

California's Child Welfare Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) Overview

California Department of Social Services



Background

- ▶ **Legislative mandate*:**
 - Reform Group Homes & FFAs with robust & diverse stakeholder input
 - Legislative report with recommendations

- ▶ Builds on previous reform efforts: SB 933, RBS Reform

- ▶ **Continuum of Care Reform:** A comprehensive framework that supports children, youth and families across placement settings (from relatives to congregate care) in achieving permanency. Includes:
 - Increased engagement with children, youth and families
 - Increased capacity for home-based family care
 - Limited use of congregate care
 - Systemic and infrastructure changes: rates, training, accreditation, accountability & performance, mental health services

* Senate Bill 1013 (Chapter 35, Statutes of 2012)

Vision

- ▶ All children live with a committed, permanent and nurturing family
- ▶ Individualized and coordinated services and supports.
- ▶ Focus on permanent family and preparation for successful adulthood
- ▶ When needed, congregate care is a short-term, high quality, intensive intervention that is just one part of a continuum of care available for children, youth and young adults.

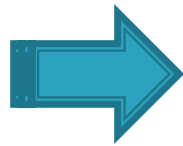
Guiding Principles



- ▶ The child, youth and family's experience is valued in:
 - Assessment,
 - Service planning
 - Placement decisions
- ▶ Children shouldn't change placements to get services
- ▶ Cross system and cross-agency collaboration to improve access to services and outcomes.
- ▶ Recognizing the differing needs of probation youth

The “Paradigm Shift”

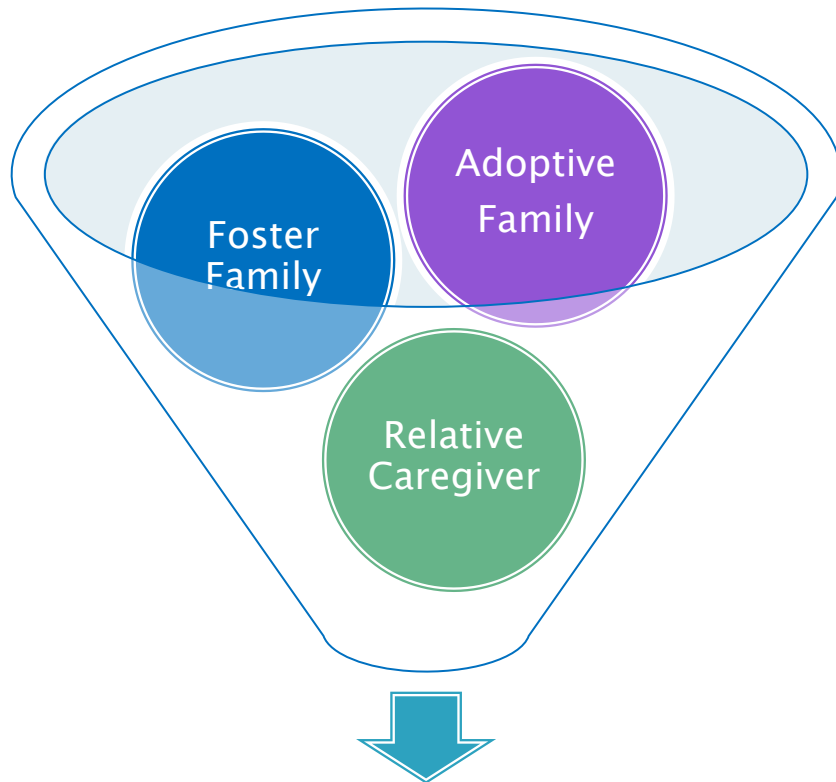
Group
Home



Short-Term Residential
Treatment Center
(STRTC)

Children who cannot be safely placed in is a family can receive short-term, residential care with specific care plans and intensive therapeutic interventions and services to support transition to a family.

Foster Families → Resource Families



Resource Family

Resource Family Approval:

- Related and non-related families
- Training for all families
- Resource Families still choose the role they play in the system: temporary or permanent
- Prepared for permanency-no additional approvals necessary

The Goal:



Children in
Resource
Families



Permanent
Family



Children in
Congregate
Care



Increased Engagement

- ▶ Child & Family Team
- ▶ Up-front and continuing assessment along common domains
- ▶ Aligns with the California Child Welfare Core Practice Model (Statewide Practice Model)

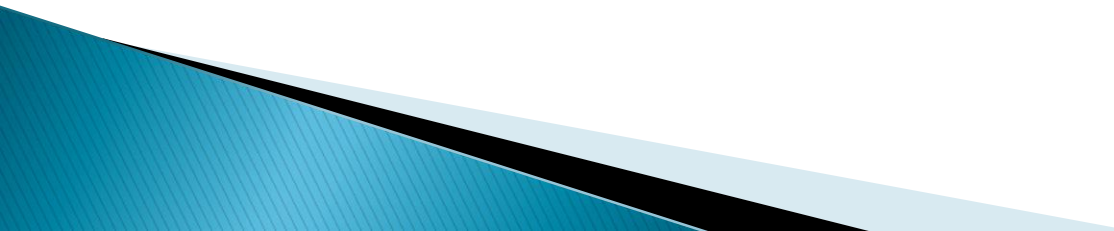


Building Family Care Capacity

Existing efforts to improve and increase the capacity of home-based family care:

