



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

### Meeting Agenda

October 25, 2024, 9:00 – 11:00 AM  
County Administrators Center (CAC)  
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302  
San Diego, CA 92101

\*Please remember not to use acronyms in comments\*

1. Welcome and Introduction to the Board
2. Public Comment: Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Board on any subject matter within the Board's jurisdiction, but not an item on today's agenda.

Notice regarding juvenile case confidentiality: Those involved in a juvenile matter should ensure that they do not inadvertently disclose identifying information that violates juvenile court confidentiality provisions.

3. Approval for the Statement of Proceeding/Minutes for the meeting of July 26, 2024
4. Update on Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Feedback
5. Family Connection Hub Presentation
6. Work Group Updates
  - a) Lived Experts Action Partners Work Group
  - b) Child and Family Well-Being Work Group
  - c) Placement and Caregiver Support Work Group
7. Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) Department, Director's Report
  - a) Update on Interim Claiming System for Family First Prevention and Services Act
  - b) Foster and Kinship Care Education (FAKCE) Board Letter
  - c) [Flexible Family Supports Funding](#)
  - d) Developmental Screening and Enhancement Program (DESP) Expansion
  - e) Foster Parent Picnic
  - f) Revision of CFWB Safety Enhanced Together (SET) Framework
8. Advisory Board Member Updates: Members may make brief announcements or report on their activities that are relevant to the Advisory Board
9. Adjournment

If you are planning to attend and need special accommodations, please call Torrey Giaquinta at (858) 581-5893 at least three days in advance of the meeting.

Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5, written materials distributed to the Advisory Board in connection with this agenda less than 72 hours before the meeting will be available online at: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/cfs.html>.

**Next Meeting of the Advisory Board:** Friday, January 24, 2025, 9:00 – 11:00 AM



**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**  
*Child and Family Strengthening*  
*Advisory Board*  
**Minutes of July 26, 2024**

**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

**Members Present:**

Patricia Boles, Foster Parent Association  
Erin Gospodarec, Congregate Care Provider  
Aimee Zeitz, District 2 Appointee  
Simone Hidds-Monroe, San Pasqual Academy  
Stephen Moore, Voices for Children, Inc  
Shea Prophet, Child Abuse and Juvenile Justice  
Dr. Patricia Fernandez, District 1 Appointee  
Hon. Judge Ana España, San Diego Superior Court  
Beth Ploesch, Children's Legal Services of San Diego  
Steven Gachette, Social Worker  
Jason Sharpe, District 4 Appointee  
Caroline Smith, County Health and Human Service Agency  
Diana Venegas, Individual with Lived Experience  
Dr. Gloria Ciriza, San Diego County Office of Education  
Melissa Villagomez, Individual with Lived Experience  
Alfredo Guardado, Child and Family Well-Being Department  
Stephanie Gioia-Beckman, Rady's Children's Hospital  
Stephanie Ortega, Polinsky Children's Center/Promises2Kids

**Members Not Present:**

Joy Singleton, District 3 Appointee  
Chief Tamika Nelson, San Diego County Probation  
Jeff Wiemann, Foster Family Agency  
Alethea Arguilez, First 5 San Diego  
Joseph Robinson, Individual with Lived Experience  
Adam Reed, Dependency Legal Services

**Staff Present:**

Sandra McBrayer, The Children's Initiative  
Torrey Giaquinta, The Children's Initiative  
Kyle Sand, County Counsel

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

- Judge Ana España called the meeting to order.
- There were three new members present at the meeting: Dr. Patricia Fernandez, Jason Sharpe, and Caroline Smith.
- A quorum was present.
- All Advisory Board members introduced themselves.

**2. Public Comment**

- There was one requests for public comment:
  - The commentor has participated in the work groups sharing her experiences in both foster care and juvenile justice. One of the goals of a work group is to explore partnerships with lived experts. She urged the Board to explore how other entities working with youth, such as the Juvenile Justice Commission, handle maintaining youth confidentiality so that youth currently in care are able to fully participate in the work.

**3. Approval for the Statement of Proceeding/Minutes for the meeting of April 26, 2024**

- The motion was made by Stephanie Ortega, seconded by Stephanie Gioia-Beckman and

passed with Caroline Smith abstaining and all other members present voting aye.

#### **4. EMS Corp – Marc Regier**

- Marc Regier from San Diego County Fire presented on EMS Corp. EMS Corp is a five-month Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training program started in 2008 by Public Works Alliance in Alameda County. The program consists of 380 hours of training, 20 hours of clinical/ride along support, wraparound services, and a \$1,500 monthly stipend. Wraparound services will include weekly case management meetings, job development support, and mentors aligned with the youth's background, language, culture, and educational interests. Graduates of EMS Corp have a much higher pass rate (86%) on the state certification when compared to the state as a whole (70%), and 85% of graduates still work in the field. EMT is an entry level position that can be used to gain EMS certification or to become a nurse. While most EMTs work on ambulances, there are positions in hospitals and medical clinics.
- EMS Corp is expanding to ten counties in California. San Diego County, led by San Diego County Fire, are applying. It is a two-year program and the County is expecting to receive \$1.3 million dollars for three cohorts. Each cohort will have about 20 youth. The first cohort will begin in April 2025.
- Livescans will be done prior to entry into the program to ensure the youth who participate will be able to be employed in this field. The program is targeted to transition aged youth (18-26) from traditionally underserved communities who have been involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice systems. EMS Corp will partner with a community college, so youth will gain credits, and a community based organization, which will provide the wrap around services.
- Board members questioned how youth will be able to learn whether they have interest in becoming an EMS. The referral process is still to be determined but will be shared with the board once developed.

#### **5. Kin-First Presentation – Alfredo Guardado**

- Alfredo Guardado from the Child and Family Well-Being Department presented on San Diego's efforts at creating a kin-first culture. Research has shown that children placed with kin maintain connection with family, have better behavioral health, reduced trauma and more stable placements than those placed in stranger placements. Kin placements also maintain the child's culture and traditions. San Diego County has lower rates of kin placement (both for first placement and overall placement) when compared to California as a whole.
- Barriers to kin placements include tight legal deadlines, lack of trust in the agency, familial child welfare or criminal history, housing, and support. There are supports (material, financial, and emotional) available for kin caregivers who are involved with the agency as well as those who are not. Judge España has a kin first work group that meets bi-monthly. Through the KinFirst Accelerator, CFWB has met and shared findings with different counties around kin identification. Funds have been used to hire six additional family finders who are placed with the placement team. Staff at Polinsky conduct daily meetings on placements options for children in their care. Already, the current numbers show increased kin placements.
- Board members had questions about the change in policy (on the statewide level) that changed some of the rules around the number of rooms and beds required. Sometimes kin were willing to take in a relative but did not have the required number of bedrooms to do so under the old policy. Family members need to be educated about this policy change so they don't assume the old policy is still in effect and not come forward as a resource. Relative caregivers have their own relationships with the children's parents and the children which needs to be taken into consideration.
- There were two public comments on this agenda item. The first queried how kin is being defined. This should be as broadly as possible. The second speaker asked if youth are able to

take ancestry tests to identify family. This speaker had family nearby that would have been resources but were unknown. Relational permanency is important as well when kin are not able to be a placement resource.

