



**Mandated Reporting to
Community Supporting
Task Force**

*Communities Keeping Children Safe
and Families Together*

WELCOME!

Mandated Reporting to Community Supporting
Task Force Members
and
Public Participants

September 18, 2023

Introductions

- Name
- What role do you represent on the Task Force?

Small Group Breakout

What do you hope will be different as a result of our Task Force work?

Full Group Share Out

- What words came up in your group in response to the question:
“What do you hope will be different as a result of our Task Force work?”
- Any observations or ah-ha moments that you would like to share?





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Task Force 101: Setting the Stage



History: Setting the Stage



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Leverage the Momentum

- **The Prevention & Early Intervention (PEI) Committee of the Child Welfare Council** has been building toward these recommendations since 2020.
- **FFPSA opens the door to family strengthening**, moving past secondary and tertiary prevention.
- **Recommendations for shifting from mandated reporting to community supporting**, as made by The Citizens Review Panel report, and documented in the issue brief from Safe & Sound and commissioned by OCAP.
- Growing consensus that **a Community Pathway is essential to reform Mandated Reporter policies and practices**.
- **Unprecedented agreement that we must address the structural racism embedded in our child and family serving public systems**, based on the data which shows over surveillance at the front end and along the continuum.

Partners



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- **California Citizen's Review Panel**
- **California Department of Social Services**
- **Casey Family Programs:** Ensure the work of the Task Force moves forward to meet its goals through the provision of co-chairing the Task Force and providing project management, facilitation, data and research, communication and public awareness.
- **Safe & Sound:** Assurance of a diverse and inclusive Task Force through the development and coordination of the Task Force, meeting facilitation, research, and financial support to sustain the engagement of community members and individuals with lived expertise.

NOTE: In accordance with Section 1.1. (d) of the [Child Welfare Council Community Pathway Recommendations](#), the PEI Co-Chairs have identified the organizations that have the resources and expertise to support the development and coordination of the Task Force, with our oversight. Responsibilities include ensuring composition reflects recommendation 1.1(c), as well as providing for financial assistance, training, and mentoring to sustain engagement of community members and individuals with lived expertise.

Expectations



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Task Force

- **Final recommendations** and report to CWC, June 2024.
- Present an update at the CWC meeting in December 2023 and March 2024.

Members

- 5 - 7 hours/months
 - Task Force meetings and prep
 - Participate on a subcommittee (co-chair if interested)
 - Work between meetings as needed.
- You **represent your “seat”**, not your organization or agency. Your organization or agency can support you, and you can reference them in your communications, but you are responsible for bringing expertise, insights, perspectives, and a broad voice from the group that you represent.
- You are **champions** and **ambassadors** for the work of this Task Force and for children and families. We will provide co-created communications materials to represent the work and invite support.



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Task Force Roles & Responsibilities

