

When unaccompanied migrant children return to their home countries—either through voluntary departure or deportation—they must interact with many government officials through a lengthy process. KIND created the Child Migrant Return and Reintegration Program to ensure that returning children have the support and resources they need for safe return and successful reintegration back into their communities. This infographic explains the existing return process and describes how KIND's program interventions can support children at each step.



In U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) shelter care, the child receives a legal screening. If they receive a final order of removal or an order of voluntary departure from the immigration court, the repatriation process begins.

When travel is confirmed, the child is transferred to the custody of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for a flight home. It may take several days for the child to arrive in their home country after being transferred to ICE for travel.

Upon arrival to their home country, the child is received by national child welfare authorities, transferred to a government-run reception center for migrant children, and screened for reunification with their family.

Family must travel, often long distances, to centralized reception centers to be reunified with their child. In their home community, the child may receive some support from civil society but assistance is not routine.

## KIND's Child Migrant Return and Reintegration Program



Prior to repatriation KIND ensures the child had access to a lawyer, conducts a screening for safety concerns, provides pre-departure orientation to ensure the child understands the repatriation process, and works with the child to identify goals and challenges upon return to their home country.



KIND advocates for age-appropriate travel accommodations and communicates with the child's family about travel plans. KIND refers cases to a local partner organization in the child's community prior to the child's return.



KIND's local partners can accompany family members to the reception center and provide information, interpretation, and domestic travel assistance. KIND partners advocate for the child's best interests at the reception centers.



KIND's local partners provide one year of holistic reintegration services to the entire family, including: case management, home visits, educational support, referrals to health and mental health services, and support with other basic needs.