- There have been situations in the past when a judge has ordered that a youth be allowed to complete an ancestry test after informed consent. Youth need to be aware of the possible consequences of submitting a sample. There are also issues around who is able to register a youth on ancestry sites.
- Child welfare staff stated that there is a balance in obtaining kin information. If the case worker immediately asks for kin who are able to be placements, the parents may not believe the case worker is committed to keeping the children in the home.

## **6. Youth2Youth Advocates – Rashida Elimu and Brittney Mortensen**

- Staff from Promises2Kids presented on the Youth2Youth Advocate program. Youth2Youth is a mentorship program for lived experts. Those with lived experience are hired to be mentors for children/youth currently in care. Youth2Youth mentors provide support at Polinsky Children's Center, San Pasqual Academy, FASE Schools, and Casa de Amparo.
- Because mentors are on the Polinsky campus, they are able to tailor the social emotional learning groups for youth and teens toward what is happening on campus. There are also groups for youth who are Black, LGBT+, Latinx, or Parenting.
- Mentors are able to follow youth through placements and are able to speak to their own experiences in care which has added weight for youth currently in care.

## **7. Work Group Updates**

- **Lived Expert Action Partners Work Group**  
Simone Hidds-Monroe shared an update on the work LEAP has been doing. This includes conducting focus groups on how flex funds should be used and participating on alumni and senior panels at San Pasqual Academy.
- **Child and Family Services Work Group**  
Aimee Zeitz and Stephanie Gioia-Beckman shared updates on the work of this group. The group is going to conduct a map and gap analysis of services available to families. The past few meetings have been laying the foundation with discussions on which framework to use and who needs to be at the table. The group is also partnering with the other work groups to develop a compensation model for lived experts who participate in CFSAB projects.
- **Placement and Resource Family Support Work Group**  
Patricia Boles discussed the two main activities currently being worked on. The first is transition plans for when children in care transfer between placements. The second is clarifying what information can and should be shared with caregivers.

## **8. Child and Family Well-Being Director's Report – Alfredo Guardado**

- a) Update on Alternate Claiming for Family First Prevention Services Act**  
An alternate claiming system for prevention work, as proposed by San Diego and Los Angeles Counties, has been approved. The counties are working on a proof of concept. (This topic was discussed in more detail at the January and April CFSAB meetings.)
- b) Prevention Hub Contract**  
The contract to operate the prevention hub was awarded to Say San Diego in partnership with the YMCA and 211. The name will likely change from 'prevention hub'. The agencies are in the process of hiring additional staff.
- c) State Budget Update**  
The passed budget had fewer cuts than initially proposed. FURS was not eliminated. The proposed permanent rate structure (discussed at the January and April CFSAB meetings) was postponed from July 2026 to July 2027.
- d) Staffing Update**

There are currently two concurrent social worker initial trainings happening. Another initial training is scheduled for the fall.

**e) CFWB 2024 NACo Achievement Award-DEI**

The department was awarded the NACo Achievement Award for their work with Faith in Motion among other initiatives.

**9. Advisory Board Member Updates**

- Simone Hidds-Monroe shared that this will be her last meeting as a member of CFSAB. The members thanked Simone for her dedication to CFSAB over the past four years. Simone always used her platform to advocate for lived experts to be involved in all decisions.
- Dr. Gloria Ciriza discussed the graduation that recently occurred at San Pasqual Academy and urged members to attend the next one.

**10. Adjournment**

The next meeting will include the presentation on CANS data that was requested at the April meeting as well as a presentation from SAY San Diego on the prevention hub.

**Next Meeting of the Advisory Board:** Friday, October 25, 2024, 9:00 – 11:00 AM

Meeting minutes were submitted by Torrey Giaquinta. Please contact Torrey Giaquinta at (858) 581-5893 if you have corrections or suggested revisions.



County of San Diego  
Health and Human Services Agency  
Child and Family Well-Being

Child and Family Team Meeting  
&  
Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths  
(CANS) Feedback

[SANDIEGOCOUNTY.GOV](http://SANDIEGOCOUNTY.GOV)

**October 2024**

CFSAB 10.25.24 Agenda Item 4



LIVE WELL  
SAN DIEGO



# LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO

San Diego County's vision of region that is  
**Building Better Health**, **Living Safely** and **Thriving**

## BUILDING BETTER HEALTH

Improving the health of  
residents and supporting  
healthy choices

## LIVING SAFELY

Ensuring residents are protected  
from crime and abuse,  
neighborhoods are safe, and  
communities are resilient to  
disasters and emergencies

## THRIVING

Cultivating opportunities  
for all people and  
communities to grow,  
connect and enjoy the  
highest quality of life





# Method of Feedback

## 2018-2020

- A paper survey was implemented and distributed to CFT participants. All CFT meetings were in-person.

## 2020-current

- In 2020, the survey was updated, and an electronic version was created as most CFT meetings were occurring virtually due to Covid-19. The use of the electronic survey began in October 2020.



