

Welcome to

SPOTLIGHT ON NEGLECT

THE TRAINING WILL BEGIN SHORTLY

While you're waiting...

? Icebreaker Question (answer in the chat)

What is your favorite summertime family activity?

🏆 Survey & Certificate of Completion

Available following the training.

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Hi, We're CalTrin!

Who we are

- The California Training Institute
- Funded by the State of California, Dept. of Social Services, Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) to support child abuse prevention through professional development and extended learning opportunities.
- Designed for staff of family strengthening and child abuse prevention organizations in California, including Family Resource Centers, Child Abuse Prevention Councils, community-based organizations, and other child and family serving systems.

What we offer

- Live webinars & small group training
- Virtual, self-paced courses
- Job aids & other resources

This training was made possible with funding from the California Department of Social Services, Office of Child Abuse Prevention. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, and/or recommendations expressed are those of the CEBC/CalTrin and do not necessarily reflect the views of the California Department of Social Services.

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UPCOMING TRAININGS

mark your calendars!

Visit caltrin.org to view and register for upcoming webinars or workshops

06/11 | Protective Factor: Social Connections

06/20 | CalWorks/CalFresh Racial Equity & Implicit Bias Statewide Initiative Info Session

06/11 | How to Lead an Effective Huddle

08/15 | Boundary Spanning Leadership (Apply now!)

06/14 | Safe and Affirming Care for Transgender & Gender Diverse Children & Youth

2024-25 Emerging Leaders Development Program Starts September 3 – Apply now!

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Before We Begin...

DURING

Access the notetaking slides now! The link can be found in the chat.

Review interactive features for today's session. Locate the controls on the toolbar at the bottom of your screen.

This presentation is being recorded.

AFTER

Complete the survey at the end of this webinar to receive your Certificate of Attendance.

A follow-up email will be sent to all participants within two days.

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California Training Institute

Spotlight on Neglect

Presenters:
Kelly Crane, MSW
Jamia Crockett, MHA
Jennifer Jones MSW
Claire Lounge
Jenny Pearlman, JD

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California Training Institute

