



Mandated Reporting to Community Supporting Task Force

*Communities Keeping Children Safe
and Families Together*

Welcome!

Mandated Reporting to Community
Supporting Task Force Members,
Subcommittee Members
and Public Participants

January 16, 2024

- Agenda and other documents are in the chat.
- There are no scheduled breaks. Self-break as needed.
- We will take public comment at the opening and closing of the meeting.
- Subcommittee meetings will begin at 3:30 p.m. via separate Zoom links that we will provide at that time.
- For tech support during the meeting please email info@caltrin.org.



Agenda

- Welcome
- Public Comment (5 min)
- Grounding the Work (40 min)
- Subcommittee Presentations (40 min)
- Task Force Discussion (50 min)
- Announcements (5 min)
- Public Comment (5 min)
- Adjourn
- Subcommittee Meetings (30 min)

Public Comment



- Raise your virtual hand
- You will be invited to unmute
- State your name
- Maximum of 2 minutes for comment on public record
- No response will be provided

Grounding the Work

- Introduction
- Presentation - Castillo Consulting Partners, LLC and Dr. Bear
- Facilitated Discussion

Guest speaker bios are in the chat

Moving from **Mandated Reporting** to **Community Supporting**

Recommendations from the Inglewood

and Greater Los Angeles Community

MRCS Task Force | January 16, 2024



How we got here...

ONE



Partnership Building

LACOE, Commission on Children and Families, Pritzker Foundation, Board of Supervisors, DCFS, DPSS, DMH, Casey Family Programs creates Mandated Reporting to Community Supporting Champions

TWO



Exploration and Design

Just Advocates, with Safe & Sound, Dr. Laurel Bear, and Castillo Consulting Partners, LLC conduct listening sessions, sharing findings and recommendations

THREE



Implement with Community and Educators

Work with school leadership, community, and educators to implement recommendations from mandated reporters and community.

Project **Background & Goals**

In partnership with **Inglewood Unified School District** and **Los Angeles County Commission for Children and Families**, this project set forth to:

- (1) **understand the experiences** that community members – particularly parents and students – and education-based mandated reporters/community supporters have had with mandated reporting and the impact of those experiences; and
- (2) learn what community members and education-based mandated reporters/community **supporters envision as an alternative**, with a focus on supporting families.

Executive Summary

7 Key Themes

Parents and mandated reporters/community supporters believe...

1. The current mandated reporting process is **biased against families of color**.
2. Mandated reporting is **punitive** and does not result in supportive services to families.
3. It's important to develop **relationships** before filing reports.
4. Filing reports **breaks trust** between families and school staff.

7 Key Themes

Parents and mandated reporters/community supporters believe...

5. There is **fear and a lack of trust in the current system**
6. Training must be updated to be **anti-racist**, focus on **support not surveillance**, offered **in-person**, and include connections to those with **lived experience**.
7. A list of **local community resources** must be provided to offer support to all involved.

7 Joint Recommendations

1. Transform the Narrative
2. Invest in Community Pathways
3. Create Supports for Parent Survivors of Domestic Violence
4. Reform Liability
5. Update Mandate and Reform Training
6. Build a Practice of Consultation
7. Rethink the Hotline

Discussion Questions

- 1.** What, if anything, resonated with you?
- 2.** What, if anything, was surprising?
- 3.** What, if anything, is missing?
- 4.** What actions can the MRCS Task Force take to help lead to transformative change?

Subcommittee Presentations

GOAL: Gain a deeper understanding of the proposed priorities for each Subcommittee

