

# **Guideline and Process for Child Entry and Re-integration Program**



**Process of Child entry and Reintegration of Orphaned, Street, and Abandoned Children  
Tara Namaste Balgram, Birtamod, Jhapa**

## Introduction

Tara Namaste Balgram, established on Magh 19, 2069 by the district administration office in Jhapa and registered with the Social Welfare Council on Baisakh 8, 2070, is a nonprofit organization (NGOs) dedicated to addressing social issues in Nepal such as poverty, caste discrimination, and inequality. Recognizing that children are the future of the community and the country, the organization focuses on supporting street children, orphan, those who have lost their families, and abandoned children by providing them with good food, healthcare, education, and a home. Tara Namaste Balgram supports children education up to Grade 12 and offers technical skills and training to help them become good citizens. By working towards a bright future for children, the organization aids the Nepalese government in achieving its objectives, acknowledging that the government alone cannot support all homeless or family-less children. Having Political un-stabilization, horrible earthquake, Natural digester, crime is stunting the Nepal's Development, leading to increasing number of home-less, street children, orphans and abandoned children in the society, who are uncared and unlooked after. To address this needs and challenge, Tara Namaste Balgram, Jhapa aims to Protect 40 orphans and abandoned children on its Children Home at Birtamode Municipality-4, Laliguras Bhaktabari Tole- Jhapa, Providing quality food and education, shelter, clothing, medical care in a homely environment. This project is expected to support the following policies, programs, Campaign and projects of the Government of Nepal.

- National Child Policy 2069
- Child right and protection policy
- Education for all policy
- Campaign to build a nation free of street children
- Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Rules, 2062
- National Nutrition policy and strategy /child friendly local level
- Children friendly local level 2030
- Poverty Alleviation Policy 2076
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDG – 2030) etc...

### 1. Principles and Values

Care, education and support should be governed by the following principles and values:

**Respect:** For human rights, ethics, confidentiality, informed consent, privacy, and individual dignity should be maintained. Practices apply equally to orphan, street, abandoned children as to other individuals. Fighting discrimination, enhancing respect of individual autonomy and human dignity and pursuing informed consent are all relevant to orphans.

**Equality:** Affordable care of acceptable quality should be provided to all people regardless of gender (men and women), age, race, ethnicity, and place of residence. More attention should be given to those groups of the people that have more problems to access care: orphans, street, abandoned children.

### 2. Goals of the Tara Namaste Balgram

Our primary goals are to ensure that children receive nutritious food, clothing, shelter, and quality education. By meeting these basic needs, we create a solid foundation for their overall development and well-being. We also focus on equipping children with essential life skills to help them smoothly transition into adulthood and become self-reliant, contributing members of society.

In addition to practical skills, we aim to foster leadership qualities, enabling these children to emerge as future leaders within their communities. This holistic approach ensures that they are not only prepared for personal success but are also capable of driving positive change in their surroundings.

Moreover, we strive to provide a loving family environment that gives children a sense of belonging and community. By nurturing them in a supportive and caring atmosphere, we help them develop the emotional and social skills necessary for a fulfilling life.

### 3. Organization Capacity:

Tara Namaste Balgram is a full-fledged organization with a registration and recognition in Nepal as a Non-Governmental organization. Our Organization is having experienced and competent staff to undertake and implement program activities. The Capacity building priorities are upgraded each year on the basis of the need.

### 4. Objectives of the Project

- Collaborate with stakeholders to refer and collect orphan, street, lost family, and abandoned children.
- Provide protection and support for children who have lost their families or parents for various reasons.
- Ensure that these children receive quality education up to Grade 12.
- Offer nutritious food to promote their health and well-being.
- Create a caring and loving environment that simulates a home-like atmosphere.
- Provide technical skills and training to help children become self-sufficient and responsible citizens.
- Assist the Nepalese government in its efforts to support and rehabilitate homeless or family-less children.