# Survey Process

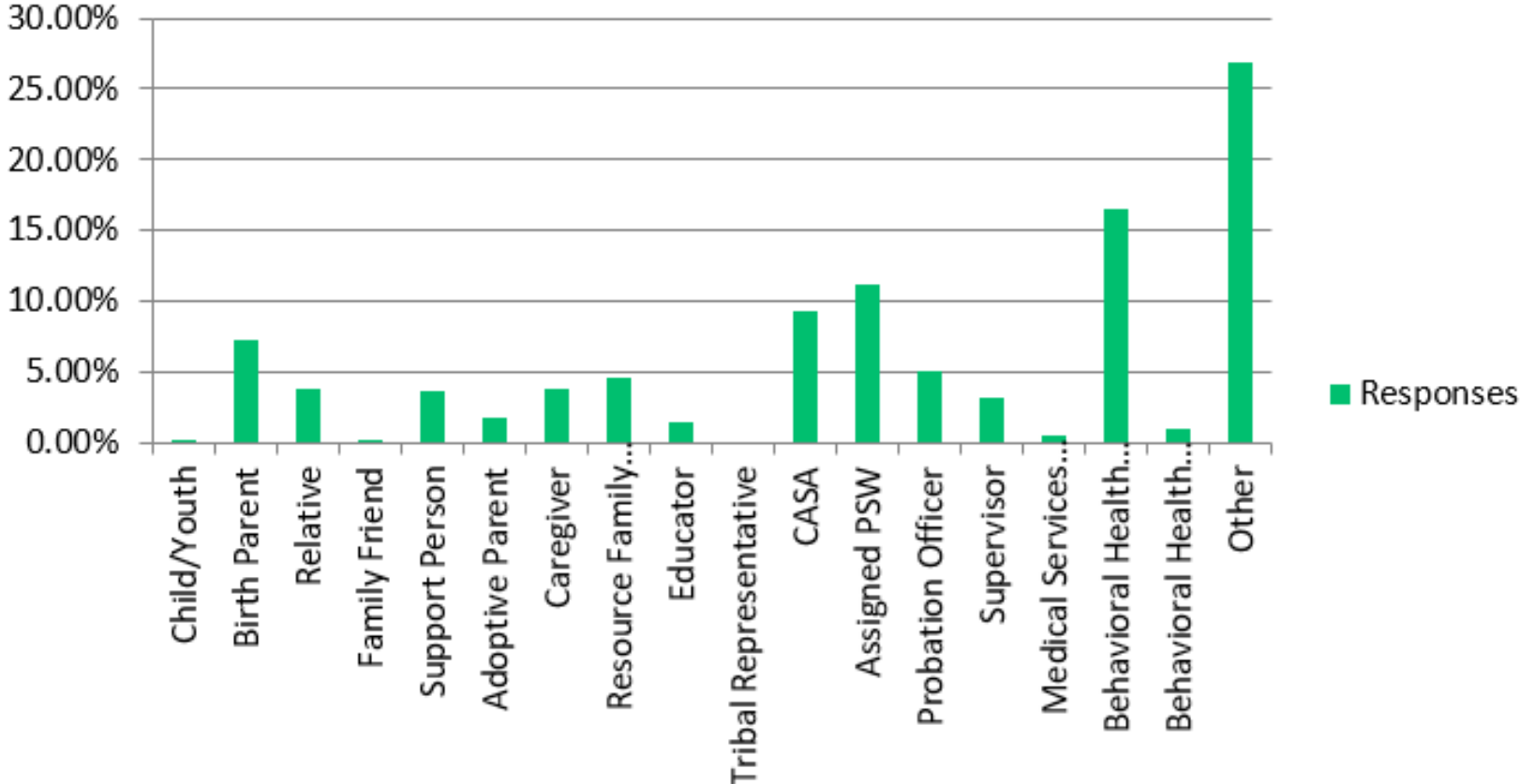




LIVE WELL  
SAN DIEGO

# Survey Results 2023

I am:





# Survey Results 2023

I understood what this CFT meeting was for before the meeting started.

- 286 Strongly Agree
- 92 Agree
- 11 Neutral
- 8 Disagree
- 27 Strongly Disagree

I had the opportunity to be involved in planning for this CFT meeting, such as helping to create the agenda, agreeing on a meeting time and location, suggesting other participants, or other details.

- 229 Strongly Agree
- 67 Agree
- 63 Neutral
- 36 Disagree
- 28 Strongly Disagree

I shared / was asked to share my strengths (youths) and my family strengths.

- 319 Strongly Agree
- 71 Agree
- 12 Neutral
- 3 Disagree
- 18 Strongly Disagree

# Survey Results 2023



LIVE WELL  
SAN DIEGO

I was able to give my opinion.

- 306 Strongly Agree
- 84 Agree
- 9 Neutral
- 5 Disagree
- 19 Strongly Disagree

My opinion helped make the decisions in the meeting.

- 223 Strongly Agree
- 97 Agree
- 76 Neutral
- 5 Disagree
- 21 Strongly Disagree

I felt my concerns and voice were heard during this meeting.

- 264 Strongly Agree
- 113 Agree
- 24 Neutral
- 4 Disagree
- 17 Strongly Disagree

[SANDIEGOCOUNTY.GOV](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov)

# Survey Results 2023



Cultural factors were respected and included during the discussion.

- 209 Strongly Agree
- 113 Agree
- 78 Neutral
- 7 Disagree
- 13 Strongly Disagree

If the CANS was discussed in the meeting, the needs and strengths helped to create action items on the action plan.

- 89 Strongly Agree
- 69 Agree
- 38 Neutral
- 2 Disagree
- 10 Strongly Disagree

The action plan represents youth and family needs.

- 270 Strongly Agree
- 110 Agree
- 18 Neutral
- 6 Disagree
- 18 Strongly Disagree



# Survey Results 2023 Continued

The Survey allows for Participants to provide written feedback on what went well and areas of improvement in questions 19 and 20.

## What went well during the meeting?

- All participants were encouraged to provide input
- Next steps were discussed thoroughly
- The facilitator was neutral
- Youth's participation was encouraged/prioritized
- Everyone's voice was heard



# Survey Results 2023 Continued

## What would make the CFT meeting better?

- For everyone to be required to have cameras on
- For meeting to be in-person
- Agenda being provided ahead of time so participants are prepared for what will be discussed
- More advanced notice of when CFTM scheduled
- Some participants felt that inaccurate information was being shared about them





# Next Steps

- **Ensuring that all participants receive the survey**
  - CFT Facilitator to ensure Youth's contact information is obtained for the survey.
  - Electronic survey sent through different platforms by internal and external facilitators: email, text and in the chat after every meeting.
- **Consistent training across all facilitators**
  - All Facilitators to complete the standard curriculum training, 5 day CFT Facilitator Training and CANS Overview Training.
- **Ensure Child and Family Team rooms have working equipment and are ready to host in-person & hybrid meetings.**
- **Provide monthly survey results to Fred Finch and discuss areas for upgrade during quarterly internal meetings.**



# Questions?

Stephanie Gross, Protective Services Manager



# Family Connection Hub

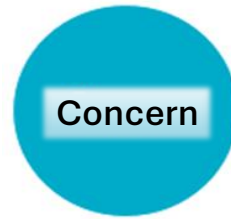
A collaboration between  
CFWB, SAY San Diego,  
211, and the YMCA




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# Mandated Reporting to Community Supporting

Current System



-  Report
-  Do Not Report
-  Consult/Support

Paradigm Shift

# Family Connection Hub Pathway

## 1. No Wrong Door for Family in Need of Supports and Services

A family can access prevention services through any door in the County of San Diego via self referral, community, juvenile probation and/or child welfare services.

