

Families First Prevention Services Comprehensive Prevention Plan



County of Kings

Wendy Osikafo –

Director-Child Welfare Services

wendy.osikafo@co.kings.ca.us

Documents Submitted:

- CPP (Required)
- Spending Plan (Required)
- Assurances (Required)

**COMPREHENSIVE PREVENTION PLAN OF (INSERT
NAME) Kings COUNTY**


Title IV-E Agency Information:	
Submitting Authority	Kings County Child Welfare
Contact Name	Natasha Endres Program Manager CWS
Contact Email	natasha.endres@co.kings.ca.us
Signature of CWS Representative	
Signature of Authorized Probation Representative	NA
Signature of Authorized Behavioral Health Representative	NA

Table of Contents

IDENTIFYING CANDIDACY POPULATIONS	3
SELECTED CANDIDACY POPULATIONS	6
SERVICE/ASSET MAPPING	7
NEEDS ASSESSMENT	8
CAPACITY ASSESSMENT	9
CURRENT CONDITIONS IMPACTING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN	10
CURRENT SERVICE ARRAY	10
KINGS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PREVENTION PLAN	11
DESCRIPTIONS OF CPP SERVICE ELEMENTS	12
THEORY OF CHANGE/LOGIC MODEL	15
SPENDING & SUSTAINABILITY PLAN	16
CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION, PARTNER ENGAGEMENT	19
TRIBAL CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION	20
INTEGRATED CORE PRACTICE MODEL (ICPM)	21

The Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) passed Congress and was signed into law in 2018. FFPSA, for the first time, allowed federal Title IV-E funds to be used for child abuse prevention rather than exclusively supporting the foster care system. The focus of the federal program is to provide prevention services that prevent children “at imminent risk” from entering the foster care system.

In 2021, California established its own Families First Prevention Services (FFPS) program by amending the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC 16585 through 16589.) California’s FFPS program adds its own block grant to fund a more comprehensive child maltreatment prevention program in California counties that includes child maltreatment prevention services to the general population, prevention services to those at-risk of abuse or neglect, as well as those at imminent risk of entering the foster care system.

IDENTIFYING CANDIDACY POPULATIONS

Kings County took several steps in evaluating data and stakeholder feedback to determine the priority population for Family First Prevention Services.

- In September 2022, Kings conducted a series of analyses to inform its selection of the target population for the Family First Prevention Services (FFPS). Kings County reviewed data from Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS), the California Child Welfare Indicators Project (CCWIP) and SafeMeasures to identify the priority population of those children and youth who are at “imminent risk” of entering foster care for FFPS.
- Between October 2022 and February 2023, the County held a day-long stakeholder meeting and four focus group meetings in-person to examine the data related to those children most vulnerable to entering the child welfare system. The stakeholder group reviewed data for children entering the foster care system in Tables 1-8.

Table 1: Kings County Children with Entries – 2019 to 2021 by Age

Age Group	Children with Entries	Entries per 1K Children	Children with Entries	Entries per 1K Children	Children with Entries	Entries per 1K Children
	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021	2021
Under 1	31	13.1	35	14.8	28	11.9
1-2	38	8.0	38	8.1	19	4.1
3-5	36	5.1	34	4.8	25	3.5
0-5 combined	105	7.5	107	7.6	72	5.1
6-10	50	3.9	47	3.8	38	3.1
11-15	49	3.9	41	3.3	26	2.0
16-17	10	1.5	8	1.0	20	2.6
Total	214	4.2	204	3.9	159	3.1

Analysis:

The 0-5 age group has the highest rate of entry of the combined age groups with the children under 1 years of age being at highest risk of all ages.

Table 2: Kings County Children with Entries – 2019 to 2021 by Ethnicity

Ethnic Group	Children with Entries	Entries per 1K Children	Children with Entries	Entries per 1K Children	Children with Entries	Entries per 1K Children
	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021	2021
Black	21	10.2	16	7.8	8	3.9
White	49	3.6	47	3.5	38	2.8
Latino	141	4.4	135	4.2	108	3.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	.5	0	0.0	2	0.9
Native American	2	4.3	6	13.3	1	2.2
Total	214	4.1	204	3.9	159	3.0

Analysis:

Black and Native American children entered foster care at a rate of 2-3+ times any other ethnicity. Latino children entered foster care at the highest number.

Table 3: Kings County Children Currently in Family Reunification by Removal Allegation

Removal Allegation	Number	% of Total
Neglect	72	60%
Caretaker Absence	27	22%
Physical Abuse	10	8%
Emotional Abuse	0	0%
Sexual Abuse	12	6%
Total	121	

Analysis:

Neglect and Caretaker Absence (which is a subset of neglect) comprise 82% of the child abuse allegations that brought the current population of children into foster care.

