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| **Theory** | **Recommendation(s)** | **Progress[[1]](#footnote-1)** |
| To ensure that parents are receiving the best opportunity to reunify with children and youth in foster care, services designed to safely return the children and youth to their parents need to be evidence-informed. | The Permanency Committee will identify and engage the appropriate body to convene social science researchers and private/public funding partners to discuss the current research and identify further research needed in the area of reunification services.  | Beginning planning stages. Will include court partners |
| The Permanency Committee will identify and engage the appropriate body to coordinate trainings in which social science researchers inform juvenile court stakeholders of current effective strategies and services that increase reunification and reduce reentry.  | Will occur after the convening |
| The Permanency Committee will investigate next steps to disseminate information and promote implementation of these services in designated social service agencies in California.  | Will occur after convening |
| The Permanency Committee will continue to monitor, support, encourage and report back to the Child Welfare Council on social science research in this area.  | Ongoing (long term strategy) |
| Reunification and re-entry outcomes are improved when representatives of the courts, child welfare and probation systems engage families in a meaningful way. | The Child Welfare Council will endorse the use of the use of family and child engagement practices by local courts and encourage training to juvenile court stakeholders on these practices.  | Will occur after convening |
| The Permanency Committee will make a presentation to the Board of Directors of CalSWEC to ensure that engagement policies and practices are integrated into the curriculum | Completed (Charlene and Barry) |
| Reunification services are most effective when they meet the specific needs of families and build upon each family’s strengths | California Department of Social Services in collaboration with the County Welfare Directors Association of California and the Administrative Office of the Courts review the case plan practices and policies for social workers and probation officers and create a check list for juvenile court stakeholders to review when preparing or ordering a case plan to ensure that the case plan is culturally responsive, identifies and builds on each family’s unique strengths, and is targeted to meet each family’s individual needs. | Case Plan tool created (currently in review) |
| Services and support provided to the reunified family increase the likelihood that children do not reenter the foster care system | The Committee will request that the California Evidence Based Clearinghouse develop a central online resource for research and best practice models of activities that have been successful in increasing reunification and reducing reentry.  | Completed. CEBC goal is to have a primary and tertiary section of services  |
| The Committee will seek endorsement by the Child Welfare Council for additional Dependency Drug Treatment Courts and for the increase, expansion and sustainability of collaborative courts by documenting the savings of these courts and the reinvestment of county and realignment dollars. | DDTC presentation to the CWC in September |
| Resources to support permanency are enhanced by strategic investment and reinvestment in programs that reduce costs by achieving permanency for youth in foster care and shortening time to permanency for children entering foster care. | The California Department of Social Services, working with the County Welfare Directors Association of California, take the lead in providing technical assistance to all counties in order to facilitate leveraged reinvestment of savings achieved by moving youth and children with delayed permanency into safe reunification. | In progress. Gail is working on a manual.  |

1. As of June 12, 2014 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)