



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
Child and Family Strengthening
Advisory Board
Minutes of November 3, 2023

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

NORA VARGAS
First District

JOEL ANDERSON
Second District

TERRA LAWSON-REMER
Third District

VACANT
Fourth District

JIM DESMOND
Fifth District

Members Present:

Hon. Judge Ana España, San Diego Superior Court
Dr. Eric McDonald, County Health and Human Service Agency
Kimberly Giardina, Child and Family Well-Being Department
Alethea Arguilez, First 5 San Diego
Jeff Wiemann, Foster Family Agency
Stephen Moore, Voices for Children, Inc
Carolyn Griesemer, Children's Legal Services of San Diego
Melissa Villagomez, Former Foster Youth
Simone Hidds-Monroe, San Pasqual Academy
Adam Reed, Dependency Legal Services
Stephanie Gioia-Beckman, Rady's Children's Hospital

Members Not Present:

Aimee Zeitz, District 2 Appointee
Joy Singleton, District 3 Appointee
Mara Madrigal-Weiss, San Diego County Office of Education
Chief Tamika Nelson, San Diego County Probation
Patricia Boles, Straight from the Heart, Inc.
Jessica Heldman, Polinsky Children's Center

Staff Present:

Sandra McBrayer, The Children's Initiative
Brook Smith, The Children's Initiative

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Judge Ana España called the meeting to order.
- A quorum was present.
- She welcomed the Advisory Board and asked them to introduce themselves.

2. Public Comment

- Judge Ana España asked if any members of the public wished to address the Advisory Board.
 - There were no public comments.

3. Approval for the Statement of Proceeding/Minutes for the meeting of July 28, 2023

- Kimberly Giardina made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 28, 2023 meeting.
- The motion passed with all present members voting aye.

4. Regulations and Limits on Trust Fund

- Kim Giardina, Director of Child and Family Well-Being, presented on this topic.
- As of August 31, 2023, there was 3.3 million dollars in the trust. The Trust can be used to fund child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs operated by private nonprofit

organizations or public institutions of higher education.

- Current contracts with trust fund dollars account for 1.6 million dollars. Current contracts include kinship support, special education legal advocacy, and a guardianship education program. At the last meeting, the Board asked for more information on two contracts:
 - Legal advocacy contract: Includes both probate representation and education to parents on guardianship through probate.
 - Education legal advocacy: Between October 2022 and September 2023, there were 61 consultations, 29 attorneys were provided on behalf of eligible youth, and 136 youth received legal assistance or advocacy.
 - Both contracts surpassed their contract goals.
- The prevention hub contract that was previously approved by the Board is almost ready to go out for procurement.
- The pre-petition legal advocacy contract is almost procured.
- A portion of funds is held to be spent at the discretion of the Advisory Board.

5. Medi-Cal Enhanced Case Management – CalAIM/SDAIM

- Heather Summers, Deputy Director, Medical Care Services, presented on this topic. The presentation focused on the areas of enhanced case management and community supports. The primary goals of Enhanced Case Management (ECM) are:
 - Whole person care approach,
 - Improve outcomes, reduce health disparities, and payment reforms, and
 - Reduce complexity and increase flexibility.
- Enhanced care management is the highest level of support, higher than complex needs.
- ECM started in January 2022 and was rolled out through different populations of focus. In July 2023, the Children and Youth population was added, that includes:
 - Homeless Families or Unaccompanied Children/Youth Experiencing Homelessness,
 - Children and Youth at Risk for Avoidable Hospitalization or Emergency Department Utilization,
 - Children and Youth with Serious Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorder Needs,
 - Children and Youth Enrolled in CA Children’s Services or CCS Whole Child with Additional Needs Beyond the CCS Condition, and
 - Children and Youth Involved in Child Welfare.
- A child or youth is defined as an individual under 21, with limited exceptions.
- Foster kids in San Diego are typically enrolled in fee for service, which makes it easier to maintain care as children move around the county. However, being enrolled in fee for service makes youth ineligible for ECM. CFWB is looking into this. Part of the difficulty is that San Diego has four plans while most other counties only have one. If children are already enrolled in a managed care plan, it is easy to keep them on that plan. If a child is not, there are questions regarding who gets to make the decision as to which managed care program the child should be enrolled in.
- There are currently six providers, in January that will go down to four (Blue Shield Promise, Community Health Group, Kaiser Permanente, Molina). Referral links and email addresses are included in the presentation.
- Patients that are on Aetna or Health Net will be switching providers. There is a 90-day transition grace period. Patients can change providers if they do not like the plan they are assigned. Letters regarding the change are being mailed to the relevant patients. Patients can call County Access to update their addresses. The letters may be confusing; no one is losing coverage due to their provider leaving the market.
- All of the remaining plans have committed to providing 14 community supports. Community supports are offered in the community to help health outcomes.
 - Housing Transition Navigation Services
 - Housing Deposits

- Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services
- Short-term Post-Hospitalization Housing
- Recuperative Care
- Respite Services
- Day Habilitation Programs
- Nursing Facility Transition /Diversion to Assisted Living Facility
- Community Transition Services/Nursing Facility Transition to Home
- Personal Care and Homemaker Services
- Environmental Accessibility Adaptations
- Medically Tailored Meals/Medically Supportive Food
- Sobering Centers
- Asthma Remediation

6. Update on SPA

- Rich Boyer, Program Director, Rites of Passage, and Valesha Bullock, Assistant Director Child and Family Well-Being, presented.
- There are currently 42 youth on campus, capacity is 80 once buildings are restored. Currently 6 homes are operational. The girls' cottages are full and there is a waitlist until cottage repairs are complete. There are five openings for boys.
- There are currently 75 staff. The ideal ratio is 2 staff for 8 youth. Once that ratio is reached, there will be more opportunities for off campus activities.
- There is a revamped referral process. The referral packet is screened, then youth are given a tour of the campus by current students and an interview is conducted. A student handbook has been created which will be given to youth during the campus tour. The handbook will help create similar rules and expectations between the different cottages.
- The youth's information is shared with the school prior to the student being accepted to ensure the school is able to meet the youth's needs. Currently, 32 youth attend the SPA school.
- Referrals are currently down. Judge España will remind the other juvenile judges of SPA and that youth with delinquency cases are eligible.
- There are currently seven alumni on campus. There is a new process for alumni that want to return to campus: they are screened, interviewed, and must provide letters of recommendation. The returning students are assessed for their safety to current students as well as their reasons for returning and motivation for moving on. There is a concern that letters of recommendations may delay urgent placements, this requirement can be waived.
- A new coordinator has been hired that will be working with the farm, alumni, and grandparent programs. The grandparents were reminded of the requirement to volunteer ten hours a week with youth.
- One challenge is the condition of the facilities. The buildings need a lot of repairs externally and internally to be habitable. The county is conducting assessments of every building.

7. Work Group Updates

- a. **FAYCES (8/17/23 & 9/21/23)**
 - Simone Hidds-Monroe updated the Advisory Board on the last two FAYCES meetings. The group now has a new structure. The group brainstormed ideas for their two-year action plan. The group also made recommendations for the CFWB website.
- b. **Placement and Resource Family Support (8/24/23 & 9/28/23)**
 - Jeff Wiemann presented the update for this workgroup. The group had a very good presentation on STRPs in August. There is lower capacity lately and any youth under age 12 is sent out of county. The group is also working on their workplan under the new structure. Their emphasis is on retention of resource parents and how to better support relatives.

- c. Child and Family Well-Being (9/20/23)
 - o Sandy McBrayer provided the update on behalf of co-chairs Aimme Zeitz, Stephanie Gioia-Beckman. This workgroup also brainstormed on two-year action plan items. Areas of interest include rapid rehousing, access to transportation, a hotline for families, affordable quality neighborhood childcare, and coaching/mentoring services. They also talked about the need for better communication and communication strategies around how to make families aware of the services that are already available and how to inform educators and law enforcement (the two biggest sources of mandatory hotline calls) about the new mandatory supporting protocol.

8. Child and Family Well-Being, Director's Report

a. Child and Family Well-Being Department Update

- o The new department has been established for four months. The Office of Child and Family Strengthening has hired a new manager and will now be hiring social worker staff. This is the prevention staff that will be working with the Prevention Hubs contractor to do the FFPSA assessment. The Office is in the process of identifying a contractor to work on implementing the children's blueprint.
- o FFPSA is a challenge as San Diego's plan was approved but we are not able to draw down funds until California has a system in place. The current estimate for a system is late 2026, which will result in a funding gap. Some counties that are further along in FFPSA are joining together to ask for an interim claiming system. The Advisory Board offered to write a letter of support if needed.
- o San Diego County has been selected as one of five counties to work with Doctor Anita Barbee from Louisville on workforce retention. Barbee is the expert in this field so this is a great opportunity to have the department's new retention strategies evaluated and expanded.
- o The YMCA received the shared services alliance contract. Procurement for the workforce investment grant is in process. Both grants are to support the childcare workforce, ensure quality providers, and help build resiliency in the childcare system.
- o The meeting to establish the Community Response Guide is happening this week. The Community Response Guide is a decision support tool for mandated reports to help with the transition to community supporter. The hope is to pilot the program in Summer 2024.
- o SDSU completed an evaluation of the first three years of the Fostering Academic Success in Education pilot project. The evaluation was positive and the quotes from the youth were particularly interesting. The project is currently in three districts and three more districts have shown interest.

b. Birth of Brilliance Conference Sponsorship

- o The Advisory Board supported the conference with \$1,500 last year and the organizers are asking for a contribution again this year. There was no objection to using the Trust Fund for this request.

9. Advisory Board Member Updates

- Just in Time is having a luncheon on Wednesday, November 8th, Sixto Cancel will be the keynote speaker.
- First 5 San Diego is having a commission meeting on strategic efforts on Thursday, November 9th.
- The Juvenile Court hosted a kin first training in August with Seneca Families. There were 175 participants. The court has two workgroups with RFK Alliance: one is trying to reduce duplication in assessments, to that end they are reviewing the assessments used by probation and behavioral health; the other is a juvenile court process group on to how to better serve

youth and families. There are also town halls on juvenile court, the most recent meeting included a panel with former foster youth and resource parents. The next meeting is in February.

