

Family foster care of older people



 Perhehoitoliitto

Finnish Federation of Foster Care Associations

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Family (foster) care of older people (FFC)

- What is FFC of older people?
- How to develop and organize FFC
- FFC in Finland



Finnish Federation of Foster Care Associations

- Work to secure the opportunity to live in a family for those persons who are in need of care
- Operate at the national level
- 25 associations in which 3500 members, foster parents and foster carers
- 12 employees

- Support foster parents and foster carers
- Consult workers responsible for family foster care and other professionals
- Support children and youngsters in foster care
- Develop foster family care by projects
- Co-operate and influence on legislation and authorities
- Organize educational and recreational activities
- Train leaders for peer groups and small groups, mentors
- Publicity
- International co-operation (IFCO and NOFCA)



Social service based on Social Welfare Act

- **Family Carer Act** (312/92)
- **Act on the Amendment of Family Carer Act** (317/2011)
- **Social Welfare Act** (710/82), (365/ 92), ja –asetus (419/92)
- Laki sosiaalihuoltolain muuttamisesta (923/2011)
- Asetus sosiaalihuoltoasetuksen 12 § :n muuttamisesta (419/1992)
- Laki sosiaalihuollon asiakkaan asemasta ja oikeuksista (812/2000)
- Laki ja asetus sosiaali- ja terveydenhuollon asiakasmaksuista (734/1992) (912/ 1992)
- Kunnallinen eläkelaki (549/ 2003)
- Laki tapaturmavakuutuslain muuttamisesta (314/ 1992)
- Hallintolaki (434/2003)
- Laki lasten kanssa työskentelevien rikostaustan selvittämisestä (504/2002)
- Laki ja asetus lasten huollosta ja tapaamisoikeudesta (619/ 1996), (556/ 1994)

The aim of family foster care

- to give the persons cared for an opportunity for family-like care
- to give close human relationships
- to promote their basic social security and social development

Social Welfare Act 710/1982



Family foster care of older people (FFC)

- Care at a private home other than older person's own
= family carer's home
 - Full-time / 24-hour
 - "Daycare" also possible
- a) Long-term: the older person moves permanently to live with the foster family
 - b) Short-term: e.g. during the caregiver's day off (law: 3 days / month)



Family foster care of older people (FFC)

- Family care home
 - private home; provides family care on the basis of a commission agreement
 - in its health conditions, facilities, equipments and other circumstances, a FFC home shall be suitable for the care to be provided
 - particular attention to the human relationships in the family home
 - one person responsible to care: max 4 older people
 - two persons responsible to care : max 7 older people; atleast one of them must have appropriate education (e.g. practical nurse)
 - own children under school age and other persons needing special care are included into the account
 - municipality approves
- Family foster carer
 - preparedness (preservice training), education, experince and personal qualities
 - municipality approves

The strenghts of FFC

- Possibility to be a member of a family
- Home as a living environment
- Social relations and close relationships
- Possibility to participate daily activities – relevance, meaning in life
- Constancy
 - who mask you to bed in the evening, cook porridge in the morning