### 5. Feasibility study

It becomes evident that every child holds an inherent right to protection and care. Recognizing this fundamental principle, Tara Namaste Foundation diligently collaborates with district and out-of-district local governments and stakeholders to ensure the welfare of vulnerable children. Upon identifying children under 12 years of age who are found to be orphaned, abandoned, or living on the streets, and upon receiving recommendations from local authorities, relevant stakeholders, and the Nepal Police, the foundation swiftly intervenes. It provides shelter, food, and quality education up to Grade 12, aligning with the children's immediate needs and long-term development. The root causes of orphan hood and abandonment, such as parental death, illness, poverty, remarriage, and adverse living conditions, underline the urgency of such interventions. Tragically, many young children in Nepal are left uncared for due to the untimely demise of their parents, forcing them into street life, child labor, displacement, and exposure to exploitation and abuse. By implementing programs that safeguard these vulnerable children, the foundation not only addresses immediate concerns but also contributes to fulfilling the policies, programs, and objectives of the Nepalese government regarding child protection and welfare.

### 6. Problems identified in the project area

In the project area in Nepal, several critical problems affecting orphaned, street, and abandoned children have been identified. These children often suffer from severe neglect, lacking basic necessities such as nutritious food, proper clothing, and safe shelter. Without access to quality education, their opportunities for personal and professional development are significantly limited. Additionally, they face health issues due to inadequate medical care and poor living conditions. Emotional and psychological trauma from abandonment and life on the streets further exacerbates their vulnerability, making them susceptible to exploitation and abuse. The lack of a supportive and loving environment hampers their social development and sense of belonging, which are crucial for their overall well-being and future success. Addressing these problems is essential for the holistic development and integration of these children into society as healthy, educated and responsible citizens. Failure to provide protection and support to orphaned, street, and abandoned children can lead to dire consequences for both the children themselves and society at large. Without intervention, these vulnerable children are at risk of being ensnared in a cycle of crime, trafficking, abuse, and discrimination. Left to fend for themselves on the streets, they are exposed to exploitation and danger. However, it is crucial to recognize that these children are not just victims; they are also the future of the country. Neglecting their well-being not only perpetuates their suffering but also represents a loss for the entire nation. By investing in their care, education, and empowerment, we not only protect these children from harm but also unlock their potential to become productive and contributing members of society. Thus, safeguarding the welfare of these children is not only a moral imperative but also an investment in the future prosperity and stability of the country.

## 7. Challenge and Solution

### Challenge

Nepal's statistical data projects, there are 11.5 million children. Out of them, 1,000,000 are orphans. The causes of orphan and abandonment of these children are death of parents, sickness, poverty, re-marriage of their parents and difficult living conditions. Very tender children are dying in Nepal uncared for, unlooked after-orphaned by the ultimately death of their parents. In this critical situation, these orphans and abandoned children are forced to live in the streets, child labor and displaced.

### Solution

Presently, Tara Namaste Balgram, Jhapa is protecting 28 (12 Male and 16 Female) orphan, street child and abandoned children providing their education, shelter, food, clothing, medical care in a homely atmosphere. But need more support and help, not only to maintain, but to expand to 40 needy children who are at-risk. We collect donation from main donor agency Tara Namaste foundation, Lichtenstein and local level can change their lives and turnout to their better future, providing quality education, nutritious food, shelter, clothing, medical care, school supplies, caring, love and socio-cultural development.

## 8. Reintegration Program

Tara Namaste Balgram has a future plan for reintegrating orphans, street, and abandoned children back into their families or communities after they finish grade 12. Following the government of Nepal's policies for these children, we diligently search for their parents and relatives and maintain regular coordination with them. This includes annual or occasional visits to their family homes, which helps prepare the children for reintegration. After grade 10, we encourage them to pursue technical subjects at government schools like CTEVT, to ensure their future sustainability. If children cannot find their families after grade 12, we plan to support their further education. However, our primary mission remains the successful reintegration of these children with their families.

