

# Supporting the transition in local communities for unaccompanied children



## Effective responses include:

- A network of support from all different sectors – with mechanisms in place for good, ongoing coordination.
- Services are integrated – health, mental health, legal services provided in centralized access points, even in schools.
- Services are strength-based, driven by the community itself.
- Services are delivered by bilingual, culturally competent helpers who get adequate training and organizational support for their own well-being (staff care strategies).
- Services are inclusive to ALL youth (disabilities, minority groups, gender responsive, etc.), and accessible – reaching youth (and their caregivers) in the places and ways that youth are most comfortable.
- Schools are used as community hubs to deliver services. They proactively reach out to newly arrived students and offer specialist supports. They expand the scope and accessibility of available services through community partnerships.
- Youth and caregivers are actively engaged in decision-making – not just about their individual cases, but also about programming