- Appointing CFSAB new members is on the County Board of Supervisors agenda's for 11/7/23. The Children's Initiative will do an orientation with the new board members and will work with the Board of Supervisors to fill the remaining seats.

10. Adjournment

- Sandra McBrayer concluded the meeting by summarizing next steps:
 - Staff will send out the flyer for the Just in Time luncheon.
 - Staff will send out the SDSU evaluation of Fostering Academic Success in Education.
 - Staff will work on getting Norma Ricon to present at the next meeting.
 - The next meeting will be Friday, January 26, 2024, from 9-11am.
- The meeting was adjourned by Judge Ana España.

Meeting minutes were submitted by Torrey Giaquinta. Please contact Torrey Giaquinta at (858) 581-5893 if you have corrections or suggested revisions. She may also be contacted for agenda items or general information.

PROSOCIAL ACTIVITIES RESOURCES



LIVE WELL
SAN DIEGO



SPECIALIZED CARE INCENTIVES AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SCIAP)



SCIAP funds are available for children/youth in out-of-home care. SCIAP funds are limited to the purchase of goods or services, which are not available through other funding sources.

PROSOCIAL ACTIVITIES	OTHER
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Athletic fees or equipment• Graduation expenses (prom, class ring, yearbook, etc.)• Lessons (music, dance, karate, etc.)• Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medical services or equipment not covered by Medi-Cal• Dental services not covered by Medi-Cal• Eyeglasses or contacts• San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program (SDVLP) fees• Additional tutoring (not covered by the school system or other agency)• Other items/services with special approval from the Fiscal Administrative Analyst who monitors SCIAP funding• SCIAP funds may be used for childcare services under very specific special circumstances



WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR SCIAP

- Resource Family Home (RFH)
- Relative (Non-Parent)
- Non-Relative Extended Family Member (NREFM)
- Non-Related Legal Guardian
- Tribally Approved Homes (TAH)
- Foster Family Agency (FFA) Resource Parents

How to Access SCIAP?:

Contact the active Social Worker

Children In Need, Inc.



In 1968, employees of the Health and Human Services Agency organized Children In Need (CIN). CIN is a nonprofit charitable corporation. CIN provides financial support to assist disadvantaged children's participation in sports, arts and other enrichment activities.

CIN funds activities such as, but not limited to:

- Football
- Ballet Lessons
- Soccer
- Camp
- Golf
- Cheerleading
- Scouting Uniforms
- Self Defense Classes
- Dance Lessons
- Yearbooks

<http://www.childreninneedsd.org/request-assistance.html>

PROMISES2KIDS - SOMETHING SPECIAL FUND



The Something Special Fund was founded by Promises2Kids to provide funding support for life-enhancing activities and services for children currently within the foster care system in San Diego County. As of May 2020, Promises2Kids began accepting applications for general requests as well as requests for extracurricular activities only. As a result, all youth 18 years of age or under who are in out of home placement are eligible for up to \$750 per fiscal year.

Funding is limited to the following:

- **Up to \$500 - Extra Curricular Activities**
- **Up to \$250 - General Something Special Expenses**

***Expenses greater than the amounts listed above may be requested and are subject to approval.**

PROMISES2KIDS - SOMETHING SPECIAL FUND



Extracurricular Activities (\$500)	General Something Special (\$250)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sports• Uniforms Or Equipment,• Gymnastics,• Soccer• Football• Basketball Leagues• Cheerleading• Swim Lessons• Martial Arts (Not Mixed)• Sports Registration Fees• Music Lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any Item Or Special Request That A Youth Desires, May Be Considered.• Tablets, Bikes, Speakers, Watches, Cameras, Headphones, Video Games, Jewelry• Musical Instruments• Zoo, Legoland, Sea World Passes• Hair Extensions• Designer Shoes• Art Supplies• Toys• Birthday





PROMISES2KIDS

- Back To School Shopping
- Holiday Shopping Spree
- Camp Connect

Youth, Social Workers, and Caregivers can request funds and information via the Promises2Kids mainline: (858)278-4400

Flexible Family Support Funding



As result of AB 179, the Budget Act of 2022 appropriated \$50 million in General Funds in one-time funding for County Welfare Departments (ACL NO. 23-02)

Purpose:

- Support caregivers to reduce change of placements and increase life-long familiar connections for children/youth in care.
- Increase the use of home-based family care and provide increased support to children/youth to maintain these connections.
- Provide needed supports and services to enhance placement stability and allow caregivers to safely care for and provide quality parenting to children in foster care.

Types of placements

- Relative caregivers
- Resource families
- Tribally Approved Home (TAH)
- Emergency placement with a relative/NREFM, extended family member (in the case of an Indian child)
- Compelling reason placement (home that is pending RFA approval and has cleared criminal background RFA process)
- A child moving from a more restrictive placement.

Flexible Family Support



Funds can be used for the following:

• Prosocial Activities	Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activities must enhance the child’s skills, self-esteem, relationships, healing, such as but not limited to:• Lessons in music, dance, drama• Summer camp (including travel, supplies or equipment)• Sports team or activity participation (transportation, supplies, equipment)• Community activities• Trips and excursion with or without peers, caregivers, and family• Other age-appropriate activities (hobbies, other activities chosen by child/youth formal or informal setting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respite Care• To enable a child/youth in foster care continue with their familial connections (relative/NRERM, child’s tribe, tribal community, tribal cultural events).• Cost to facilitate a placement with a relative/NREFM, extended family member if an Indian child, due to otherwise being able to take the child due to current housing arrangement limitations.



OTHER RESOURCES

- Straight from the Heart
- Eyeglasses
 - Lions Optometric Vision Clinic
- Lessons:
 - YMCA
- Tutoring
 - Social Advocate for Youth (SAY)
 - Neighborhood House Association
 - Casa Familiar Inc.
 - 211 San Diego
 - San Diego Office of ED/ Foster Youth Services-Tutor Connection





LIVE WELL
SAN DIEGO

THANK YOU!
Norma Rincon, Deputy Director



San Pasqual Academy

Reading and Writing Intervention Program



A few statistics

- California is the state with the lowest adult literacy rate in 2023
- 2 out of 3 students in the U.S. who can not read properly by 4th grade end up on welfare or in jail
- Approximately 85% of young students involved in the juvenile court process are completely illiterate.
- Children with parents who have low literacy levels are 72% more likely to be at the lowest level of literacy rate leading to a cycle of poverty and illiteracy.

ProsperityforAmerica.org

[California's Reading Dilemma](#)

Reading Intervention

- Without explicit intervention, students who are not reading at grade level at the end of third grade, flatline in their reading growth
- Many of our students are in a perpetual state of trauma which dramatically impedes their ability to learn.
- Transitioning schools increases trauma and impedes learning. Many of our students transition multiple times within a single school year.
- While dual enrollment in college courses is an important step for students to continue their education, without the necessary literacy skills to access college level texts, students are significantly less likely to complete their educational programs, especially without the support of the high school.

Reading Intervention at SPA

- Since the 2019-2020 San Pasqual Academy has been part of the Reading Intervention (RI) professional learning initiative launched by JCCS.
- The Instructional Coach, the RI lead and all the teachers have been provided professional development to learn how to administer the tests, collect and analyze the data, create plans to support all students, assess student growth.
- Since 2023 SPA has a dedicated RI specialist to support all students and to provide professional development to all teaching staff (staff meetings, one on one, Reading and Writing Intervention, Google Classroom).

Data Driven

- We believe that important decisions should be informed by reliable and valid insights—especially when those decisions impact students, student outcomes, and achievement.
- At SPA the students are assessed with Renaissance Learning (comprehension), the San Diego Quick (decoding), and the Burke Interview (metalinguistic knowledge).
- The information is shared with the students and their guardians.
- Teachers and students create and action plan to support student growth.

Dedicated Time for RI

- REWARDS for Reading
 - Decoding multisyllabic words
 - Identifying and understanding prefixes and suffixes
 - Increasing words and passage reading fluency
 - Building academic vocabulary
 - Deepening comprehension.
- REWARDS for Writing
 - Provides strategies for sentence refinement to expand ideas to increase quality, variety, and clarity of writing
 - Help student sharpen words choice to improve writing.

Embedded RI

“Embedded” refers to re-allocating approximately 10 minutes of instructional time to provide brief RI lessons during all content classes:

- Decoding
- Fluency
- Vocabulary
- Comprehension
- Text Analysis

Holistic Approach

- SPA recognizes the connectedness of mind, body, and spirit. Learning should be relevant and meaningful to students, this means that each student should be able to recognize and engage with the subject material as well as adopt it in their daily life.
- Students are encouraged to work together and support one another throughout their learning with the aid of many activities such as group projects, exhibitions of learning, working with partners (Words Alive, Playwrights Project, etc.).
- Culturally responsive lending library.

Designed to Motivate

- Student leaders create and support literacy opportunities:

“Date a Book”

“Walk with a Book”

“Storyteller Anthology”

“Write a Play”

other contests and incentives.

Education and Recidivism

“Our research has shown recidivism rates are inversely proportional to a released prisoner’s level of education. A study by Emory University found that:

- Ex-offenders who complete some high school courses have recidivism rates of around 55 percent.
- Vocational training cut recidivism to approximately 30 percent.
- An associate degree drops the rate to 13.7 percent.
- A bachelor’s degree reduces it to 5.6 percent.
- A master’s degree brings recidivism to 0 percent.”

[Prison Education Reduces Recidivism](#)

Assess and Celebrate

Monitor student growth

Assess effectiveness of the strategies

Celebrate student growth – An average of one and a half year of growth in one year's time for students that are receiving one-on-one or small group instructions.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/>

From the
students



Thank You!

