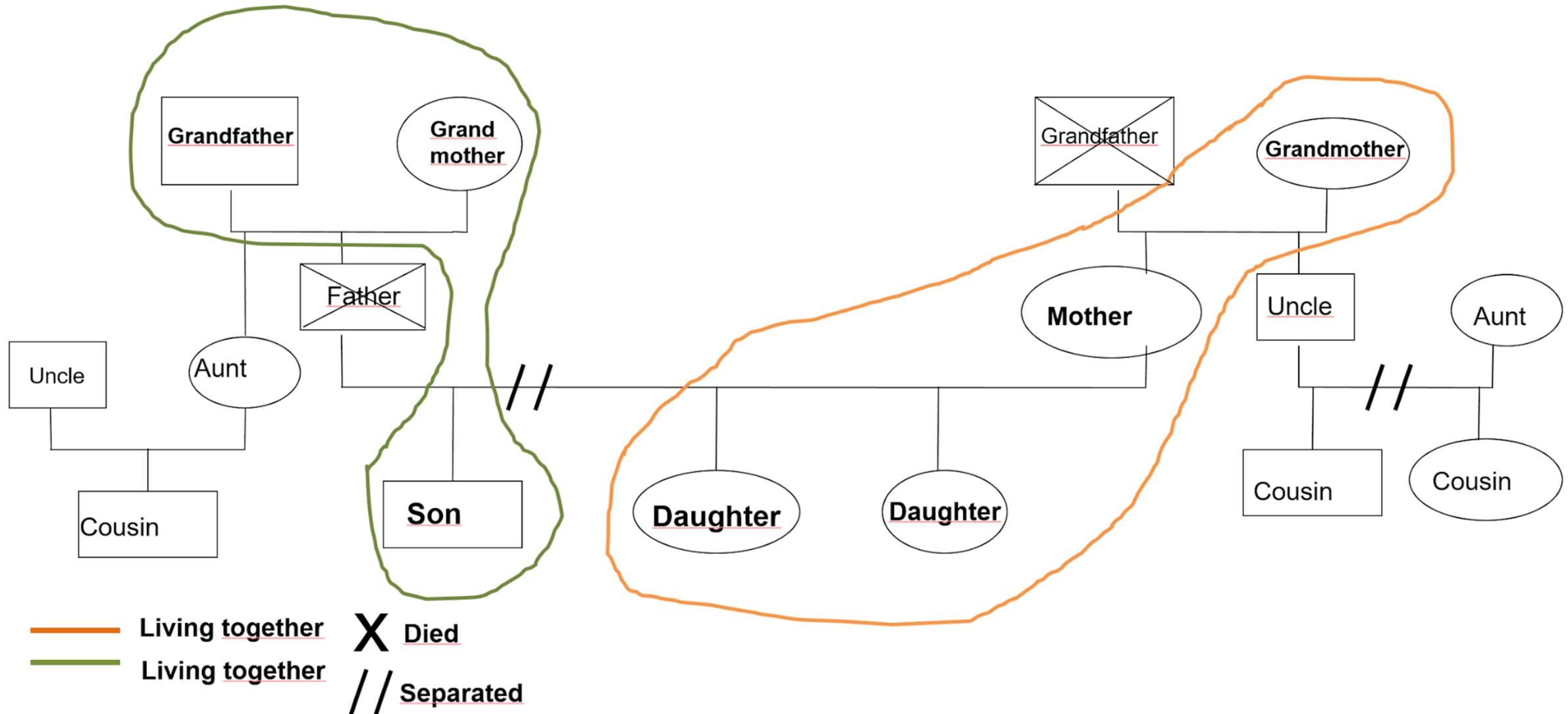
Collaboration between a social worker and a psychologist with 20 cases:

