



# CALIFORNIA CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL



The next **Child Welfare Council Annual Report** covering the period of **July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022**, to be released in **November 2023**, will feature highlights on each committee and task force of the Council. Please complete the following as a draft to review with your group for their input and confirmation at the **December 2022** meeting and return your completed template to [Sarah.Saria@jud.ca.gov](mailto:Sarah.Saria@jud.ca.gov) no later than **November 30, 2022**.

**July 2021 through June 2022 Activities and Accomplishments:** Please briefly list major activities and accomplishments for FY 21-22.

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

**2022 – 2023 Goals & Objectives:** Indicate your committee or task force's goals and objectives for the coming year.

<b>Committee/ Task Force Name</b>	Behavioral Health Committee
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>The Behavioral Health Committee was formed out of a clear consensus of the Child Welfare Council that despite statewide efforts to improve access to behavioral health services for child welfare-involved youth and those at imminent risk of involvement, there are still significant challenges preventing youth and families from receiving comprehensive and integrated services and supports. Committee members include state agency leadership, representatives from the Governor's Office and State Legislature, children's behavioral health providers, county representatives, caregivers, and advocates.</p> <p>The Committee is tasked with developing best practice recommendations to guide policy and inform statewide efforts to address the behavioral health needs of children and youth more effectively in the child welfare system.</p>
<b>July 2021 through June 2022 Activities and Accomplishments</b>	<p>The Behavioral Health Committee's Universal Array of Services document was approved by the Child Welfare Council in December 2021. This document drove much of the Committee's work in the subsequent months. This document in addition to the Policy Recommendations focused on improving access to care, creating a robust statewide array of services, and developing and tracking meaningful outcomes for youth involved in Child Welfare.</p>

<b>Committee/ Task Force Name</b>	Behavioral Health Committee
	<p>The Behavioral Health Committee had robust meeting participation across its quarterly convenings from July 2021-June 2022, despite the continued COVID pandemic and reliance on Zoom. Each meeting included presentations from relevant stakeholders including: Melissa Stafford-Jones regarding the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI), Lishaun Francis from Children Now, and Alex Briscoe from the California Children’s Trust, among others. The Committee operates via consensus-based decision making, drafting, and publishing of comprehensive policy recommendations.</p> <p>The Committee continued its work on developing recommendations from the Universal Array of Services document. Specifically, the Committee has focused on reviewing available outcome data for children and youth, as well as proposed outcomes tied to the CYBHI. In order to support this work, the Committee has hosted a special convening to seek out input from stakeholders to address the development of outcomes related to the CYBHI. The California Health and Human Services Agency compiled the results and is using the to inform the CYBHI. This discussion will continue into FY2022-23 to develop a comprehensive set of POS outcome recommendations under Medi-Cal for youth involved in or at risk of foster care involvement.</p> <p>The Committee has also engaged in discussions about high-fidelity wraparound services for all foster youth, one of the key services identified in the Universal Array document. The discussion will continue into FY2022-23 to possibly develop comprehensive recommendations regarding the integration of wraparound in Medi-Cal for all foster youth.</p>
<b>Concerns or Challenges</b>	Meeting participation during the COVID pandemic (and continued reliance on Zoom) has ebbed and flowed. The greatest challenge related to this is engaging attendees consistently in the consensus-based work of the Committee.
<b>2022 - 2023 Goals/Objectives</b>	<p>Goals and Objectives of the 2022-2023 work period for this Committee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide recommendations to the Child Welfare Council on meaningful outcomes for child welfare-involved youth and those at imminent risk of involvement.</li> <li>• Provide strategic guidance on the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative and driving the use of funds to meet the needs of child welfare-involved youth.</li> <li>• Provide strategic guidance on the CalBH-CBC 1115 Waiver application and implementation.</li> <li>• Evaluate the efficacy and feasibility of integrating high-fidelity wraparound services for child welfare-involved youth and those at imminent risk of involvement.</li> <li>• Utilizing the expertise of committee members, provide guidance to the field to ensure timely access to behavioral health services</li> </ul>

<b>Committee/ Task Force Name</b>	Behavioral Health Committee
	for child welfare involved-youth and those at imminent risk of involvement.