Valentina Mills, M.Ed

*Humanities and Reading Intervention Specialist
Juvenile Court and Community Schools/SDCOE
San Pasqual Academy
valentina.mills@sdcoe.net*



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Work Group Meeting

FAYCES	6:00 – 7:30 pm
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Date: Thursday, November 16, 2023

Time: 6:00pm-7:30pm

Location: Virtual

Chair: Simone Hidds-Monroe

Facilitator: Sandy McBrayer

Meeting Staff: Torrey Giaquinta

FAYCES Summary: 19 attendees took part in this work group meeting.

Advisory Members Participating: Stephen Moore

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees were asked to put their name and organization in the chat. Sandy introduced Torrey Giaquinta, a new CI staff person who will be supporting the CFSAB work groups.

2. Two-Year Action Plan

Sandy introduced Danell Scarborough; a consultant hired to facilitate the process of developing action plans.

a. Introduction to planning process

Danell provided an overview of the constraints in place:

- The action plans should be focused on all parts of the system, not just the agency.
- The goals should be measurable and observable.
- The action plan needs to align with the CFSAB and work-group's mission.
- The action plan needs to account for reducing racial and ethnic disparities.

There was a discussion regarding the voices that were not present at the meeting and how best to solicit their input.

- Simone already established communication methods with large group of youth formerly in foster care. She will solicit information from them and report back.
- The group would like to get input from current youth in care. Group members discussed the level of confidentiality necessary to protect the identity of youth in care and resource parents.

b. Identify key areas of interest

Danell showed the attendees a zoom whiteboard of previously identified goals grouped by theme. Attendees then had the opportunity to add in other areas of interest. Discussion took place to clarify some of the ideas and to properly group them.

c. Develop prioritization criteria

The attendees were shown a list of potential prioritization criteria developed from conversations with work group co-chairs, staff, and a review of previous meetings. Goals should...

- respond to/center the child, their family, and their broader community.
- address reducing racial and ethnic disparities.
- align with larger efforts underway.
- work at a system level.
- use available resources.
- be evidence based.
- address an urgent need.
- be realistic and feasible.
- provides significant improvement (in either breath or depth).

Changes and clarifications were made to the criteria and then each attendee selected the two to three criteria they believe to be most important.

3. Lived Experience Seat on CFSAB

Sandy provided an update on filling seats on the CFSAB. In addition to the designated lived experience seat, staff are also looking to fill the district seats with people with lived experience.

4. Work Group Name

The current work group name of FAYCES no longer fits the group. A link to a poll was submitted so participants could vote on a name. The poll will stay open for a while to garner more input. The new name will be announced at the next meeting.

5. Date of Next Meeting – December 14th, 6:00 pm

The date of the next meeting has been changed. Torrey will send out an email to the CFSAB listserv with the new date.

6. Adjournment



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Work Group Meeting

FAYCES	6:00 – 7:30 pm
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Date: Thursday, December 14, 2023

Time: 6:00pm-7:30 pm

Location: Virtual

Chairs: Simone Hidds-Monroe

Meeting Staff: Torrey Giaquinta

FAYCES Summary: 21 attendees took part in this work group meeting.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees were asked to put their name and organization in the chat.

2. SPA

a. Introduction of new Alumni Liaison

James Foster is the new Alumni and Grandparent Liaison at SPA.

b. Description of the process for alumni returning to campus

Alumni that want to return to campus to live need to complete an application. The application can be obtained through SPA administration. The completed application should be emailed to James. A decision should be made within two weeks of receipt of an application. All communication will be via email. Upon submission of an application, James will gather the SPA admin team along with staff people that know the student. Once approved, James will make sure the apartment is stocked with food. Note: alumni are not able to wander on the SPA campus, get meals from the campus cafeteria, or interact with current students. Rites of Passage is still working with the County to develop an official lease process. If alumni are staying for longer than just the holidays, they will need a structured plan. ROP will collect rent, amount to be determined on a case-by-case basis. The rent will be returned to the alumnus at the end of their stay. The apartments are available for alumni ages 18-24. There are six apartments currently available.

c. Development of on-going youth advisory

There is a student council which is directed by the head of student services. So far, topics addressed include the student handbook, dress code, and weekday schedule.

Monthly alumni panels will be starting in January 2024.

There was a lot of discussion on the expectations and requirements when alumni want to return to campus. Alumni must call ahead to the office and have a purpose to their visit. As SPA is a school, the same visitation rules that are in place at other schools will apply. Alumni are not allowed to wander the campus or interact with current students. Staff need to ensure the confidentiality of current students is protected.

3. Results of Work Group name vote

A link to vote on the new Work Group name was entered into the chat box. The winning name was announced at the end of the meeting: Lived Experts and Action Partners

4. Two-Year Action Plan:

Danell Scarborough, a consultant hired to lead the development of the two-year action plan, facilitated this section.

a. Results from ideas and prioritization activities

Danell presented the results from the prioritization activity last month, the criteria with the most votes was 'the goal works at a system level'. The five themes identified from the action idea activity were:

- San Diego County's Approach to Valuing Lived Expertise
- Special Populations Requiring Focus
- Incorporate Lived Experts in Provider Training
- Knowledge and Resources for Former Foster Youth, and
- Youth Evaluations of Placement, Programs, and Services

b. Refine action ideas into goals

Of particular importance to this work group is the need to leave capacity for urgent items that come up.

- The three goals identified were: 1) San Diego County's Approach to Valuing Lived

Expertise, as valuing the experience of lived experts will then trickle down throughout the system; 2) Special Populations Requiring Focus, a focus on those youth with the most needs will end up serving all youth; and, 3) Youth Evaluations of Placement, Programs, and Services, there was an emphasis on the need for qualitative evaluations.

c. Map how stakeholders can support goals

We did not get to this activity.

5. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday, February 15, 2024 6:00pm

Staff will post the documents on a shared, editable site and email the links to the group.

6. Adjournment



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Work Group Meeting

Child and Family Well-Being	10:00 am -11:30 am
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Date: Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Time: 10:00 am-11:30 pm

Location: Virtual

Co-Chairs: Aimee Zeitz and Stephanie Gioia-Beckman

Facilitator: Sandra McBrayer

Meeting Staff: Torrey Giaquinta

Child and Family Well-Being Summary: 25 attendees took part in this work group meeting.

Advisory Members Participating: Joy Singleton, Stephanie Gioia-Beckman, Diana Vargas, Aimee Zeitz, Adam Reed and Stephen Moore

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Co-Chairs introduced themselves. Attendees were asked to put their name and organization in the chat. Sandy introduced Torrey Giaquinta, a new CI staff person who will be supporting the CFSAB work groups.

2. Two-Year Action Plan

Sandy introduced Danell Scarborough; a consultant hired to facilitate the process of developing action plans.

a. Introduction to planning process

Danell provided an overview of the constraints in place:

- The action plans should be focused on all parts of the system, just not the agency.
- The goals should be measurable and observable.
- The action plan needs to align with the CFSAB and work-group's mission.
- The action plan needs to account for reducing racial and ethnic disparities.

There was a discussion regarding the voices that were not present at the meeting and how best to solicit their input.

- Lived experts, parents and kids with recent exposure to prevention efforts
- Biological parents
- Resource parents

It will be hard to solicit input from youth who have been involved in successful prevention efforts because they will not have a CASA or attorney. Permission will need to be granted by their parents. Aimee mentioned that the YMCA does have funds available to assist in soliciting broader perspectives.

b. Identify key areas of interest

Danell showed the attendees a zoom whiteboard of previously identified goals grouped by theme. Attendees then had the opportunity to add in other areas of interest. Discussion took place to clarify some of the ideas and to properly group them. There were requests for data which will be provided at the next meeting.

- 2-year trend of who is entering the system, disaggregated by age, ethnicity, type of abuse, geography (zip-code) and reporter type.
- Voluntary cases will not be included in the data at this time.

c. Develop prioritization criteria

The attendees were shown a list of potential prioritization criteria developed from conversations with work group co-chairs, staff, and a review of previous meetings. The goal should:

- respond to or centers the child, their family, and their broader community,
- address reducing racial and ethnic disparities,
- align with larger efforts underway,
- work at a system level,
- capitalize on available resources,
- be evidence based,
- address an urgent need,
- be realistic and feasible,
- provide significant improvement (in either breath or depth).

Changes and clarifications were made to the criteria and then each attendee selected the two criteria they believe to be most important.

5. Date of Next Meeting – January 3, 2024 at 10 am

The date of the next meeting has been changed. Torrey will send out an email to the CFSAB listserv with the new date. Torrey, Aimee Zeitz, and Diana Vargas will meet to discuss the next Parent Partners meeting. Torrey will reach out to get information from QPI.

6. Adjournment



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Work Group Meeting

Child and Family Well-Being	10:00 am -11:30 am
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Date: *Wednesday*, January 3, 2024

Time: 10:00 am-11:30 pm

Location: *Virtual*

Co-Chairs: *Aimee Zeitz and Stephanie Gioia-Beckman*

Meeting Staff: *Torrey Giaquinta*

Child and Family Well-Being Summary: 36 attendees took part in this work group meeting.

Advisory Members Participating: Stephanie Gioia-Beckman, Stephanie Ortega, Alethea Arguilez, Jeff Wiemann, Erin Gospodarec, Simone Hidds-Monroe, Aimee Zeitz, Adam Reed, and Stephen Moore

1) Welcome and Introductions

The Co-Chairs introduced themselves. Attendees were asked to put their name and organization in the chat.

2) Presentation of data requested during November meeting

Laura Krzywicki presented the child welfare data requested at the last meeting: voluntary services, allegation type, allegation conclusion, reporter, age, race and ethnicity, and zip code for the last two years.

Torrey presented data on needs requested from 211 in the last year.

There were some new requests for data, most of which can be found on the statewide database.

Attendees were given the link to the database.