- 80% success rate in reintegration
- 20% placed with extended family

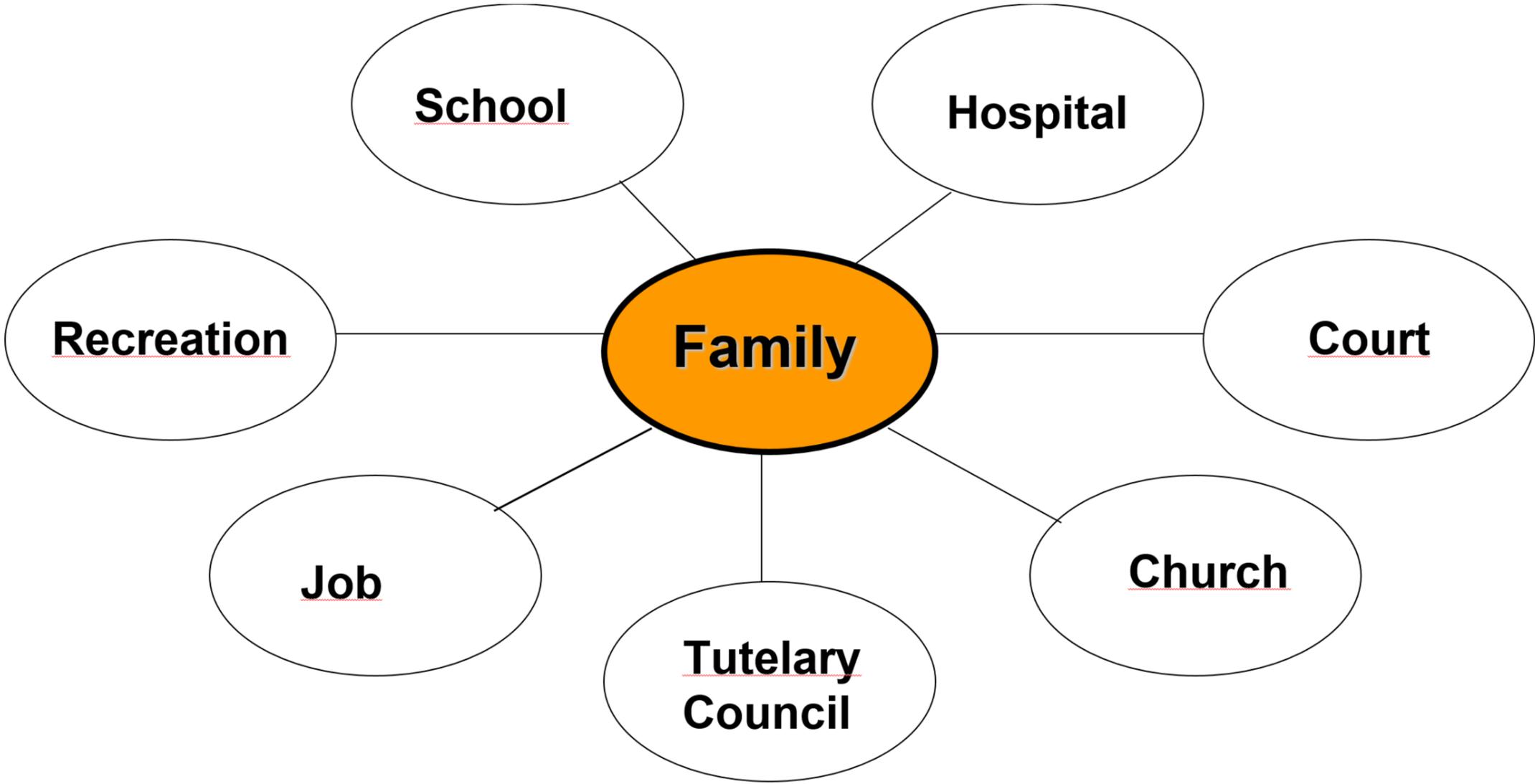
- Family Interviews
- Home visits
- Group of Parents and /or grand parents
- Refer to services/ partners



ABTH's Methodology: Genogram – Map of family internal relationships



ABTH's Methodology: Ecomap – Family relationship with external network



ABTH's Advocacy work



- Since the 2000s ABTH has conducted impactful advocacy work which has led to national systems change around inclusion of extended families at the levels of both law and social welfare.
- ABTH contributed to creation of the following laws / policies / guidelines which reinforce the importance of working with the extended family:
 - National Plan for the Promotion, Protection and Defense of the Right of Children and Adolescents to Family and Community Living - 2006
 - Technical Guidelines: Formal Care Services – (Shelter and Foster Families) for Children and Adolescents - 2009
 - National Plan for Early Childhood - 2010
 - Amendments to the Statute for Children and Adolescents - Laws 12.010 / 09 and 13.010 / 14
 - UN - Guidelines for the international protection of children without parental care - 2009.