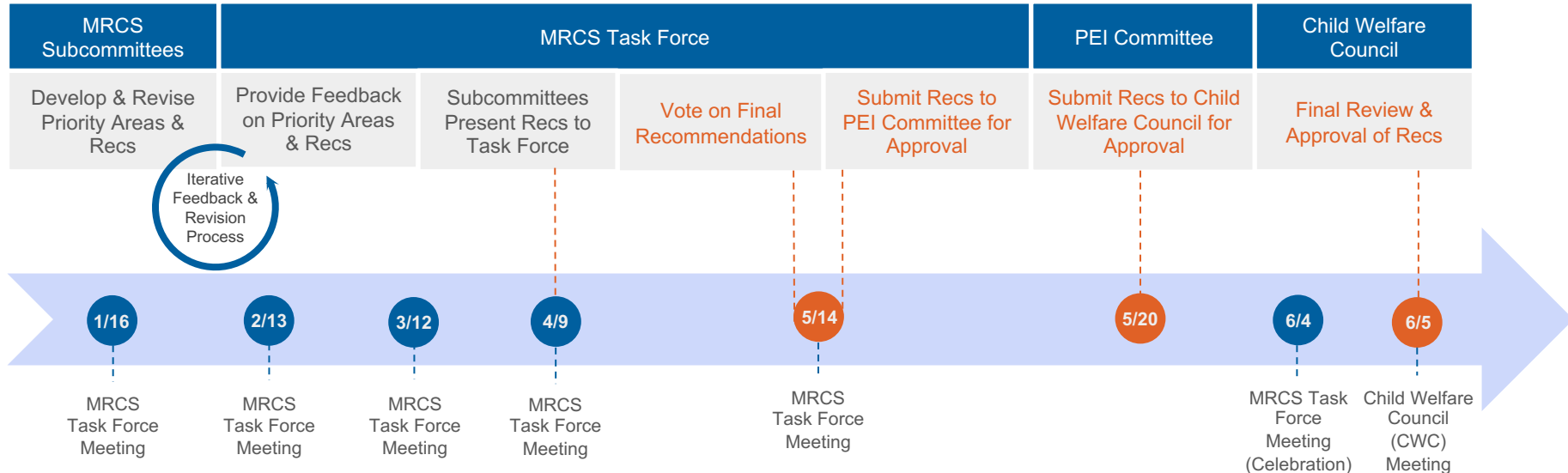
- **Overview**
- **Presentations**
 - Research & Data
 - Narrowing the Legal Definition of Neglect
 - Legal & Liability
 - Curriculum & Training
 - Policy & Practice
- **Summary**

Decision-Making Protocol & Timeline



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Priority Areas

1. Conduct thorough analyses of the interpretation, use, and impact of “general neglect” with an aim for findings to inform and guide mandated reporter reform.
2. Implement a statewide data system/strategy to track and report community supporting/community pathway prevention efforts.
3. Establish a Research & Data working committee that supports continuous quality improvement of systems developed to shift from mandated reporting to community supporting.
4. Create a committee and/or process for engaging individuals representative of county and constituent variation who have lived experience to actively participate in the collection, review, and reporting of data and research.

Looking Forward

- Questions for the Task Force
 - *What will be the process to choose, combine, and/or condense the different subcommittee priorities into a final set of recommendations for the CWC?*
- What we need to move to recommendations:
 - *Subcommittee review of current draft priorities—with members' input to refine, drop, and/or add recommendations.*



Priority Area 1

Advance Knowledge of and Data Demonstrating the Impact and Implementation of Recent Neglect-Related Legislative Action (AB2085) & Consider Additional Legislative Action



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Priority Area 2

Work with the Policy & Practice Subcommittee to Advance an Alternative Referral System for Mandated Reporters, as well as Robust Pathways for Family Support and Services.





Priority Area 3

Partner with the Curriculum and Training Subcommittee to Recommend Training and Implementation Supports for Mandated Reporters, especially related to the narrowed legal definition of General Neglect.

Looking Forward

- Given our Subcommittee's charge, how does the Task Force anticipate our actions to be different than or related to AB2085?

Context Setting

- Need Task Force agreement on meaning/focus/limit of PEI Recommendation:
 - “[L]ead coordinated statewide effort to review and reform mandated reporting system”
 - What is included in this system?



Priority Areas

1. Eliminate or limit legal liability for failure to report, i.e.,
 - i. Limit or waive liability by creating multiple tracks which would satisfy a reporting requirement if any.
 - ii. Eliminate incentives to report such as organizational liability or insurance company pressures.
2. Re-evaluate Standards for Reporting, i.e., reasonable suspicion, substantial risk of harm or imminent danger.
3. Narrow or eliminate the list of who is legally required to report.
4. Address Issues Related to Mindset of mandated reporters,
i.e.,
 - a. Root causes of fear: Professional licensing, standards
 - b. Widespread misunderstanding of “neglect” and cultural relevance

Looking Forward

What do we need to move recommendations:

- Look into what other states have in place instead of "reasonable suspicion."
- Scan of CA Code to determine where issues of liability appear, i.e., in licensing statutes and Ed Code.
- Testimonials from different professions about how they interpret Mandated Reporting statutes and what drives their reporting
- Testimonials from "risk-management" folk in organizations about possible consequences, pro and cons to reduced legal liability.
- Data breaking down current neglect reports to see the most likely reasons for neglect being reported



Priority Areas

1. Communication:

-Keep aligned with efforts across subcommittess to ensure collaborative information sharing and planning.