## 2. Family Connection Hub

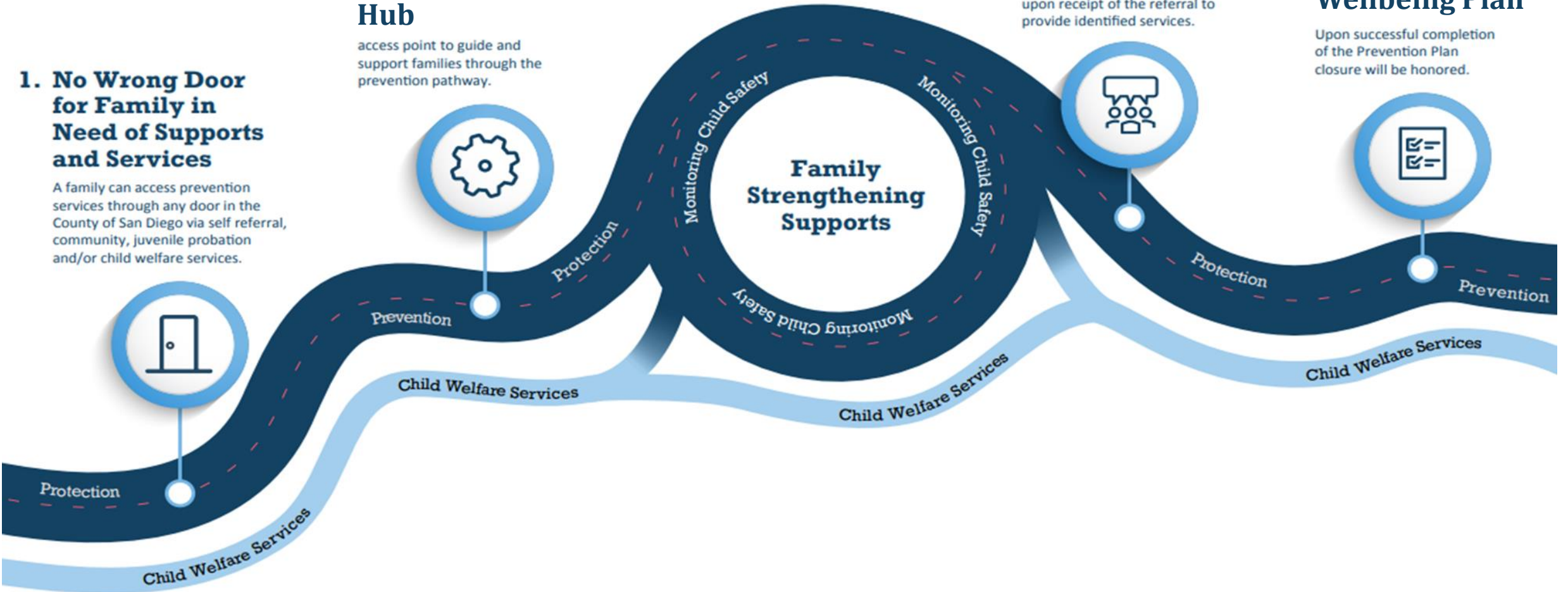
access point to guide and support families through the prevention pathway.

## 3. Community Based Organizations and Tribal Partners

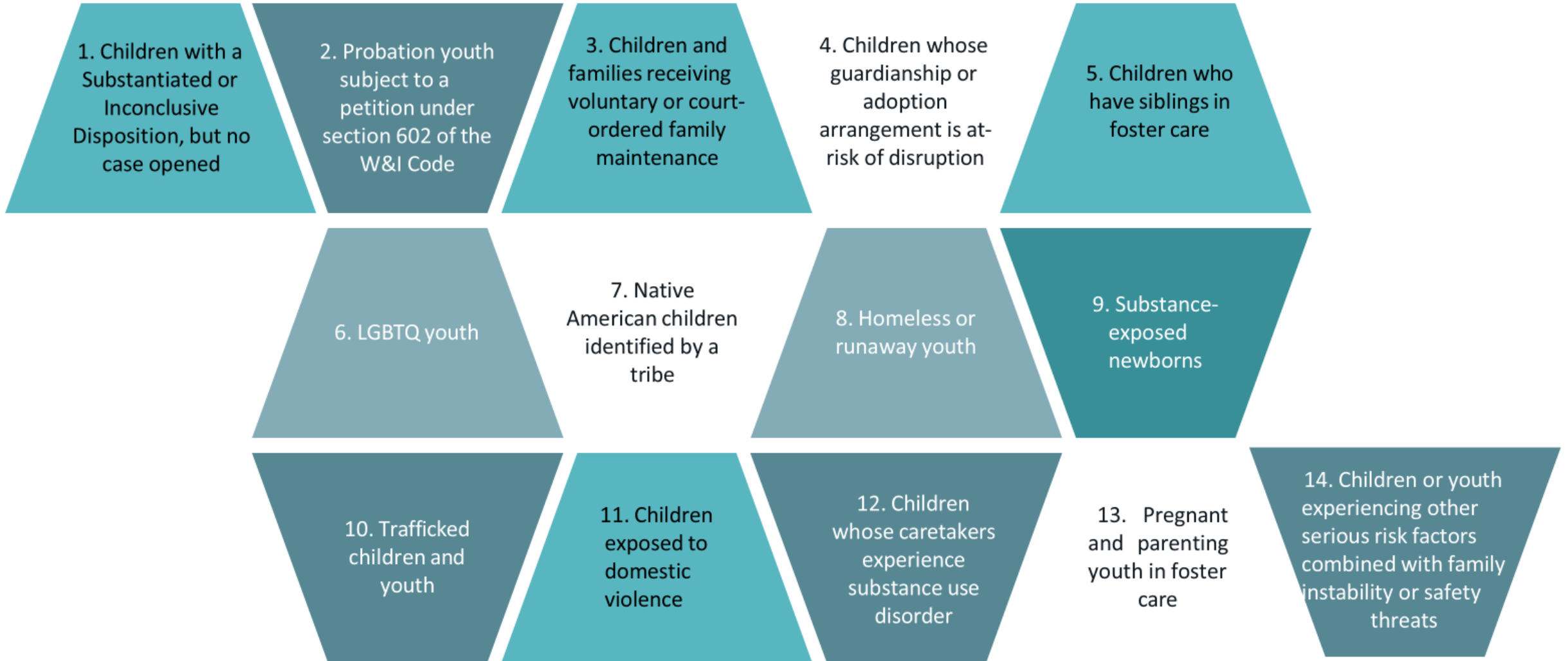
The community providers will engage with the family upon receipt of the referral to provide identified services.

