

## Refugee crisis Challenges for youth care

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## Impact refugee crisis







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## Impact Focus on UAM

UAM in Belgium




-  **More then ever**
  - From 458 (2014) to 3099 (2015) in 5 months
-  **Younger then ever**
  - August – december 2015:
    - 328 under 14 yo
    - 50 under 12 yo
-  **Recognition rates higher then ever**
-  **Future prospects?**

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## Institutional level

Belgium has complex structure

-  **Federal government**
  - Reception centers for asylum seekers
-  **Flemish and French community**
  - Youth care
-  **Mixed model:**
  - Fed. gov: large scale reception centers for UAM
  - FC: small scale Youth Care centers for most vulnerable UAM


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## Challenges for youth care



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## Challenges

-  **Capacity**
  - Capacity for UAM tripled up to 300 places
    - residential units for youngest (age <15 yo)
    - Counselling (transit from residential care to) living alone
-  **Know-how**
  - There is expertise and know-how, but not enough
    - Psychologists, social workers, educators
    - Familiar with refugee matters
  - Inclusion of social workers with refugee back ground?

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## Challenges

### Organizational

- First choice is **foster care**, but ... long way to go
- **Residential** care:
  - Small group, cosy and warm, family-like daily life?
  - Or bringing together traumatised children?
- Reproduction of existing structures as solution for new challenges?  
Or look for inspiring practices abroad?