## 9. Why need this guideline

The **Guideline and Process for Child Entry and Reintegration** for **Tara Namaste Balgram** is crucial in ensuring a systematic, ethical, and child-centered approach to handling the admission and reintegration of children into care. First and foremost, these guidelines are essential for safeguarding the rights and well-being of children. They provide a structured framework for assessing when it is appropriate for a child to enter care and help prioritize family-based solutions over institutional care. The guidelines ensure that every decision is made in the child's best interest, protecting them from unnecessary separation from their families and ensuring their emotional, physical, and psychological needs are adequately addressed. By following this structured process, the institution can ensure that no child is placed in care unless it is absolutely necessary, and that the decision-making process remains transparent and accountable.

Additionally, these guidelines are integral for ensuring compliance with both national and international child protection laws, such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). By establishing clear procedures for the entry and reintegration of children, the guidelines help the organization remain aligned with legal standards and ethical principles. This ensures that children are admitted into care in a manner that respects their rights and safeguards their dignity. Furthermore, it provides a legal framework for protecting children from exploitation, trafficking, or any form of abuse that could occur if the admission and reintegration processes were left unregulated.

The need for clear and standardized procedures also extends to the reintegration process. Reintegration should always be the primary goal for children who are placed in care, and having a clear and structured process in place facilitates this transition back to their families or communities. The guidelines outline how reintegration should be carried out, with careful assessments of the child's safety and stability in their home environment, as well as the necessary support for families to ensure long-term sustainability. This includes providing skills training,

counseling, and economic support for families to overcome any barriers that might impede reintegration, ultimately fostering an environment where the child can thrive.

Finally, having a comprehensive set of guidelines enhances accountability and sustainability within the organization. Clear protocols ensure that all staff, caregivers, and stakeholders understand their roles and responsibilities in the care and reintegration process. The guidelines also facilitate monitoring and evaluation, allowing the organization to assess the effectiveness of its interventions and make necessary improvements. This ensures that the work being done is not only aligned with best practices but also effective in making a meaningful impact on the lives of children and their families.

## Process for Child Entry at Tara Namaste Balgram, Birtamod, Jhapa

### 1. Eligibility:

- The process applies to children under the age of 12.
- Identification of orphaned, street, and abandoned children based on requisitions from local government, Nepal Police, and relevant stakeholders.

### 2. Main Referral Points:

#### 1. Birtamod Municipality Referral:

- A request letter from the Women, Children, and Social Development Department is required.
- The municipality publishes news about found children through local media and news outlets.

#### 2. Local Government Referrals (Across Nepal):

- A referral letter from Birtamod MP, Jhapa, is required for approval.

#### 3. Nepal Police Referral:

- A request letter from Nepal Police is required.
- News about a found child is reported at the police station.

### 3. Initial Screening:

- Obtain a police report and a support letter from the local government to ensure eligibility.
- Focus on the emotional well-being of the child before integrating them into Balgram.
- Prepare a **comprehensive personal report/biography** for each child.

### 4. Efforts to Locate Parents and Relatives:

- Publish the news on local media and the Balgram Facebook page about finding the children.
- Coordinate with Nepal Police, the Municipality, and other stakeholders.
- If parents or relatives are found within **15 to 30 days**, the child is reintegrated into the family.
- If the family requires assistance, necessary services /support are provided.
- If interested, families are supported with **income generation programs** to facilitate future reintegration.
- If medical concerns arise, arrangements are made for hospital treatment.

- If the family is able to support the child's education and both the family and the child wish for the child to stay at home, we hand over the child to their family but maintain regular follow-ups.

#### 5. Management and Care:

- Provide food, shelter, healthcare, and quality education.

#### 6. Education Coordination:

- If no family or relatives are found within 15 to 30 days, coordinate with local schools (Private/Government) to request **free, quality education** for the children.

#### 7. Regular Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Regular school visits to assess the quality of education.
- Maintain coordination with family and relatives
- Maintain coordination with donors, local government, and schools.

#### 8. Future Planning and Reintegration:

##### 1. Education:

- Provide education up to **grade 12** and offer **skills development training** based on the child's interests.

##### 2. Career Planning:

- Begin future planning with **grade 8** students according to their aspirations.
- After **class 10**, assist in finding local job opportunities while providing continued educational support up to grade 12.
- If he/she finds a job, they are required to cover their educational expenses from their salary. The remaining money is deposited in Balgram and will be provided to them during the reintegration program.
- After the age of 16, Tara Namaste Balgram facilitates obtaining Nepali citizenship for the child through advocacy with the Family, Nepal government and relevant stakeholders.