3) Two-Year Action Plan

Danell Scarborough, a consultant hired to facilitate the process of developing action plans, summarized the three areas of discussion for the day: view the results from the idea and prioritization activity last month, refine those ideas into goals, and identify stakeholders to support those goals.

a. Results from ideas and prioritization activities

i) The action ideas from the last meeting were shown grouped into themes:

- What services to offer
- How to offer services
- Community partnership
- Workforce
- Funding

ii) Participants reviewed the activities grouped under each theme and suggested adjustments.

The participants saw the results from the prioritization activity. There were two categories of prioritization, non-negotiable criteria – responds to child, youth, family needs, and addresses racial and ethnic disparities; and decision-making criteria – works at system change level, moves the needle, significant improvement (scope or depth).

b. Refine action ideas into goals

Next, participants were asked to identify three to five of the themes to become the Work Group goals. The selected goals were: access to services and community partnerships.

c. Map how stakeholders can support goals

This topic was briefly discussed. All documents related to the action plans for each work group are available in a Google Shared Drive (the link to the drive was emailed previously as well as provided in the chat). Attendees were asked to identify stakeholders that can help support the identified goals.

5. Date of Next Meeting – February 21, 2024, 10:00am

6. Adjournment



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Work Group

Work Group:

Placement & Resource Family Support	11:00 am-12:30 pm
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Date: Thursday, November 16, 2023

Time: 11:00 am-12:30 pm

Location: Virtual

Co-Chair: Jeff Wiemann

Facilitator: Sandra McBrayer

Meeting Staff: Torrey Giaquinta

Placement & Resource Family Support Summary: 22 attendees took part in the Work Group.

Advisory Members Participating: Joy Singleton, Erin Gospodarec, Beth Ploesch

1. Welcome and Introduction

Jeff opened the meeting and welcomed all participants. Sandy introduced Torrey Giaquinta, a new CI staff person who will be supporting the CFSAB work groups.

2. Two-Year Action Plan

Sandy introduced Danell Scarborough; a consultant hired to facilitate the process of developing action plans.

a. Introduction to planning process

Danell provided an overview of the constraints in place:

- The action plans should be focused on all parts of the system, just not the agency.
- The goals should be measurable and observable.
- The action plan needs to align with the CFSAB and work-group's mission.
- The action plan needs to account for reducing racial and ethnic disparities.

Patty already has established communication methods with resource parents. We can use those for gaining broader perspectives.

b. Identify key areas of interest

Danell showed the attendees a zoom whiteboard of previously identified goals grouped by theme. Attendees then had the opportunity to add in other areas of interest. Discussion took place to clarify some of the ideas and to properly group them

c. Develop prioritization criteria

The attendees were shown a list of potential prioritization criteria developed from

conversations with work group co-chairs, staff, and a review of previous meetings. The goal...

- responds to or centers the child, their family, and their broader community.
- addresses reducing racial and ethnic disparities.
- aligns with larger efforts underway.
- works at a system level.
- uses available resources.
- is evidence based.
- addresses an urgent need.
- is realistic and feasible.
- provides significant improvement (in either breath or depth).

Changes and clarifications were made to the criteria and then each attendee selected the two criteria they believe to be most important.

4. Date of Next Meeting – December 14, 2023 at 11 am

The date of the next meeting has been changed. Torrey will send out an email to the CFSAB listserv with the new date.

5. Adjournment



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

Summary of Work Group

Work Group:

Placement & Resource Family Support	11:00 am-12:30 pm
-------------------------------------	-------------------

Date: Thursday, December 14, 2023

Time: 11:00 am-12:30 pm

Location: Virtual

Co-Chairs: Jeff Wiemann and Patty Boles

Meeting Staff: Torrey Giaquinta

Placement & Resource Family Support Summary: 19 attendees took part in the Work Group.

Advisory Members Participating: Stephanie Ortega, Erin Gospodarec, Beth Ploesch

1. Welcome and Introduction

Jeff and Patty opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

2. Two-Year Action Plan

Danell Scarborough, a consultant hired to facilitate the process of developing action plans, summarized the three areas of discussion for the day: view the results from the idea and prioritization activity last month, refine those ideas into goals, and identify stakeholders to support those goals.

a. Results from ideas and prioritization activities

The action ideas from the last meeting were shown grouped into eight themes:

- Placement needs
- Kinship/relative first model
- Research and analysis
- Supports and services to retain resource families
- Recruitment of resource families
- Visitation
- Mental Health Services
- Funding

Participants reviewed the activities grouped under each theme and suggested adjustments.

The participants saw the results from the prioritization activity, the majority of votes were for goals that center the child, then family, then youth, and goals that address an urgent need.

b. Refine action ideas into goals

Next, participants were asked to identify three to five of the themes to become the Work Group goals. The selected goals were: increase placements for key needs, develop the kinship/relative first model, and build connections for youth through visitation. Participants discussed actions that could take place under each goal. Listening and engaging was discussed as a foundational value that underlies each goal.

c. Map how stakeholders can support goals

This topic was not discussed. Participants were asked to identify people, organizations, and networks that can help support each goal in the chat however participants were engaged in the refining work.

Participants asked that links to editable documents detailing the action ideas and goals and activities be emailed out so that work can be done between now and the next meeting in February. The documents will include a section for participants to identify stakeholders that can share the responsibility of achieving each goal.

4. Date of Next Meeting – February 22, 2024 at 11 am

The co-chairs from all three work groups will meet prior to the next set of work group meetings to discuss any overlapping goals or activities and identify the responsibility of each work group.

Editable versions of the documents presented and created today will be emailed to the listserve.

5. Adjournment



01.26.2024 Agenda Item #7(b)(i)(1)

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

NORA VARGAS
First District

JOEL ANDERSON
Second District

TERRA LAWSON-REMER
Third District

MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE
Fourth District

JIM DESMOND
Fifth District

DATE: January 23, 2024

XX

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT

AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FOR THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, HOUSING NAVIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM-PLUS HOUSING SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM AND ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF ALLOCATION AWARDS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency (HHS), Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) Transitional Housing Program (THP) is comprised of the Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus) and the Transitional Housing Placement Program for Non-Minor Dependents (THPP NMD). Both improve outcomes for youth entering adulthood from the foster care system. Over the past two decades, the California legislature has made strides in addressing the transitional age youth housing crisis for those involved in the child welfare and probation systems. In 2001, Assembly Bill (AB) 427 established the THP-Plus which provides affordable housing and supportive services for youth ages 18 to 24 years for up to 24 months as they transition out of foster care. Between 2001 and 2012 there have been numerous State laws allowing for funding of THP that support youth in identifying and preventing homelessness. Most recently, in 2022, Senate Bill (SB) 154 extended transitional housing services up to age 25 and provided 36 months of support for all youth involved.

Today's actions request the San Diego County Board of Supervisors to authorize the application for and acceptance of funding for the THP, Housing Navigation Maintenance Program (HNMP), and Transitional Housing Program-Plus Housing Supplement Program (THPSUP), adopt a resolution authorizing application and acceptance of allocation awards, and authorize the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency, to apply for future funding for transitional age youth housing.

Today's item supports the County's vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically for those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically disadvantaged and demonstrates an ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by enhancing the coordination of upstream prevention strategies and services between community resources and the child welfare system to ensure transitional age youth receive services and supports to secure

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FOR THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, HOUSING NAVIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM-PLUS HOUSING SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM AND ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF ALLOCATION AWARDS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

and maintain a safe environment. In addition, this item supports the Framework for Ending Homelessness by increasing equitable access to safe and affordable housing for current and former foster youth preventing youth homelessness.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Authorize the application for and acceptance of \$1,575,090 in Transitional Housing Program funds from the California Department of Housing and Community Development for the anticipated funding period of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 through FY 2025-26 to reduce youth homelessness and authorize the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency, to execute all required allocation award documents, including all amendments thereto.
2. Authorize the application for and acceptance of \$476,568 in Housing Navigation and Maintenance Program funds from the California Department of Housing and Community Development, for the anticipated funding period of FY 2023-24 through FY 2025-26 to help youth secure and maintain housing, and authorize the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency, to execute all required allocation award documents, including all amendments thereto.
3. Authorize the application for and acceptance of \$1,032,773 in Transitional Housing Program-Plus Housing Supplement Program funds from the California Department of Housing and Community Development, for the anticipated funding period of FY 2023-24 through FY 2025-26 to help meet increasing housing needs and cost of rent demands, and authorize the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency, to execute all required allocation award documents, including all amendments thereto.
4. Adopt a resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION FOR, AND ACCEPTANCE OF, THE COUNTY ALLOCATION AWARD UNDER ROUND 5 OF THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, ROUND 2 OF THE HOUSING NAVIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND ROUND 3 OF THE THP - PLUS HOUSING SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM.
5. Authorize the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency or designee, to apply for future funding, including grants, supplemental funding and other funding to support transitional housing for youth and support youth secure and maintain housing and avoid homelessness.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) Transitional Housing Program (THP), inclusive of Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus) and Transitional Housing Placement Program for Non-Minor Dependent's (THPP NMD), provides up to 36 cumulative months of subsidized housing for current and former foster youth ages 18-25 years (up to age 24 in prior fiscal years). In Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23, 342 youth were served under the THP and 88% maintained and exited to safe and sustainable housing.

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FOR THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, HOUSING NAVIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM-PLUS HOUSING SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM AND ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF ALLOCATION AWARDS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

In any given month there are approximately 329 unduplicated youth participating in the THP. The goal of the THP is for participants and subgroups within, to include Black, Indigenous, People of Color, native Spanish speakers, and LGBTQ+ youth, to secure safe and stable housing by program graduation and make progress towards life goals, including educational attainment or employment achievement, physical and mental well-being, and connections to community. The ethnicity breakdown for the 342 youth served under the THP in FY 2022-23 includes: 28.5% African American; 1% Asian; 36.5% Caucasian; 17% Hispanic; 1% Native American; 9% Other Ethnicities/Unknown; and 7% Bi or Multi-Racial.

