



# 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>	Data Linkages and Information Sharing Committee (DLIS)
<b>Purpose</b>	The DLIS Committee supports the integration of information across child-serving agencies (e.g., child welfare, health care services, education, vital statistics, juvenile justice, etc.) to inform policy and practice at the individual and systems levels. Linked data provide staff, caregivers, and courts with crucial means to ensure continuity of care for the child welfare population. The Committee also aims to assist in development of tools that measure outcomes across systems at the state and local levels. This information is critical for continuous quality improvements in child welfare services that adapt to the changing needs of children, families and caregivers.
<b>July 2021 through June 2022 Activities and Accomplishments</b>	The DLIS Committee partnered with a 13-county consortium and other stakeholders in a workgroup to examine the current status of substance use disorder (SUD) data collection, reporting and application in child welfare services; the DLIS and SUD data workgroup presented results of their efforts to the Council in March 2022, and began developing a set of recommendations for system improvement to be put forward for Council endorsement by the end of calendar year 2022.

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	<p>DLIS Committee member, and Distinguished Professor Emily Putnam-Hornstein presented to the Council in September 2021 on results of her work to examine the “Cumulative Rates of Child Protection Involvement and Terminations of Parental Rights in a California Birth Cohort, 1999–2017”.</p> <p>Members of the DLIS Committee participated in discussions with the Prevention and Early Intervention Committee in the latter’s development of Implementation Recommendations regarding Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA).</p> <p>DLIS members carried out a lead role in the ongoing statewide evaluation examining the impact of SB 855 on service provision for CSEC youth. And committee members continued to provide data expertise support to the CSEC Action Team.</p> <p>DLIS members participated in national workgroups such as the Judicial Court and Attorney Measures of Performance (JCAMP) project, the Child Welfare Study to Enhance Equity with Data (CW SEED) project, and the Data Leaders Group convened by Casey Family Programs to discuss vital issues related to linkages and application of administrative data.</p> <p>The committee provided updates on national, state and local data sharing initiatives as well as significant news related to the development and planned deployment of the new statewide child welfare administrative data collection system; and acted as a forum for successful data linkages and information sharing efforts to be presented, discussed, and disseminated.</p> <p>Key topics discussed by the Committee during the past year included: Current status and prospective improvements for data collection and reporting of substance use disorder in child welfare services; a presentation by Evan White from the California Policy Lab on an Amendment to the Information Practices Act; discussion with Professor Mark Courtney of the University of Chicago on moving the CalYOUTH study of children in extended foster care to a CCWIP TAY Research and Evaluation Hub at UC Berkeley; ongoing development, implementation and timeline issues related to the California Automated Response and Engagement System (CWS-CARES); DLIS support that aligns with the prospective Child Welfare Council Priorities (e.g., Family First Prevention Services Act and Continuum of Care Reform, and integrating with and supporting the work of other CWC committees).</p>
<b>Concerns or Challenges</b>	A persistent challenge facing the child welfare system is the need for timely, accurate, accessible, and actionable data to support successful

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	<p>implementation of program and policy efforts by the state, counties and other communities of interest. DLIS committee efforts will support improved data collection, reporting, analysis and interpretation to support priority initiatives (e.g., Continuum of Care Reform, Family First Prevention Services Act, Child and Family Services Review Round 4, Center for Excellence in Family Finding, Engagement and Support) key target populations (e.g., CSEC youth, cross-system outcomes for TAY and other foster children), and to provide input to the ongoing development of the Child Welfare Services – California Automated Response and Engagement System (CWS-CARES).</p>
<b>2022 - 2023 Goals/Objectives</b>	<p>The DLIS Committee will complete its work with the SUD data workgroup to examine existing data resources, data collection, reporting, and application needs related to substance use in child welfare services, and present a set of action steps to be endorsed by the Council.</p> <p>The committee will partner with colleagues from the California Department of Social Services, county child welfare agencies, and other stakeholders to discuss opportunities, and to support data collection, integration, reporting, and application toward successful implementation of crucial initiatives such as the FFPSA, CSEC evaluation, CW-CARES roll-out, Round 4 of the Child and Family Services Review, and the emerging Center for Excellence in Family Finding, Engagement and Support.</p> <p>The committee will collaborate with and provide technical assistance to other Child Welfare Council subcommittees regarding data questions and needs to inform and enhance collective efforts to meet the goals and priorities specified by the Council.</p>