##### 3. Reintegration:

- After completing **grade 12**, initiate the reintegration process into society.

**The reintegration process begins after a child completes Grade 12.**

### **If the Child's Family or Relatives Are Found**

#### **1. Reintegration with the Family**

If the child wishes to continue his education but the family cannot afford the costs, Balgram will seek sponsors or donors to support their education.

If no sponsors are found, TNF will cover the minimum education costs (school uniform, educational materials) until Grade 12 completion.

#### **2. Monitoring and Support**

- Regular follow-ups are conducted by maintaining contact with schools/ colleges, families and neighbors to monitor the child's education and behavior.
- Technical skills training are provided to enhance job opportunities.
- Tara Namaste Balgram collaborates with job placement offices and organizations to help children secure employment.
- Continuous monitoring and post-reintegration support are provided.

#### **3. Case Closure**

- Once the child is stable and self-sufficient, the case is formally closed.

**The reintegration process begins after a child completes Grade 12.**

### **If the Child's Family or Relatives Are Not Found**

According to Balgram's policy, children must leave Balgram after completing Grade 12. However, if they have no home, family, or relatives, it becomes a serious concern. In such cases, Balgram takes responsibility for ensuring their education and safe living conditions.

#### ***Support and Reintegration Process***

##### **1. Education Sponsorship:**

- Efforts are made to find individual sponsors for the child's further education.

##### **2. Living Arrangements:**

- Balgram arranges rented rooms near its premises where children can live together as a family. The rent and basic food expenses is covered by Balgram.

##### **3. Monitoring and Guidance:**

- Regular follow-ups are conducted through communication with colleges, house owners, friends, and neighbors to track their behavior and education.

#### **4. Skill Development and Employment Support:**

- Technical skills training is provided to enhance job opportunities.
- Balgram coordinates with job placement offices and organizations to help children to find employment.

#### **5. Financial Responsibility and Future Planning:**

- If a child secures a job, they are required to cover their own educational expenses.
- If they have a sponsor, the sponsorship continues, and their salary is saved for their future.
- If they are unable to find a job, Balgram continues to cover their rent, basic food expenses, and education costs through sponsorships/Foundation.

