

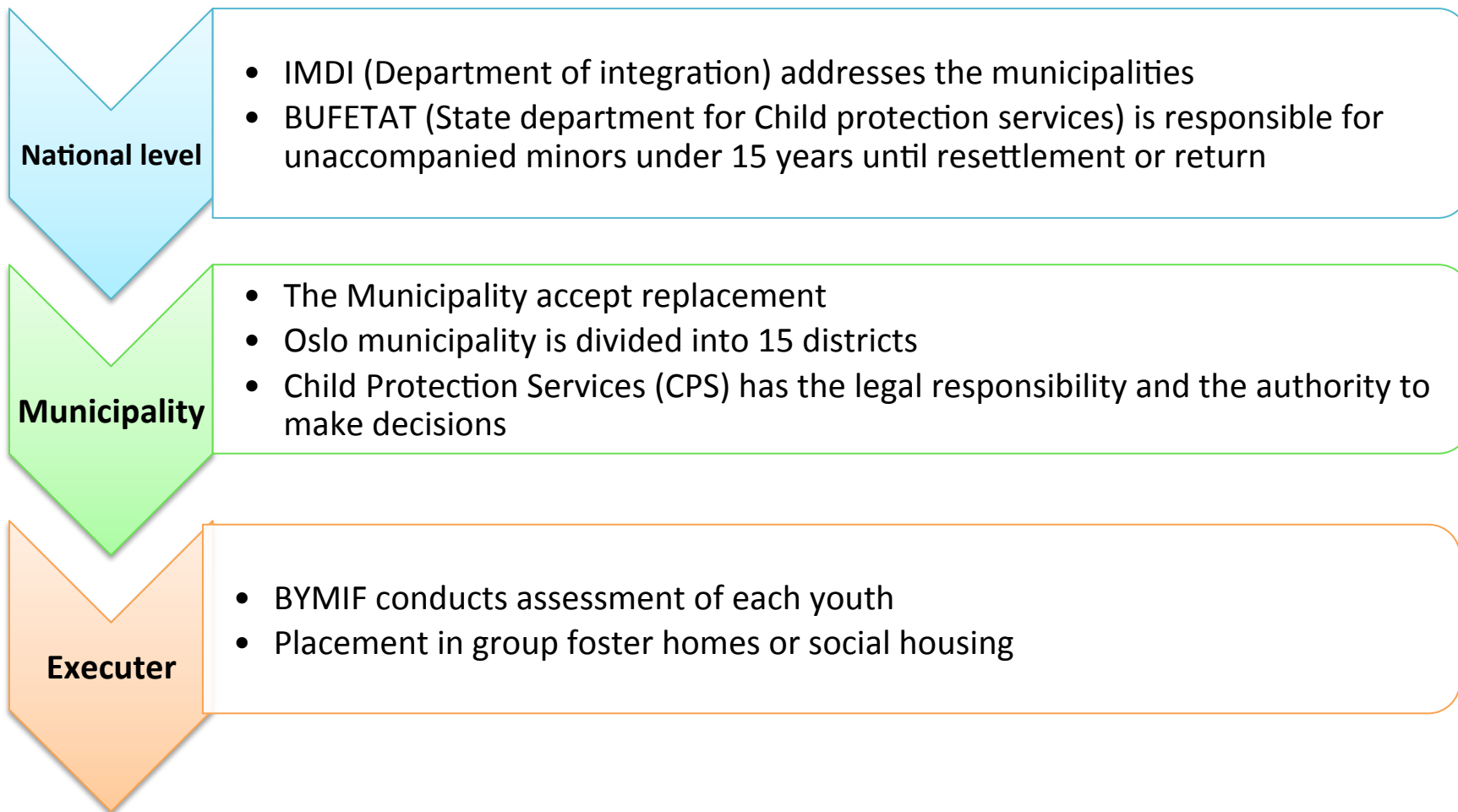


# BYOMFATTENDE SENTER FOR ENSLIGE MINDREÅRIGE FLYKTNINGER

BYMIF, Center for unaccompanied minor refugees



# Arrival in Norway, registered and placed in reception centre for UM over 15 years



# BYMIF; Resource centre and care

- City wide, organized through a department in the district of Gamle Oslo, in the municipality of Oslo
- Established in 1982, since then over 800 children and youth have received individual help
- A workplace with focus on: Tuition and training students from different professions studies (social workers, psychologists and others)