Table 4: Kings County Children Currently in Family Reunification by Age and Removal Allegation in 2021

	Under 1	1 to 2 years	3 to 5 years	6 to 11 years	11 to 15 years	16-17 years	TOTAL
Neglect	12	12	20	18	9	1	72
Caretaker Absence	2	2	8	6	7	2	27
Physical Abuse	0	2	3	3		2	10
Emotional Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Abuse	0	2	0	3	5	2	12
Total	14	18	31	30	21	7	121

Analysis:

While neglect is consistent throughout the age groups caretaker absence increases as children age (except for 16–17-year-old).

In addition, Kings County examined data related to children who did not reunify and are currently in Permanent Placement as well as the original allegation that brought them into care. Table 5 and 6 reflect this data.

Table 5: Kings County Children Currently in Permanent Placement by Age and Ethnicity

	0 to 5 Years	6 to 10 Years	11 to 15 Years	16-17 Years	Total	% of Child Population
Black	5	3	3	4	15	4.1%
White	20	12	11	5	48	26%
Latino	45	21	26	25	117	62%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Native American	0	0	1	1	2	0.8%
Totals	70	36	41	35	182	

Analysis:

Latino children are the highest population in Permanent Placement. Highest number of children in Permanent Placement are 11- to 15-year-old children.

Table 6: Allegations that bring Kings County Children into Care and Allegations for Children that Remain in Care

Removal Allegations		
Neglect	72	60%
Caretaker Absence	27	22%
Physical Abuse	10	8%
Emotional Abuse	0	0%
Sexual Abuse	12	6%

Allegation for Children in PP		
Neglect	93	57%
Caretaker Absence	39	24%
Physical Abuse	21	13%
Emotional Abuse	2	0.3%
Sexual Abuse	9	5%

Analysis:

Children who come into foster care for caretaker absence are more likely to remain in Foster Care.

Table 7: Kings County Child Welfare Removals by City and Zip Code

Removal City	Removal Zip Code	Number of Removals
Armona	93202	21
Avenal	93204	18
Corcoran	93212	40
Hanford	93230	121
Lemoore	93245	80
Out of County	Various	76

Table 8: Kings County Children Probation First Entry Rates by Ethnicity and Age

Age	Ethnicity					
	Black	White	Latino	Asian/Pacific Islander	Native American	Total
11-15 years	0	0	1	0	0	1
16-17 years	2	0	3	0	0	5
18-20 years	2	14	0	0	0	16
Total	4	14	4	0	0	22

The resulting determinations of children who are at the highest risk of entering foster care or Probation placement, re-entering foster care or remaining in foster care in Kings County are outlined in the table below:

Table 9: Kings County Children at Highest Risk of Entering, Re-entering, and Remaining in Foster Care or Probation Placement

CATEGORY	SIGNIFICANT POPULATION	RATE
Age	0-5yrs enter care at highest %	0-5yrs enter foster care at 2 x the rate of 6-17yrs
Ethnicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black and Native American children enter care at the highest % Latino children have the highest number of entries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black and Native American children enter foster care at 2-3x the rate of other ethnicities. Latino children make up 66% of entries into foster care.
Allegations	The highest % of allegations are neglect (including caretaker absence)	Eighty-two percent overall

Selected Candidacy Populations

Kings County believes that the families that would most benefit from the additional support of the Families First Prevention Services program (FFPS) are those with children aged 0-5 years, specifically children of color.

0 to 5 years

For the families of children 0-5 years, it was determined that 89% of the allegations were due to neglect often attributed to substance-exposed newborn, parental substance use disorders and domestic violence situations and unsafe living conditions.

Pregnant and Parenting Foster Youth

Lastly as defined by FFPSA, pre- or post-natal infants and/or children of an otherwise eligible pregnant/parenting foster youth in foster care will also be a focus of FFPS.

Given the requirements for FFPS, Kings County has decided to begin with these priority populations for the initial phase of FFPS implementation. However, after some time transitioning the County's current system to the changes required within FFPS and evaluating

how the system is functioning, Kings County intends to explore widening the priority population definition. This will allow us to provide additional infrastructure and sustainability to our already strong community prevention efforts and focus on supporting additional families prior to their involvement with our system.

SERVICE/ASSET MAPPING

Kings County conducted an in-person large group stakeholder event to conduct asset mapping, needs assessment and capacity assessment on October 26, 2022. The event drew nearly fifty (50) attendees from public and private sector organizations, transition age youth and interested residents. The facilitated process asked participants to consider what resources are available, and what is needed, to prevent child maltreatment generally and to reduce the imminent risk of children entering foster care where sufficient safety can be identified and strengthened through additional family services.

At the Stakeholder event in October 2022, the participants identified individual, institutional, and community-based assets to support a comprehensive child maltreatment prevention plan. Further, the participants identified whether each asset would best contribute to community-wide (primary) prevention efforts, mitigation of conditions for those families at-risk of experiencing child maltreatment (secondary) prevention activities or prevention services for those families at eminent risk (tertiary) of child maltreatment. Individuals, institutional and community-based resources may be capable of delivering a combination of these prevention activities.

