



Multicultural Foster Care Program SSI

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Strengthening Children Through Culture

BACKGROUND

Settlement Services International Inc.:
formed in 2000,
representative body for 11 Migrant Resource Centres

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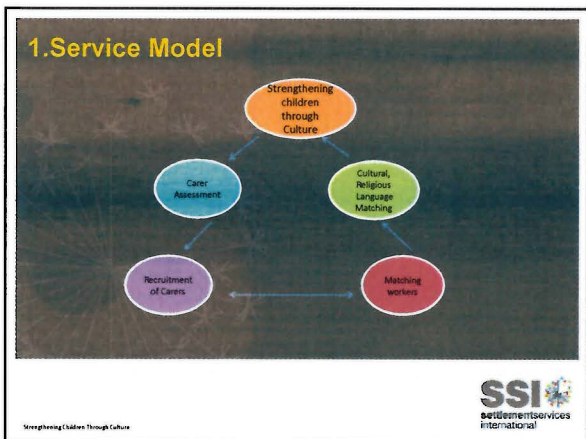
SSI Philosophy of care

- Cultural matching
- Cultural Plan
- Supporting carers
- Supporting children and young people in care.



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Permanency planning

- Initially for children in out-of-home care, the concept of permanency planning now encompasses a *systematic goal-directed* and *timely* approach to case planning for *all* children subject to child protection intervention, aimed at promoting stability and continuity (Maluccio, Fein & Olmstead 1986; Marsh & Triseliotis 1993; Thoburn 1994).
- Decision-making should be individualised, timely and culturally appropriate

Settlement - Support - Independence

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- Permanency planning is not only about placement. Most importantly, permanency planning is about *relationships, identity and a sense of belonging* (Brydon 2004; Fein & Maluccio 1992; Lahti 1982; Sanchez 2004)

Settlement - Support - Independence

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Cultural care plan

Consultation with the parents, children, carers and community.



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Successes

- Children maintaining their culture and their heritage whilst in care.
- Children having connection with their parents and extended family.
- Matching placements
- Placement stability and permanency planning.



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