Speaker SPOTLIGHT

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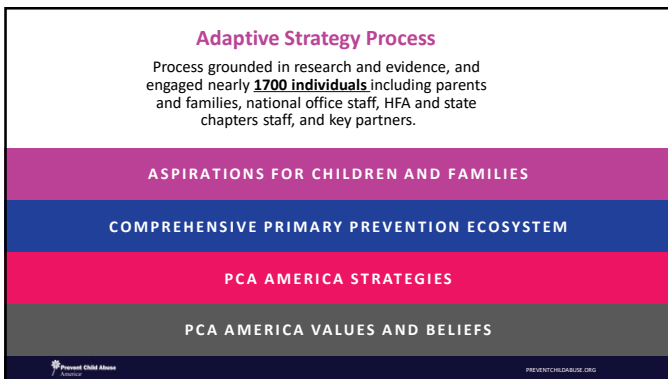
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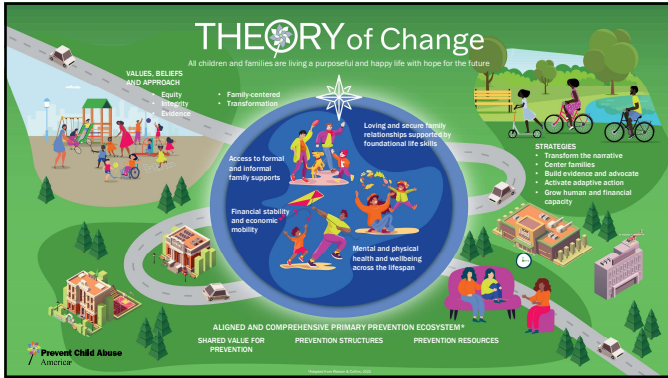
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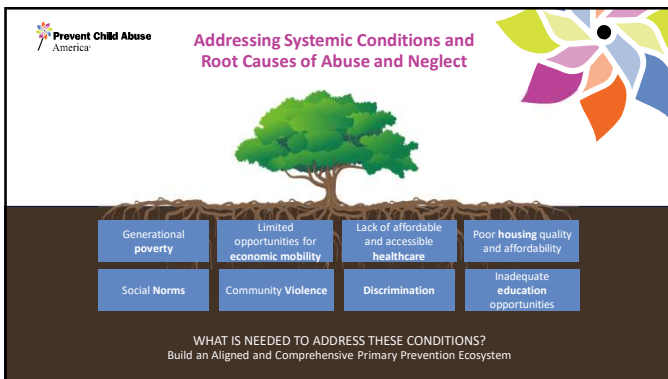
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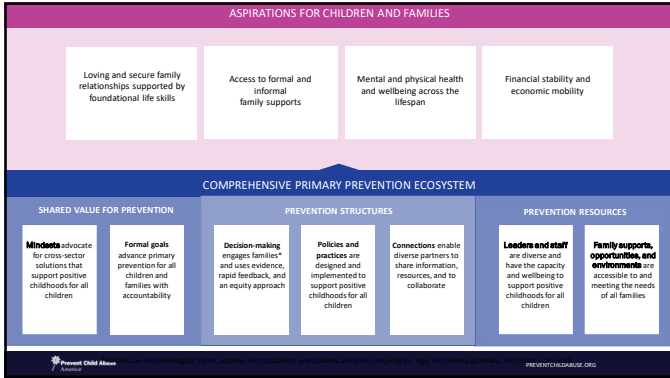
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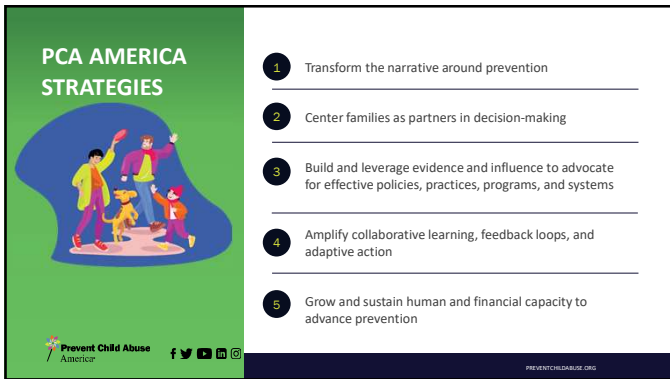
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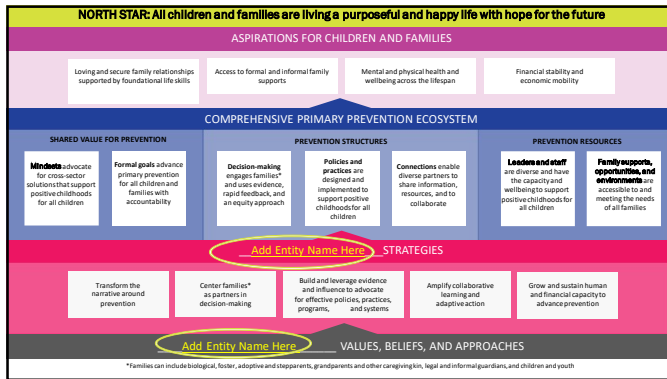
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Child Maltreatment

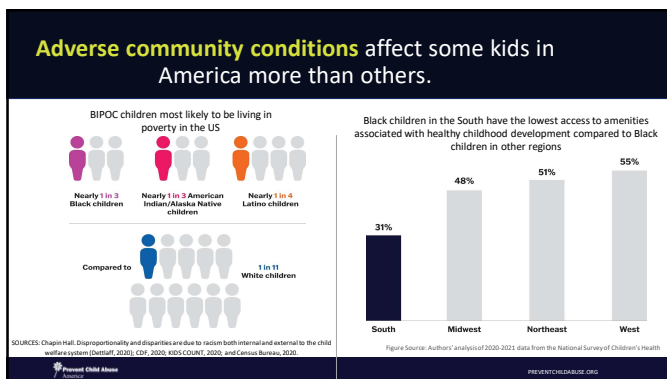
- 3,096,101 children received either an investigation response or alternative response
- 558,899 victims of child abuse and neglect
 - 74% neglect
 - 17% physical abuse
 - 11% sexual abuse



<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/report/child-maltreatment-2022>

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RATES OF INVOLVEMENT

More than half of Black children experience a child maltreatment investigation before age 18.