Assets Capable of Comprehensive Prevention Services

Participants identified multiple individuals, groups of individuals and organizations capable of broadly contributing to family well-being and preventing child maltreatment. Participants also categorized the services provided by each asset within the framework provided by the Social Determinants of Health: Economic Security, Education, Health, Mental Health, Neighborhood, and the Built Environment, and Social and Community Context. The process also asked where the locations were available within Kings County.

Stakeholder participants identified the following organizations as being capable of multiple prevention-oriented services countywide that would have a direct benefit to improve family well-being with the general population, those families at-risk of child maltreatment and those at imminent risk of entering the foster care system through child welfare or juvenile justice systems:

- County Office of Education – Family Resource Centers (FRCs), Head Start and school-based mental health services.
- Kings Partnership – FRCs, Parent and Me program, substance use and mental health workgroups, Coalition for Wellness and Awareness.
- First Five – FRCs, parenting and school-readiness programs, health education; and
- Kings Community Action Organization - Food distribution, rental assistance, homeless shelter, home visiting program, CalLearn.

Assets Capable of Partial Prevention Services

Participants identified many other individuals or organizations that can provide one or two service elements of a comprehensive prevention plan. These organizations play a critical role because they may focus on specific portion of the population or deliver fewer number of services, but at greater depth. Among those entities capable of partially supporting family wellbeing:

- Naval Air Station Lemoore Fleet and Family Services – Housing, pre-school, health and mental health clinics, youth programs for those affiliated with the Base.
- Kings View – Outpatient mental healthcare, crisis mental health services.
- Central Valley Regional Center – Early Start program, parent support for those with special needs children.
- Crossroads – Parent education, pregnancy services, counseling, mentoring program for mothers, strollers, and car seats.
- Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yokut Tribal Social Services – Housing, food bank, pre-school program, parenting education, home visiting program, recreation center.
- Champions Recovery Alternative Programs Inc. – Parent education, adult substance use treatment, residential treatment program.
- Salvation Army – Housing support, food bank, substance use treatment, after-school programs; and
- Probation Department – Therapeutic programs, outreach, community service opportunities and work experience for those involved in the criminal justice system.

Assets Requiring Additional Evaluation of Prevention Capacity

Participants identified over fifty additional assets that provide additional but more limited prevention-oriented services to residents of Kings County. There will be additional time later in the comprehensive prevention plan development process to consider the prevention opportunities for these identified assets.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Child Welfare

- Temporary shelter for foster children awaiting placement.
- Group home style housing with transition services.
- Parent Partners.
- Post-reunification support services.
- Foster parents and biological parents working together.
- More placement options and resources for high-risk foster children.
- Emotional support for foster parents, especially around transitioning youth.

Health care, mental health

- Need funded mental health services for those with mild to moderate mental health needs.
- Specialized mental health for victims of domestic violence or human trafficking.
- Medical detox to kick-off recovery.

- Family therapy for parents and children.
- Nurse home visiting program

Substance Abuse Disorder Treatment

- Medication assisted treatment for opioid addiction.
- Need more outpatient treatment slots to address waiting lists.
- No inpatient services available in Kings County.

Resources

- Domestic violence services for victims and abusers.
- Support group for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs).
- Shelters that also take fathers with children.
- Access to services for those that are undocumented.
- More service providers.
- People do not know what services are available.
- Access to housing, food, mental health services in the outlying areas.

Employment

Improved employment opportunities for adults with disabilities.

Child Care

Low-cost childcare options for low-income families

Housing

- Drop-in center for homeless youth that has showers, laundry, clothing, food, and case management services.
- Affordable housing for low-income families

Transportation

Added routes and times for public transportation.

CAPACITY ASSESSMENT

The Capacity Assessment survey conducted with participants at the Kings County FFPS Stakeholder Meeting on October 26, 2022,

1. Kings County seems capable of successfully engaging in comprehensive prevention planning due to identified capacity in:
 1. Leadership buy-in
 2. Stakeholders buy-in
 3. Collective commitment to change.
2. Kings County may be able to rely on additional capacity in the following areas but may require additional resources to do so successfully:
 1. Established meeting frequency.
 2. Shared values
 3. Organizational stability
 4. Expertise in data analytics and accessibility
 5. Feedback loop
 6. Adaptability
 7. Organizational equity
 8. Community involvement

3. Due to ambiguous survey results, Kings County may want to further investigate their capacity in the following areas:
 1. Alignment with current initiatives
 2. Feedback loop
 3. History of cross-sector partnerships
 4. Community engagement strategy
 5. Cross-sector partner investment
 6. Needs assessment.
 7. Data collection
4. Kings County will be most challenged by insufficient capacity and additional resources will be required in the following areas:
 1. Implementation support for CQI
 2. Information sharing and exchange.
 3. Adequate staffing
 4. Infrastructure
 5. Communication strategy

CURRENT CONDITIONS IMPACTING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

The October 2022 Stakeholder Meeting and Focus Group gatherings held on February 15, 2023, identified a variety of conditions which negatively impact child well-being and increase the likelihood of child maltreatment. Participants identified the needs for:

- Supporting efforts to engage the extended families to increase family and child well-being, provide additional parenting support services and recreational activities for children.
- In the absence of extended families, pairing families with other families of similar backgrounds. These pairings of families could be helped by creating social events or potlucks to build supportive networks among families.
- More information about available services through someone like a Parent Partner that can provide a more personal approach to children and parents.