Farm Orphan Support Trust: Zimbabwe Supporting Orphaned and Vulnerable Children (SOVC)



- By 2010 over one million children had been orphaned as a result of the HIV and AIDS pandemic (Government of Zimbabwe statistic).
- The Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZIMVAC 2014) indicated that two-thirds of orphans live below the poverty line.
- Orphaned children are often exposed to neglect, abuse and exploitation as a result of their backgrounds in poverty (Mushunje, 2006).
- The National Orphan Care Policy (NOCP) states that the best place for all children, including orphans, is within a family setting.

Farm Orphan Support Trust: Zimbabwe

Supporting Orphaned and Vulnerable Children (SOVC)



- In African communities children are seen as belonging to the community. Kinship care practice is deeply rooted in Zimbabwe's cultural heritage: 'Ubuntu' - a historical, traditional and cultural practice of caring for humanity.
- Most common form of kinship care in Zimbabwe is informal – often undocumented and unregulated.
- Over 60% of OVC in Zimbabwe live in grandparent-headed households, facing multiple challenges - others live with aunts, uncles, siblings.
- Drivers of kinship care: traditional and religious values; death of parents mainly due to HIV/AIDS; migration of parents to cities and abroad in search of employment; divorce; and incapacitation of parents due to illness or disability among other factors.



The Role and Importance of Kinship Care



- When children can remain within their families and a familiar environment it lessens the “culture shock”, psychological trauma and grief of separation from parents.
- It improves children’s wellbeing, minimizes depression in orphans and strengthens the bond among cousins and kin as they stay in touch with each other.
- It helps children to maintain their identity.
- It reduces the likelihood of multiple placements and ensures ongoing support and mutual care between children and their kin.
- It provides companionship and practical support to lonely and/or ageing grandparents.

Kinship Care: Working with Families



- FOST puts the child at the centre by supporting family and community efforts to meet the child's needs and using the Child Rights Based Programming Approach.
- Family is the first circle that should respond to the needs of a child; if the family fails, the community should assist - community parenting.
- FOST's programming involves:
 - Family and community strengthening;
 - Child protection;
 - Youth capacity building;
 - Advocacy;
 - Emergency response;
 - PSS which is mainstreamed at all levels.



SOVC Project Outcomes



- Improved livelihoods and resilience for beneficiary households.
- Increased access to, and retention in, education.
- Improved psychological and social wellbeing of beneficiary OVC.
- Increased sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) knowledge and skills.
- Strengthened community capacity to care for OVC.



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG), New Zealand

Empowering grandparent and whānau caregivers

- Over 25,000 children are in care across New Zealand; the majority live with their grandparents.
- Unless grandparents are state-approved caregivers receiving financial support, they often experience economic hardship, social isolation, anxiety and depression.
- GRG supports over 9,000 grandparents and 16,000 children, with:
 - advocacy support
 - community outreach and support groups
 - caregiver education programme SALT - “Simply Acquired and Learned Techniques™”
 - information resources
- “When caregivers have the right knowledge and resources, they can provide the safe, loving homes and security that children need to thrive.” (GRG quote)



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Live Question and Answer Session

Any questions? Please type your questions in the **Q&A box**.

¿Alguna pregunta? Escriba sus preguntas en el **cuadro de preguntas y respuestas**.

Alguma pergunta? Por favor, digite suas perguntas na **caixa de perguntas e respostas**.

You're invited

to join the social network
for child rights practitioners



Changemakers
for children

changemakersforchildren.community



Thank you!
Gracias!
Obrigado!

[www.howwecare.community
/supporting-kinship-care](http://www.howwecare.community/supporting-kinship-care)