Lifetime (Birth-18) Incidence of CPS Involvement in the US by Race & Ethnicity

Race & Ethnicity	Incidence (%)
White	31.5%
Black	53.8%
Hispanic	32.8%
Native American	21.4%
All Children	27.6%

SOURCE: Sargent, 2020; Kelle, 2017

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PREVENTABLE NEGLECT

Children are removed when families are unable to meet their basic needs.

Reasons for Youth Entry into US Foster Care in 2020

Reason	Percentage (%)
Neglect	64.6%
Drug abuse	35.2%
Inability to cope	13.4%
Physical abuse	12.7%
Inadequate housing	9.5%

SOURCE: AFCHAS public use file FY 2020

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POVERTY AND RACE

Poverty in America disproportionately affects kids of color.

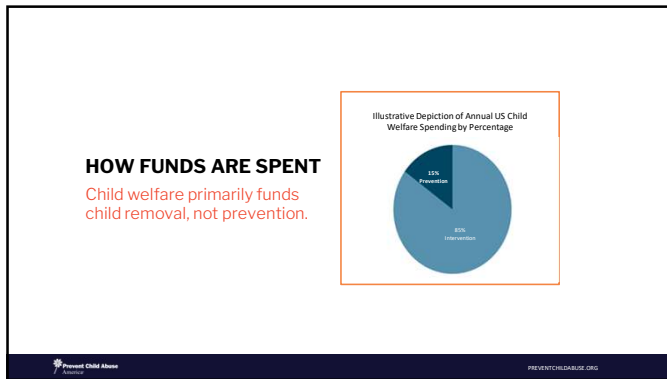
Rates of Children in the US Living in Poverty by Race & Ethnicity

Race & Ethnicity	Rate (1 in X)
Black children	Nearly 1 in 3
American Indian/Alaska Native children	Nearly 1 in 3
Latino children	Nearly 1 in 4
White children	1 in 11

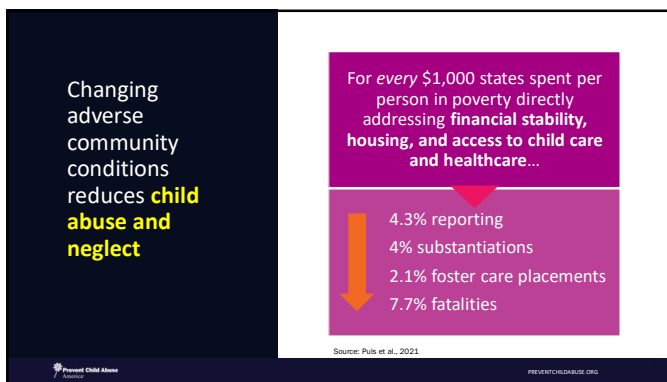
SOURCE: Children's Defense Fund, Disproportionality and Disparities in Child Welfare: National and Selected State Child Welfare Systems (2020), CPSR, 2020; AFCHAS CPSR, 2020; and Census Bureau, 2020

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Federal Definition of Child Abuse & Neglect


The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) definition of child abuse and neglect has four elements:

- Recent **act or failure to act**
- On the part of a **parent or caretaker**
- Which results in death, **serious physical or emotional harm**, sexual abuse or exploitation
- Or which presents an **imminent risk of serious harm**


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Neglect is the failure to meet a child's basic physical and emotional needs. These needs include housing, food, clothing, education, and access to medical care.


