

Santa Barbara County Child Welfare Services

Annual Update



Overview of Today's Presentation

- CWS Statistics Snapshot
- CWS System Improvement Plan
- Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Program
- Continuum of Care Reform

CWS Statistics Snapshot

2015	
Total Number of CWS Staff	135
Total Number of In-Person Investigations	3198
Children Entering Foster Care	195
Average Number of Open Cases	673
Average Number of Children in Foster Care	431
Average Time In Care (months)	18.1

Placement Type (7/1/16)	Relative/NREFM	FFH/RFA	FFA	SILP	Group	Other
	32%	14%	32%	12%	8%	2%

System Improvement Plan (SIP)

- Mandated by the Child Welfare Services Outcome and Accountability Act of 2001
- Intended to better track and improve outcomes in safety, permanency and well-being
- Provided a state wide, cohesive system for identifying and replicating best practices to meet the unique needs of children and families in the CWS system are met

California – Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)

County Self-Assessment

**System Improvement
Plan**

Peer Quality Case Review

**Improved
OUTCOMES:**

Safety

Permanency

Child Well Being

Family Well Being

CFSR Outcomes

There is a robust system of Federal and State Oversight through the CFSR and California Outcome and Accountability System to measure the following 7 Outcomes:

1. Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.
2. Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.
3. Children have permanency and stability in their living arrangements.
4. The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.
5. Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.
6. Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
7. Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

Areas of SIP Focus

CWS selected the following 3 measures based on information learned during the CSA, PQCR, and in alignment with the states Program Improvement Plan (PIP):

1. No Recurrence of Maltreatment
2. Reunification within 12 months
3. Placement Stability

No Recurrence of Maltreatment

CFSR measure SI.1

Federal Goal: 94.6%

“Of all children who were victims of a substantiated maltreatment allegation during the selected six month period, what percent were not victims of another substantiated allegation within the following six months?”



No Recurrence of Maltreatment

Santa Barbara County's performance:

- Federal Standard: **94.6%**
- Baseline performance in 2012: **90.7%**
- Santa Barbara County's improvement goal: **94.6%**
- Most recent performance in 2016: **94.4%**

No Recurrence of Maltreatment

Strategies for improvement

- I.1 Strengthen collaboration between Child Welfare Services and community partners*
- I.2 Strengthen Structured Decision Making (SDM) assessments
- I.3 Expand and integrate family centered practices*
- I.4 Collaborate with substance abuse, mental health, and domestic violence service providers*

Reunification within 12 months

CFSR measure CI.1

Federal goal: 75.2%

“Of all children exiting foster care to reunification during the selected 12 month period, what percent were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of their latest removal from the home”



Reunification within 12 months

Santa Barbara County's performance:

- Federal Standard: **75.2%**
- Baseline performance in 2012: **42.4%**
- Santa Barbara County's improvement goal: **58.8%**
- Most recent performance in 2016: **55.6%**

Quarter 1 2016 Extract-http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

Reunification within 12 months

Strategies for improvement

- I.1 Improve current family visitation services and practices
- I.2 Increasing the number of Team Decision Making (TDM) meetings held
- I.3 Expanding the number of families served in Family Drug Treatment Court (FDTC)
- I.4 Implementation of a core social work practice model

Placement Stability

CFSR measure C4.3

Federal goal: 41.8%

“Of all the children in foster care during the selected 12 month period who were in care for at least 24 months, what percent had two or fewer placements?”



Placement Stability

Santa Barbara County's performance:

- Federal Standard: **41.8%**
- Baseline performance in 2012: **28.2%**
- Santa Barbara County's improvement goal: **35%**
- Most recent performance in 2016: **33.7%**

Quarter 1 2016 Extract-http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

Placement Stability

Strategies for improvement

- I.1 Continued expansion of the Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI)*
- I.2 Increase the number or placement resources in county for sibling groups, high needs, and older youth*
- I.3 Increase the number of relative and non-related extended family member (NREFM) placements
- I.4 Provide increased support and training to relative/NREFM placements