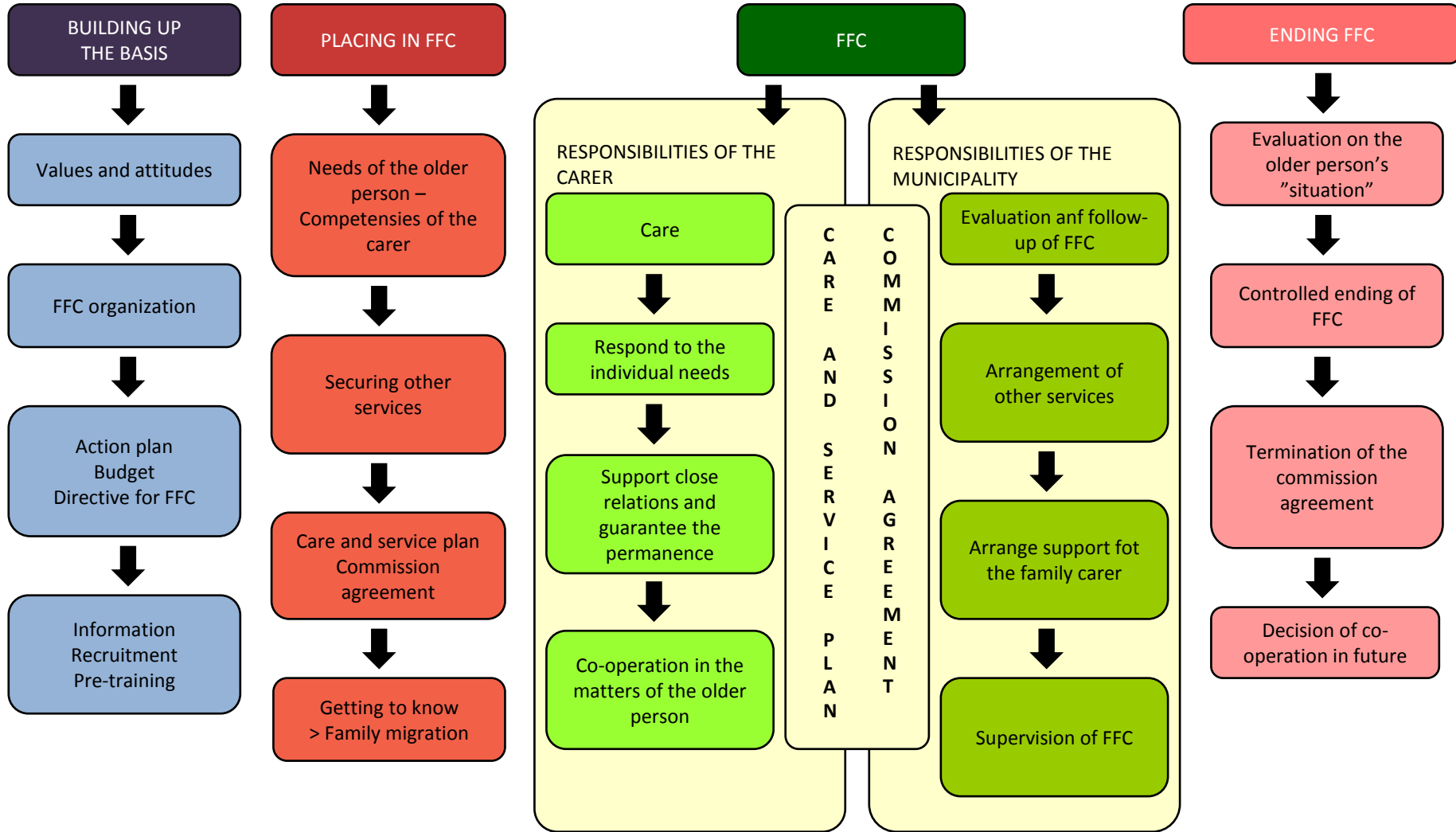
FFC of older people

- Arranged, supported and supervised by the municipality
- A commission agreement between the municipality and family foster carer
- Care and service plan for the older person
- Remunerations of care for the family carer are paid by the municipality
 - Remuneration for care and compensation for the expenses, minimums are provided by the Act
 - Necessary expenses caused by the initiation of care
- The municipality charges the older person a customer fee provided in the Act on Social and Health Care Fees

Development of FFC in the municipality

- Decision of launch, inclusion in strategy and budget
- Directive for FFC – note book for practices
- Information
 - Municipal officials, workforce, elected officials, residents, especially older people and their relatives, the third sector, especially the Council of Senior Citizens
- Recruitment of persons interested in FFC
- Pre-training
- Arrangement of support – financial, professional, emotional, practical help

ENTIRETY OF FFC



ORGANIZATION, PRODUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF FFC SERVICES,
ACTS, REGULATIONS JA STANDARDS

Status of the family foster carer

Rights and responsibilities are determined in the commission agreement

Support

Pre-training, responsible person in the municipality, training, peer group meetings, opportunity to take a leave, rehabilitation ...

Social security

Pension (accrued by remuneration for care), Sickness Allowance by the common disease safety (The Social Insurance Institution of Finland - KELA)

Insurances

Municipality - accident insurance



Training program



Two-step training program

- 1) Instructor training – organized by Perhehoitoliitto
- 68 instructor trainers in 2011-2012
- 2) Local pre-training for family foster carers

The aim of pre-training:

- To ensure for all older people an equal opportunity to get family which is prepared to family foster care.
- To give sufficient information for those persons interested in family foster care.
 - opportunity to make an informed decision
- To ensure good care for the older people



FCC - Competencies

- To take care of the welfare of older people
- To help and support older people to use his own resources and maintain / promote functional ability
- To enable and support the relations between the older person and his/her close people
- To co-operate in matters of the older person
- Readiness to commit to a family foster carer role