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
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Defining Child Abuse and Neglect in State Law

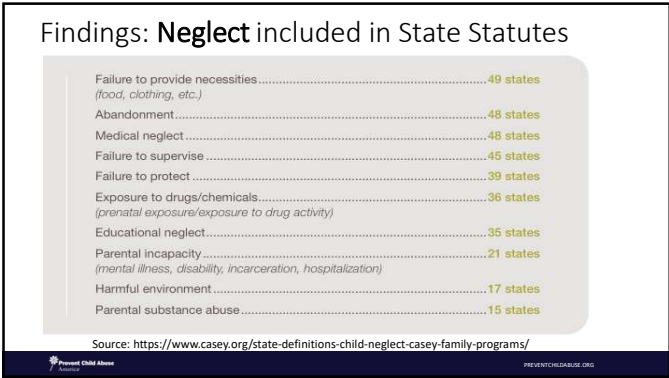
Nearly all states, DC, and the territories provide civil definitions of child abuse and neglect in statute.

Approximately 41 States have a statutory definition of neglect

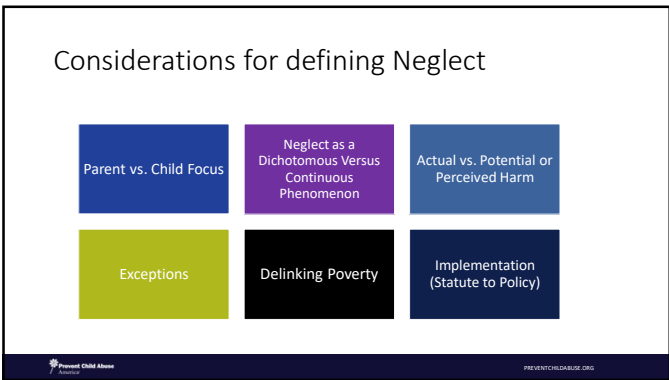
Approximately 9 states do not have standalone definitions of neglect. These states have definitions for "abuse" that include aspects of neglect.


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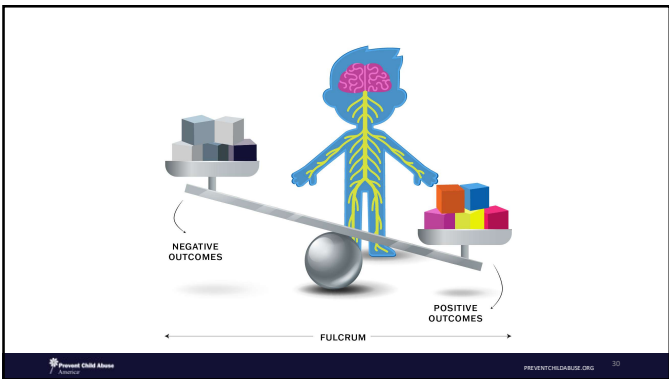
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
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What Does a Public Health Approach Look Like?

- Preventing child abuse and neglect *before* they occur
- A population-level perspective
- Reliance on evidence
- A comprehensive and multidisciplinary effort addressing the root causes of adverse childhood experiences and building resilience in communities


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A Child's Health Affects All of Us

Stress and trauma can interrupt child development, putting children at risk for lifelong physical and mental health issues.

However, children with positive childhood experiences are more likely to become healthier, happier adults.

And healthy adults contribute to a more productive, prosperous, and flourishing society -- for all of us.




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POLICY OPTIONS TO STRENGTHEN FAMILIES

Maternal & Child Health

- Evidence-based Home Visiting programs
- Prenatal Care
- Enhanced primary care

Economic Stability

- Tax credits
- Minimum wage
- Income supports
- Paid Leave programs
- Nutrition programs

Community and Education & Awareness


- 1-800 Warm Lines
- Public education campaigns
- Family Resource Centers
- Child sex abuse prevention education

Early Childhood Supports

- Pre-K & Afterschool programs
- Parent support and education
- Quality and affordable childcare

Mental Health Supports

- Accessible mental health services
- Behavioral parent training programs
- Trauma informed care in schools and childcare centers


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What does Advocacy and Education look like?

Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities	Op-Ed	Advocacy Campaign	Fundraising	Engaging public champions
Communications & social media	Coalition Building & Partnerships	Strategic Planning	Research	Day at the Capitol
Lending Expertise	Volunteering	Voting	Signing a Petition	Meeting with a legislator

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Together, we can prevent child abuse...
because childhood lasts a lifetime.