## 4. Closure of Family Wellbeing Plan

Upon successful completion of the Prevention Plan closure will be honored.



# Target Population of Potential Candidates



# Phases of Candidacy

1

## PHASE 1

- Children with substantiated or inconclusive disposition, but no case open
- Probation youth subject to a petition under section 602 of W&I Code

2

## PHASE 2

- Children and families receiving voluntary or court-ordered Family Maintenance
- Children whose guardianship or adoption arrangement is at-risk of disruption
- Children who have siblings in foster care
- Pregnant and parenting youth in foster care

3

## PHASE 3

- Native American children identified by a tribe
- Homeless or runaway youth
- Substance-exposed newborns
- Trafficked children and youth
- Children exposed to DV
- Children whose caretakers experience substance use disorder
- LGBTQ youth
- Children or youth experiencing other serious risk factors combined with family instability or safety threats

# SERVICE PROCESS FOR CFWB REFERRED

## REFERRAL

PSWs send referral to team for candidacy evaluation



## CANDIDACY

CFWB Office of Child and Family Strengthening assesses family for FFPSA candidacy



## SERVICES

FFPSA Candidates- sent to SAY Care Navigators for needs/strengths assessment, referrals/linkages and ongoing care management



Non-Candidates- sent to 211 for resources and referrals



# SERVICE PROCESS FOR NON-CFWB REFERRED

## REFERRAL

CBOs, school, faith centers,  
potential participants contact  
211 to submit a referral



211 staff screen for eligibility.  
Non-eligible community  
members receive resources  
and referrals  
Eligible families forwarded for  
FFPSA candidacy evaluation

## CANDIDACY

CFWB Office of Child and Family  
Strengthening assesses family for FFPSA  
candidacy

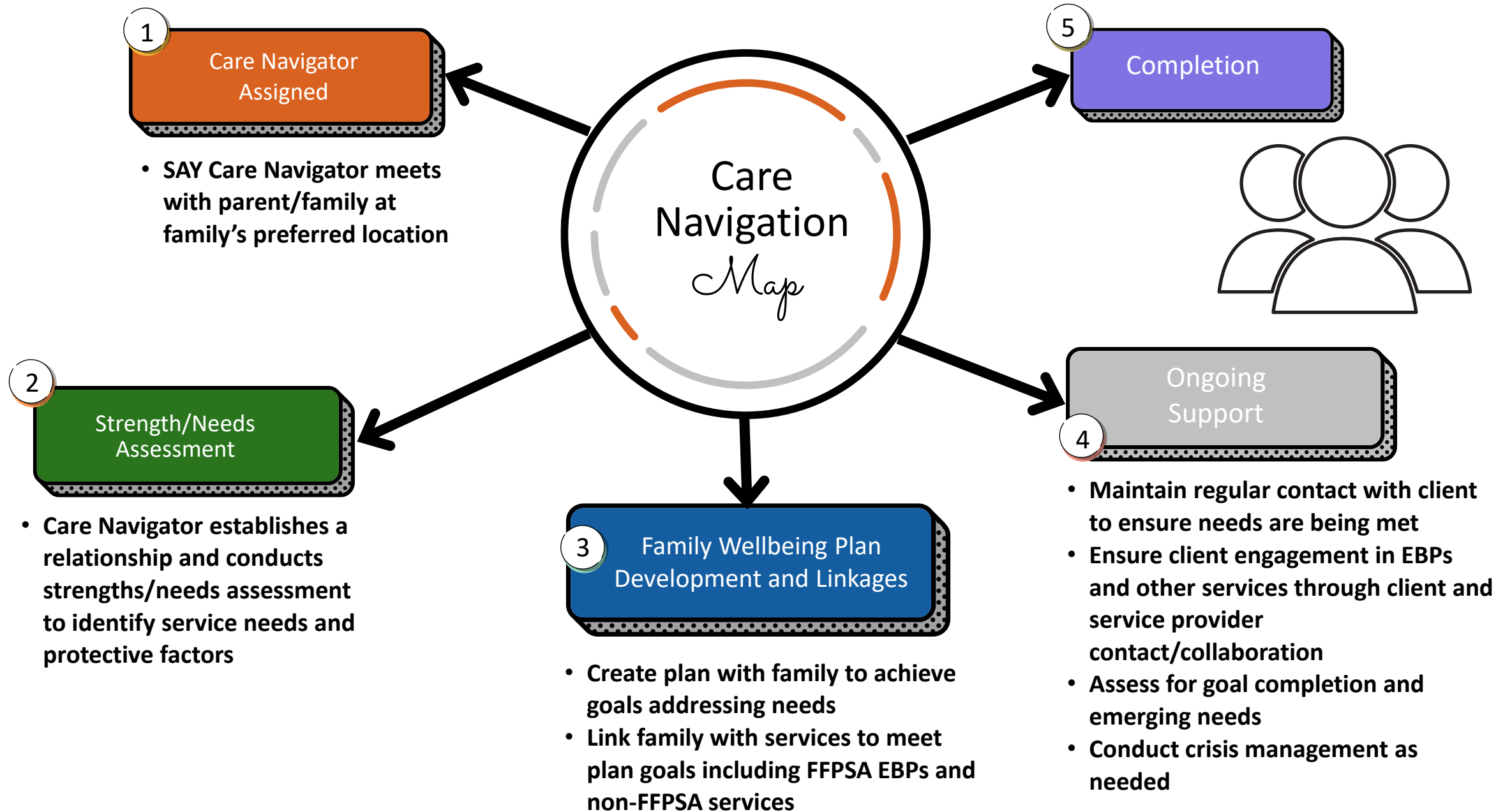


## SERVICES

FFPSA Candidates- sent to SAY Care  
Navigators for needs/strengths  
assessment, referrals/linkages and  
ongoing care management



Non-Candidates- referred back to 211  
for resources and referrals



# Evidence Based Practices

Lifeline Community Services

**Target population: youth 12–18**

FFT is a home-based therapy program that strengthens adaptive family interactions and assists at-risk youth through intervention and prevention.