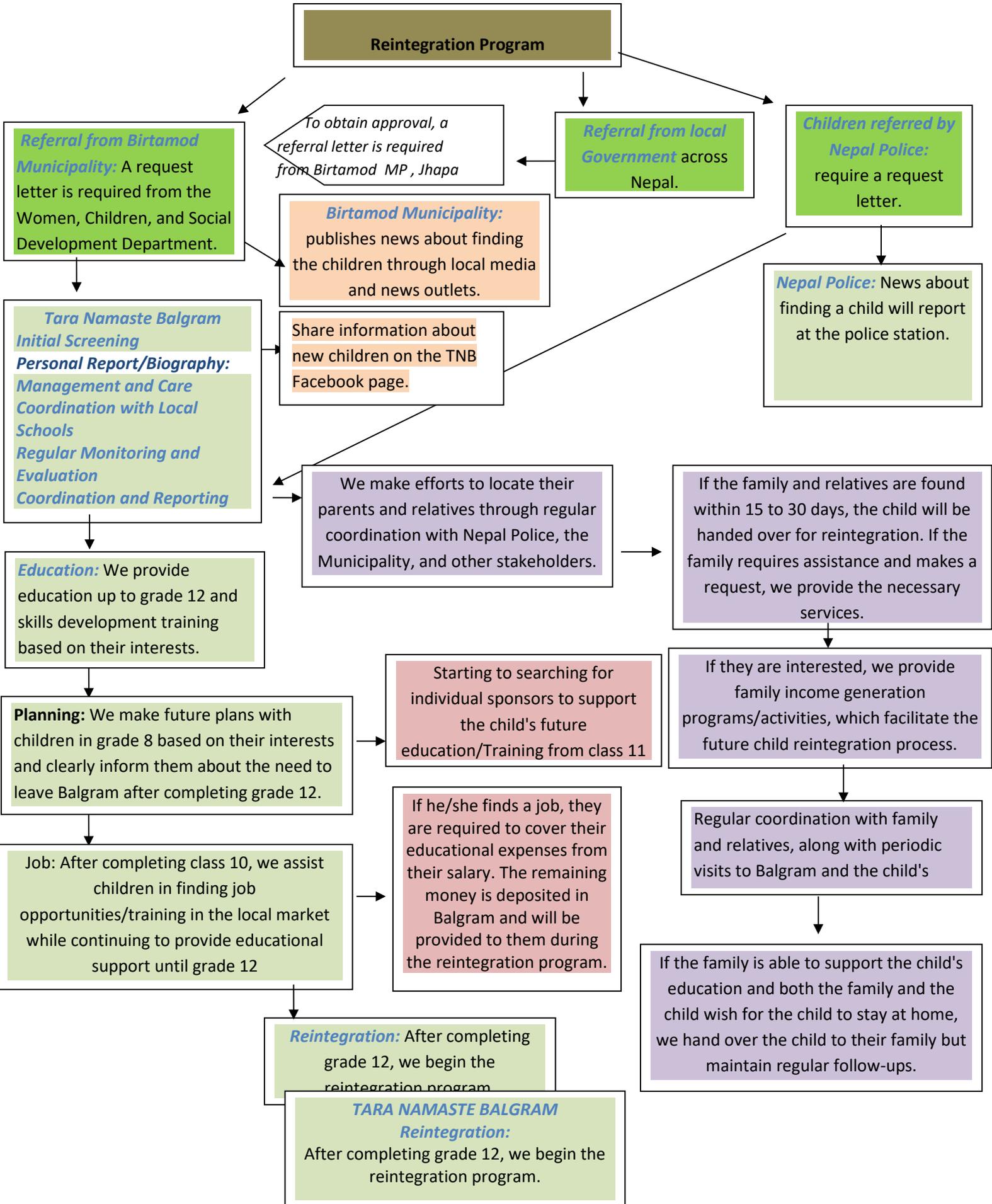
#### **6. Long-Term Stability:**

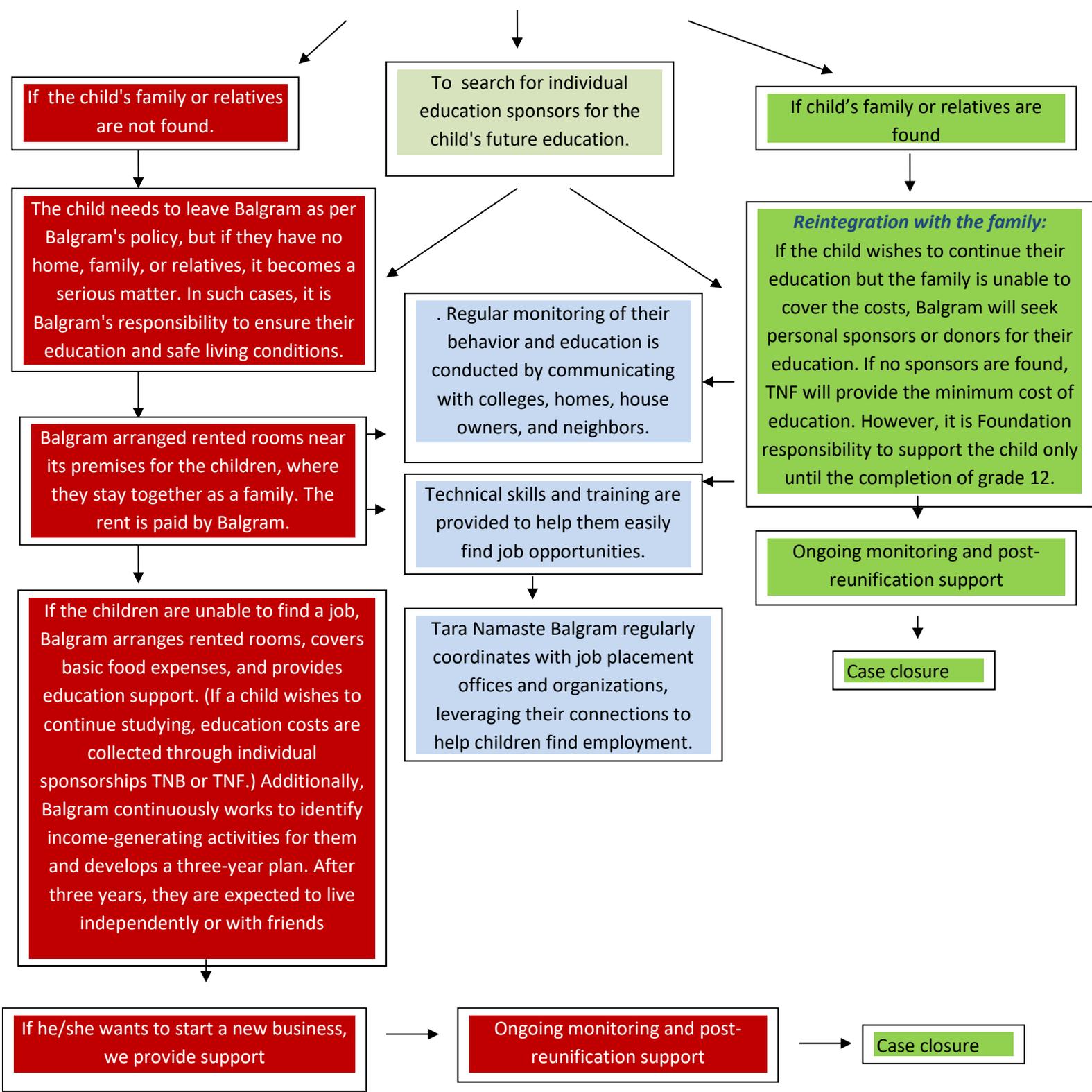
- After the age of 16, Tara Namaste Balgram facilitates obtaining Nepali citizenship for the child through advocacy with the Family, Nepal government and relevant stakeholders.
- Balgram works to identify income-generating activities for the children and implements a three-year transition plan.
- After three years, they are expected to become independent or live with friends.
- Balgram arranges seed money through personal sponsorships or TNF for the children's sustainability. If a child wishes to start a business, Balgram provides support.

#### **7. Ongoing Monitoring & Case Closure:**

- Continuous monitoring and post-reintegration support are provided.
- Once the child is stable and self-sufficient, the case is formally closed.

**Reintegration of orphan, street and abandoned children Tara Namaste Balgram, Birtamod, Jhapa**





If the child's family or relatives are not found.

To search for individual education sponsors for the child's future education.

If child's family or relatives are found

The child needs to leave Balgram as per Balgram's policy, but if they have no home, family, or relatives, it becomes a serious matter. In such cases, it is Balgram's responsibility to ensure their education and safe living conditions.

Balgram arranged rented rooms near its premises for the children, where they stay together as a family. The rent is paid by Balgram.

If the children are unable to find a job, Balgram arranges rented rooms, covers basic food expenses, and provides education support. (If a child wishes to continue studying, education costs are collected through individual sponsorships TNB or TNF.) Additionally, Balgram continuously works to identify income-generating activities for them and develops a three-year plan. After three years, they are expected to live independently or with friends

If he/she wants to start a new business, we provide support

Regular monitoring of their behavior and education is conducted by communicating with colleges, homes, house owners, and neighbors.

Technical skills and training are provided to help them easily find job opportunities.

Tara Namaste Balgram regularly coordinates with job placement offices and organizations, leveraging their connections to help children find employment.

Ongoing monitoring and post-reunification support

**Reintegration with the family:**  
If the child wishes to continue their education but the family is unable to cover the costs, Balgram will seek personal sponsors or donors for their education. If no sponsors are found, TNF will provide the minimum cost of education. However, it is Foundation responsibility to support the child only until the completion of grade 12.

Ongoing monitoring and post-reunification support

Case closure

Case closure

Individual case management of the stage of the reintegration process

