



Mandated Reporting to Community Supporting Task Force

Communities Keeping Children Safe and Families Together

Mandated Reporting to Community Supporting Task Force Subcommittees

Narrowing the Legal Definition of Neglect

This subcommittee will 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 and Training

This subcommittee will 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

This subcommittee will 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

This subcommittee will 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 and Data

This subcommittee will 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.