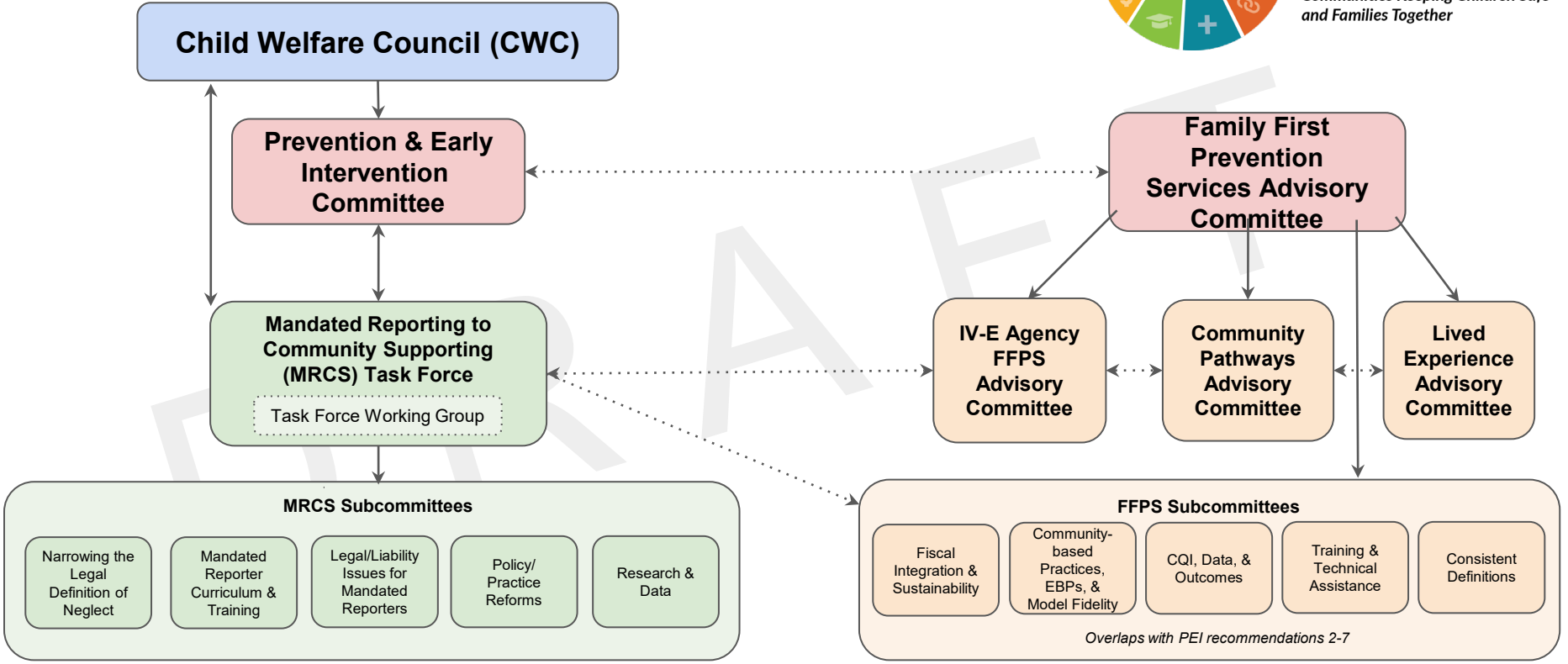


Task Force Ecosystem (Draft)



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Task Force Support Structure



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	Backbone Function			MRCS Task Force	Subcommittees	Executive Advisors
	Connection Team	Advisory Team	Co-Chair Team			
Purpose	Project manage and facilitate the workflow	Advise the Co-Chairs	Ensure the work of the Task Force moves forward and meets the goal of the recommendations and report by June 2024	Review, debate, and make decisions relating to the recommendation areas	At the direction of the Co-Chair Team and Task Force, assign priorities, analyze the content, make recommendations to the Task Force	Executive advisors to the Advisory Team and Co-Chair Team
Recommender	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Decision Maker	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beth Kuenstler Wendy DeTata Other project management and facilitation support (TBD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roger De Leon Jr. Dana Blackwell Katie Albright Kathy Icenhower David Swanson Hollinger Juliet Cox Vanessa Spagnoli Cheryl Treadwell 	<p>Decision makers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roger De Leon Jr. Dana Blackwell <p>Advisors & Staffing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katie Albright Beth Kuenstler 	Task Force members	Subcommittee members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly Chief Justice Earl Kim Johnson Kathy Icenhower David Swanson Hollinger

Communications Planning (Draft)



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NORTH STAR:
Keep children safe & families together

Message Themes

- Safely narrow the front door to child welfare
- Directly support families with the right services at the right time
- Build strong community connections to support families
- Create practices and policies that differentiate between neglect and poverty
- Remove racial and cultural bias

Messengers

- Task Force members
- Subcommittee members
- Other content experts
- Influencers
- Task Force external comms, e.g. through MailChimp

Audiences

- Member orgs & agencies (internal comms)
- Member broader networks (external comms)
- Influencers & Advocates
- Policymakers
- Top mandated reporters: Law Enforcement, Education, Health Care
- Detractors

Materials

- Elevator speech
- Announcement
- Key message docs
- "Explainer"/ Infographic
- Slide deck
- Website
- Newsletters



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The “Why” of the Work





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Data presentation by Alex Pimentel, Casey Family Programs





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Reflections & Questions





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BREAK





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Subcommittee Development



Subcommittees



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Narrowing the Legal Definition of Neglect

Provide recommendations to limit reportable General Neglect, including but not limited to removing poverty-based neglect from the purview of what mandated reporters are required to report. The committee will also recommend steps for communicating updates to mandated reporting legislation to ensure its actionability.

Mandated Reporter Curriculum & Training

Provide recommendations on revising mandated reporting curriculum and training to help ensure referrals focus on child safety and providing support to families where there is not an imminent risk of safety as well as reducing racial and socioeconomic bias in reporting

Potential Legal / Liability Issues for Mandated Reporters

Provide recommendations on legislative reform to mandated reporting laws in order to shift the current fear-based system to one that focuses on building a community of support for families. For example, this could include setting limits on liability for mandated reporters failing to report, revising the “reasonable suspicion” standard for the mandate to report, and/or narrowing California’s reporting statute which currently includes very broad categories of who is a mandated reporter.

Policy & Practice Reforms

Provide state policy recommendations, such as the expansion of, and access to, concrete services and supports necessary to implement and sustain community support for families as well as organizational policy and practice reforms to help ensure that families are connected to the supports they need when there is no imminent risk of safety to a child.

Research & Data

Support and advise the MRCS Task Force and its subcommittees in identifying the “big data picture,” surface and address national research & data questions, as well as provide research and data that will be needed to advance this work.

Subcommittee Roles & Responsibilities



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With the support and direction of the Co-Chair Team and Task Force the
Subcommittees will:

- **Outline** and **prioritize** the most effective areas of work within their Subcommittee topic area.
- Determine what **information and data** is needed and pursue and/or request support in acquiring that information/data.
- Based on information/data, make **recommendations** to the Task Force for review and decision-making.

Small Group Breakout

Subcommittee Workshop Questions

Refer to description of the subcommittee assigned to your group:

- What might be the top 2 - 3 priority pieces of work for this subcommittee?
- What data and research (quantitative and qualitative) would be needed to support the work of this subcommittee?
- Are there subject matter experts (general or by name) who should be involved in advancing this work?



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Next Steps

- Communications working sessions
 - Product output: Draft Elevator Speech and Messaging Memo
 - Dates
 - September 26, 9 – 10:30am PDT
 - October 5, 4 - 5:30pm PDT
- Task Force announcement shared by members (internal and external)
- Help with outreach to recruit focus group participants for mandated reporting training and curriculum revisions
- Work on subcommittee development between now and October meeting



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Public Comment

Info@mrcstaskforce.org





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Thank you!

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