



# CALIFORNIA CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL



The next **Child Welfare Council Annual Report** covering the period **from July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025**, will feature highlights on the work of the Council and its committees. Please use this template to write your committee report and submit it to [Sarah.Saria@jud.ca.gov](mailto:Sarah.Saria@jud.ca.gov) no later than **February 13, 2026**.

*Members of the Legislature and the public may not be familiar with acronyms and abbreviations. Please fully write out acronyms and abbreviations the first time you use them and be consistent in using the same acronym or abbreviation throughout the rest of the report.*

*Readers may not be familiar with policies, organizations, or programs that are well known to your committee. Please consider including brief explanations so readers can better understand your report.*

**July 2024 through June 2025 Activities and Accomplishments:** Please briefly list major activities and accomplishments for FY 2024-25.

**Concerns or Challenges:** Describe any issues that you feel need the Council’s attention in order to maximize opportunities to address barriers to the work of the Council.

**2025 – 2026 Goals & Objectives:** Indicate your committee’s goals and objectives for the coming year.

<b>Committee/ Task Force Name</b>	Empowerment Committee
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>The Empowerment Committee is committed to ensuring that our work addresses the holistic needs of children and youth in the child welfare system, with a special focus on their health, mental health, educational, and social development. We recognize that young people must be at the center of this work. To that end, the Empowerment Committee will continue to explore ways to support youth and young adults in grounding and broadening their understanding of the council and its subcommittees, ensuring they have the support necessary to actively engage in these spaces.</p> <p>We will work diligently to explore critical issues impacting children and youth, from early childhood through the transition to adulthood. By gathering information on effective policies and practices across jurisdictions, we will make recommendations on replicating these successes for broader implementation. Our goal is to address the unique challenges facing youth in the child welfare system and create sustainable pathways for their well-being and success.</p>

<b>July 2024 through June 2025 Activities and Accomplishments</b>	Between July 2024 and June 2025, we held two meetings to build capacity and strengthen the Empowerment Committee’s work for system-involved youth.
<b>Concerns or Challenges</b>	The Empowerment Committee relies on in-kind resources, limiting our capacity. Additionally, agencies like education (K-12, CCC, CSU, UC) and workforce need to be at the table.
<b>2025 - 2026 Goals/Objectives</b>	Assess and engage council, department, and community leadership to discuss the idea of <i>“California indemnification and survival payments for youth generationally impacted by child welfare”</i> , while creating meaningful youth leadership opportunities that strengthen council goals, deepen relationships, and empower youth to pursue service and career pathways across public policy, social services, behavioral health, peer support, and the broader human services workforce.