CURRENT SERVICE ARRAY

The Kings County Human Services Agency Social Services Division oversees, Child Protective Services, and Adoption Services. The Social Services Deputy Director manages the Social Services Division along with three program managers. The three program managers manage the CWS units including Adoption Services.

The Emergency Response Unit is responsible for telephone intake hotline for all reports of suspected child abuse and neglect and follow-up investigation of referrals from day and afterhours shifts. The Court unit files petitions, jurisdiction/disposition reports while the case management is handled by an assigned social worker from the Family Maintenance/Family Reunification program. This assigned worker will case manage the case until a hearing to select and implement a permanent plan is scheduled or the case is closed given that

reunification was successful. Kings County also has additional ongoing case management units for Permanency Planning, AB 12 services for Non-minor Dependents (NMD) and Adoptions. Social Service Assistants are also utilized and assigned when support tasks are needed. The Social Services Assistants help deliver and support services across all programs. There are two public health nurses doing health and CHDP data entry.

CWS in Kings County has experienced staff turnover. Social Workers have resigned to take new jobs with the hospitals, schools, California Department of Corrections, and behavioral health. New Social Work positions are being filled to reduce the cases per caseload. The addition of new Social Work staff has required movement of staff to balance the ratio of experienced and inexperienced staff in the units. The foster youth have commented on the changes in their assigned Social Workers, which makes it confusing for the foster youth.

Kings County CAPCC is instrumental in identifying resources in the community and bringing awareness to child abuse and prevention. CAPCC board members attended the strategic planning session, which was extremely successful at bringing major stakeholders, service providers, members of the public and consumers together to strategize an effective, comprehensive plan for improving child welfare outcomes, as well as the welfare of not only children, but parents, kinship care providers, foster parents, and those who are instrumental for services they need.

Kings County CAPCC supports a couple prevention agreements with OCAP funds. Programs include the Champions Recovery Alternative Parenting Program and the First 5 and KCAO home visitation programs. Kings County CAPCC has several community partners, who support prevention and education on child abuse throughout Kings County. Kings County CAPCC include but are not limited to the health department, schools, probation, Lemoore Naval Air Station, philanthropic organizations, and the Human Services Agency.

KINGS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PREVENTION PLAN

Kings County has identified the following (Table 10) FFPS Comprehensive Prevention Plan (CPP) elements. Based on the available resources, the County has determined that rolling out the CPP over a three-year period will establish favorable financial and programmatic conditions for success of the various prevention services.

Table 20: Outline of CPP Services Roll out by Fiscal Year

	FY2023-24	FY2024-25	FY2025-26
Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Project • CAPCC • Mandated reporter training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Project • CAPCC • Mandated reporter training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Project • CAPCC • Mandated reporter training
Secondary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parenting Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parenting Program • Motivational Interviewing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parenting Program • Motivational Interviewing

Tertiary			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motivational Interviewing
-----------------	--	--	---

DESCRIPTIONS OF CPP SERVICE ELEMENTS

Primary Prevention Services

Kings County will leverage their partnership with CAPCC to utilize the *LISA Project* to enhance and raise awareness to community-based organizations (CBO's), faith organizations, law enforcement, businesses, education, and the public about the scope and problems associated with child maltreatment.

The *LISA Project* is a free unique multi-sensory exhibit that allows the participant to experience the reality of the world of child abuse. Through the lens of a child, an audio narration from a child's perspective is guided room by room through different scenarios depicting abuse. This experience allows the participant to fully emerged into the world that these children face daily.

Kings County CAPCC will be taking a three (3) tier approach to promote awareness and education for children and families using the *LISA Project*.

1. Community Outreach: Kings County CAPCC will be engaged in outreach to community-based organizations (CBO's), faith organizations, law enforcement, business, education, and the public to provide information for the *LISA Project*.
2. Establish and Fortify Community Partnerships: Kings County CAPCC will be utilizing their community partnership roster as a catalyst establish new partnerships and/or solidify existing partnerships to work together to bring awareness and continue recruiting organizations to bring awareness of abuse and neglect.
3. Education: Kings County CAPCC will use the *LISA Project* to bring awareness to child abuse and prevention. At the end of the exhibit, there will be a room dedicated to information, education, and brochures to services within the community.

