

## Positive Families Partnership: a new partnership with a mission to help vulnerable young people in London

- Positive Families Partnership aims to keep vulnerable families together and prevent children from being taken into care, by rebuilding family connections
- It will support 350+ at-risk families by providing access to Multi Systemic Therapy (MST) and Functional Family Therapy (FFT), two evidence-based therapeutic interventions with established track records
- It has been commissioned by five local boroughs in London – Tower Hamlets, Bexley, Merton, Newham and Sutton – with support from the Big Lottery Fund
- Positive Families Partnership has been commissioned based on outcomes – the boroughs pay for services only when outcomes are delivered

Positive Families Partnership is a unique collaboration between the social sector, local government and social investors that will work with over 350 young people (and their families) identified as being at the “edge of care”, delivering Multi Systemic Therapy (MST) and Functional Family Therapy (FFT), two evidence based therapeutic programmes that can help them stay with their families and out of care, which can lead to significant improvement in life outcomes.

The services will initially be available in Tower Hamlets, Bexley, Merton, Newham and Sutton and delivered by three specialist partners, who collectively bring over 25 years’ experience of implementing evidence-based programmes across the UK:

- **Family Action**, a national charity who will be delivering MST in Newham, Tower Hamlets and Bexley and will recruit to a new MST team
- **South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust**, who will be delivering MST in Merton and Sutton
- **Family Psychology Mutual**, a new social enterprise (spun out of a Local Authority) who will be delivering FFT across the five Boroughs

The initiative has been commissioned by the five London Borough Councils of Tower Hamlets, Bexley, Merton, Newham and Sutton. It has been structured as an outcomes contract, which means Positive Families Partnership will be paid only if it succeeds in meeting certain milestones related to keeping the young person with their family.

Positive Families Partnership will benefit from management support from Social Finance UK and Family Psychology Mutual, and has raised over £4.5m of upfront funding from Bridges Fund Management.

This programme is intended as a pilot initiative; if successful, the programmes’ partners hope to roll it out to other London boroughs over time.