SCAN TO DOWNLOAD THE FULL
THEORY OF CHANGE DOCUMENT

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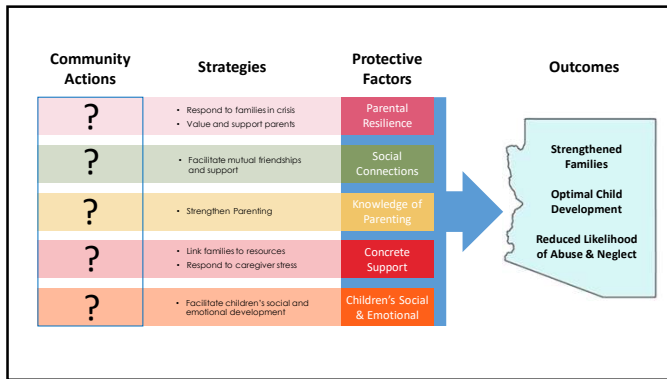
Lean On Me AZ

We know how to *report* child abuse and neglect.
Do we know how to **prevent** it?

Claire Louge, M.Ed.
Prevent Child Abuse Arizona
Claire@pcaaz.org



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Lean On Me AZ Toolkit

pcaaz.org/LeanOnMeAZ



Prevent Child Abuse Arizona

Lean On Me AZ: Strengthening Families to Prevent Child Adversity

Written and developed by Jennifer Cohen, PhD, Developmental and Family Studies, Penn State Harrisburg, 2016-2017

Introduction

The Covid-19 pandemic's disruptions to everyday life — lockdowns, virtual schooling, social distancing, economic instability, uncertainty — caused harm to every child and family.

Strong families are the building blocks of the flourishing communities we wish to live in. When our community's families are connected, healthy, and resilient, we are better equipped to respond to the challenges of our community. By providing the resources and support that families need, we can help them to provide the stable, safe, and nurturing environments children need to thrive.

All parents and caregivers will want help at some point. Engineering families is the key to ensuring children have those and support on their own terms in the best place. Prevention succeeds when the community is there for parents at the moment that they need information, support, or help coping with overwhelming stress.

Opportunities to offer this support present themselves every day. In the Lean On Me AZ report and toolkit, you will find things you can do to make these opportunities.

Lean On Me AZ is an effort to raise awareness about the families that protect families from overwhelming stress, and provide tools to help strengthen these protective families. This effort grew from a popular presentation at the beginning of the year about the potential to engage parents to become more effective child welfare advocates. Questions at the back of conversations in the month, the public sector, and the human services sector that a year ago, they would not have been able to identify and respond to.

The kids were hidden from public view?

Child protection, intervention, and support are under the circumstances. But given what we know about families, prevention, and child well-being, there were better options to ask.

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Building on the work: "Considering Yourself a Mandated Supporter"

- Training designed to help people who work with children and families understand ways to **connect families to resources and support** in order to reduce 'family overwhelm' and prevent child maltreatment.
- Clarifies role of child protection
- Gives 'permission' to support


Prevent Child Abuse Arizona

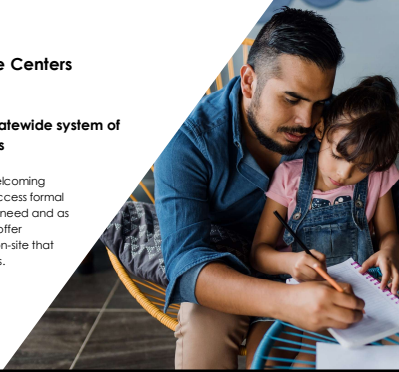


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Building Further: Focusing on Family Resource Centers

- Creating a “hub and spoke” statewide system of family support founded on FRCs
- Family Resource Centers (FRCs) are welcoming community hubs where families can access formal and informal supports, both in times of need and as a part of regular day-to-day life. FRCs offer responsive, family-oriented programs on-site that strengthen families in their communities.





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Why focus on FRCs?

- FRCs can serve as the **one place to start**
- The FRC is responsible for **understanding the landscape** of available family resources
- FRCs **simplify resource navigation** – they are a happy medium between the expansive list of resources contained in 211 and the specialized eligibility-specific services offered in communities.
- They are **community-based**, designed to be **responsive** to the needs they see and hear from families.