- ▶ Quality Parenting Initiative
- ▶ Resource Family Approval Process
- ▶ Approved Relative Caregiver (ARC) Funding Option Program (2014: \$30 million investment)

Increased Capacity for Home-Based Family Care

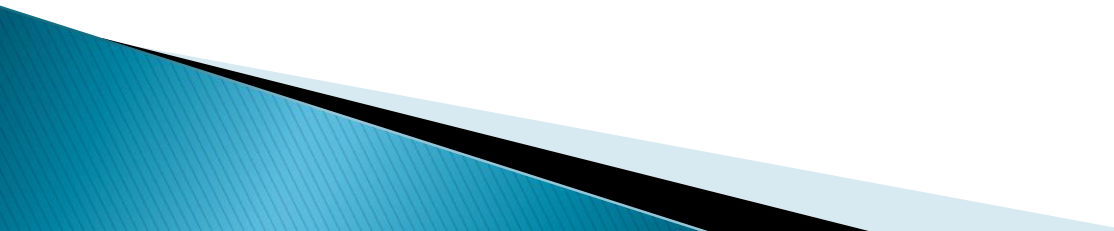
- ▶ Resource family approval by counties & FFAs
 - ▶ Additional funding for support, retention, recruitment and training of resource families & relatives (\$21.5 million)
 - ▶ Foster Family Agencies provide Core Services:
 - Trauma Informed
 - Culturally relevant
 - Accreditation through COA, CARF & JCAHO
 - May provide core services to children in county approved families
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Limited Use of Congregate Care

- ▶ Transition County Shelters → Temporary Shelter Care
- ▶ Group Homes → Short Term Residential Treatment Center with Core Services:
 - Trauma Informed
 - Culturally relevant
 - Accreditation through COA, CARF & JCAHO
 - Capacity to transition to children to family care by approving resource families

Core Services

FFAs and STRTCs make available core services either directly or through formal agreements:

- ▶ Access to specialty mental health services
 - ▶ Transitional support services for placement changes, permanency; aftercare
 - ▶ Education, physical, behavioral and mental health supports
 - ▶ Activities to support youth achieving a successful adulthood
 - ▶ Services to achieve permanency & maintain/establish family connections
 - ▶ Active efforts for ICWA–Eligible children
- 

California Child Welfare Core Practice Model

Child & Family Team

Collaborate with placing agency in:

- Assessment
- Case planning
- Placement selection

Home -Based Family Care

- Statewide Resource Family Approval
- Additional Retention & Recruitment Funding
- FFAs: Core Services available, including access to specialty mental health services for eligible children
- FFAs: On county request, provide services and supports to children in county-approved resource families.
- FFAs Accredited

Short-Term Residential Treatment

- Core Services available, including access to specialty mental health services for eligible children
- Ability to approve resource families to facilitate transition to permanency.
- Specified Staffing Qualification & Training
- Accredited

CCR Vision: All children live with a committed, permanent and nurturing family.

Services and supports are tailored to meet the needs of the individual child and family being served with the ultimate goal of maintaining the family or when this isn't possible, transitioning the child or youth to a permanent family and/or preparing the youth for a successful transition into adulthood.

When needed, group home care is a short-term, specialized and intensive intervention that is just one part of a continuum of care available for children, youth and young adults.

Publicly Available Performance Data

Performance Measures & Outcomes

- ▶ Evaluate provider performance along specific domains
- ▶ Client satisfaction surveys
- ▶ Public transparency of provider performance



Overarching Elements

- ▶ New provider rate structure
 - Sunset RCL system (1–14)
 - Create new STRTC rate
 - Create tiered FFA rate structure
- ▶ Multi-year implementation:
 - New requirements take effect 1/1/2017
 - Provisions for extensions up to two years
 - Additional extensions for providers serving probation youth
- ▶ STRTC and FFA may be public or Private

The Work Ahead...

Will take “a village”!

CDSS will be collaborating with a wide array of stakeholders in the implementation work

CCR
Report

AB 403

Preparation

- Policies
- Rates
- Outreach
- Orientations
- Tools
- Training
- Accountability
- Recruitment
- Performance measures

Pre-
Implementation

- Applications
- Reviews
- Licenses
- Data testing
- Training & TA

1-1-17

**Implementation:
Children & families
served differently!**

- Extensions
- Data collection
- Monitoring
- Technical Assistance
- Policy Revision

Questions and Contact Info

- ▶ Questions can be sent to: ccr@dss.ca.gov
- ▶ Additional information on the CDSS website at:
<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/default.htm>