**Functional Family Therapy (FFT)**

**Healthy Families America (HFA)**

**Target population: enrollment prenatally or within three months of birth**

HFA a home visiting program for new and expectant families with children.

Home Start Palomar Say SD SBCS

**First 5 First Steps**

San Diego Center for Children

**Target population: children 2–7**

PCIT is a specialized treatment program designed for caregivers and their young children who are experiencing behavioral and/or emotional difficulties.

**Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)**

**Motivational Interviewing (MI)**

**Target population: adolescents, parents, and caregivers**

MI is a cross-cutting case management intervention designed to promote behavioral change.

CFWB Prevention Hub

# SERVICE LOCATIONS

North Coastal- Mottino Family YMCA: 4701 Mesa Dr, Oceanside, 92056

North Inland- Escondido YMCA Program Center: 1050 N Broadway, Escondido, 92026

Central - SAY - 4275 El Cajon Blvd ste. 101, SD, 92105

North Central - SAY- 4775 Viewridge Ave, SD, 92123

East County - Davis Family YMCA: 8881 Dallas St, La Mesa 91942

South- Border View Family YMCA: 3061 Arey Dr, San Diego, 92154

Services are provided in client's preferred setting, which can include client home, community setting, office, or telehealth





**THANK YOU!**

For questions or comments:  
[Nathaniel.Martinez@saysandiego.org](mailto:Nathaniel.Martinez@saysandiego.org)

# Family Connection Hub



YMCA OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
**COMMUNITY  
WELL-BEING  
& BELONGING**



## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

### *Lived Expert Action Partners Work Group*

A former foster youth led work group that advances and supports youth voice and experiences on issues related to the care and support needed for current and former foster youth and their families. Lived Experts Action Partners is responsible for a two-year action plan that includes goals, measurable outcomes and a timeline that supports current and former foster youth. The Action Plan includes a focus on racial disparities, equity, diversity, and inclusion and alignment with the Advisory Board's mission.

### Meeting Summary

**Date:** Thursday, August 15, 2024

**Time:** 6:00-7:30 pm

**Chair:** (none at this time)

**Meeting Staff:** Torrey Giaquinta

1. Welcome, there were 13 participants. Board members present were Stephen Moore and Beth Ploesch.

Brittney will work on developing a flyer advertising this work group.

2. Review of current activities:

- SPA student and alumni advisory board application. Steven Wells (CFWB) provided an update on the board. The board application went out the extended foster care workers so they can make their youth aware. Stephen (CASA) and Brittney (P2K) also have SPA alumni in their programs and are interested in the link. Steven will connect with them.
- Lived expert compensation plan sub work group update. Torrey provided an update on the lived expert compensation plan group,

now named the lived expert care and compensation plan group. Not only do we need to provide compensation to lived experts but we also need to make sure they are prepared to share their story/be vulnerable, and that we prepare the spaces to make them safe to do so. Caitlin and Aisha are interested in participating in the group.

Caitlin mentioned the importance of giving lived experts a chance to practice telling their story in advance. Lived experts should also be cautioned that what they share is then public which could impact their future employment. There is no union for youth, youth should share strategically.

Beth shared that there is a new proposed local rule which allows for youth in child welfare to participate in public meetings like the work groups without needing to get specific prior judicial approval. There was a question whether the local rule would still apply if the youth were compensated.

### 3. Two-Year Action Plan, Q4 2024:

- Identify those interested in creating the survey

We discussed the need to identify what information we want to gather from the survey. We want to connect with agencies that do lived expert training well, examples given were CYC and NAMI.

Beth shared information on the National Organization for Children's Counsel's recent conference in which the presenters were lived experts.

We need to get the care and compensation plan a bit more solid so that we have that information to gauge interest in participating.

### 4. Adjournment. Date of Next Meeting –Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 6:00pm.

*Please contact [CFSAB@theci.org](mailto:CFSAB@theci.org) if you have any questions.*



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

*Lived Expert Action Partners Work Group*

### Meeting Summary

**Date:** Thursday, September 19, 2024

**Time:** 6:00-7:30 pm

**Chair:** (none at this time)

**Meeting Staff:** Torrey Giaquinta

1. **Welcome** there were 12 participants. No board members were present.

#### 2. **Review of current activities:**

- **SPA student and alumni advisory board application** The link to the SPA student and alumni advisory board application was posted in the meeting chat. CFWB staff have forwarded the link onto the extended foster care team.
- **Lived expert compensation plan sub work group update** The compensation group is developing a proposal to be able to compensate the lived experts participating in the group. Once that compensation is secure, the group will come back together to develop the care and compensation plan.

The work of this group is delayed because 1) very few lived experts have been attending the meeting, and 2) while attendance at the meeting would not be compensated, we would be asking lived experts to take on one of our action goals (developing the interest survey for speakers training, research into resource hubs, or a review of CFWB contract requirements). Lived experts should be compensated for any work on that goal, however we do not have a



compensation plan developed.

Some participants shared the belief that no decisions should be made in this work group until there is a larger representation of lived experts.

We were also challenged to show how the work of lived experts leads to changes in policy or practice.

**3. Status of LEAP co-chair** No one has been nominated for the SPA seat. It is hopeful that whomever is in the SPA seat will also chair this work group. Participants were reminded that applications to serve on CFSAB are only good for one year.

**4. Announcements** CFWB staff shared Kim Giardina's has been appointed as the deputy CAO of the County's Health and Human Services Agency. There have been some other staff changes at CFWB, Lauren Gabby is now a deputy director.