# **BYMIF; Resource centre and care**

- Funded by selling services to Child Protection Services in Oslo
- Serving all 15 districts of Oslo
- Some activities also funded by private endowments
- Group of employees

# **BYMIF; Resource centre and care**

- 4 Group foster homes
- 1 social Housing for 3 youngsters
- Kveldstilbudet
- Counselling/Support (Also: After leave care)

# Our Values

## *Unaccompanied, but not alone*

- Comprehensive care, holistic approach
- Trauma proven care
- We focus on continuity and use of relatives/network
- Trust and relation building takes time
- We learn in all different arenas; school, home, activities, work etc.
- BYMIF's goal for our young persons: To have an independent life where they master grown-up responsibilities in the society



# Kveldstilbudet:

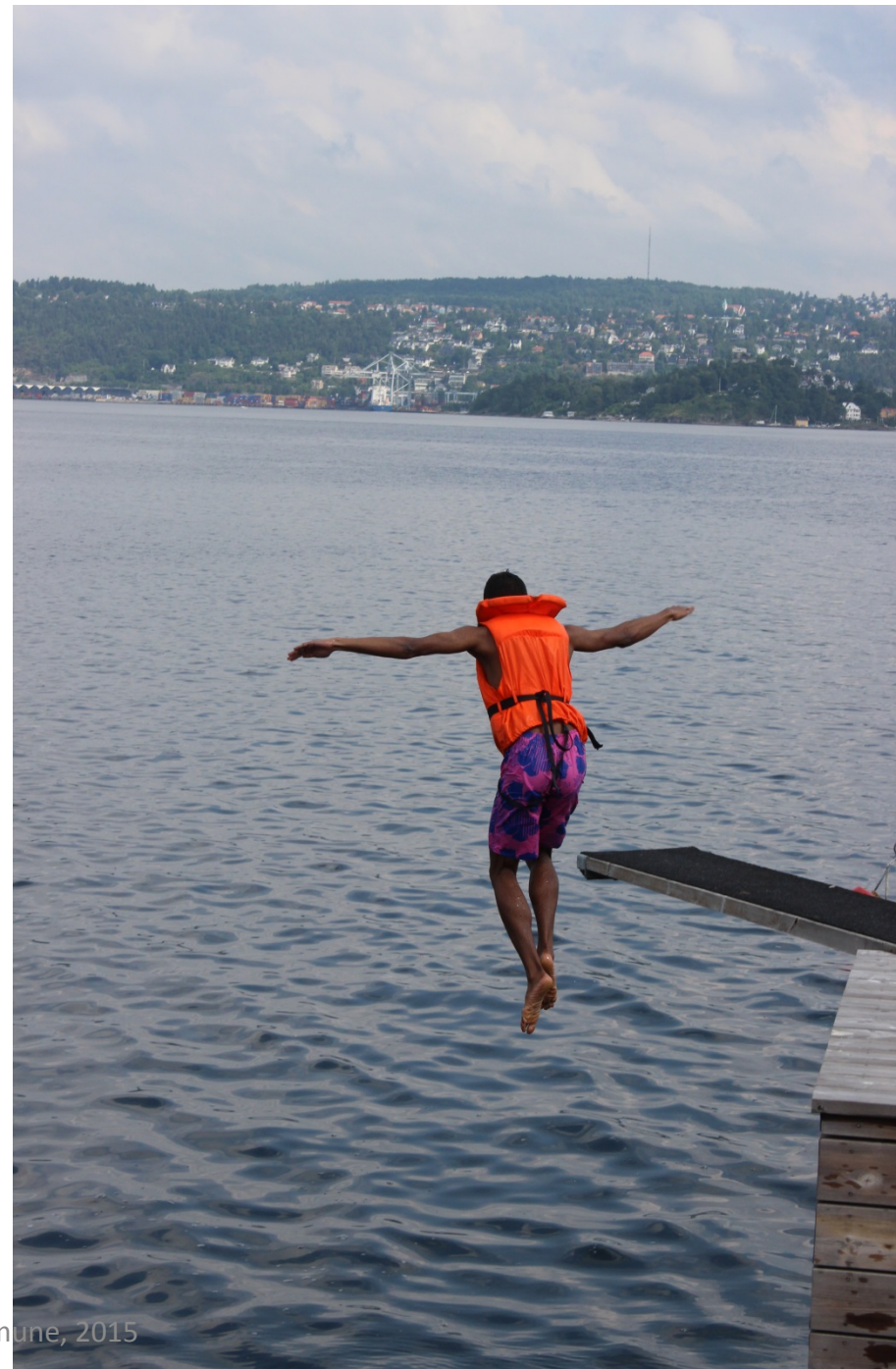
- Open Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays  
2PM-7.30PM
- Help with homework
- Social activities/meeting place
- Social group activities on relevant themes
- Help with job training/ monitoring practise
- Holiday activities (+ summer and winter camp)





