

Home First – Alternatives to Foster Care

<u>Organisation(s):</u>	Härryda Municipality	
<u>Country:</u>	Sweden	
<u>Contact:</u>	policy@esn-eu.org	
<u>Theme:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ageing & Care <input type="checkbox"/> Asylum & Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Young People <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support for Children & Families <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Care <input type="checkbox"/> Co-Production <input type="checkbox"/> Disability <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Homelessness <input type="checkbox"/> Artificial Intelligence <input type="checkbox"/> Digitalisation <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Care & Support <input type="checkbox"/> Quality Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Labour Market Inclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Social Inclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Workforce and Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Social benefits <input type="checkbox"/> EU Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Social Service's Resilience <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Person-centred Care <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify:
<u>Principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights:</u> <i>Check the 20 principles here.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Education, training, life-long learning <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Gender equality <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Equal opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Active support to employment <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Secure and adaptable employment <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Fair Wages <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Transparent employment conditions <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Social dialogue <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Work-life balance <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Healthy, safe work environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11. Childcare and child support <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Social protection <input type="checkbox"/> 13. Unemployment benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 14. Minimum income <input type="checkbox"/> 15. Old age income and pensions <input type="checkbox"/> 16. Health care <input type="checkbox"/> 17. Inclusion of people with disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> 18. Long-term care <input type="checkbox"/> 19. Housing and assistance to homeless <input type="checkbox"/> 20. Access to essential services
<u>Current status of the practice:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Concept and Design Phase <input type="checkbox"/> Execution & Monitoring Phase <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consolidation Phase <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scaling Up and Transformation Phase <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)	
<u>Context/ Social issues addressed</u> <i>Please explain the problem you attempt to solve.</i>	Investigation on Neglect was launched in 2006 in Sweden by the government. The aim was to examine instances of neglect during their placements in foster homes or institutions. For example, there have been children who have been constantly hungry, who have had to endure abuse from foster parents or staff in institutions, who have been subjected to both	

	<p>mental and physical abuse, who have not received proper schooling due to hard work or who have been deprived of contact with their biological family.</p>
<p>Objectives: Please provide a maximum of three objectives in bullet points.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitioning from a "Foster care first" mindset to a "Home First" approach • Ensuring that the welfare of every child remains at the forefront, fostering a system that supports families • Safeguarding the rights and well-being of the children under our care.
<p>Activities: Please summarise the activities put in place to achieve the objectives (maximum 200 words).</p>	<p>When a child's well-being is at risk, our initial step is to engage with the family. We consult the parents and evaluate whether the child can continue to develop and grow up within their familial setting. This assessment process is conducted using the Signs of Safety method. If it's determined that the family environment remains a viable option, we explore ways to provide support within the extended family network or the child's existing social milieu (environment).</p> <p>The Signs of Safety method involves a collaborative approach, fostering open dialogue and trust with parents, enabling us to comprehensively understand the family dynamics and challenges they face. It focuses on strengths in the families, building trustful relations with them and making safe plans for the child.</p> <p>The Signs of Safety approach can be a powerful tool in social care services, but it requires careful implementation, cultural sensitivity, and a balance between empowerment and safety. Professionals should be well-trained and exercise their judgment while collaborating genuinely with families and ensuring child safety, <u>While the approach is well-suited for many cases, there may be complex situations where traditional child protection methods are more appropriate, a nor risking holding children in harmful homes for a long time.</u></p> <p>We first try to work with the family, providing day-to-day support. If this is not feasible, we look for solutions involving the child's relatives. Only when it's indisputably in the child's best interest to remove them from their family environment we start considering and exploring other options outside the family environment.</p>
<p>Evaluation of practice: Please explain how you evaluate the practice, and what the results were/are so far</p>	
<p>Links to supporting documents: e.g. website or report of the practice</p>	<p>https://www.harryda.se/</p> <p>https://www.lillahjartat.com/</p>
<p>Comments and tips, i.e. for people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborating with families and their support networks serves to enhance the overall well-being of the child.

*willing to use your
Practice*