Pre-training

Recruitment, information, "absolute barriers" (basic information form, municipality's opinion), starting the pre-training

THEMES OF THE MEETINGS		
1 Information on FFC	Homework	
2 Safety from stability and continuity	Homework	
3 Old age does not come alone – aches and pains	Homework	Family meeting Development work if needed
4 Good daily life of older person	Homework	
5 Older person and the families in transition	Homework	
6 Experiences of FCC	Homework	
7 Status of the family carer		

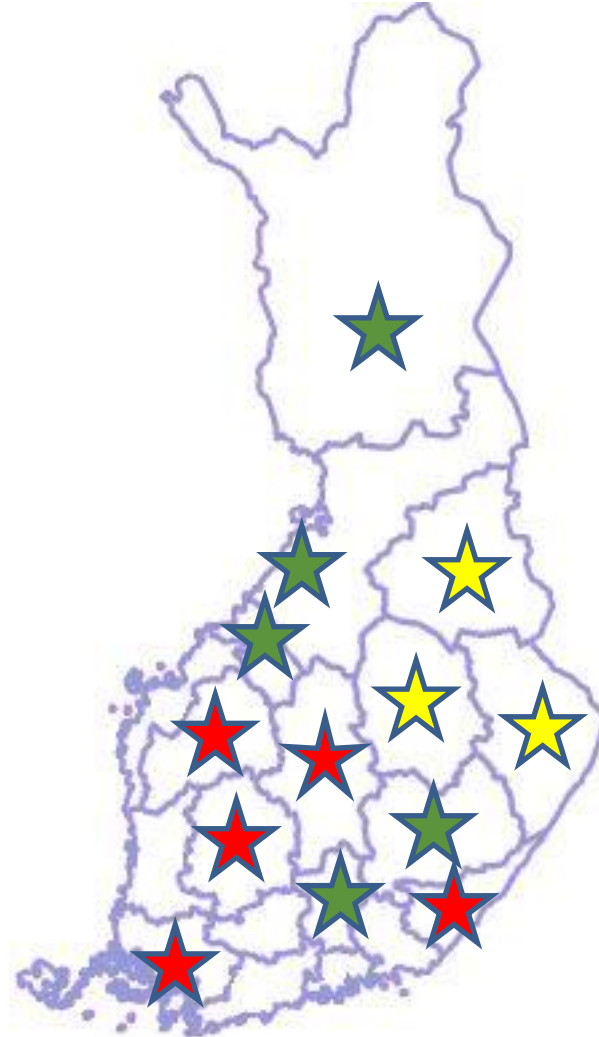
Common assessment and informed decision: Am I able and do I want to be a family carer?

Common assessment – final report



FCC in Finland

-  > 10 years
-  1-2 years
-  starting



-  North Karelia
Kainuu
Pohjois-Savo
-  Central Finland
Pirkanmaa
Varsinais-Suomi
South Karelia
South Ostrobothnia
-  Lapland
Central Ostrobothnia
North Ostrobothnia
Etelä-Savo
Päijät-Häme

- About 90 older people in long-term care
- About 150 older people in short-term care

Challenges

- Differences in the availability and use of family foster care
- Adoption of a new service – attitudes, prejudices

- Organization - Regional units
 - small communities have often difficulties to organise recruiting, training, placements, education and support by their own





Know family foster care - project

– dissemination of family foster care of older people

- Funded by Finland's Slot Machine Association 1.5.2011-31.12.2014
- Awareness of family foster care of older people is increased
- Family foster care is a real option for those older people for whom it is expected to be suitable
- 40 % of the persons responsible for older people's services what family foster care of older people is and how to start it
- Peer support and education are offered for the family foster carers
- Information is available in different forms
- A quality assessment method is in use

Who is suitable in FFC?

Family care is provided in the case of persons who are not considered to need institutional care and who cannot be expediently provided with care, upbringing or other attendance in their own home or by making use of other welfare and health care services.

- People with memory disorders, mild and moderate
- People feeling insecure, loneliness, depression
- Frailty, mobility problems
- Discharge from hospital
- Caregiver's day off
- Mobility: need not more than one-person help
- Sleep the nights as a rule peacefully, do not interfere others



Then when....

Then when I do not remember my name
Then when this day is mixed in with yesterday
Then when my children who are grown adults
are back small in my memories
Then when I produce nothing
Treat me as a person, even.

.....

Then when the clock stops
Attend me safely to my last trip.