CFWB partners with nonprofit entities to provide housing opportunities and services in the six County service regions to ensure youth in underserved communities have greater opportunities and access to safe and affordable housing. CFWB engages with program participants and providers to collect data and evaluate service outcomes to ensure positive outcomes for youth transitioning to adulthood and help them maintain safe and stable housing. Participating youth complete surveys quarterly, which identify areas within the program that are both beneficial and need improvement. The surveys provide information on the effectiveness and satisfaction of the program service delivery to ensure equitable service delivery and programming. Recent data show that in FY 2022-23, approximately 88% of youth surveyed within all available THP programs reported being satisfied with the program services.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's actions support the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goal #2 of providing just and equitable access by expanding the availability of affordable housing to transitional age youth. Investments in concrete supports, such as housing, reduces economic and personal hardships on youth and provides the supports needed for youth to build resilience, independence, and long-term skills which will lead to a reduction in youth homelessness and recurrence of generational maltreatment, and associated costs.

FISCAL IMPACT

Recommendation 1: Authorization to apply for and accept Transitional Housing Program funds

Funds for this request are partially included in the Fiscal Years (FY) 2023-25 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in no costs and revenue in FY 2023-24 and anticipated costs and revenue of \$1,575,090 in FY 2024-25 for the Transitional Housing Program. The funding source is Transitional Housing Program allocation of State General Funds. Funds for subsequent years will be incorporated into future Operational Plans. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

Recommendation 2: Authorization to apply for and accept Housing Navigation and Maintenance Program funds

Funds for this request are partially included in the Fiscal Years (FY) 2023-25 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in no costs and

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FOR THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, HOUSING NAVIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM-PLUS HOUSING SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM AND ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF ALLOCATION AWARDS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

revenue in FY 2023-24 and anticipated costs and revenue of \$476,568 in FY 2024-25 for the Housing Navigation and Maintenance Program. The funding source is Housing Navigation Maintenance Program allocation of State General Funds. Funds for subsequent years will be incorporated into future Operational Plans. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

Recommendation 3: Authorization to apply for and accept Transitional Housing Program-Plus Housing Supplement Funds

Funds for this request are partially included in the Fiscal Years (FY) 2023-25 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in no costs and revenue in FY 2023-24 and anticipated costs and revenue of \$1,032,773 in FY 2024-25. The funding source is the Transitional Housing Program-Plus Housing Supplement Program allocation of State General Funds. Funds for subsequent years will be incorporated into future Operational Plans. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

This item will be presented as an informational item to the Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board at its regular meeting on January 26, 2024.

BACKGROUND

In 2001, California Assembly Bill (AB) 427 was signed into law and established the Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus) to end homelessness for foster and juvenile justice youth. The program provided affordable housing and supportive services to former foster youth and out-of-home juvenile justice youth, ages 18 to 24 years for up to 24 months as they transition out of care. In 2010, AB 12 was signed into law and created California’s Extended Foster Care (EFC) Program, allowing eligible youth to remain in foster care until age 21. AB 12 also created the Transitional Housing Placement Program for Non-Minor Dependent’s (THPP NMD) to provide additional foster care placement options for NMDs ages 18 to 21 years participating in EFC. In 2018, the Housing Navigators Program, now known as Housing Navigation and Maintenance Program (HNMP), was created to provide housing navigator supports to help young adults ages 18 through 24 secure housing, with priority given to foster youth. Additional strides have been made in legislature including:

- In 2021, AB 153 and AB 164 implemented the Transitional Housing Program-Plus Housing Supplement Program (THPSUP) allocation which significantly increased the housing assistance rate to meet increasing housing needs and cost of rent demands.
- In 2022, Senate Bill (SB) 154 extended transitional housing services up to age 25 and provided 36 months of support for all youth involved, thus allowing youth access to the

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FOR THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, HOUSING NAVIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM-PLUS HOUSING SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM AND ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF ALLOCATION AWARDS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

program for an additional year. The Board has demonstrated a commitment to preventing youth homelessness by approving numerous rounds of allocation funding for THP.

Recommendations #1 and #3: Authorization to apply for and accept Transitional Housing Program (THP) and Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus) Housing Supplement Program (THPSUP) Funds

On June 27, 2019, Governor Newsom signed SB 80, which provides funding to help reduce homelessness among foster care youth. To date, there have been four rounds of funding made available to counties. On January 24, 2023 (5) the Board authorized the application for and acceptance of the fourth round of allocations in the amount of \$1,285,230 in THP funds for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 and adopted a resolution.

This fourth round of funding continued and expanded resources to young adults in the program with a higher risk of housing disruption and homelessness to include youth who are pregnant and/or parenting; youth with mental and behavioral health needs; and youth involved or overcoming substance use or abuse. The resources include but are not limited to, intensifying integrated coordination of prioritized services and linkages to community resources to address specific and complex needs by pooling the resources and allowing contractors to apply for additional funds per youth to meet their individual needs. This could include items such as specialized therapies or treatments, to address concerns that are putting the youth at risk of not being able to maintain stable housing. In October 2023, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) informed the County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency (HHS), Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) that they would be receiving a fifth round of allocation of \$1,575,090 in THP funds for FY 2023-24. In FY 2022-23, 342 youth were served under the THP and 88% maintained and exited to safe and sustainable housing over the course of the fiscal year. Also, in FY 2022-23, 161 youth were served under THP-Plus and 181 youth were served under THPP NMD.

The THPSUP was implemented in 2021 and is administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and makes supplemental funding available to up to 11 counties if the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the county is one of the 11 most expensive in the State. To date there have been two rounds of allocations.

On January 24, 2023 (5) the Board authorized the application for and acceptance of the second round of allocations in the amount of \$1,032,773 in THPSUP funds for FY 2022-23 and adopted a resolution. In October 2023, CDSS informed CFWB they would be receiving a third round of \$1,032,773 in THPSUP funds for FY 2023-24, to be spent by end of FY 2025-26. The third allocation of funding will allow for a rate at \$3,710.00 per youth, per month, prorated on a daily basis. As of October 31, 2023, 165 of the 230 available placements were occupied. Of the providers currently receiving the increased rate, there has been a 35% increase in the number of youth placed in safe and stable housing. There are approximately 62 youth on the waitlist for housing in the program. Barriers include low bed availability due to housing market and those beds

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FOR THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, HOUSING NAVIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM-PLUS HOUSING SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM AND ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF ALLOCATION AWARDS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

not matching the needs of youth. It is estimated that more available housing assistance can be utilized with the increase in rate afforded by the THPSUP.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize the application for and acceptance of \$1,575,090 in THP and \$1,032,773 in THPSUP funding from the HCD, for the anticipated funding period of FY 2023-24; and adopt a resolution, authorizing application for and acceptance of the County allocation award.

Recommendation #2: Authorization to apply for and accept Housing Navigation and Maintenance Program Funds

On September 27, 2019, Governor Newsom signed SB 109 to help reduce homelessness among foster care youth. SB 109 provides \$5 million in funding to county child welfare agencies for the support of housing navigators to help young adults ages 18 to 24 secure and maintain housing, with priority given to young adults in the foster care system. CFWB received two rounds of allocation (FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22) in Housing Navigators Program (HNP) funds. Then in July 2022, HNP was renamed Housing Navigation and Maintenance Program (HNMP) and on January 24, 2023 (5) the Board authorized the application for and acceptance of the first round of allocations in the amount of \$463,457 in HNMP funds for FY 2022-23 and adopted a resolution. In October 2023, CFWB was informed by CDSS that they would be receiving a second allocation in HNMP funds in the amount of \$476,568 for FY 2023-24. The proposed total FY 2023-24 HNMP funding will continue to support housing navigator activities for youth who meet the funding age requirement (18 to 24 years old) in the various CFWB THPs. Housing navigator activities include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying and addressing any needs and/or barriers which may lead to potential disruption in housing;
- Providing support and resources to youth experiencing transition in housing or who are experiencing potential housing disruption to minimize risk of homelessness; and
- Assisting in connecting youth with services, resources, and supports to enable easier access to housing and promote housing stability.

Since the program's inception, in March 2021, through June 2023, housing navigation services have been provided to 85 youth. The program reported that youth are able to obtain and maintain housing for longer periods of time, learning skills to become self-sufficient, and are utilizing the support services offered through the program.

Today's action requests the Board to authorize the application for and acceptance of \$476,568 in HNMP funding from HCD, for the anticipated funding period of FY 2023-24; adopt a resolution authorizing application for and acceptance of the County allocation award for HNMP; and authorize the Agency Director, HHS, to apply for any additional funding opportunity announcements, if available, to support youth secure and maintain housing and avoid homelessness. These recommended actions support and are aligned with the Framework for Ending Homelessness and bolster efforts to increase positive community impact.

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING FOR THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, HOUSING NAVIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM-PLUS HOUSING SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM AND ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF ALLOCATION AWARDS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN

Today's proposed actions support the Sustainability (Economy and Resiliency), Equity (Housing and Economic Opportunity), and Community (Engagement, Quality of Life, Communications, and Partnership) initiatives in the County of San Diego's 2024-2029 Strategic Plan, as well as the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe and thriving communities, by providing equitable opportunities for transitional age youth to receive services and supports to secure and maintain a safe environment, advance their goal of self-sufficiency, and prevent homelessness.

Respectfully submitted,



SARAH E. AGHASSI
Interim Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment A – A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION FOR, AND ACCEPTANCE OF, THE COUNTY ALLOCATION AWARD UNDER ROUND 5 OF THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, ROUND 2 OF THE HOUSING NAVIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND ROUND 3 OF THE THP - PLUS HOUSING SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM

Resolution No.: _____

Meeting Date: 01/23/2024

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION FOR, AND ACCEPTANCE OF, THE COUNTY ALLOCATION AWARD UNDER ROUND 5 OF THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM, ROUND 2 OF THE HOUSING NAVIGATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, AND ROUND 3 OF THE THP - PLUS HOUSING SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the State of California, Department of Housing and Community Development (“Department”) issued an Allocation Acceptance Form, dated October 19, 2023 under Round 5 of the Transitional Housing Program (“THP”), authorized by item 2240-102-0001 of section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2023 (Chapter 12 of the Statutes of 2023) and Chapter 11.7 (commencing with Section 50807) of part 2 of Division 31 of the Health and Safety Code (the “THP Allocation Acceptance Form”).