In addition to the *LISA Project*, the Kings County CAPCC through their KPFP agreement will be engaging the community to perform more in-person mandated reporter trainings. Community members play a key role in protecting children from abuse and neglect by understanding the signs of child abuse and knowing how to make a report are crucial for stopping child abuse. The in-person education will be free of charge for community partners requesting the education. The CAPCC will prioritize all professionals listed as a mandated reporter pursuant to Penal Code 11166.5.

Secondary Prevention Services

Kings County will be opening new pathways to allow preventative referrals to our parenting program. The new pathway will allow parents or legal guardians with no Court intervention to attend this service. The Emergency Response unit will identify clients with high-risk factors associated with child maltreatment, such as poverty, parental substance abuse, young parental age, parental mental health concerns, domestic violence and parental or child disabilities and make the necessary referrals.

The parenting program is an evidenced based program, Triple P-Positive Parenting Program (Triple P):

- As a prevention program, Triple P helps parents learn strategies that promote social competence and self-regulation in children.
- Parents become better equipped to handle the stress of everyday child rearing and children become better able to respond positively to their individual developmental challenges.
- As an early intervention, Triple P can assist families in greater distress by working with parents of children who are experiencing moderate to severe behavior problems.
- Throughout the program, parents are encouraged to develop a parenting plan that makes use of a variety of Triple P strategies and tools.
- Triple P practitioners are trained to work with parents' strengths and to provide a supportive, non-judgmental environment where a parent can continually improve their parenting skills.

The Parenting Program is funded through Office of Child Abuse and Prevention (OCAP) funds and is administered by the KCHSA. The program offers a curriculum of eight (8) sessions. Five (5) sessions are delivered in a group setting and the other three (3) are delivered one-on-one with a trained facilitator. The purpose of the parenting program is to strengthen family systems, reduce risk factors for child maltreatment, and promote healthy parent-child relationships.

Tertiary Prevention Services

Kings County Human Services Agency will have social workers specialized in Motivational Interviewing (MI), will use the Kings County Guide to Family Centered Investigations and will incorporate the Integrated Core Practice Model (ICPM) behaviors of Engagement, Assessment, Teaming and Service Planning and Delivery as its foundation for the Tertiary Prevention Service. These social workers will be skilled based Social Workers and/or Practitioner level staff, trained in Motivational Interviewing, to enhance the delivered services. These social workers specialized in MI will provide an intensive intervention through Motivation Interviewing, for families and children affected by maltreatment, allowing eligible families to voluntarily seek services without the stigma attached with court ordered intervention.

The following criteria aligns with the Kings County Guide to Family Centered Investigation, which models inclusive and shared decision making by engaging the family in the Child and Family Team (CFT):

- Investigation Phase: Prevention referrals will be initiated by Child Welfare Emergency Response staff upon the completion of a suspected child abuse and neglect investigation. Emergency Response staff will conduct a thorough investigation pursuant to Division 31 regulations.
- SDM Assessment Phase: The social worker will develop the SDM Safety Assessment during the ER investigation. If the risk of future maltreatment is at "High" or "Very High." A patch plan is developed if it is determined that the safety threat can be

mitigated and provides safety for the children between the time the social worker leaves the home until the next business day, when the Child and Family Team (CFT) meeting is held.

- CFTM Phase: Child Family Team explores with the family and the Agency, if the children can remain home safely considering the current safety threat, existing and past acts of protection, network support, parent's cooperation and support needed to maintain the children safe in the home. The CFT will decide if the family will benefit from prevention services as a decision pathway.
- The family has a child from 0-5 years in age or in the sibling group.
- The parents or legal guardians have been identified to engage in acts of domestic violence or substance abuse.
- Family is cooperative and agrees to receive Prevention and Support services.

KCHSA will contract with a trained professional in the evidence-based model of Motivational Interviewing (MI) to train the social workers. KCHSA will adhere to fidelity, collect data, and track key outcomes. MI is a client-centered, evidence-based communication method designed to elicit and strengthen an individual's motivation for change. In the context of child welfare, MI is a powerful tool for preventing child maltreatment by engaging families, reducing risk factors, and promoting protective behaviors.

MI Target Audience

MI is a versatile and evidence-based communication approach that can be tailored to a wide range of audiences. Its principles of collaboration, empathy and empowerment make it effective for individuals or groups who may experience ambivalence or resistance toward change.

MI CORE principles

The MI model is built on a foundation of principles and techniques designed to help individual explore and resolve ambivalence about change. The CORE principles include:

- expressing empathy, use of active listening and validation to create a safe, non-judgmental space.
- Develop Discrepancy, highlight the gap between the individual's current behavior and their goals or values.
- Roll with Resistance, reframe resistance as an opportunity to understand the individual's perspective.
- Support Self-Efficacy, encourage belief in the individual's ability to change, reinforce small successes, and focus on strengths.