Additional CFSR Measures

Measure	Federal/State Standard	CWS Performance
No Maltreatment in Foster Care	99.68%	99.8%
Timely Investigation Immediate Response	90%	100%
Timely Investigation 10 day Response	90%	98.9%
Timely Social Worker Visits Children in Placement	95%	98.3%
Adoption within 12 Months Legally Free	53.7%	63.3%

CFSR and SIP Timeline



- Current SIP 2012-2017
 - Final SIP update was submitted to the state on August 30, 2016
- Next SIP 2017-2022
 - Board of Supervisors approved County Self Assessment (CSA) is due to the state on March 31, 2017
 - Board of Supervisors approved 5 year SIP is due to the state on August 31, 2017

Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)

SB 855:

- Clarifies Child Welfare Dependency Code to include commercially sexually exploited children as dependents
- Establishes the optional CSEC Program, prevention and intervention services, and training related to children who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation.
- Child Welfare, Probation, Public Health, Behavioral Wellness & the Juvenile Court to develop an Interagency Protocol
- Requires the state to track various data, risk factors, types of services, and barriers.

Identification of CSEC in the CWS System

- Allegations of child abuse & neglect including exploitation are reported by mandated and non-mandated reporters
- During the investigation stage CWS may learn of CSEC victims
- Establishing Rapport & Assess the entire family for risk and needs
- West Coast Clinic Screening tool utilized to identify children in open cases who may be at risk

CSEC Services

- Local Community based services specific to this population continue to be developed in collaboration with partners
- Formal interdisciplinary case staffing to assist the treatment team in identifying the best possible services and pathways to serve this population
- Collaborative Team approach in serving these children is a unified goal with demonstrated outcomes

CSEC Next Steps

- Finalize local interagency protocols with the Human Trafficking Task Force for the provision of services to children who are victims.
- Continue to participate in the Southern Counties workgroup to develop placement options for victims.
- Continue to work collaboratively with partners to identify and develop services through programs such as RISE, Rape Crisis, Victim Witness, CALM

Continuum of Care Reform (CCR)

- Continuum of Care Reform: A comprehensive framework that supports children, youth and families across placement settings (from relatives to congregate care) in achieving permanency. Includes:
 - Increased engagement with children, youth and families
 - Level of care assessment process
 - Increased availability of mental health services
 - Child and Family Teams

Continuum of Care Reform (CCR)

- Limited use of congregate care
 - Shift from Group Homes to “Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program” (STRTP)
- Systemic and infrastructure changes
 - CDSS will establish new licensure and rate systems beginning 1/1/2017
 - Group homes can receive an extension to operate for an additional 2 years pending accreditation
- Increased capacity for home-based family care
 - Resource Family Approval Program
 - Increased recruitment, retention, and support activities

NEW

Branding and Media Campaign Logo





Our County. Our Kids.
NEEDS YOUR HELP
Provide Local Kids with a loving home today!

We need to find loving families for children and youth in Santa Barbara County. Become a Resource Parent and provide a ready and loving home today!

Contact...
Our County. Our Kids.

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Santa Barbara County Department of Social Services

Join us for our upcoming Informational Meetings!

<https://youtu.be/k22lrcC4WHw>

Transition of Youth from Congregate to Family Based Care

32 youth currently reside in group homes

- Relatives and others who may be able to offer permanent connections being identified through Permanency Teaming Process
- Some youth may be able to transition into placements with foster families who receive training and support
- Other youth will participate in Extended Foster Care, which provides resources for housing, education, health care, and other supports for youth 18 to age 21

Early Accomplishments

- Formed internal and interagency workgroup structures in collaboration with County partners
- Established a new Family Preservation model that uses Safety Organized Practice
- Implemented Resource Family Approval Program

Next Steps

- Staffing and local implementation: dependent on state allocations and policy decisions
- Continue to discuss impacts with staff, stakeholders, and service providers
- Further assess capacity of local providers and develop collaborative service delivery models
- Further efforts to prepare children currently residing in congregate care to family settings whenever possible
- Track Progress toward implementation Milestones



Questions??

Thank You