**5. Adjournment. Date of Next Meeting –Thursday, November 14, 2024, 6:00pm.**



## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

### Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

#### *Child and Family Well-Being Work Group*

### Meeting Summary

**Date:** Wednesday, August 21, 2024

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

**Meeting Staff:** Torrey Giaquinta

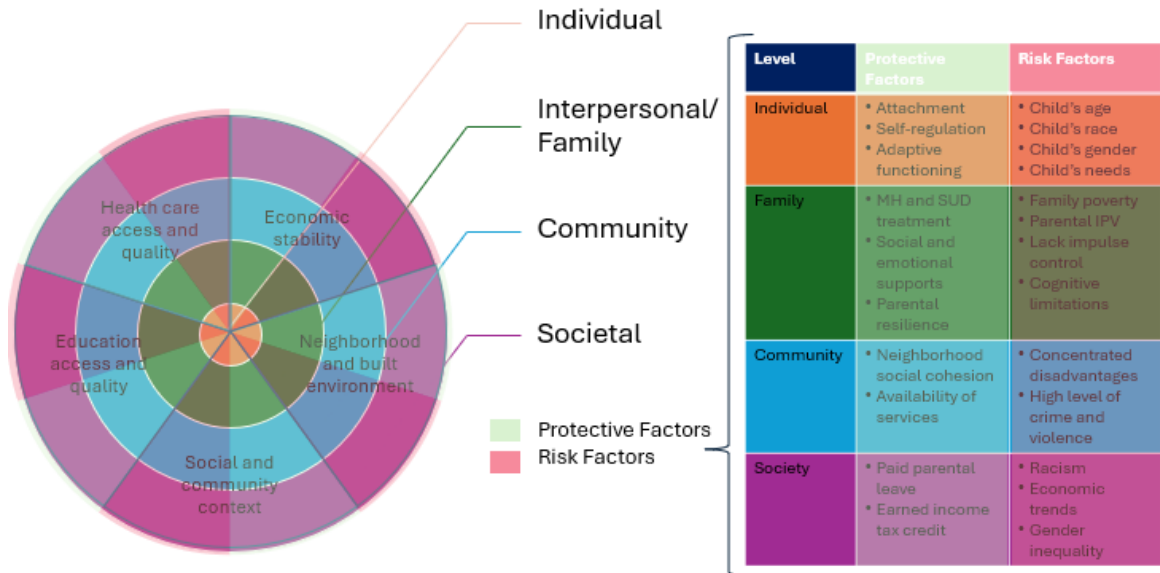
**Participants:** 44, including board members: Aimee Zeitz, Stephanie Gioia-Beckman, Stephen Moore, Joseph Robinson, Gloria Ciriza, Shea Prophet, Steven Gachette, Joy Singleton, Alethea Arguilez, Adam Reed, Erin Gospodarec, Diana Venegas, and Paty Fernandez.

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Aimee opened the meeting and began introductions. After introductions, she went over the agenda and stated the purpose of the group. The action plan document was shared in the chat.
2. **CFWB data:** There was a request for some data at the last workgroup meeting. CFWB staff had clarifying questions about what data was needed. Contracts for services are spread throughout different departments including Behavioral Health and Probation. If we want data to include those contracts, we will need to go outside CFWB. The group was looking for information on the needs of families. Caseworkers mentioned that the needs mentioned in the initial report are very preliminary. The real set of needs comes from the CANS assessment which happens later in a case.
3. **Two-Year Action Plan Update**
  - **Maps and Gaps Analysis**
    - **Discuss framework**
    - **Assess partner list**
    - **Script for email or phone**
    - **Brainstorm Rating Matrix**

Participants discussed the agencies on the [partner list](#). Staff will send out a script to use when contacting agencies we would like to be involved. The zoom link for the

work group meetings will stay the same for the remainder of the fiscal year so participants can share that. Participants were asked to add names to the list. We want to make sure that multiple people are not all contacting the same person.

Next participants were shown a potential framework that combines the social ecology, social determinants of health and child maltreatment prevention framework:



Participants felt comfortable with the left side of the slide (the circle) but want to have the table updated to disconnect poverty and neglect. We clarified that safety threats are in the here and now while risk factors are based on environmental factors. We also defined primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention efforts.

The group discussed a possible matrix to use when it comes time to the analysis:

Area	3	2	1
Age group	All age groups	Only subsets	Not available for children and youth
Location	In priority neighborhood		In SD city only
Eligibility	All families		Only child welfare
Capacity	No waitlist	<u>3-6 month</u> waitlist	Waitlist 6+ months
Languages			
Accessibility	In home services	Easy to access by public transit	Hard to access by public transit

Participants suggested adding accessibility. We are not sure if this type of matrix is what we will end up using.

- **Lived Expert Compensation Plan**

- **Update**

- Aimee provided an update on the Lived Expert Compensation Plan, now renamed the Lived Expert Care and Compensation Plan. The group met at the beginning of the month and will be meeting again next week. The importance of involving different kinds of lived experts, such as bio parents, was highlighted.

**4. Announcements**

Stephanie Gioia-Beckman announced that all hospitals in the County are now conducting the Community Health Needs Assessment. There is an electronic survey component. The results from the assessment may be useful in our analysis. Stephanie will report back to the group with the results.

**5. Date of Next Meeting – September 18, 2024 11am-12:30pm**

**6. Adjournment**



## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

### Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

#### *Child and Family Well-Being Work Group*

### Meeting Summary

**Date:** Wednesday, September 18, 2024

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

**Meeting Staff:** Torrey Giaquinta

**Participants:** 38, including board members: Aimee Zeitz, Stephanie Gioia-Beckman, Joseph Robinson, Shea Prophet, Steven Gachette, Adam Reed, and Diana Venegas.

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** Aimee and Stephanie opened the meeting; participants used the chat to introduce themselves. The workgroup description, action plan goals, and agreed framework for the maps and gaps analysis were shared. The child maltreatment prevention framework influenced by the Chapin Hill report was shared. Participants suggested child's age be a protective factor as well as a risk factor.
- 2. CFWB data elements** There had been a request for data at the last meeting. CFWB staff attended to garner more information. Participants wanted to know the 5-10 most common issues in case plans so that the focus of the gap and gap analysis can be in those areas in the hopes that increased service accessibility upstream will prevent system involvement. The primary need for families that come into the system are concrete needs (this is the same with calls to 211). It was noted that the needs listed in the case plan will be specific to safety threats. If parents are willing to engage in services but are having trouble accessing them, the department is not as likely to file. DV/IPV is listed under mental health services, may be difficult to parse out what the mental health issue is.
- 3. Two-Year Action Plan Update**
  - Maps and Gaps Analysis** A draft working tool for the maps and gaps analysis will be created with working definitions. The considerations for the analysis include: hours of operation, cultural competency, languages spoken, location of services, quality of services, waitlist. County supported languages are Arabic, Mandarin Chinese, Korean, Persian (Farsi, Dari), Somali, Spanish, Tagalog (Filipino), Vietnamese.