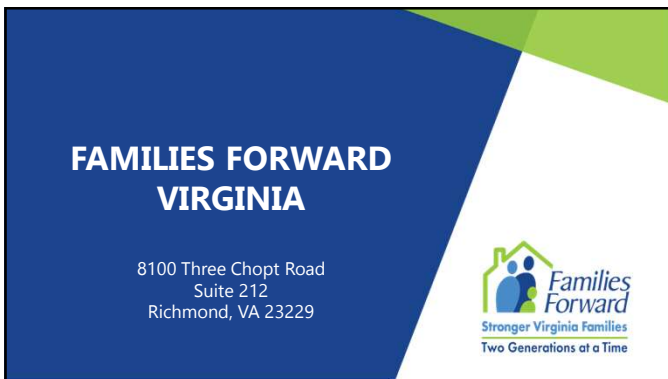


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FAMILIES FORWARD VIRGINIA

8100 Three Chopt Road
Suite 212
Richmond, VA 23229





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FAMILIES FORWARD VIRGINIA

Who We Are



Team of 31 Professionals



Providing Technical Assistance and Quality Assurance





Supporting 55 Local Programs who Provide Services in Local Communities

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Who We Are





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Who We Are



MISSION
Families Forward Virginia advances programs, practices and policies that nurture children, empower families and support communities.



VISION
All children grow up safe and loved and free from harm.



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Our Reach



















Stronger Virginia Families. Two Generations at a Time.

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SETTING THE STAGE FOR TRANSFORMATION






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Our Impetus for Change

- **National Statistics:**
 - Child abuse and neglect affects over one million children every year and child abuse and neglect cost our nation \$220 million every day.
 - Too many children experience a child protection investigation (black children are disproportionately impacted).
 - Too many children and young people are separated from their families.
 - Poverty is confused with neglect, causing unnecessary child removals.
 - Teenagers are inappropriately removed for behavior and parent/child conflict.
 - Child welfare primarily funds child removal, not prevention.



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FAMILIES FORWARD VIRGINIA

Our Impetus for Transformation

- **Established Five-year Child Welfare Prevention Plan**
 - 2020 Appropriations Act the Virginia General Assembly recognized an opportunity to make a bold, unprecedented, and coordinated commitment to prevent child abuse and neglect across the Commonwealth; and directed Virginia Department of Social Services, in partnership with numerous state agencies and non-governmental organizations to create a plan.
- **Creation of Singular Goal “North Star” with state agencies partners:**
 - *All families, youth and children in the Commonwealth are safe, healthy and nurtured, and have equitable access to resources and opportunities to thrive in their communities.*



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THRIVING FAMILIES SAFER CHILDREN


FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND PARTNERSHIP
A Partnership that Aims to Redesign Child Welfare into Child- and Family Well-Being Systems

September 2020, the Children's Bureau at U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the department of Administration for Children and Families, [Casey Family Programs](#), [Annie E. Casey Foundation](#), and [Prevent Child Abuse America](#)®

July 2022, the [National Center for Injury Prevention and Control](#) (CDC) joined the effort.




- Transformation from a reactive child protection system into a proactive child and family well-being system that will integrate equitable family supports that reduce disparities in outcomes.
- Address the complex structural issues that often contribute to families becoming involved in the child welfare system.
- Disentangle poverty from neglect so that we can provide meaningful support to strengthen families, keep children safe and prevent unnecessary entries into foster care.




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THE PROJECT OUTCOME




Design and implement an integrated, cross-system approach to supporting children and families within their communities.




Design and implement an integrated approach to engage individuals with lived expertise (Lx Leaders).




Decide on well-being measures that cut across human services programs.



Develop a robust, cross-system network of collaborative partnerships.




Evaluate family support systems and the primary prevention activities and strategies implemented.




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THRIVING FAMILIES SAFER CHILDREN




Family Resource Centers



A strategy to strengthen family resiliency and


- Reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect
- Advance racial equity and support for the underserved communities in prevention programs
- Address the complex issues of families becoming involved in the child welfare system



Seven sites awarded three-year contracts to implement the strategy.

