

## Systematic follow-up of Support Activities for Children as Next of Kin

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## The Swedish Family Care Competence Centre (SFCCC)

pursues development of knowledge about children  
as next of kin on behalf of the National Board  
of Health and Welfare



## Children as next of kin



Children (<18 years) with parents who suffer from mental illness, severe physical disability, and any form of substance abuse as well as children who have unexpectedly lost a parent or another adult with whom the child permanently lives.

Includes children with caring responsibilities as well as those without.

## Children as Next of Kin in Sweden

- 17% substance abuse
  - 11% violence
  - 18% physical disability
  - 3% parent's death
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- 30 % substance abuse/mental illness left elementary school without being eligible to start high school



## Goal for Children as Next of Kin

- Contribute to make the situation better for children living in vulnerable situations
- Support the development going on in Sweden for support for children as next of kin
- To build a long term sustainable basis for the production of knowledge and to share knowledge, exchange experiences and learning network in the area.



## The Project



- Funding - the National Board of Health and Welfare
- Including both development and research  
SFCCC and Linnaeus University
- Jönköping University and the Jönköping Academy  
for Improvement of Health and Welfare
- 2014 – 2016

## Aim



- Support in introducing or developing methods and practices to carry out systematic follow-up of support activities for children as next of kin
- Support in finding suitable instruments for measuring the results of support activities
- Follow, analyze and evaluate follow-up (staff)
- Contribute to increased knowledge in the area



## Systematic follow-up

Continuously document individual children's problems, needs, support and results

*What is the problem?*

*What support has been given?*

*Will the situation change afterward?*

*What does the children consider about the support given?*

*Is it appropriate?*





## Why?



### Individual level

- See if the individual child receives satisfactory support, needs extended support, is there any need for other support and that the support does not harm?

### Organisational level

- Results from their support activities at group level - continuous organization development



## Process

- workshops - managers and group leaders
- find, develop, refine and evaluate items and/or questionnaires
- support implementation of systematic follow-up
- Research - interviews and documents

## Results



- 131 organisations contacted, 24 participated
- Giving support in groups, similar difficulties and age
- Different agendas to implement systematic follow-up
  - Non-governmental organisations – need funding
  - Social services – required to work more EBP
  - Health care – more focus for the children's parents

# Continued work



- continued contact with a few organizations
- contact with new organizations
- return to those we do not have contact with today
- research articles

# Nka<sup>TM</sup>

Nationellt kompetenscentrum anhöriga

## Thanks!

### Contact

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See you at the conference 😊!



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