

Name Projeto Família (Social Impact Bond)

Website mdvida.pt

Year Launched 2017

Area Child Protection



Description

The Projeto Família Social Impact Bond is focused on avoiding unnecessary foster care placements by providing 6-week intensive support to families followed by 12-months of ongoing support. The outcome metric agreed was care placements avoided and confirmed by court order for 50% of the total of 180 children and youth at risk.

Impact in Numbers

163 children and young people were not put into foster care placement. Project still in progress.

Impact Management Project assessment

What: Projeto Família is focused on preventing unnecessary foster care placement, which contributes to reducing negative outcomes, typically associated with the child's removal from the household. This is an unquestionably important positive effect. ([Doyle, 2007](#))

Who: The population is underserved since there are no programmes being deployed that provide the same type of intensive, at-home support, focused on parenting and relational skills development, delivering comparable results.

How much: Deep effect, with potential for long-term duration, given it changes substantially the ability of these families to address their problems by equipping them with better parenting skills, and with long-lasting impact on the lives of these children.

Contribution: Likely better than what would have happened, given these children were signalled as being at risk of removal from their household. While there is no formal counterfactual to evaluate against, public authorities have reinforced the relevance and unique outcomes achieved by this intervention model.

Risk: There is some evidence risk, due to the absence of a control group, and potentially unexpected impact risk from interfering in a household with complicated family dynamics. Nevertheless, overall impact risk assessment is considered to be very low.

Conclusion

According to the [IMP framework](#), we classify the Projeto Família SIB as a C project (Contributing to Solutions) because it is focused on important positive outcomes, works with underserved populations, and carries a deep, long-term change with potential to reframe public policy targeting children and youth at risk, which can deliver important outcomes at scale.

SDG Analysis

Projeto Família aims at responding to the sub-goal 10.3, by reducing inequalities of outcome by working with families of children and youth at-risk, reducing the likelihood of these children being removed from their families and, as such, perpetuating the cycle of abuse and/or neglect. Also, the Social Impact Bond tackles the sub goal 17.17, encouraging the promotion of effective public-private and civil society partnership, building on different stakeholder's experiences, resources, and strategies.