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THRIVING FAMILIES SAFER CHILDREN



Virginia Family Resource Centers Map



Map showing locations of Virginia Family Resource Centers:

- Thrivin' Families Project (subcontract area 2103)
- United Way Henry County Martinville (subcontract area 2)
- Virginia One Church One Child (subcontract area 9502.1)
- Roberts Gainesville-Haymarket (subcontract area 9103.02 & 9104.01)
- Liberation Service (subcontract area 706.01 & 706.02)
- CHIP of South Hampton Beach (subcontract area 704)
- Thrive Virginia (subcontract area 9505)

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STRENGTHEN THE CONNECTION FOR CHANGE

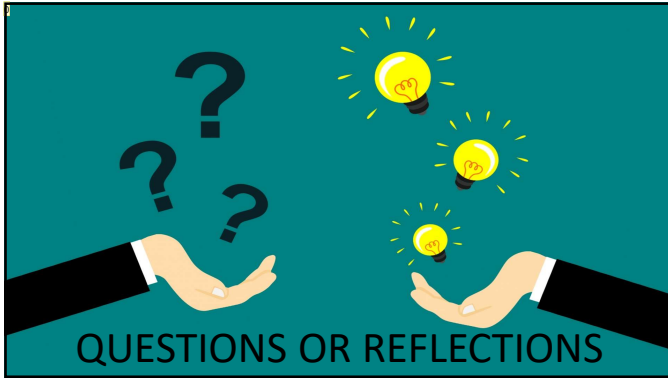


COMMUNITY CONNECTION



Stronger Virginia Families
Two Generations at a Time

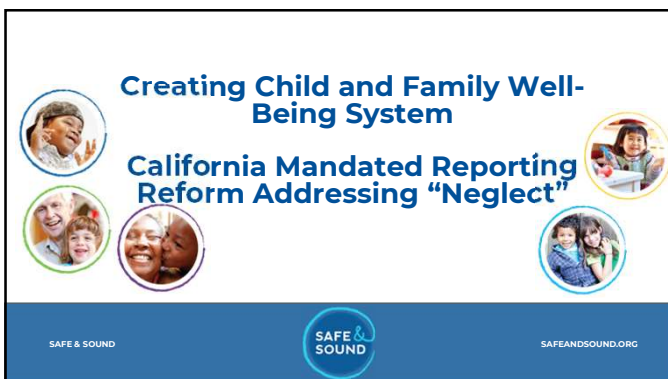
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Self-Reflection: Beliefs About Poverty

- What words come to mind when you think of poverty?
- When you think of families who are experiencing poverty, what kinds of images, thoughts, and assumptions come to mind?

Circumstances stemming from poverty, such as housing instability, food insecurity, and limited access to resources, as well as the negative impacts on caregiver physical and mental health (especially traumatic stress), are often incorrectly viewed as neglect.

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General Neglect is Overreported

- **General neglect is the most common allegation reported** to child welfare in California and across the U.S. (50% approx.).
- **Less than 11%** of child abuse and neglect allegations **are substantiated** in California.
- **Significant Racial Disparity:**
 - Families experiencing poverty are disproportionately of color and are more likely to be reported and investigated for general neglect allegations.
 - **50% of Black and Native American children experienced a child welfare investigation.**

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Overreporting has Consequences

Impacts families and communities, Mandated Reporters and systems

- **Families and Communities:**
 - Trauma
 - Fear & Distrust
 - Chilling Effect
 - Disproportionate impact on families of color
- **Mandated Reporters**
 - Disrupts trust and connection with families
 - May cause moral distress
- **Systems**
 - Overburdens child protective system
 - Redirects resources from real safety issues

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North Star

Keep children well and safe with families together and strengthened by the resources they need to thrive.

