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### AI Note-Taking Tools

- Per the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) guidance and general data security and privacy concerns, we request that any AI note-taking tools be turned off.
- When these tools are used, sensitive information shared in our discussions may be stored on external software platforms.
- Many AI note-taking tools are managed by third-party providers, which might not align with CDSS data protection standards.
- The use of AI note-taking tools to record conversations without consent of all parties may violate California's privacy laws.

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### What is CalWORKs?

- CalWORKs = California's TANF program

GOALS:

- Support families experiencing poverty
- Provide temporary cash assistance
- Promote employment and self-sufficiency
- Support family stability

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### What is CalWORKs Child Care?

#### Three-stage child care system

- Stage One: Immediate Child Care
- Stage Two: Once a family is deemed "stable" they are moved to Stage Two
- Stage Three: Ongoing support

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### What is Stage One Child Care?

- A CalWORKs supportive service.
- Administered by counties through County Welfare Departments (CWDs) or their contractors.
- Removes barriers.
- In CalWORKs Stage One, a family's child care authorization is immediate and continuous for 24-months.

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### Stage One Child Care Eligibility

#### Eligible Parent

- CalWORKs eligible
- Includes Two-Parent families

#### Eligible Child

- Children who are 12 years or age or younger.
- Disabled-18 years or older and requires child care or supervision because of a physical or mental disability.
- For children 11 and 12, use of an after-school program is preferred.

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Eligible Child Care Providers

- Parental Choice
- Eligible Providers
  - At least 18 years old
  - Licensed Child Care Centers
  - Licensed Family Child Care Homes
  - License-Exempt Centers
  - License-Exempt
  - Registered TrustLine or TrustLine-Exempt
  - Health and Safety Self-Certification Form




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Why Child Care Matters?

- Supports Stability
- Peace of mind
- Continuity for children
- Child care provider support

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Child Care as a Prevention Strategy

Protective factors supported by child care

- Reduced parental stress
- Increased economic stability
- Safe and nurturing environments for children
- Supportive relationships with child care providers




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## Slide 7

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**AJ1** [@Kazemi,Mona@DSS] I've added language re non-traditional hours for your review.

Andrews, Jane@DSS, 2026-03-10T21:40:32.592

## Slide 8

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**AJ1** [@Kazemi,Mona@DSS] regarding the TPs on asking the webinar attendants if they have worked with a family who struggled to find child care: should it be "...participate in services?" or " participate in activities and benefit from services ?"

Andrews, Jane@DSS, 2026-03-10T22:32:27.585

**Ka1 0** good catch, yes!

Kazemi,Mona@DSS, 2026-03-10T22:46:20.722

## Slide 9

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**AJ1** [@Kazemi,Mona@DSS] I re-worded /rearranged the TPs.

Andrews, Jane@DSS, 2026-03-10T22:28:53.177

**The Families You Serve**

After today, consider:

- How does access to child care reduce stress for families
- How might child care strengthen protective factors for parents and children?
- What changes when a parent has reliable child care?



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**Alignment with Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**Theme:** When we care together, families thrive

Stage One supports this by:

- Reducing stress on families
- Creating safe environment for children
- Supporting economic mobility
- Connecting families with community supports

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**The Role of Community Partners**

Many professional interact with families:

- Social workers
- Educators
- Early childhood professionals
- Healthcare providers
- Community organizations

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**Your Professional Role :  
The Families you Serve**

- Family struggling with child care
- Day to day actions
- Help them with support

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**How to Link Families to Stage One**

- Steps:
1. Identify if a family receives CalWORKs
  2. If so, encourage them to speak with their county worker
  3. If not, you can connect them to their local county welfare department
  4. You can also connect families with local child care resource & referral agencies
  5. Share informational resources



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**Action Steps**

- After today, consider:
- Learning about child care supports available in your community
  - Sharing information with families
  - Partnering with local CalWORKs offices
  - Helping families navigate referrals



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**Supports for Child Care Providers**

Supporting Providers Serving CalWORKs Stage One Families

- **Trauma-Informed Care (Bridge Program)**  
Supports providers in creating safe, responsive environments for children impacted by trauma
- **Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC)**  
Offers expert guidance on social-emotional development and managing challenging behaviors
- **Free Trainings (CECO)**  
Online professional development on trauma-informed care, behavior supports, and more



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**Key Messages**

- Child care is essential for family stability
- Stage One provides immediate support for families
- Access to safe child care helps prevent family stress
- Community professional play a role in connecting families to services



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**Thank you!**

[Stageonechildcare@dss.ca.gov](mailto:Stageonechildcare@dss.ca.gov)



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