

## **Information**

### **Family Group Conferences in Russia**

The project Family Group Conferences (FGC) has been implemented in Murmansk region and in North-West Russia since 2005.

The project Family Group Conferences (FGC) is on its new stage of development. FGC method has proved its effectiveness in Russian conditions and is required among specialists working in the sphere of prevention of family ill-being. Regional authorities in Russia - participants of the project – have started to set up and support the system of organizing, provision of resources, monitoring of effectiveness and control over FGC method in the regions. The interest and need in training on FGC method has risen among specialists from different fields of activities – social protection of the population, education, committees on minors and protection of their rights, guardianship and trusteeship authorities. There are applications from the regions of Russia on supervision of specialists that have been trained on the method and there is a need in identification of a FGC coordinator in each region of Russia where specialists have been trained. The analysis of questionnaires' that indicated weak and strong points in the facilitators' work was carried out as well as challenges the specialists faced with in their work on FGC method. There is a need in publishing of new methodological materials and films, advertising materials to inform people on FGC method.

#### **Target groups of FGC project:**

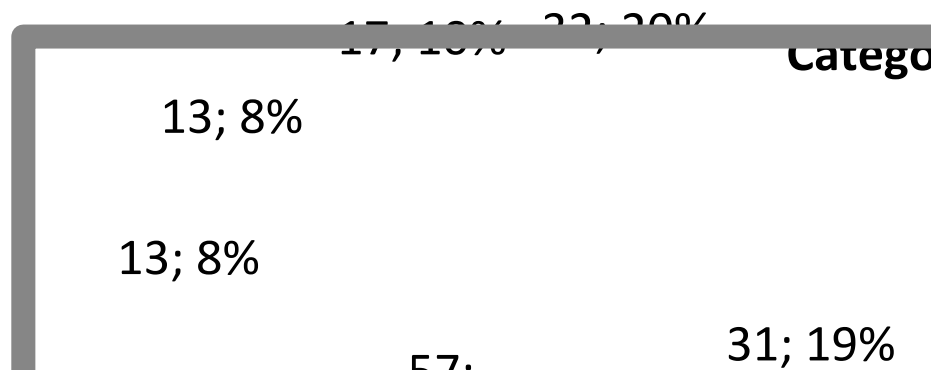
1. Families and children in crisis or difficult life situation.
2. Specialists from state and municipal institutions on prevention of abandonment and social orphan hood, specialists from NGOs.
3. Students

The project activity is focused on the following:

1. Training specialists from different institutions on FGC method to raise their competence in the field of prevention of abandonment, social orphan hood, implementation of innovative methods of work with families in a difficult life situation.
2. Using FGC method in practice in work with families in a difficult life situation.
3. Supervision of specialists.
4. Training of trainers on FGC method for their independent work in the regions, their methodological supervision.
5. Methodological support

FGC activities:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Number of people</b>
Training seminar	12	195
Supervision seminar	9	114
Presentation seminar	5	60



Now there is a need to up-date the project objectives, in particular:

- System of training specialists by only one authorized trainer does not cover the needs of the regions;
- There is a need to change the project priority from raising competence of specialists to provision direct services to children and families using FGC method and evaluating the effectiveness of these services;
- There is a need to enlarge the methodological base available for Russian specialists;
- There is a need in setting up a professional network of specialists that implement FGC method in practice and conditions for exchange of their experience on FGC method implementation.

We would like to express our gratitude to specialists from Norway and Scotland that shared methodological materials and films with us. These materials are very helpful in training of Russian specialists. We address to everyone who has a long-term experience in FGC to share their knowledge, methodological materials and films.

We hope for fruitful cooperation with all members of FGC Network.