

# Protection of Children in Syria During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Children and Alternative Care

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#### **Context**

#### **Overall**

- There are over 160,000 persons living in *last resort* sites without reliable or sufficient access to essential services. Just under 120,000 people are in 10 camps.

  Approximately 41,000 people are in over 200 Collective Centres.
- Health system capacity in NES is extremely limited, even relative to other areas of Syria. Of 279 recorded public health centres in NES only 26 are fully functioning.
- 42 confirmed Covid-19 cases across Syria

#### **Access and Operational Presence**

- Border closures and restriction of movement
- Restrictions on gathering of people
- Schools and CFSs closed
- Phone signal is weak across NES, internet not consistently available
- Disrupted supply chain and lack of PPE

## **Alternative Care**

#### **Causes of Separation**

- Caregivers may have been killed or arrested
- Children detained
- Displacement due to offensives
- Inter-camp movement

### **Types of Alternative Care**

- Kinship Care
- Foster Care
- Interim Care Centres (ICCs)



# **Alternative Care & Covid-19 Considerations**

- Awareness sessions on Covid-19
- Adapted positive parenting sessions
- Preparing Foster Carers
- Preparing the Interim Care Centre



What's Next?



