

# Participatory planning: involvement as an outcome



## Foster care in Community Homes

managed by professionals

6/7

minimum of 7 children to a maximum of twelve

period minimum 90 days and maximum 2 years

**Participatory planning:**  
**involvement as an outcome**



## Foster care in Community Homes

**IS IT RELEVANT IN  
PIEMONTE?**

on 2412 children in foster care in Piemonte at the date of 12-31-2011, the **43%** (1048) are in community homes

**Participatory planning:  
involvement as an outcome**



## Community Homes ARE...

**INSTITUTIONS!**

most appropriate foster  
care answer

temporary

specific needs of some  
children

Participatory planning:  
involvement as an outcome



## Participatory planning:

With appropriate approach and languages, give the chance to people that are in community homes to participate in planning community homes daily life

User  
Patient  
Child looked after  
Child in foster care

**NO**

Planner  
Drafter  
Citizen  
**PLAYER**

**YES**

Participatory planning:  
involvement as an outcome



**Participatory  
planning:**

**Ground rules**

**give real power to people  
involved**

**not occasionally, but  
ordinary**

**take into account age, conditions and ability  
to participate of people involved**

**Participatory planning:  
involvement as an outcome**



## Participatory planning

### General draft of community home

1. Identification of group of stakeholders in community home life (first of all the children in foster care accompanied by their biological family)
2. Codification of a simple structure of interview questions (with different languages and approach but same content)
  - What you like/unlike of the community home?
  - Why?
  - What you expect/desire from community home?
  - What you suggest?
3. Meetings with group of stakeholders, recording and reporting the entire meeting;
4. Drafting of documents
5. Implementation of the plan

**Participatory planning:  
involvement as an outcome**

With children in Community Home

### Individual educative planning (IEP)

1. Prepare a provisional draft of IEP by professional's staff
2. Submit IEP to child hosted to be integrated, corrected and finally approved
3. Return IEP to professional's staff to be optimized
4. Implementation of IEP
5. Evaluation of IEP outcomes (first professionals, then in common with child hosted)
6. Redesign of IEP for following period



## With children in Community Homes

# Participatory planning

### General draft of community home

#### *APPROFONDIMENTO: LE RESPONSABILITÀ DELLE PRESENZE EDUCATIVE<sup>5</sup>*

Ogni presenza in comunità è coinvolta e partecipa dell'ambiente educativo: educatori, minori ospiti, operatrice socio sanitaria, tirocinanti, sostituzioni, genitori dei minori, assistenti sociali, tutti influenzano il clima educativo, sia che siano in comunità per centinaia di ore al mese o per due ore all'anno. E' quindi necessario che tutti siano, in gradi e modi diversi, consapevoli del ruolo educativo in comunità, e inoltre, sempre in modo proporzionale, abbiano la possibilità di orientare il loro contributo all'ambiente in modo originale e armonico, cioè personalizzato rispetto al profilo di ognuno ma anche continuo e sintonico rispetto agli altri contributi. La cura dei canali attraverso cui garantire questa *partecipazione consapevole per gradi* è un aspetto progettuale complesso e cruciale.

Da intervento di minore ospite: "... A. (la OSS del Servizio, ndr) è quella che sta tutto il giorno qui, che ci sgrida più degli educatori, anche quando gli educatori non ci dicono niente lei ci sgrida, [...] che viene qua tutti i giorni, che ci conosce meglio e quindi è anche un po'..."

# Participatory planning: involvement as an outcome





**MAX'S IEP**

**MARCH 2012**

- Write ALL duties that professors assign.
- Take the school diary and read the deliveries, show it to the educator and decide which task to do first.
- Studying the whole THEORY concerns that task, before it is held.
- In case of deficiencies: study to recover.
- If prompts are imminent: start to take you forward with the study.
- The operator will see the work done and make you repeat the lesson.

**Participatory  
planning**

**With children in Community Homes**

**JUNE 2012**

- You'll have a small area of decision-making autonomy in the performance of school duties for holyday: you can decide which school subjects perform that day and the amount of exercises that should be enough to deal with a two-hour study time.
- You will carry out the duties of the summer books that operators have bought and do themes and reading cards. The topics of duties will cover the second year of ordinary school plan about second level of primary school, so that you can make a good refresher to put you in the new class (third year).
- Before face the exercises, you'll study the theoretical part, in case of difficulty you can always ask for help.

**Participatory planning:  
involvement as an outcome**



**With children in Community Homes**

**Participatory  
planning**

**WICH  
OUTCOMES?**

**Participatory planning:**  
**involvement as an outcome**



## With children in Community Homes

### Participatory planning

Allows to increase the compatibility  
between children and community home ambience

Allows to reach a level of common assessment  
between professional operators and children in foster care

- Analyze goals with children: why have been reached or not?

- Has methods and activities worked functionally to the plan builded together?

- Which innovations and changes could help the plan to have a better impact  
on quality of foster care

**Participatory planning:**  
**involvement as an outcome**



## in Community Homes

## Participatory planning

**Increase participation to the plan for the community home by the stakeholders**

**Increase contributions and idea to renew the community home,  
based on stakeholder's declared needs**

**Increase the "living network" of adults around the community home,  
that could become also resources for different foster care process  
for children temporary hosted in community home**

**Participatory planning:  
involvement as an outcome**



**Participatory  
planning**

**in Community Homes**

**WICH EFFECTS?**

**When you give a sense of “real power” to stakeholders in children protections services, they participate with enthusiastic contributions**

**Increasing the participation of children guests in community home means also to involve them deeply in personal case planning**

**If the process became ordinary, the community home become a resource for the entire local community**

**Participatory planning:  
involvement as an outcome**