

Curriculum vitae: Helen Jones National and International Children's Services Consultant

Nationality: British

Languages: English (Excellent); French (Excellent)

Expertise: A social worker, social work manager, professional adviser, consultant and senior civil servant with a long social work career in local and central government, social work teaching and staff training in all aspects of work with vulnerable children and families.

An experienced civil servant with extensive knowledge of legislative, policy and practice development in child welfare at national and international level, particularly in child protection, family support services, disability, kinship care and children in care. Particular interest and experience in bringing together research, policy and practice in the development and sustainability of cost-effective services. Extensive experience of developing regulation, policy and practice frameworks such as the White Paper Care Matters: Time for Change and particular interests in in new models of service delivery using evidence-based interventions and the systemic issues in effective implementation of change.

Extensive experience working with Governments and NGOs in Eastern Europe, including Russia, Kosovo and Bulgaria as well as France, Sri Lanka, Malta and Cote d'Ivoire. Development work with Ministers and officials from countries seeking to improve their child welfare services, particularly in relation to child placement and family support services, requiring capacity to evaluate the current situation before generating recommendations for change. Work includes developing policy and practice in the Russian Republic to support the development of foster care and family support services as well as national indicators to support the development and monitoring of prevention services; participation in a number of international collaborations including the US, France, Canada, Australia, Sweden and Norway

An effective manager able to communicate and work with staff at all levels in an organisation including Ministers, senior civil servants, senior managers and practitioners in local government and NGOs as well as a strong track record in project management, implementation and delivery.

Extensive experience of developing regulation, policy and practice frameworks and particular interests in new interventions and models of service delivery using evidence-based interventions and the systemic issues in effective implementation of change.

Countries: Russian Federation, Cote d'Ivoire, Bulgaria, Malta, Kosovo, France, Moldova, Canada, Australia, Sri Lanka, Macedonia, Malta

Qualifications: 1972 BA Hons University of Oxford: History and French
1976 Masters Degree in Social Work (including Certificate of Qualification in Social Work) University of Sussex

Record of Employment

- 2007 - current** Part-time external consultant and trainer to Association Retis, a child welfare service in Haute Savoie, France. Roles include implementation of a framework for assessing the needs of children and their families, providing case analysis to four teams including foster and kinship carers and thematic teaching sessions.
- 2004 - 2013:** Policy manager for looked after children and those on the edge of care in the Department for Education, England with particular responsibility for legislation and policy on foster care, family and friends care and children on the edge of care. Working with local authorities and NGOs to implement new developments, financing new models of foster care for those children experiencing the greatest challenges and playing a particular role in bringing together research, policy and practice to ensure that new developments were based on evidence.
- 1992 – 2004** Social Services Inspector, Department of Health, responsible for professional policy advice to civil servants on all aspects of children in care with an emphasis on foster care, care planning and reviewing and health issues and contributing to the development of inspection standards for children’s services in England
- July 1987 – January 1992** Principal Officer – Child Care Policy and Planning – London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham with lead responsibility for implementing the Children Act 1989 in a local authority in England
- September 1981 – July 1987:** Training manager, London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.
- April 1981 – August 1981** CSS Supervisor, West London Institute of Higher Education.
- February 1981 – July 1981** Lecturer p/t, Social Work Course (CQSW), Mid Kent College of Higher and Further Education.
- September 1976 – July 1980** Social Worker, London Borough of Wandsworth.
- July 1973 – August 1984** Trainee Social Worker, London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

International experience

Name of project	Fostering services development
Year	1994-present
Location	Russian Federation
Client	Russian Federation Government, Moscow Government, Naked Heart Foundation
Positions held	International Consultant
Activities performed	Led Government to Government collaboration on the development of fostering legislation and policy post 1989, hosting UK study visits and contributing to events in Russia, training staff from across the Russian Federation on all aspects of setting up foster care services and de-institutionalisation; in 2015, 2016 and 2017 developed, organised and ran seminars and master classes on finding families for children with disabilities and other children who wait longer for family placements at conferences for the Naked Heart Foundation and the Moscow Government

