

Welcome

On behalf of Udayan Care, I welcome you to the exciting 3rd Biennial International Conference (3rd BICON) being held on ‘**Evolving Trends in Alternative Care for Children and Youth**’, with a focus on **South Asia, on the 16th & 17th March 2018 at Amity University, Noida, Delhi NCR.**

Realizing the importance and need to learn from experts, practitioners and each other, on issues related to practices and policies of standards of care and mental health in Alternative Child and Youth Care (CYC), and of family strengthening to take care of children and prevent separation of children from families and capture best practices, Udayan Care has been organising similar International Conferences in the past. This conference is the third one being organised by Udayan Care with the support of UNICEF, Government, Amity University and a host of other partners. We organized the [1st BICON](#) in March 2014 on the theme of “Institutionalised Children: Standards of Care and Mental Health” and the [2nd BICON](#) on the theme of “Improving Standards of Care for Alternative Child and Youth Care: Systems, Policies and Practices’. Both the BICONS have been tremendously successful and we extend our gratitude to the sponsors and advertisers for their support.

This time we are expecting over 250 delegates from all over the world and different parts of India at the 3rd BICON and it is going to be an excellent opportunity for everyone working on child and youth issues in the area of Alternative Care. We will have delegates from South Asian Countries, experts from the western world, civil society representatives, officers from governmental bodies working on child protection and juvenile justice care, to come together on a common platform to promote learning and cross sharing from and with one another and a knowledge sharing forum for best practices from South Asia and other parts of the world. Thus, the 3rd BICON will put together a community of practitioners on CYC in South Asia. The 3rd BICON offers to be a high-energy networking and relationship building initiative for each one, like you, who is involved tirelessly in making this world a better place for disadvantaged and vulnerable children living out of parental care. Issues that get discussed are around creating safe environments for the most vulnerable children, those children who live out of parental care and need special care and protection. The conference aims to deliberate on the best ways to ensure safety and standards of care for children in crisis because they do not have their own biological families to look after them. Through this effort, we hope to give serious considerations to implementing the Sustainable Developmental Goals and the UN Guidelines on Alternative Care at the South Asia regional level.

There are different ways in which you can participate and join us at the 3rd BICON:

- **REGISTER** as a participant – fill in the form and register at our website through this link <http://www.bicon.udayancare.org/registration/>
- **SUBMIT** an abstract for presenting a paper or a poster around the main themes of the 3rd BICON – see objectives and themes at <http://www.bicon.udayancare.org/abstract/>
- **SPONSOR:** support the cause and promote your own CSR and philanthropic vision. (**add link to sponsorships or send email to at bicon@udayancare.org**

We look forward to connecting with you and learning from those of you who participated in the last conferences in 2014 and 2016, and welcome those of you who will be joining us for the first time. We are hopeful that you will enjoy this biennial international conference for two days. We take this opportunity to thank UNICEF, Amity University and other supporters and technical partners who have helped us in designing this conference for the last two times and this time as well.

Mark your calendars and we’ll see you all on March 16 & 17, 2018 at Amity University, Noida – NCR, India!

Dr. Kiran Modi

