

## PANJEREH (*window*) FOR CHILDREN

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

March 2015

Panjereh's primary purpose is to provide a warm, safe and nurturing environment, purposefully designed to 'heal' very damaged and troubled children and prepare them for social communication, and enabling them to take up their rightful place in a family and within the community. All 'work' with children is undertaken entirely through play, and in a very caring, stimulating and child-centred arena.

The aim is to help those younger members of society who have been severely traumatized by physical, emotional and/or sexual abuse, or by severe deprivation and neglect. In so doing, Panjereh provides a restorative milieu, in which a child is helped to achieve, to develop a positive sense of self, have a sense of worth, improve self-esteem and confidence and experience good parenting, thereby maximizing the potential for children to become emotionally healthy individuals.

Most children lack the cognitive maturity to benefit from simply talking through their problems. Adult 'controlled' activities do not give children the feeling of empowerment that they are able to achieve within the voluntary activity of play. Through play, children can create a world they can master, practice social skills, overcome frightening feelings, and symbolically triumph over the most troubled of children to learn to recognise feelings to laugh, to trust and to form positive attachments.

It is also part of Panjereh's purpose to provide adult role models of parenting that are nurturing, consistent, thoughtful and caring, enabling children to internalize boundaries. All of which recognises each child's individual needs without being punitive or persecuting.

Additionally, Panjereh's purpose is to provide an environment which is safe, secure and able to 'contain' unacceptable behaviors. Clear and thoughtful boundaries are provided, which are reliable and sound, without being rigid, and thereby creating an environment where children may feel safe and can grow.