



CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



PRIMARY AND SECONDARY TRAUMATIC STRESS

Implement a long-term STS-specific intervention for supervisors and caseworkers. Evidence-supported models to explore include Components for Enhancing Clinician Experience and Reducing Trauma (CE-CERT) and the Resilience Alliance: Promoting Resilience and Reducing Secondary Trauma Among Child Welfare Staff (2)



COMPLETED

Components for Enhancing Clinician Experience and Reducing Trauma (CE-CERT)

5 components

Experiential engagement

Reducing rumination

Conscious narrative

Reducing emotional labor

Parasympathetic recovery





Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Child & Family Services Subcommittee



CHILD'S RIGHT TO BE PRESENT AT COURT HEARINGS

Immediately take steps to ensure that children are readily able to attend their own court hearings

Social workers shall invite children to every court hearing and make arrangements for the child(ren) to attend

CWS shall remove current barriers that restrict a youth's ability participate in proceeding, by coordinating with dependency court partners and the County

Create a supervised and private space for youth to wait for court hearings in each courthouse

Provide transportation and logistical support that enables children to get to court

Provide further training on trauma-informed practices to all staff within the courtrooms

Adopt flexible practices such as staggered court calendar times that allow for transportation to hearings when needed

(1)



COMPLETED - ONGOING

Court reports require SW to document youth's desire to attend court

CASAs are approved to assist with transporting youth to court

Youth are invited to appear virtually or by phone

Trainings were provided to court staff regarding trauma-informed practices

CLS created a youth waiting area at Meadowlark that includes access to computers, comfortable furniture and private space to speak to their attorneys



PLACEMENT OF SIBLING SETS TOGETHER

Attempt to keep homes that can accept multiple children free until they can be filled by sibling sets, rather than placing multiple individual children in those homes. (7)



PLACEMENT OF SIBLING SETS TOGETHER

Keep sibling sets at Polinsky Children's Center longer than 10 days, if necessary, in order to facilitate sibling sets being placed together (8)



COMPLETED - ONGOING

Changes to Polinsky include:

Ability to allow children to stay longer than 10 days if deemed necessary to keep sibling groups together and placed in a home-based setting

Waivers from Community Care Licensing were obtained to allow sibling groups to reside in the same room or cottage when outside the normal age limits, when appropriate

Priority to place in NEST homes, many are approved for placement of two to four siblings while they are awaiting a long-term placement as a group



PLACEMENT OF SIBLING SETS TOGETHER

Ask Child Welfare policy experts to review the Policy Manual and include directives to case-carrying social workers of the requirements of WIC 16002 and WIC 306.5 as needed in policies related to placement and visitation

(12)



PLACEMENT OF SIBLING SETS TOGETHER

Make a referral to the Promises2Kids Camp Connect program to ensure quality visitation for the children if there is no option other than to split up a sibling set. (13)



COMPLETED - ONGOING

The Memorandum of Agreement with Promises2Kids was updated in August 2020 to allow volunteers to assist with transportation for separated siblings

The data unit provides monthly report of all separated siblings between the ages of 5-20 to Promises2Kids who works with assigned social worker and caregivers to identify youth to attend camp connect events

Camp Connect events are distributed to all CWS staff so they are aware of upcoming events when they have children who would benefit from attending or are also interested in volunteering.



RESOURCE FAMILY APPROVAL

Develop a responsive system of training for resource families that identifies, prepares, and delivers ongoing trauma-informed training at the time needed in relation to the development of the children in their care (26)



COMPLETED- ONGOING

Grossmont

QPI

Mentors

YMCA



RESOURCE FAMILY APPROVAL

Investigate the use of a psychological evaluation tool to improve the speed and quality of the written family evaluation (29)



COMPLETED

All RFA applicants participate in a psycho/social assessment as part of the RFA process

The RFA program may require an applicant to obtain a psychological evaluation if/when deemed appropriate by the assigned RFA worker and supervisor, in consultation with the RFA Manager



RESOURCE FAMILY APPROVAL

Develop a process to determine which relative family member to select for the RFA approval process when multiple relatives have been identified and express interest in caring for the child(ren) (30)



COMPLETED

Child and Family Team meetings (CFT) are the primary way these conversations and decisions are made

With the input of the CFT, placement options are prioritized, and the first choice begins the process of emergency placement while the others are on the standard track

RFA is available to participate in CFTs to explain the RFA process and assist with necessary steps



RESOURCE FAMILY SUPPORT AND RETENTION

Establish a CWS unit focused on providing same day/after hours (24/7) responsive support to caregivers (31)



COMPLETED

CDSS Programs | Foster Care | Family Urgent Response System

Family Urgent Response System

Welcome to the FURS Hub!



California Family Urgent Response System (*Cal-FURS*)

Telephone Number: 833-939-3877

Website: Cal-FURS.org

Email Address: info@cal-furs.org

[FURS Youth](#)





Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Organizational Structure Subcommittee



VENDOR CONTRACTS

Review and update all vendor contracts to ensure alignment with the requirements of CCR/RFA (21)



COMPLETED

All prior group home contracts are now Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP)

There are currently 10 STRTP contracts, many with multiple locations

The current contracts expire in June 2023 and we expect to see at least two new STRTP contractors with that procurement

