

Family Strengthening & Alternative Care

A GLOBAL MONTHLY NEWS WRAP-UP & RESOURCES

This monthly wrap-up is intended to serve as a compendium of the latest developments in the area of family strengthening and alternative care. We hope you will find it useful and be able to use it in your day-to-day work on research, writing, and practice on child and youth care.

Issue No: 27, Published on 30th June 2023, by Udayan Care



GENERAL ALTERNATIVE CARE NEWS

INTERNATIONAL

- [Sudan Conflict: 300 Children rescued from an orphanage in Khartoum](#)
Nearly 300 orphans caught in the crossfire in Sudan's capital have been rescued in a daring and dangerous evacuation by humanitarian workers. The evacuation was carried out following the deaths of 67 children at the Mygoma orphanage in Khartoum. Khartoum has been hit by daily air strikes and heavy clashes between rival forces since April.
- [UK: Care Leavers are being failed by local authorities when it comes to homelessness](#)
This article highlights how local authorities are failing care leavers in addressing homelessness issues in UK. Care leavers, who have transitioned out of the foster care system, face higher rates of homelessness due to inadequate support and guidance. The article calls for improved policies, increased funding, and better collaboration between authorities to address the housing needs of care leavers effectively.
- [United Nations \(UN\) criticises treatment of children from Jersey in UK Care](#)
UN has criticised the treatment of children from Jersey, a British Crown Dependency, in the UK care system. The UN expresses concern over the lack of support and appropriate resources for these children, leading to inadequate care and potentially violating their rights.

ASIA

- [Israel has over 11,000 children at risk, but no foster homes for them](#)
There are currently 3,789 children across Israel living in foster care, but 11,500 children are classified as at-risk and live in boarding schools because of insufficient people to foster them.
- [China-Pakistan compassionate home inaugurated for ailing children](#)
Welfare organisations in China and Pakistan have collaborated to provide free accommodation and treatment for children with long-term mental and physical ailments in Islamabad.

INDIA

- [2,250 adoption orders issued since the District Magistrates were given power under amended JJ Act rules](#)
According to a senior official, a total of 2,250 adoption orders have been issued since the amended rules of the Juvenile Justice Act came into force in September last year.
- [Tamil Nadu: English training programme launched for children in Child Care Institutions in Tamil Nadu](#)
The Department of Social Defence and The Child Protection Society have launched a programme called Magic English Learning Buddy for children in 36 CCI in Tamil Nadu. The programme will provide experiential learning in English to the children in govt. run CCI to develop listening comprehension, conversational speaking, and reading skills using an indigenously created set of tools and processes.
- [Mission Vatsalya in the context of a family for every child](#)
An opinion piece explains the potential of Mission Vatsalya as a comprehensive scheme for bringing transformational changes to the children in the country.



NEW RESOURCES IN THE ALTERNATIVE CARE SPACE

PUBLICATIONS

- [Youth who have lived in Alternative Care in Nigeria, Zambia, and Zimbabwe: Mental health and violence outcome in nationally representative data](#)
The new article published in the Journal, JAACAP (Volume 1, Issue 1) explores whether having previously lived in alternative care (foster, kinship, and/or residential care) is linked to sexual risk-taking, mental health, and experiencing violence in Nigerian, Zambian, and Zimbabwean youth ages 13-17 living in households with or without their biological parents, and assess the utility and limitations of existing data.
- [Children's religious identity in Alternative Care and Adoption: The need to recentre the child's best interest in international human rights adjudication](#)
The new article published in the Journal, Human Rights Law Review (Volume 23, Issue 2) argues that international human rights adjudicatory institutions should do better in considering the best interests of the child's freedom of religion in cases involving human rights aspects of alternative care.

STUDY

- [Shortfall of Virginia's foster care system](#)
The study report highlights ongoing shortcomings in Virginia's foster care system, revealing significant challenges. The system faces issues such as inadequate resources, a lack of foster homes, and high caseloads for social workers. The report emphasises the need for improvements to better support children in foster care and address the system's deficiencies.



YOUNG VOICES THAT APPEAR IN THE MEDIA

- [This is me: Voice of a Care Leaver](#)
The blog presents the personal narrative of a care leaver, highlighting personal experiences of exploring his identity, challenges, and successes after leaving the foster care system.
- [A Foster Kid's drive to make a change](#)
The article highlights the story of a foster youth who is determined to make a positive impact and bring about change within the foster care system. Despite facing challenges, the youth is passionate about advocating for improvements in foster care policies and support for ageing-out youth.



OPPORTUNITIES AND EVENTS (JOBS, CONFERENCE ALERTS, CALL FOR ABSTRACTS)

- [Better Together Conference, July 20-22, 2023 at Nashville, Tennessee](#)
- [5th BICON: International conference on Alternative Care for children in Asia, September 6 & 7 at Nepal](#)

THANK YOU FOR READING!

Write to us at icbjournal@udayancare.org for suggestions, feedback or content to be included.