MI Service Impacts

- Enhanced engagement
- Increased motivation and commitment to change
- Empowerment and self efficacy
- Enhanced family stability and parenting skills
- Reduced recidivism in child maltreatment

- Improved parent relationships with their children and increased use of positive discipline techniques

MI Responsiveness of Services for Families Disproportionally Represented in Child Welfare

Motivational Interviewing has been found to be effective with a wide variety of disproportionately represented families in the child welfare system.

The County will include Safety Organized Practice (SOP) training as part of its CPP activities. The training will focus on prevention strategies for our candidacy population. SOP's alignment with Motivational Interviewing through its emphasis on family engagement, collaborative planning, and behavior change, supports a unified practice model. This integration is intended to strengthen our prevention focused case work, advance workforce readiness, and enhance outcomes for families at risk of entering the Child Welfare System.

THEORY OF CHANGE/LOGIC MODEL

Kings County has identified and linked the following components of their Comprehensive Prevention Services Logic Model. The Logic Model will be a valuable tool for:

- Engaging cross-sectors partners in the delivery of prevention services,
- Setting and maintaining service effectiveness over the three-year plan period and
- Provide the CPP Governance Body with the County's Prevention Framework needed to provide policy guidance and support.

Table 11: Outline of County of Kings County CPP Logic Model

FFPS objectives	Improve access to support services	Improve coordination in the delivery of local services	Support alignment of local services to meet local need	Provide culturally appropriate and effective referral pathways
FFPS Goal	Children, young people, and their families have access to appropriate local services that support their health, wellbeing, and development			
Vision	Keep Them Safe: a shared approach to child health and wellbeing			
Inputs	State and Federal funding aligned with service demand, FFPS infrastructure, established systems (policies, procedures, and guidelines), human capital (staff with appropriate qualifications and training), networks and partnerships.			
Long term outcomes	Child safety, welfare and wellbeing concerns are addressed before they escalate to child welfare foster care involvement. Vulnerable and at-risk families receive appropriate support services Vulnerable and at-risk families are supported by an integrated service system			
Short term outcomes	Target population is engaged in the services they require	Client needs are met collaborative service system	Better informed service planning and resource decision by government and non-government organizations	Disproportionately represented clients are engaged with the culturally appropriate

				services they require
Outputs	Families are referred to the services they need	Processes are in place between CSW and community providers, to assist families be engaged with local services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocols for providing formal feedback are in place. • Key issues identified and responses developed. • CWS and CBOs understand client needs and service requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients receive culturally competent services. • CWS and CBO Staff attend training Policies are in place
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote awareness and understanding of FFPS. • Engage clients and assess needs. • Refer families to appropriate services. • Follow-up to ensure families engage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and maintain links with local service system. • Promote collaboration within local service networks. • Assist clients to navigate service system 	Identify and feedback gaps and duplication in local services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop knowledge of culturally competent mainstream services. • Provide culturally competent services and refer clients to culturally competent services. • Feedback on availability of culturally safe services to local network

SPENDING & SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Families First Transition Act (FFTA) Grant will be used to engage in prevention and early intervention planning. The FFTA Grant will also support expanding capacity for evidence-based practices and evaluation activities related to the implementation of FFPSA Part I. The State FFPS Program Block Grant (State Block Grant) will be utilized to support primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention and will maximize Title IV-E funding for administrative and training activities. Once CWS-CARES becomes operational, Title IV-E will be leveraged for tertiary prevention services. Kings County will collaborate with community organizations and

other county departments to build partnerships, increasing capacity and maximizing funding sources with other programs. The required Local Spending Plan (attached) provides complete details of the financial sources and uses.

