

## ✧ Background

**EveryChild** is an international non-governmental organisation, fighting to protect some of the world's most vulnerable children. For more than 20 years we have been providing support to vulnerable children worldwide, working with children who are separated from their family or community, and with those who are at risk of separation. We believe all children have the right to grow up in a safe and loving family environment, with a secure future.

**EveryChild** supports the reform and development of services for children and vulnerable families in 18 countries worldwide including Central and Eastern Europe, Africa and Latin America.

**EveryChild** started working in Ukraine in 1998 and is registered in Ukraine as a Representative Office of a foreign non-governmental organisation with its head office based in London.

## ✧ Programme Themes

- **Supporting the development of alternatives to large-scale residential care.**

When it is not possible for a child to grow up with their own parents, we believe that the best alternatives for children are provided in a family environment where children receive individual care and attention (e.g. in a foster family or family-type home). In all its projects EveryChild in Ukraine promotes a coordinated approach to developing alternative forms of care. The effective establishment of alternative placements is possible only alongside the reform of the existing childcare system and the development of relevant infrastructure.

- **Developing services which support families.**

Family social services are a platform for working with vulnerable families with the aim of reducing the risk of children being placed into institutional care. Family support workers can also provide social support to foster families and family-type homes; support individual care planning and review in residential care institutions; provide support to young people leaving care and play a key role in implementing child protection procedures.

- **Capacity building for government bodies, local communities and other partners.**

The Office of EveryChild in Ukraine is actively involved in the development of long-term national and regional programmes targeted at improving childcare services and reducing the number of children placed in state care. An important step in this direction is the comprehensive programme for improving children's services in Kyiv oblast, developed in conjunction with Kyiv oblast administration and other authorities.

- **Promoting inter-sectoral cooperation.**

Solving complex issues in order to meet the needs of children is only possible if all government departments responsible for the welfare of children work together. Based on the experience of many other countries, EveryChild in Ukraine actively promotes interdepartmental cooperation at all levels.



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- **Training**

guarantees the high quality of services provided. Training courses and materials have been developed to train social workers, heads of relevant departments and agencies, as well as for preparing trainers in child protection, foster family support and multi-agency cooperation.

- **Publications.**

Publishing manuals and information materials is another important area of activity. The manual 'Social Services for Families: Developing New Approaches in Ukraine' gives an overview of the theoretical and practical aspects of social work with children and families and presents the experience of Ukrainian family support services in preventing institutionalisation of children. In order to raise public awareness about childcare reform, EveryChild in Ukraine issues a quarterly newsletter which covers aspects of social work with children and families in crisis.



## ★ Key Principles

The core principles of EveryChild in Ukraine are based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and other international and national legislation and conventions which regulate the protection of children's rights.

We believe that

- **Life opportunities for children are greatest when they are brought up in their own family** or, if this is not possible, when they grow up in a family-type environment
- **Partnerships with government and local and international NGOs** at different levels help to ensure that activities are coordinated and that the most effective solutions to childcare issues are found
- **The best interests of the child** should be the key principle for anyone making decisions about children

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More detailed information about the activities of EveryChild in Ukraine can be found on our websites:  
**EveryChild worldwide**  
[www.everychild.org.uk](http://www.everychild.org.uk)  
**EveryChild Ukraine**  
[www.everychild.org.ua](http://www.everychild.org.ua)

## ★ Partnership

EveryChild puts great emphasis on the development of partnerships with local and international organisations and agencies involved in the protection of children's rights and social care reform. EveryChild cooperates with the European Commission (TACIS, ECHO), the UK Department for International Development, Mercy Corps International, and the United Nations (UNICEF, UNOPS, UNHCR).

EveryChild in Ukraine also works closely with:

- ★ **The Ministry of Ukraine for Family, Youth and Sport**
- ★ **State Social Service for Family Children and Youth**
- ★ **Oblast and rayon administrations.**



Our programme is core funded through public donation. We also manage donor funded project grants from international organisations.

  
**EveryChild**  
working for a world where children  
are safe and secure

To find out how you can get involved please contact us at

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