



# CALIFORNIA CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL

*Child Welfare Priority Access to Services and Supports (PASS)*

## PASS Update to the Child Welfare Council March 2, 2016

### PASS Agency Team Highlights:

- The **Corrections Team** is comprised of partners from the California Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections (including parole division), and also Chief Probation Officers of California. PASS Corrections partners are currently undertaking a review of-
  - The extent to which further prioritization of parents with a child in foster care is possible;
  - Of those options, which are feasible and aligned with current priorities;
  - And what barriers to further prioritization exist.
  
- The **Behavioral Health Team** is preparing to beta test a protocol in Ventura County for timely assessment, referral to services, and service delivery. The goal of the beta test is to improve timely engagement and retention of FR parents in behavioral health services in order to support improved Family Reunification outcomes.
  
- The **steps to access mental health and substance use disorder services for parents who are in Family Reunification are:**
  - *Part I: Determining need for mental health and substance use disorder services, and referring for further assessment, if necessary. Total time: **No later than 5 working days from the detention hearing**; it is optimal to begin as early as possible as research shows parents to be more receptive to accepting supportive services when they are in crisis. Then **five working days** to begin assessment and initiate treatment services.*
  
  - *Part II: Reunification Care Coordination. Total time: **6 - 18 months***  
Once the parent(s) are linked with the appropriate mental health and/or substance use disorder services, the Child Welfare Social Worker will contact said provider(s) to establish a care coordination linkage(s) and a regularly scheduled progress update and suggested action steps if parent(s) are not compliant or an emergency occurs.