WHEREAS, the Department issued an Allocation Acceptance Form, dated October 19, 2023 under Round 2 of the Housing Navigation and Maintenance Program (“HNMP”) authorized by Item 2240-103-0001 of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2023 (Chapter 12 of the Statutes of 2023) and Chapter 11.8 (commencing with Section 50811) of Part 2 of Division 31 of the Health and Safety Code (“HNMP Allocation Acceptance Form”).

WHEREAS, the Department issued an Allocation Acceptance Form, dated October 19, 2023 under the THPSUP Housing Supplement Program (“THPSUP”) authorized by item 2240-102-0001 of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2023 (Chapter 12 of the Statutes of 2023) and Chapter 11.9 (commencing with HSC 50820) of Part 2 of Division 31 of the Health and Safety Code (collectively, the "Statute") of the Health and Safety Code (the “THPSUP Allocation Acceptance Form”).

The THP Allocation Acceptance Form, the HNMP Allocation Acceptance Form, and the THPSUP Allocation Acceptance Form are collectively referred to as the “Allocation Acceptance Forms”.

WHEREAS, the Allocation Acceptance Forms relate to the availability of the funds under the THP, HNMP, and THPSUP Programs; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Diego (“County”) is listed as an eligible applicant in the Allocation Acceptance Form, dated October 19, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the County of San Diego does determine and declare as follows:

SECTION 1. That County is hereby authorized and directed to apply for and accept County's allocation award, in the amount of \$1,575,090 as detailed in the THP Allocation Acceptance Form at the time this resolution is executed and authorized.

SECTION 2. That County hereby affirms that if THP funds remain available for allocation after the deadline for submitting a signed Allocation Acceptance Form, and if the County is eligible for an additional allocation from the remaining funds for the THP program, the County is hereby authorized and directed to accept this additional allocation of funds ("Additional THP Allocation") up to the amount authorized by Department but not to exceed \$3,150,180.

SECTION 3. That County is hereby authorized and directed to apply for and accept County's allocation award in the amount of \$476,568 as detailed in the HNMP Allocation Acceptance Form at the time this resolution is executed and authorized.

SECTION 4. That County hereby affirms that if HNMP funds remain available for allocation after the deadline for submitting a signed Allocation Acceptance Form, and if the County is eligible for an additional allocation from the remaining funds for the HNMP program, the County is hereby authorized and directed to accept this additional allocation of funds ("Additional HNMP Allocation") up to the amount authorized by Department but not to exceed \$953,136.

SECTION 5. That County is hereby authorized and directed to apply for and accept County's allocation award, in the amount of \$1,032,773 as detailed in the THPSUP Allocation Acceptance Form at the time this resolution is executed and authorized.

SECTION 6. That County hereby affirms that if THPSUP funds remain available for allocation after the deadline for submitting a signed Allocation Acceptance Form, and if the Department advises County that County is eligible for an additional allocation from these remaining funds, County is hereby authorized and directed to accept this additional allocation of funds ("Additional THPSUP Allocation") up to the amount authorized by Department but not to exceed \$2,065,546.

SECTION 7. That the Agency Director, Health and Human Services Agency, or their designee, is hereby authorized and directed to act on behalf of County in connection with the THP, HNMP, or THPSUP Allocation Award and any Additional THP, HNMP, or THPSUP Allocation, and to enter into, execute, and deliver any and all documents required or deemed necessary or appropriate to participate in the THP, HNMP, or THPSUP Program, including but not limited to a Standard Agreement, be awarded the THP, HNMP, or THPSUP Allocation Award, and any additional THP, HNMP, or THPSUP Allocation, and any amendments to such documents (collectively, the "Allocation Award Documents").

SECTION 8. That County shall be subject to the terms and conditions that are specified in the THP, HNMP, and THPSUP Allocation Award Documents, and that County will use the THP, HNMP, and THPSUP Allocation Award funds, and any additional THP, HNMP, and THPSUP Allocation funds, in accordance with the Allocation Acceptance Form, the THP, HNMP, and THPSUP Allocation Award Documents, and any subsequent amendments or amendment thereto, as well as any and all other THP, HNMP, and THPSUP requirements, or other applicable laws.

SECTION 9. That County has the discretion to accept any or all of the THP, HNMP, and THPSUP program funds that it has been awarded. But in the event that one of the three allocations are not made available for the County; or the County opts to not receive one of the allocations, the County affirms that it is authorized to accept any of the allocations independent of each other.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
CLAUDIA G. SILVA, COUNTY COUNSEL
By: Katherine Hart, Senior Deputy County Counsel



Improving Outcomes for Children and Families in California's Foster Care System

Proposed Permanent Rates Structure

California has made transformative changes to the way the state cares for children and youth in the foster care system. The Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) was founded upon the collective belief that all children served by the foster care system need, deserve, and have an ability to be part of a loving family, and not to grow up in congregate settings. With these goals in mind, CCR implementation began in early 2017, bringing together a series of existing and new reforms to our child welfare services program. The interim rate structure that was created as part of CCR created a level of care system for children in family settings and a separate rate structure for those in congregate settings. Statute requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to establish an "ongoing payment structure no later than January 1, 2025". In the development of this proposal CDSS engaged extensively with stakeholders, including through a work group process in the fall of 2022. Four rates subgroups met five times each from August - November of 2022. The Governor's January Budget Proposal includes \$12 million General Fund in 2024-25 to make automation changes for a reformed foster care payment structure, with full implementation anticipated as early as 2026-27. **California is proposing to restructure our rates so that they are based on the child's assessed level of needs and strengths, and not based on the placement type.** If adopted, California will be the first state in the nation to take this approach.

It is crucial to recognize that proposed child welfare rate reform goes beyond just financial considerations. By restructuring the system as proposed, California can address historical racial inequities and help break the cycle of intergenerational poverty and trauma. This is an investment in our society's future, as well as a step towards making sure that children in foster care receive the support and care they need to thrive, ultimately leading to better outcomes for individuals, families, and communities.

- **KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER:** Over the last decade, CCR in California has focused on ending long-term congregate care placements in our foster care system, and increasingly placing children and youth with relatives. As a result, youth placement into congregate care has decreased by almost 60%, while placements into home-based settings have increased. Compared to children in non-relative foster care, children in kinship care experience fewer health and mental health concerns, better academic outcomes, greater placement



Improving Outcomes for Children and Families in California's Foster Care System

Proposed Permanent Rates Structure

stability, and a significantly lower likelihood of re-entering care within 12 months of exit.

The proposed rate structure invests directly in family-based placements to keep youth connected to their relatives and communities of origin.

- **ASSESSING AND MEETING THE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF EACH YOUTH:** The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Tool (CANS) is a validated functional assessment tool which assesses well-being, identifies a range of social and behavioral healthcare needs, supports care coordination and collaborative decision-making, and monitors outcomes of individuals, providers, and systems. The CANS is well established and has been implemented statewide since 2018.

The data from the CANS can be aggregated and analyzed through an approach known as a Latent Class Analysis (LCA). LCA is a measurement model in which individuals can be classified into mutually exclusive and exhaustive classes based on their pattern of answers on a set of variables.

The proposed rate structure is based on a child's identified needs and strengths as identified by the CANS assessment; the rate is not tied to the placement. The proposed rate structure specifically includes funding to support strength building and to address a child or youth's immediate needs, and it utilizes the CANS and LCA to establish tiers (see proposed structure on the following page).

- **ADVANCING EQUITY:** The proportions of Black and Native American youth in foster care are around four times larger than the proportions of Black and Native American youth in California overall. Youth in foster care have experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). These traumatic experiences can include abuse and neglect, such as parental substance use, incarceration, and domestic violence. Youth who have experienced multiple ACEs often have greater behavioral health needs and can experience greater placement instability. However, the positive experiences that youth are more likely to experience when cared for by their own family have been proven to help mitigate the mental health damage caused by ACEs and can help youth heal.



Improving Outcomes for Children and Families in California's Foster Care System

Proposed Permanent Rates Structure

The proposed rate structure advances equity in California's Child Welfare system by strengthening our kin-first approach, keeping families together, and by putting services in place based on the child's CANS assessment and needs, not based on their placement via a County or Foster Family Agency or within a Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program.

The funding of strengths building is rooted in evidence that supports the need for investment in building strengths and addressing the immediate needs of a child. Participation in enrichment activities can help young people heal, promote supportive social connections, and provide opportunities to develop valuable skills.



Improving Outcomes for Children and Families in California's Foster Care System

Proposed Permanent Rates Structure

Proposed Permanent Rates Structure Framework

Tier 1 (74% of children and youth)
 (Latent Classes 1 and 2 for the 0–5-year-olds and Latent Classes 1, 2, and 3 for the 6+ year olds)

Care and Supervision

- Paid to the caregiver

Strength Building and Maintenance

- Child and family work with a Financial Management Coordinator

FFA Admin (for youth placed in an FFA)
Recruitment, retention, approval, training, etc.

Tier 2 (19% of children and youth)
 (Latent Class 3 for the 0 – 5-year-olds and Latent Classes 4 and 5 for the 6+ year olds)

Care and Supervision

- Paid to the caregiver

Strength Building and Maintenance

- Child and family work with a Financial Management Coordinator

Immediate Needs

- County or contracted provider coordinate services

FFA Admin (for youth placed in an FFA)
Recruitment, retention, approval, training, etc.