Name of project	Guidance on the deinstitutionalisation of children with disabilities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
Year	September-December 2018
Location	ECARO Regional Office
Client	UNICEF
Positions held	International Consultant
Activities performed	The consultant provided technical support to UNICEF Europe and Central Asia Regional Office in developing a technical guidance paper on deinstitutionalization of children with disabilities. This included looking into all types of institutions caring for children with disabilities, including boarding (special)schools and small group homes in order to promote better decision-making among policy makers and child welfare professionals in the region regarding deinstitutionalization of children with disabilities. The guidance outlines effective evidence-based strategies to promote appropriate deinstitutionalization of children with disabilities, including increasing political will for the development of a balanced child care system to cover for different needs of children, catalysing preventative work to reduce overall numbers in the child care system, and promoting family-based alternatives for the clear majority of children in the care system.

Name of project	Démarche de Consensus sur les besoins fondamentaux de l'enfant en protection de l'enfance
Year	2016-17
Location	Paris
Client	Ministre des familles, de l'enfance, et des droits de femmes
Positions held	International Consultant
Activities performed	<p>As part of the Committee of Experts, provided an international perspective on identifying, understanding and assessing the needs of vulnerable children, including children in care and children with disabilities in the context of normal child development; provided evidence from the use of the Framework for Assessing Children in Need and their Families in England and Canada which has a child development perspective at its heart; participated in broad consultation and negotiation process with other national and international contributors and local stakeholders through written and oral evidence and report drafting.</p> <p>http://www.ladocumentationfrancaise.fr/var/storage/rapports-publics/174000173.pdf</p>

Name of project	Human Resources and Training Needs Assessment In Social Work in Moldova
Year	2015
Location	Home-based desk research
Client	UNICEF
Positions held	Private partnership with lead International Consultant Joanna Rogers
Activities performed	In a private partnership supported the lead consultant undertaking an international review of the development of social work, history, definitions and practice models as part of an extensive desk review and primary field research aiming to inform recommendations on the development of the social assistance workforce in Moldova.

Name of project **Development of Foster Care for SOS Children’s Villages-Cote d’Ivoire**

Year 2013

Location Cote d’Ivoire

Client SOS Children’s Villages on behalf of IFCO

Positions held Key expert

Activities performed Developed a full concept note for the foster care pilot project for Abobo-Gare (Côte d’Ivoire). In conjunction with the national expert, built partnerships for the implementation of the Foster Care Project in Cote d’Ivoire, especially with the key implementation partners such as government, INGO and strong local organisations and provided a possible model for the development of a formal foster care service pilot which would not cut across the strong informal networks of kinship care within the local communities

Name of project Taking Action for Children

Year August 2011 to October 2013

Location Russian Federation

Client Partnership for Everychild (P4EC) on behalf of IFCO

Positions held International Consultant to ‘Taking Action for Children’ project, Russian Federation

Activities performed Provided external support and international expertise and experience to a P4EC project on developing and implementing an indicator framework focused on prevention of unnecessary loss of parental care as a monitoring and advocacy instrument; development of three Russia-wide networks on early childhood development; foster care and family support; in particular used the UK government experience of developing indicators to monitor progress in children’s services and also reviewed the Manual for the Measurement of Indicators for Children in Formal Care and the draft UN Alternative Care Guidelines.

Name of project **Special care for special needs**

Year 2010

Location Pristina, Kosova

Client Save the Children on behalf of IFCO

Positions held Key expert

Activities performed In conjunction with others developed and provided a 10 day training and development programme for Kosovan Serbs and Albanians on

promoting family based care for special needs children based on international best practice and standards on deinstitutionalisation and family finding

Name of project	Case management and skills to foster, support and mentor families
Year	2007
Location	Colombo, Sri Lanka
Client	Save the Children on behalf of IFCO
Positions held	Key expert
Activities performed	Developed and provided a training programme for local probation officers on recruiting, assessing, training, managing and supporting foster carers and a training manual as the basis of a wider cascade training programme to develop foster care in Sri Lanka

Name of project	Developing family support and family based care for children
Year	2005
Location	Valletta, Malta
Client	Maltese Government
Positions held	Key expert
Activities performed	Developed and provided a training programme for a wide range of local staff including social workers, psychologists and social work assistants on supporting family-based care for children, as well as promoting the rights of children living within institutions. The work covered supporting families to care for their children, recruiting and supporting new foster families, direct work and communicating with children including children with disabilities