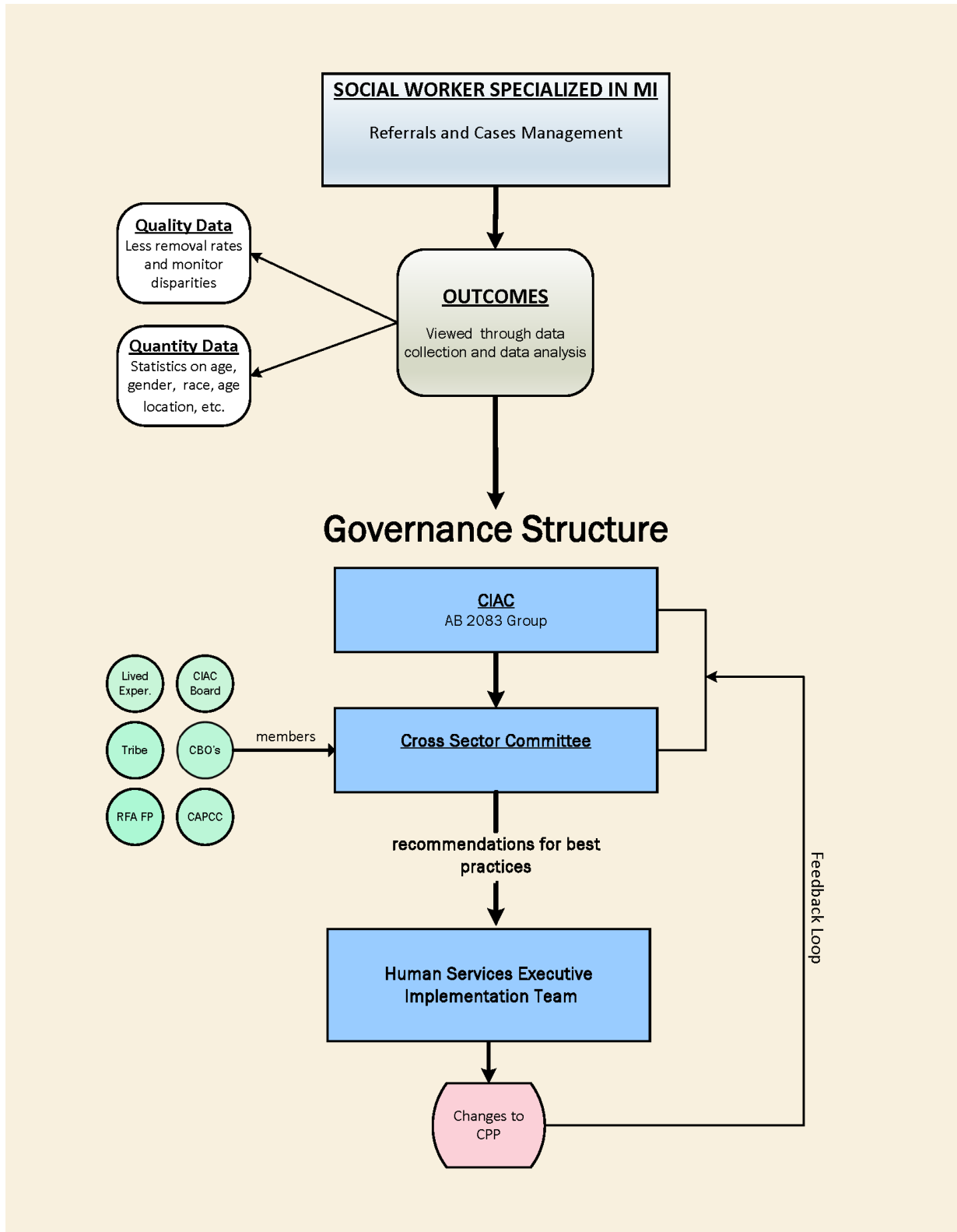
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The CPP content was developed through a series of stakeholder and focus group meetings conducted over many months. The stakeholder and focus group meetings included participants from county agencies including First 5, Kings County Office of Education, Central Valley Regional Center, Department of Behavioral Health, local resource parents, faith-based organizations, foster youth, and other community-based organizations (CBOs) that serve families and children, local community representatives, caseworkers as well as individuals and families with lived experience. Follow up outreach and subsequent engagement was conducted after each stakeholder and focus group meeting to garner additional participation.

The purpose of Kings County's Prevention Services Governance Structure is to:

- Oversee the development of the CPP and review the plan prior to CDSS Submission,
- Ensure that all required cross-sector collaborative partners will provide meaningful policy guidance and decision making, for: training, implementation, selection of Evidence Based Practices (EBP), fidelity monitoring, and continuous quality improvement for the CPP,
- Ensure that all required cross-sector collaborative partners will provide meaningful policy guidance and decision making, for: training, implementation, selection of Evidence Based Practices (EBP), fidelity monitoring, and continuous quality improvement for the CPP, and
- Ensure that information is shared between the cross-sector collaborative stakeholders.

The following is Kings County CPP Governance Structure for implementation of the CPP as well as cross sector collaboration:



- Children’s Interagency Advisory Committee (CIAC) (AB 2083) will receive the development and status reporting of the CPP in accordance with WIC §16585(b)(4) and WIC §16587. The following partners participate in CIAC: Department of Behavioral

Health, Probation Department, County office of Education, Central Valley Regional Center, and the Department of Social Services.

- The Cross Sector Committee will include the CIAC board members, tribal representation, parents with lived experience, resource parents, and Community Based Organizations. The Cross Sector Committee will:
 - Identify and integrate agencies that have not historically worked together to resolve economic, food and housing insecurity issues for families at risk of foster care, including public health, education with community safety,
 - Ensure that those with lived experience and those disproportionately at risk are included in the process in a trauma-informed manner,
 - Provide input and review both the design and implementation of the local child welfare prevention services program as well as for its ongoing performance,
 - Ensure there are clear feedback loops established with community partners, CBOs, experts with lived experience and similar stakeholders, and
 - Provide recommendations to the Human Services Executive Implementation Team on best practices to achieve success with prevention strategies across agencies.
- The Human Services Executive Implementation Team is comprised of Human Services Child Welfare managers and executive management. The team will:
 - Provide input and review both the design and implementation of child welfare prevention services program and monitor its ongoing performance.
 - Ensure there are clear feedback loops established with community partners, CBOs, experts with lived experience and similar stakeholders.
 - Implements recommendations for best practices from CIACC and Cross Sector Committee and reports back changes to CIACC and the Cross Sector Committee.

CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION, PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

In the described Governance Structure, it's essential to emphasize that cross-sector partners will play a pivotal role. The Children's Interagency Advisory Committee (CIAC) will consistently include a monthly agenda item to review the progress of the FFPS Comprehensive Prevention Plan.

The Cross Sector Committee will meet on a monthly basis and will be comprised of the CIACC members, community non-profits, Tribal government, individuals with lived experience, Resource Parents, and other community stakeholders, who will be able to provide input and recommendations on the prevention plan and activities to the Human Services Executive Implementation Team. This ongoing communication and coordination will enable cross-sector partners to collectively develop and incorporate strategies for continuous improvement of the prevention plan into their programs and services.

The CPP content was developed through a series of stakeholder's, Tribal government and focus group meetings conducted over many months. The stakeholder's meeting included representatives and caseworkers from County agencies and Community-Based Organizations

(CBOs) that serve families and children as well as individuals and families with lived experience.

The County will establish a contract with a dedicated consultant to support the coordination of AB 2083 work. The consultant will assist in strengthening collaboration, guiding the maintenance of the County's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and ensuring alignment with the core principles of the AB 2083 framework. This role will be critical in advancing cross-sector collaboration efforts to better serve children and youth with complex needs.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION

Kings County engaged members of the Santa Rosa Rancheria of the Tachi-Yokut Tribe as well as the staff from the tribal government's Social Services department in a FFPS Focus Group on February 14, 2023. Currently, the Tribe and the County jointly participate in CFT meetings and Friendship meetings. The referrals to these joint CFT have improved over time, but there remains some reluctance on the willingness of tribal members to engage in these services. The Tribe also mentioned the need for continued efforts to address families in ways that are culturally appropriate. Schools are doing an excellent job collaborating with tribal families to make sure their children's needs are being met.

An area of interest was the utilization of youth counselors for prevention purposes, meeting concrete needs (food, clothing, etc.), substance use disorder services and parent education. Participants in the Focus Group mentioned the importance of having these services and classes on the reservation or providing transportation to off-reservation services.

The Focus Group participants also feel the need for home visiting services, such as those provided through Parents as Teachers, should be led by the tribes due to the existing positive relationships. Staffing these home-visiting prevention services will be a challenge according to Focus Group participants. Financial and staff development (training) resources will be needed to expand capacity.

In the event, the family is identified as a tribal family, Kings County Human Services Agency will engage with tribal social services to partner in the delivery of the Home Visitation to provide culturally appropriate services.

Kings County prioritizes strengthening its relationships with the tribe to ensure there engagement in the development, implementation, and continuous quality improvement of FFPSA prevention services. The King's County has implemented a bi-monthly ICWA Collaborative Meeting with the Tachi Yokuts Tribe to build relationships, to establish feedback loops and provide assurance that services in Kings County are culturally inclusive, appropriate, responsive, and representative of the native communities' beliefs, values, and practices. Furthermore, Kings County remains dedicated to collaborating with tribal government, tribal leaders, and will be asking the tribe for tribal representation for the stakeholder committee to ensure the tribes' prospective are made when tribal families and children undergo prevention services through the CPP.

INTEGRATED CORE PRACTICE MODEL (ICPM)

Kings County embedded all five elements of the ICPM into the planning and development of the CPP.

- **Foundation:** All culturally appropriate language is conducted in an open, honest, clear, and respectful manner. Communication is transparent and promotes accountability while adhering to professional standards and ethics.
- **Engagement:** Proactive engagement is the responsibility of the agency and provider(s). SJC was proactive in engaging community members and community-based organizations to participate in a focus group exploring FFPS needs and services.
- **Assessment:** Bringing Families Home (engage in initial and ongoing formal and informal safety and risk assessments, trauma assessments, and permanency planning).
- **Teaming:** Ongoing collaborative work in the community with community-based organizations to develop and expand supportive preventative services.
- **Service Planning & Delivery:** Utilization of an integrated FFPS plan that includes evidence-based interventions which will be tracked and evaluated to measure success.
- **Transition:** Facilitate an increased role for the family's network and natural supports to build an ongoing support system that coordinates with the family's formal and informal advocates.

Cross training of ICPM will be developed and provided to the Community Based Organizations that will provide Title IV-E Prevention Program, as well primary and secondary prevention services to support the effectiveness of practice and impacts on outcomes.