BYMIF, Oslo kommune, 2015





# Matching and placement; BYMIFs four Group Foster Homes

- BYMIF is responsible for the apartments, and the foster parents pays rent to BYMIF
- Mixed backgrounds; language, religion and cultures

Foster parent from Niger  
Unaccompanied minors:  
3 boys from Syria, Somalia  
and Afghanistan

Foster parents, married  
from Iran and Afghanistan.  
Lives together with one  
daughter.  
Unaccompanied minors:  
2 boys and 1 girl (all from  
Afghanistan)

Foster parent from Sri Lanka  
Unaccompanied minors:  
1 boy from Sierra Leone/  
Liberia/Guniea  
1 boy from Bangladesh

Foster parent from Eritrea  
Unaccompanied minors:  
2 boys from Somalia and  
Afghanistan

# Challenges and possibilities

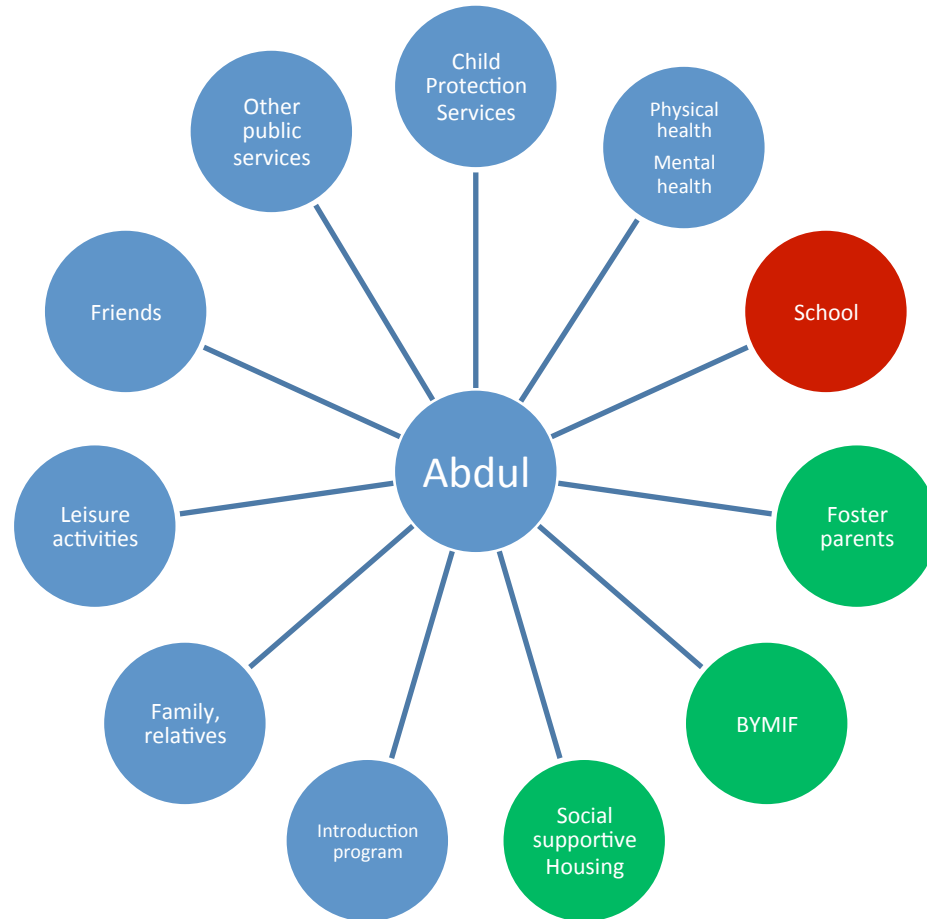


- Gender roles
- Multi cultural vs. «ethnic matching»
- «Matching» individuals
- Comprehension vs instruction
- Care in a “cultural” setting – Different approaches

# Support to foster homes

- Regular meetings, on *different* arenas
- How to build trust between foster parent and BYMIF
- Adjust support to relevant phase:
  - Assessment, planning and preparation
  - Resettlement
  - Stabilization
  - Follow-up (school, health, work, activities, family)
  - Steps towards independent living
- How can the foster parent's experience that their effort is good enough , even though the young person they are fostering is struggling?