2. Training Content:

- To include the following: Bias (implicit and explicit) ,Inclusive Language , Trauma informed , CA Law (AB 2085- neglect defined), Legal/Liability, Neglect defined, Decision Making Tree , Community resources (what are they and how to establish/ engage), Special Population Considerations: SUD, Mental Health, Domestic Violence, Teen Parents, Indigenous

3. Implementation:

- **Funding** needs to be allocated to training and implementation

- Requirements

- defined requirements/deadline for agencies to train all mandated reporters
- mandatory annual training for all mandatory reporters. Provide CEU's for training.
- Training needs to be hybrid (a portion completed in person and a portion can be completed independently)
- Train the trainer: anyone that is providing mandated reporter training needs to be certified.
- Gold standard training: any changes to training needs to go through an approval process
- community supports: workshops to educate caregivers/ community members on Child Welfare policies and practices. Free legal support for families who encounter DCFS.

Looking Forward

- Questions for the Task Force
- What we need to move to recommendations



Priority Areas

1. Develop guidance and a framework for the implementation of community pathways to identify best practices and ensure alignment and uniformity, including: planning components, sustainability, evaluation, and adaptation, while also allowing for differentiation among counties to meet the needs of their communities.
2. Develop policy and practice revisions and enhancements to who, how and when mandated reporters are trained.
3. Develop policy and practice revisions related to liability for mandated reporters.

Looking Forward

Question for the Task Force

Can this subcommittee meet with key stakeholders, including Legislators or their staff to inform recommendations?

Looking Forward

What We Need

- Data regarding types of training and ways training is delivered within different mandatory reporting groups
- Best practices for mandated reporting training requirements?
- What kind of regulatory actions are currently used for when a report is made or not made?
- Testimonials from mandated reporters on what needs to shift in the law and what they need.



Task Force Discussion

- **Overview**
- **Discuss Subcommittee priorities**
- **Action items and next steps**

Task Force Discussion

(Continued)

GOALS for TODAY

- Gain a deeper understanding of the initially proposed priorities for each Subcommittee
- Identify gaps and overlaps
- Agree to action items and next steps

NEXT STEPS

- Co-Chairs/Advisory Team review in more detail and develop feedback
- 1/22 Subcommittee All-Chair Meeting provide feedback, discuss, and finalize Task Force priorities and guidelines for developing actionable recommendations
- 1/22 – April, Subcommittees and Task Force work on developing recommendations

Discussion Preparation

- Open the “Subcommittee Priorities” document that is in the chat
- Take 5 minutes to review
- We will discuss these questions
 1. **INITIAL IMPRESSIONS**
 2. **QUESTIONS FOR CLARIFICATION**

Action Items



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- Figure out process for cross-talk with subcommittees. Maybe have co-subcommittee meetings?
- How do we put more of an emphasis on the reporting of Black and Brown families—the racism in the system?
- How will we manage the overlaps between subcommittees so groups aren't moving forward on the same priority areas?
- Can we conduct more listening sessions like the one we heard a summary of today? Different sectors and communities to build on what we heard from LA.
- State of Oregon “Threat of Harm” may be worth further researching.

Announcements



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- Next Meetings

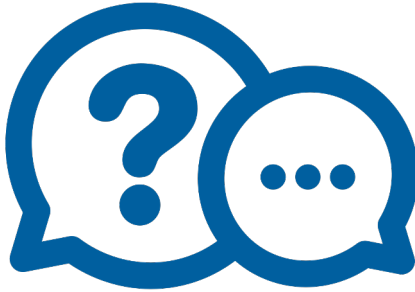
- All Chair meetings:

- 1/22, 9 - 10:30am (invite sent)
- 2/20, 11am – 12:30pm (watch for invite)

- Task Force meeting, 2/13, 1 - 4pm (virtual)

- Task Force meeting, 3/12, 12 – 4pm (hybrid, location TBD)

Public Comment



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Meeting Adjourned

Subcommittee meetings start now and are open to the public. Meeting links are in the Chat.