UK-based experience

Name of project	Improving permanence and stability for vulnerable children and families: Implementing evidence- based interventions
Year	2004-16
Location	England
Client	Department for Education
Positions held	Professional Policy Manager
Activities performed	Led a cross- government team to develop policy, funding arrangements and implementation of specialist programmes for families, foster carers, adopters and residential care workers to ensure that interventions take account of the emerging research evidence from neuroscience on the long term consequences of abuse, neglect and poor attachments. In partnership with University of Oregon undertook the development of new programmes to address the particular developmental needs of vulnerable babies and young children in care in England http://www.evidencebasedinterventions.org.uk/

Name of project	Family and Friends Care statutory guidance
Year	2011
Location	England
Client	Department for Education
Positions held	Professional Policy Manager
Activities performed	Developed new government policy for supporting family and friends care in England, negotiated agreement with local authorities and NGOs and drafted the guidance https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/288483/family-and-friends-care.pdf

Name of project	Children Act 1989: Care planning Regulations and Guidance
Year	2010
Location	England
Client	Department for Education
Positions held	Professional Policy Manager

Activities performed Led the development of new policies to improve care planning for children, the process of assessment planning, intervention and review for children in care and wrote the new regulations and guidance. In particular developed integrated planning processes across care, health and education services where a child in care also has a disability. This work required the design and management of an implementation programme in partnership with local authorities and NGOs.

Name of project **Care Matters White Paper to improve outcomes for children and young people in care**

Year 2007

Location England

Client Department for Education

Positions held Professional Policy Manager

Activities performed Developed new legislation, policies and regulations to improve outcomes for children in care and those on the edge of care to ensure that the children and their families have access to appropriate supports and services; negotiated with Ministers across government and a wide range of stakeholders and delivered the White Paper on time

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-matters-time-for-change>

Reports/Publications

Fox, S and Jones, H. 2017. "Systemic Treatment Approaches In Young People With Risky Behaviours". *Forensic Child And Adolescent Mental Health: Meeting The Needs Of Young Offenders*. Bailey, S; Tarbuck, P; and Chitsabesan, P.. 1st ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Print

Rogers J., Jones H., Rijicova S. (2015). Social work in Moldova: definitions, activities and challenges, Chisinau, UNICEF Moldova (P4EC Consultancy group)

Ward, H and Jones, H; '*Le système de protection en Angleterre*' in *Sante, Société et Solidarité*, Québec, 2009

Jones,H.,2006 'The Integrated Children's System: A resilient system to promote the development of children in care'. In Flynn, R., Dudding, P. and Barber, J G. *Promoting resilient development in young people receiving care: International perspectives on theory, research, practice and policy*. Child Welfare League of Canada.

Roberts. R., Jones. H., and Scott. S.,(2005). *Treatment Foster Care in England* in 'The Foster Carers' Handbook'. Russell House Publishing. Wheal, A. (ed)

Jones, H. (2004). *Les Fondements de L'Adoption en Angleterre: Ecrits du Colloque 'Devenir Adoptable: Être Adopté'*. Paris

Jones, H. (2003). 'The relationship between research, policy, and practice in delivering an outcome – led child welfare service'. In Kufeldt, K. and McKenzie, B. (eds): *Child welfare: connecting research, policy, and practice*. Wilfrid Laurier University Press.

Jones, H., Chant, E., and Ward, H. (2003). 'Integrating children's services: a perspective from England'. In Trocme, N., Knoké, D. and Roy, C.(eds): *Community collaboration and differential response: Canadian and international research and emerging models of practice*. Child Welfare League of Canada

Ward, H., Jones, H., Lynch, M, and Skuse, T. (2002) *Issues concerning the health of looked after children*. *Adoption and Fostering* 26(4) pp 8-15

Jones, H., Clark, R., Kufeldt, K., & Norrman, M. (1998). *Looking After Children: Assessing the outcomes in child care: The experience of implementation*. *Children and Society*, 12, 212-222.