# Individual challenges and possibilities



Outer limits sets conditions

Key Statuary Milestones leading to adulthood and independence:  
Age, school, job, activities, relationships

Age

Job

Time

Economics

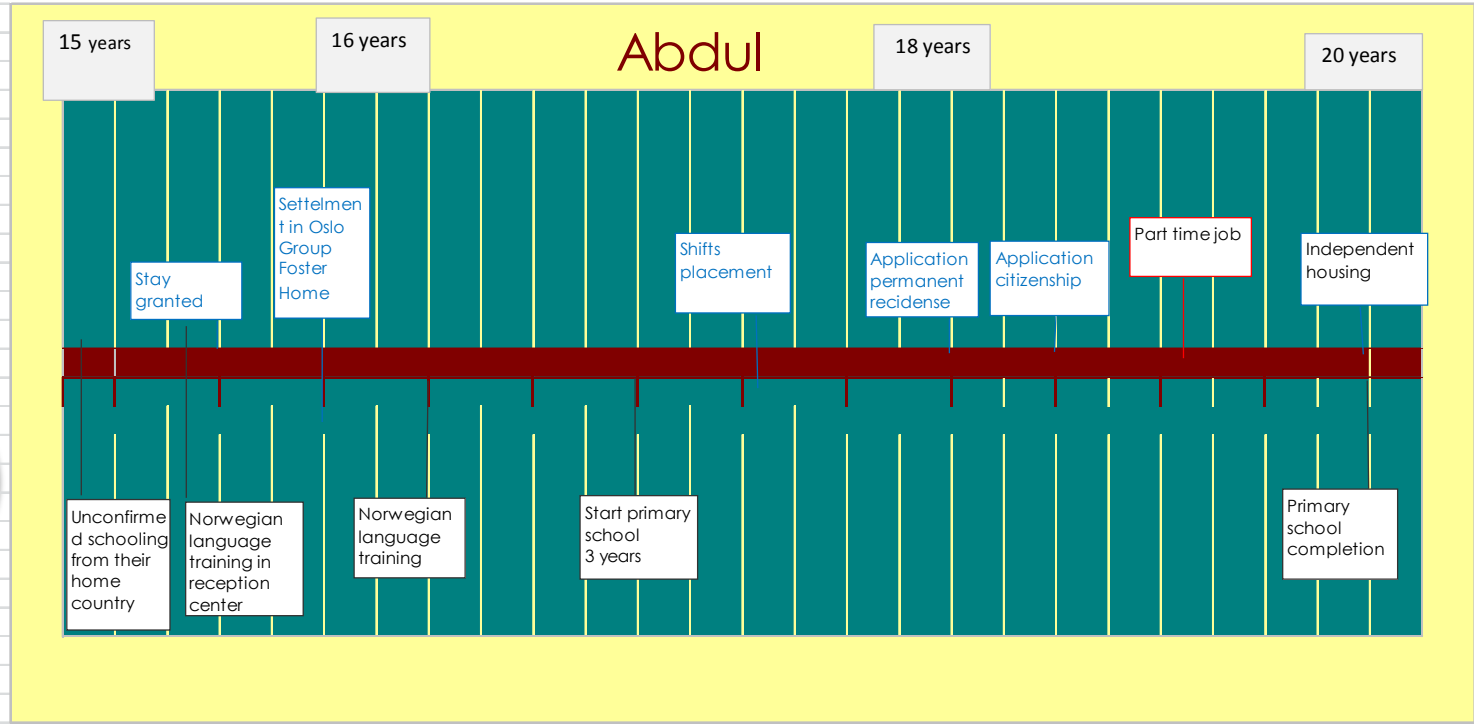
Laws and regulations

Family

Permanent residence permit

CPS

School and education





# Key success factors when establishing Group foster homes

- Staff/employees with relevant experience, knowledge and dedication
- One center
- Focus on education and homework
- Focus on resilience promoting recreational activities
- Connection with local CPS



# Key success factors when establishing Group foster homes

- Foster parents with interest and courage to try - similar background as children
- Secure that they get the support they need - Including some free weekends and holidays every year; time to recuperate.
- Empowerment of foster parent's
- Houses/apartments for families

[www.BYMIF.no](http://www.BYMIF.no)



BYMIF, Oslo kommune, 2015