Reform Mandated Reporting

Recommendation 1

- Shifting the focus from mandated reporting to community supporting

Build a Community Pathway

Recommendations 2-7

- Accountability/oversight – Community Pathway Advisory Committee
- Consistent definitions
- Financing
- Measurable outcomes of well-being and accountability
- Services and Practices
- Training and Technical Assistance

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AB 2085: Narrowing General Neglect

General neglect means (1) “the negligent failure of a person having the care or custody of a child to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, or supervision where” (2) “no physical injury to the child has occurred,” (3) *“but the child is at substantial risk of suffering serious physical harm or illness.”* (4) *“General neglect does not include a parent’s economic disadvantage.”*

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Potential Impact of AB 2085

- Limits over reporting of families whose needs can be met outside of child protective services.
- Eliminates inaccurate reports by mandated reporters for reasons related to poverty, biases (racial, class, and others), fear, and/or feeling unsure about what else to do.
- Addresses racial disproportionality.
- Decreases strain on the child welfare system.

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MRCS Task Force

Coordinated statewide effort to reform the Mandated Reporting system in order to avoid child welfare system involvement for families that can be supported in the community.

Task Force goals – guidance and actionable recommendations:

- Legal/legislative reform, i.e., limits on liability, narrowing neglect
- Redesign of Mandated Reporter training to shift the focus to child safety and address disproportionality and implicit bias
- Policy and practice reforms necessary to implement the changes.

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MRCS Task Force: Building the Momentum

Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct 2023 - CURRENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-Chairs appointed: Roger De Leon Jr., Parent Partner, and Dana E. Blackwell, Casey Family Programs Began key informant interviews Drafted structural documents – Charter, statement of beliefs, timelines, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed and disseminated MRCS Task Force application August 25, public announcement of members Ongoing announcement of subcommittee members September 18 - First Task Force meeting (virtual) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee chairs and members selected and all five subcommittees launched Monthly meetings - First in-person in December 2023 Task Force Strategic Priorities established Recommendations on track for 2024 presentation to CWC

MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: REGISTRATION ON CWC WEBSITE, OR EMAIL INFO@MRCSTASKFORCE.ORG

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Task Force Recommendations

- Implementation**
 - Monitor Impact of Mandated Reporter System Changes**
 - Establish Mandated Reporting Advisory Committee (MRAC) to monitor disproportionate reporting and support additional changes.
 - Request the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to gather and analyze research, disaggregated data, and the impact of all reports of abuse and neglect.
 - Require CDSS to ensure recommendations from the MRCS Task Force and any subsequent policy reforms related to Mandated Reporting are enacted.**

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Task Force Recommendations

- **Proposed Revisions to Child Abuse Neglect Reporting Act**
 - **Support Removal of General Neglect as Reporting Requirement.**
- **Support legislative amendment to definition of Severe Neglect.**
- **Encourage Legislative Analyst's Office to determine if narrowing mandated reporter categories negatively impacts child safety.**
- **Encourage two-year pilot providing Mandated Reporters with immunity from liability when demonstrated use of a decision-making process indicates a child's safety is not at risk.**

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Task Force Recommendations

- **Training**
 - **Support amendment of CANRA to require all Mandated Reporters to receive standardized training** on reporting.
 - **Require the CDSS Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) to develop, with participation of individuals with lived expertise, a standardized curriculum with core content.**
 - **Encourage CDSS to develop a Mandated Reporter web page** to ensure reporting information is current and provides alternatives for Mandated Reporters to promote child safety and family well-being.

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Task Force Recommendations


- **Community Pathway and Narrative Change**
 - **Require CDSS to incorporate an assessment of the capacity of community supports and services** available and accessible to Mandated Reporters to meet local needs of families in all 58 counties.
 - **Ensure Counties' Comprehensive Prevention Plans (CPP) incorporate information and education regarding implementation of and access to Community Pathways/community resources.**
 - **Create and implement a statewide narrative change initiative, acknowledging harm committed by mandated reporting.**

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What's Next?

- > **Upcoming Meetings**
 - Today: MRCS Task Force
 - June 5: Child Welfare Council
 - August 20, 2024: MRCS Task Force
 - September 4: Child Welfare Council
- > **Materials available on the Child Welfare Council Website.**
 - <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/committees/california-child-welfare-council/>

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Thanks for joining us!

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Survey and certificate in the chat now
- Follow-up email with resources within two days
- Watch your inbox for the next issue of *CalTrin Connect*



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