Tier 3 (ages 0-5) (4.5% of children and youth)
 (Latent Class 4 for 0 – 5-year-olds)

Care and Supervision

- Paid to the caregiver

Strength Building and Maintenance

- Child and family work with a Financial Management Coordinator

Immediate Needs

- County or contracted provider coordinate services

FFA Admin (for youth placed in an FFA)
Recruitment, retention, approval, training, etc.

Tier 3+ (ages 6+) (2.5% of children and youth)
 (Latent Class 6a and 6b for 6+ year olds)

Care and Supervision

- Paid to the caregiver

Strength Building and Maintenance

- Child and family work with a Financial Management Coordinator

Immediate Needs

- County or contracted provider coordinate services

FFA/STRTP Admin (for youth placed in an FFA or an STRTP)
Recruitment, retention, approval, training, etc.



Improving Outcomes for Children and Families in California’s Foster Care System

Proposed Permanent Rates Structure

Case Example - Ages 0-5

Henri, 6-Months Old, based on Henri’s CANS assessment he is placed in **Tier 2**.

- Henri was abandoned at a fire station shortly after his birth.
- Given his size and physical condition, it was determined that he was born premature and in need of urgent medical care.
- Henri was in the NICU for 2 months.
- During that time, he had symptoms of withdrawal including seizures, tremors, inconsolable crying, and an inability to sustain sleep.
- He continues to be behind in meeting physical and developmental milestones.
- His resource parents note that he is difficult to comfort and soothe.

Henri’s Tier 2 Rate		
Care and Supervision Rate	Strength Building Rate	Immediate Needs Rate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensate the basic care and supervision of a child (clothing, food, transportation, etc.). • Obtain the necessary equipment and items for the home to properly care for a newborn/infant that is considered high-risk (due to substance exposure, medically fragile). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies may include, but are not limited to: Music together/kinder music/play groups/art classes/gym/swimming. • Peer support, mentoring, early childhood classes -- support for caregiver in caring for child. • Facilitation of activities, relationships, teaming, coaching, engagement of other family and community members to build or maintain strengths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies include but are not limited to: Visitation programs to support dyadic and relational dynamics with caregivers to support healing from trauma. • Facilitation of activities, relationships, teaming, coaching, engagement of other family and community members to address immediate needs



Improving Outcomes for Children and Families in California’s Foster Care System

Proposed Permanent Rates Structure

Case Example – Ages 6 or older

Tessa, 16-Years Old, based on Tessa’s CANS assessment she is placed in **Tier 3+**.

- Tessa’s family was sexually exploiting her since she was nine. When she refused to ‘work’ Tessa was beaten, drugged, starved and forced to sleep on the floor of the garage. Since being in care at age twelve, Tessa has had over 20 placement changes due to fighting with resource parents, sexualized behavior, drug use and running away.
- Tessa has many behavioral health challenges including impulsivity and oppositional behavior; has difficulty sleeping, frequent panic attacks, and cuts and burns herself; has had a few crisis episodes and a psychiatric hospitalization for suicide attempts.
- Tessa has few friends and doesn’t get along with any of her resource families. She has some support at school, but her anger issues and dysregulated behavior result in pushing others away.
- Tessa has few interests or recreational activities and is not very optimistic about her future.

Tessa’s Tier 3 Rate		
Care and Supervision Rate	Strength Building Rate	Immediate Needs Rate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensate the basic care and supervision of a child (clothing, food, transportation, etc.) • Transportation due to higher levels of psychiatric appointments, medical appoints, group therapy sessions, etc. • Cleaning and repairs for damage to the home (e.g., resulting from behavioral issues, such as an outburst). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies may include, but are not limited to: Fees and transportation for sports, clubs, and extracurricular activities. • Education and Skill Building Support for coaches, activity facilitators, etc. to understand the possible manifestation(s) of the child's trauma and how to best support throughout the season/activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies include, but are not limited to: Neurofeedback, the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT), QEEG Neurofeedback (brainmapping), etc. • Peer support, mentoring, childhood classes -- support for caregiver in caring for child.



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

AGENDA ITEM

NORA VARGAS
First District

JOEL ANDERSON
Second District

TERRA LAWSON-REMER
Third District

MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE
Fourth District

JIM DESMOND
Fifth District

DATE: February 27, 2024

XX

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT

APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY BY-LAWS TO ALIGN WITH ORDINANCE NO 10851 (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

On March 26, 2019 (11) the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) established the Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board of San Diego County (CFSAB) to enhance the ability of the County of San Diego (County) to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect and to ensure the well-being of children and families. Since its inception, the CFSAB has served as a platform for cross-sector collaboration and transparent monitoring of the San Diego County child welfare system.

In accordance with the Board's Sunset Review Process, Policy A-76, the County Health and Human Services Agency periodically reviews Board Policies, County Administrative Codes, and Regulatory Codes to ensure policies and codes reflect current Board standards and practices. Through a periodic review of Article IIIv, Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board, Sections 84.700 through 84.710, amendments to the San Diego County Administrative Code Sections 84.701, 84.702, and 84.705 were presented to the Board on May 23, 2023 (27) and on June 13, 2023 (4) the Board adopted these amendments through Ordinance No. 10851.

Today's action seeks Board approval to amend the CFSAB By-laws to align with the newly adopted Ordinance No. 10851. The CFSAB is governed by the provisions of the County Administrative Code and the CFSAB By-laws as an advisory committee to the Board pursuant to Board Policy A-74 Participation in County Boards, Commissions, and Committees and per Section E (7), By-laws require Board approval.

Today's actions support the County's vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional Live Well San Diego vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by aligning the By-laws with the County Administrative Codes which provide a framework for a county that is healthy, safe, and thriving, specifically for one of our most vulnerable populations, families involved with the foster care system.

SUBJECT: APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY BY-LAWS TO ALIGN WITH ORDINANCE NO 10851

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Approve conforming amendments to the Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board of San Diego County By-laws (Attachment A and Attachment B).

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The adopted Ordinance No. 10851 supports the San Diego County Board of Supervisors' framework for achieving better outcomes for the community. The amendments to the San Diego County Administrative Code for the Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board of San Diego County (CFSAB), ensures all areas of the prevention and child welfare systems are included and the CFSAB receives feedback from stakeholders and community members regarding the implementation, progress, and resources of the Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) programs and services designed to serve families in a consistent and equitable manner.

Further, the amendments to the composition changes of the CFSAB members to include adding a member from child abuse and juvenile justice prevention, supports the CFWB Department's commitment to engaging in prevention work with children and families. The addition of prevention to the CFSAB will provide feedback and a lens set to reduce disproportionality in the foster care system by partnering with the community to promote equitable reporting practices and working with families to support efforts at keeping children safe from abuse or neglect .

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's action supports the County of San Diego's (County) Sustainability Goal #1 to engage the community in meaningful ways and Sustainability Goal # 2 providing just and equitable access to county services, policy decision-making, and resource allocation. This will be done by streamlining information to and from the public to ensure that it does not get siloed into one committee or advisory board, when the areas of child welfare support, services, resources, and staffing are intertwined and by facilitating review of all components of the child well-being system in one setting, ensuring stakeholders' input and feedback is received and considered by all appropriate parties.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommendations. There will be no change in net general fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

This item has been presented as an informational item to the Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board at its regular meeting on January 26, 2024.

BACKGROUND

SUBJECT: APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY BY-LAWS TO ALIGN WITH ORDINANCE NO 10851

On March 26, 2019 (11) the Board established the Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board of San Diego County (CFSAB) to enhance the ability of the County of San Diego (County) to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect and to ensure the well-being of children and families. Since its inception, the CFSAB has served as a platform for cross-sector collaboration and transparent monitoring of the San Diego County child welfare system. The CFSAB has allowed for streamlined collaboration and expanded transparent communication and oversight between stakeholders and the Child and Family Well-Being Department, ensuring foster care community feedback is received by all partners who collectively impact the intertwined elements of the foster care and prevention systems. The holistic approach of the CFSAB has acted as a conduit for reducing siloes amongst child and family serving stakeholders from various areas of the foster care and prevention systems by bringing together individuals and groups that were historically fragmented from each another.

In accordance with the Board's Sunset Review Process, Policy A-76, the County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency periodically reviews Board Policies, County Administrative Codes, and Regulatory Codes to ensure policies and codes reflect current Board standards and practices. Revisions to Board Policies and the County Administrative Code are recommended to reflect current Board standards and practices and to reflect changes in laws, policies, and regulations that govern County departmental operations and services. Through a periodic review of Article IIIv, Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board, Sections 84.700 through 84.710, amendments to the San Diego County Administrative Code Sections 84.701 Duties and Responsibilities, 84.702 Membership and Selection, and 84.705 Organization were presented to the Board on May 23, 2023 (27) and on June 13, 2023 (4) the Board adopted these amendments through Ordinance No. 10851.

As a result of Ordinance No. 10851, the following sections of the CFSAB By-laws will need to be amended to be in alignment with the approved Ordinance:

- Article 1, Purpose and Authority, Sections B and D.
- Article 2, Membership and Term of Office, Sections A.
- Article 3, Duties and Responsibilities, Sections A.
- Article 4, Officers, Sections A, B, and C.
- Article 6, Organizational Procedures, Sections A and C.

The CFSAB is governed by the provisions of the County Administrative Code and the CFSAB By-laws as an advisory committee to the Board pursuant to Board Policy A-74 Participation in County Boards, Commissions, and Committees. Section E (7) By-laws of Advisory Committees guides each advisory committee to prepare By-laws, which must be reviewed by County Counsel and approved by the Board of Supervisors. The proposed amendments to the CFSAB By-laws are detailed within Attachments A and B.