Participants suggested adding in Haitian Creole. For the waitlists, sometimes programs may have a small waitlist but have a small total capacity. We should also look at the number of people/families served per year. The limit may be based on finances, contracts, workforce availability, or physical space.

- **Lived Expert Care and Compensation Plan** This group continues to meet. As the underlying value behind this work is that lived experts should be compensated, we are working on a proposal to compensate the lived experts on the team.

#### **4. Announcements**

Many staff who will be working on the prevention hub were present and introduced themselves.

There is a sample script on the shared drive to use when reaching out organizations on the partner list (also on the shared drive) to invite them to attend the work group meetings.

#### **5. Date of Next Meeting – November 20, 2024 11am-12:30pm**



## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

### Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board *Placement & Caregiver Support Work Group* Meeting Summary

**Date:** Thursday, August 22, 2024

**Co-Chairs:** Jeff Wiemann and Patty Boles

**Meeting Staff:** Torrey Giaquinta

**Participants:** 29, including board members Beth Ploesch, Adam Reed, Jeff Wiemann, Patty Bloes, Stephanie Ortega, and Diana Venegas

#### 1. **Welcome and Introductions:**

Jeff opened the meeting and went over the agenda. Introductions were done in the chat.

#### 2. **Two-Year Action Plan**

- **Kin Transition Plans – update**

Lisa Castagnola provided an update on the transition plan. The work was stalled for a bit as it turns out Torrey cannot support sub work groups. The plan is to have Lisa continue with the work and provide updates at the work group meetings. She will share her transition plan with CFWB staff who will perform a crosswalk with the information contained on CFWB's transition plan documents.

QPI is doing outreach with CFWB in the form of text surveys. The surveys are very brief and only open for a few days. The upcoming survey is on transitions. Diana Macis will bring the results back to us. The purpose of the partnership with QPI is to know where shifts in policy or practice are needed. The survey should help us know what is not working now. CFWB and QPI are working with agencies such as Just in Time and Promises2Kids to get permission to text their participants the survey link.

- **Information Sharing - update**

Jessica Heldman provided an update on the information sharing work. She and Laura Neal met with county counsel. County counsel referenced WIC Code 827, and a Judicial Council Brief (these materials were shared with the group in the meeting invitation). The meeting was helpful as those documents were referred to as the parameters county counsel uses when there are questions about

information sharing. There are some gray areas. For instance, the health and education summary is required by law to be shared with caregivers. Caregivers report not having all the medical information they need. The law states caregivers should have information on current medical needs. There is space for different interpretations in how current medical needs is defined. We will want to query caregivers as to what pieces of information they think they need but are not receiving. Once we know that, we can see if that information can be shared under the current regulations. This would just require a change in practice.

- **Lived Expert Compensation Model – update**

Torrey Giaquinta provided an update on the Lived Expert Compensation Model, now called the Lived Expert Care and Compensation Model. Care was added as we need to think about supports for lived experts as well as how to create safe spaces for them to share their stories.

3. **Announcements:** Jeff mentioned that there are 12 FFAs contracted with San Diego County. About 100-120 children are placed through the FFAs. The only insurer of FFAs in the state has let FFAs know they will not be renewing their policies. The Children’s Advocacy Institute at USD is looking into an urgent bill on the non-renewals.

4. **Date of Next Meeting – September 26, 2024 at 11:00 am**

5. **Adjournment**





## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

### Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board *Placement & Caregiver Support Work Group* Meeting Summary

**Date:** Thursday, September 26, 2024

**Co-Chairs:** Jeff Wiemann and Patty Boles

**Meeting Staff:** Torrey Giaquinta

**Participants:** 23, including board members Beth Ploesch, Adam Reed, Jeff Wiemann, Patty Bloes, Stephanie Ortega, Joy Singleton, and Erin Gospodarec

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions:**

- a. Jeff opened the meeting and went over the agenda. Introductions were done in the chat.

#### **2. Announcements**

- Joel with UCSD talked about the focus groups they are having with young adults who have experienced a CFT meeting.
- Jeff gave an update on the insurance issue for FFAs. They are able to find insurance but at a higher cost, this may lead to some FFAs closing over the next year as their current insurance comes up for renewal.

#### **3. Two-Year Action Plan**

- a. **Kin Transition Plans** Jeff reviewed the history of the transition plans. This was a document requested by the Judges to better understand potential behavioral health impacts when ordering a change in placement. The idea is a short 1-2 page document that is always up to date and kept in the case file. The original idea was for this document to be completed by behavioral health personnel, however, not all children in dependency cases are receiving behavioral health services. One idea is to complete the form in CFT meetings as the information would be useful for placement changes as well as placement preservation.

CFWB currently documents some of the relevant pieces of a transition plan in the Health and Education Passport, the CFT Action Plan, and the Visitation Plan. Some of these documents are older and the needs for children and caregivers have shifted. There is a new law on trauma informed removals that could also impact changes of placement. CFWB Policy staff will document current dissemination practices with the current transition plan documents.

Actions on the transition plans need to start early in order to be therapeutic. Ironically, transition plans are harder earlier in a case as not as much information is known and parties are still learning to work collaboratively.

There is also interest in a longer document that could be shared between caregivers in a placement change. For this document, the responsibility would be on caregivers to note triggers, hurdles, de-escalation techniques, tips, etc. to be shared between caregivers.

- i. **QPI survey update** This survey will go out in January to caregivers, youth, and social workers. This group will be able to provide input at the November or December meeting. At least one of the questions will be around information the caregiver feels like they need but are not receiving. Once we know this, CFWB Policy will look to see if that information is contained in the current documents. This work may at that point converge with the information sharing group. There is an intern at USD researching child welfare policies on information sharing with caregivers in California, as well as best practices nationwide. That information will be passed on to this group as well as CFWB Policy staff.

CFWB workers noted that new care workers are terrified around confidentiality. There could need to be supervision/mentoring on what information it is okay to share and with whom.

**b. Lived Expert Compensation Model – update**

This group continues to meet. As the foundation of this group is the belief that lived experts need to be compensated for their time, we are working on a proposal to compensate the lived experts helping develop the lived expert care and compensation model.

**4. Placement Trends** Interestingly, having fewer children in care can lead to a decrease in the number of available placements. This is because caregiver families who are not being used for placements move on to other efforts after about half a year.

**a. Placement Roundtable** A roundtable with the county is scheduled to discuss the new process being used when an FFA placement is needed.

**5. Date of Next Meeting – November 21, 2024 at 11:00 am**

**6. Adjournment**