Today's action seeks Board approval to amend the CFSAB By-laws to align with the newly adopted Ordinance No. 10851.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN

SUBJECT: APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY BY-LAWS TO ALIGN WITH ORDINANCE NO 10851

Today’s proposed actions support the County of San Diego’s (County) 2023-2028 Strategic Plan Initiatives of Sustainability (Economy and Resiliency), Equity (Health and Economic Opportunity), Empower (Workforce, Transparency, and Accountability), and Community (Engagement, Quality of Life, Communications, and Partnership), and the regional Live Well San Diego vision by ensuring County policies are transparent, efficient, inclusive, data-informed, outcome- and evidence-based, equitable, sustainable, and culturally responsive to support the health and social services provided to the residents of San Diego County.

Respectfully submitted,

USE “INSERT PICTURE”
FUNCTION TO INSERT
SIGNATURE

SARAH E. AGHASSI
Interim Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment A-CFSAB By-laws (clean)

Attachment B-CFSAB By-laws (strike through)

Article 1 **Purpose and Authority**

Section A The Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board of San Diego County (“Advisory Board”) is established by San Diego County Administrative Code Article IIIv (Section 84.700 through 84.710).

Section B The mission of the Advisory Board is to serve as a platform for cross-sector collaboration and transparent monitoring and accountability of the San Diego County child welfare system to ensure the safety and well-being of children and families. Monitoring should include, but not be limited to, the review and evaluation of San Diego County's child welfare system such as: needs, trends, programs, services, facilities, activities, outcomes and other areas including the Child and Family Well-Being departmental budget, policies, and priorities, to identify gaps, support the implementation of system wide changes, discuss impacts of upcoming state or federal policies, advocate on behalf of children, youth and families, and encourage active participation by child welfare system partners. The Advisory Board also serves as the designated child abuse prevention coordinating body and local children's trust fund body as set forth in California Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 18982 *et seq.* and 18965 *et seq.*

Section C The Advisory Board is a non-partisan, non-sectarian, non-profit making organization. It does not take part officially in, nor does it lend its influence to any political issues.

Section D The Advisory Board is advisory to the Board of Supervisors, the Chief Administrative Officer, the Health and Human Services Agency Director, and the Child and Family Well-Being Director. The Advisory Board is not empowered by ordinance to render a decision of any kind on behalf of the County of San Diego or its appointed or elected officials.

Article 2 **Membership and Term of Office**

Section A Pursuant to County Administrative Code Section 84.702, the Advisory Board consists of twenty-five (25) voting members as follows:

- (a) Each member of the Board of Supervisors shall nominate one (1) constituent as a Supervisorial District representative to be confirmed by the Board of Supervisors.
- (b) Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court or designee
- (c) Health and Human Services Agency Director (Agency Director) or designee
- (d) Child and Family Well-Being Director or designee
- (e) Chief Probation Officer or designee
- (f) First 5 San Diego Executive Director or designee
- (g) Persons nominated by the Chair of the Board of Supervisors and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors who represent each of the following categories:
 - (1) Former foster youth
 - (2) Foster parent association
 - (3) Foster family agency
 - (4) Congregate care provider
 - (5) Court Appointed Special Advocate
 - (6) Legal counsel for minors in juvenile court

CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY
BY-LAWS

- (7) Legal counsel for parents in juvenile court
- (8) San Diego County Office of Education
- (9) Child abuse and juvenile justice prevention
- (10) Children's health care professional
- (11) Child and Family Well-Being Department Social worker
- (12) A.B. and Jessie Polinsky Children's Center with a preference for a representative from Promises2Kids
- (13) San Pasqual Academy
- (14) Two (2) individuals with lived experience who reflect over-represented populations in the system with a preference for former foster youth and/or parents who have experienced the child welfare system.

- Section B** Pursuant to County Administrative Code Section 84.703, terms are as follows:
- (a) Supervisorial District representatives shall serve a term concurrent with the appointing Supervisor's term of office.
 - (b) The term for the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court, Health and Human Services Agency Director, Child and Family Well-Being Director, First 5 Executive Director, and Chief Probation Officer or their designees shall be concurrent with their service in their respective positions.
 - (c) All other members shall serve a term of four (4) years.
 - (d) Any member whose term has expired shall continue their duties until a successor is appointed. The reelection of a member of the Board of Supervisors shall not automatically extend the term of any member of the Advisory Board.
 - (e) If a vacancy occurs in mid-term, the new appointee shall serve for the remainder of the term of the member being replaced.

- Section C** Pursuant to County Administrative Code Section 84.704, a vacancy shall be recognized before the expiration of the term upon the occurrence of any of the following:
- (a) The death of the incumbent.
 - (b) The resignation of the incumbent.
 - (c) For a Supervisorial District representative, if their appointing Supervisor becomes a member of the Advisory Board.
 - (d) Unexcused absences from more than half of the regularly scheduled full Advisory Board meetings in any twelve (12) month period.

Article 3 **Duties and Responsibilities**

- Section A** Pursuant to County Administrative Code Section 84.701, the duties and responsibilities of the Advisory Board are as follows:
- (a) The Advisory Board shall serve as an informational resource to the Board of Supervisors on issues related to the prevention, identification and treatment of child abuse and neglect and advise the Board of Supervisors, Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Director, and Child and Family Well-Being Director.
 - (b) Review and evaluate the County's child well-being related services, programs, facilities, and new issues as they arise and review and comment on such evaluations of the County conducted by other entities or bodies as needed.

CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY
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- (c) Collaborate and communicate with other advisory boards on issues of mutual concern and serve as the successor advisory board to the Polinsky Children's Center Advisory Board and the San Diego County Foster Care Services Committee.
- (d) Submit an annual report and dashboard to the Board of Supervisors on the needs and performance of the County child well-being system.
- (e) Review and comment on items related to child well-being before consideration by the Board of Supervisors.
- (f) Review and comment on the County's performance outcome data, as it relates to child welfare matters, and communicate its findings to the Board of Supervisors.
- (g) Review and comment on the outreach efforts used to engage citizen involvement on this Advisory Board.
- (h) Provide a forum for interagency cooperation and coordination in the prevention, detection, treatment and legal processing of child abuse cases.
- (i) Promote public awareness of the abuse and neglect of children and the resources available for prevention, intervention and treatment.
- (j) Encourage and facilitate training of professionals in the detection, treatment, and prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- (k) Recommend improvements in services to families and victims who are in the public charge, as well as children, youth, and families whose safety and welfare may be at risk.
- (l) Encourage and facilitate community support for child abuse and neglect, and family support programs.
- (m) To carry out the purposes of Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 18965 *et seq.* regarding proposals to be funded by the children's trust fund:
 - (1) Establish criteria for determining those programs which may receive funding,
 - (2) Accept all program proposals that meet criteria set by the Advisory Board,
 - (3) Prioritize the proposals in compliance with County procurement policies where applicable, and
 - (4) Recommend to the Board of Supervisors those proposals that the Advisory Board agrees merits funding.
- (n) Collect and publish data relevant to the state and local children's trust funds as required by California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18970.
- (o) Develop a protocol for interagency coordination and provide a yearly report to the Board of Supervisors as required by California Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18983.6.
- (p) For the A.B. & Jessie Polinsky Children's Center:
 - (1) Inform the advisory board regarding the operation, maintenance, and material alteration or removal of any part of the PCC facility.
 - (2) Inform the Board of Supervisors, or designee, regarding the expenditure of funds donated by Promises2Kids or other donors/sources for maintenance and operation items not funded by the County.
- (q) For placement and resource family supports issues:
 - (1) Serve as a forum to review issues concerning foster care and placement.
 - (2) Review and make recommendations on policies and programs affecting resource families and placement.
 - (3) Improve communication and teamwork among the resource family community, the Health and Human Services Agency, other private

CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY
BY-LAWS

placement agencies, educational systems and health care agencies.

Article 4 **Officers**

Section A Pursuant to County Administrative Code Section 84.705, the Advisory Board may elect from its membership a Chair, a Vice-Chair, and any other officers as may be deemed necessary for the conduct of its business who shall serve for one (1) calendar year.

Section B The Chair provides general supervisory guidance to the Advisory Board and presides over the meetings. The Chair shall be the sole official spokesperson for the Advisory Board unless this responsibility is delegated in writing.

Section C In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair assumes the duties and responsibilities of that position.

Section D The assigned staff or assigned officer will record the minutes of all Advisory Board meetings and handle official correspondence, keep the roll, certify the presence of a quorum, maintain a list of all active representatives, and keep records of actions as they occur at each meeting. It is the responsibility of the staff assigned to the Advisory Board to assure that posting of meeting notices occurs in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and to keep a record of such posting, and to reproduce and distribute the Advisory Board notices and minutes of all meetings.

Article 5 **Committees**

Section A The Advisory Board may establish one or more advisory committees to provide technical and professional expertise beneficial in accomplishing the Advisory Board's purposes.

Section B The Advisory Board may form ad-hoc committees on an as needed basis for the purpose of carrying out the functions and duties of the Advisory Board.

Section C The purpose and scope of each committee shall be outlined in writing and approved by the Advisory Board.

Section D The Advisory Board may select from its membership committee chairs to carry out the purpose and scope of each committee. Either the committee chair, or designated staff to the Advisory Board shall be responsible for the keeping of records of all actions and reports of the subcommittee on a regular basis. A committee chairperson shall not act as spokesperson for the Advisory Board unless authorized to do so in writing pursuant to Article 4, Section B.

Section E The actions and recommendations of any committee shall not be deemed the action of the Advisory Board.

Article 6 **Organizational Procedures**

CHILD AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING ADVISORY BOARD OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY
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Section A The Advisory Board shall prepare and adopt the necessary rules and polices for the conduct of its business. Such Rules shall be posted on the Advisory Board's website and may be updated from time to time. Robert's Rules of Order will govern the operation of the Advisory Board in all cases not covered by Rules or these by-laws.

Section B Voting is on the basis of one vote per person and no proxy, or absentee voting is permitted.

Section C A majority of members currently appointed to the Advisory Board, shall constitute a quorum. A majority of members in attendance shall be required to carry any motion or approval.

Section D The Advisory Board shall establish a regular meeting schedule and shall give public notice of the time and place of public forums and meetings in compliance with the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

DRAFT