Addendum to Contra Costa County's Comprehensive Prevention Plan (CPP)

Date: June 15, 2026

Background and Synopsis

Contra Costa County's Comprehensive Prevention Plan (CPP) was written and approved with a small scope, as recommended by the California Department of Social Services. The county's scope included one evidence-based practice (EBP), Motivational Interviewing (MI); and one target area, East Contra Costa County, with a focus on the city of Antioch.

While the CPP Team's extensive review of cross-sector needs assessments and asset mapping identified Antioch as having disproportionately fewer supportive services available to its residents than elsewhere in the county, it has always been the Team's intention to expand services countywide.

This addendum, which serves as notification to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) of updates to Contra Costa County's written plan, describes the countywide prevention services expansion. The county's original CPP ("Phase 1") is intact and underway. In Phase 1, Contra Costa County established the CPP Pilot Program, Antioch C.A.R.E.S. (Collaboration, Adaptation, Respect, Empowerment, Support, Strengths); piloted a concrete supports initiative; and facilitated cross-sector MI training to IV-E agency staff and community/faith-based providers.

The county now desires to add two additional phases to carry out its overall, long-term vision of a countywide prevention program:

- In Phase 2, Contra Costa County intends to expand the implementation of Motivational Interviewing and the development of community pathways to the entire county. Additionally, the Probation Department will strengthen partnerships with schools to enhance prevention efforts.
- In Phase 3, Contra Costa County intends to expand the implementation of state-approved EBPs and access to prevention services.

Over the next several years, the county will leverage FFPSA benefits to further its vision of a comprehensive child well-being system, building on the Antioch pilot and relationships built with other existing services and programs during Phase 1 development and implementation.

More information on Contra Costa County's Phases 2 and 3 is provided below.

Phase 2 – Growing MI and Community Pathways

In Phase 2, the county will implement Motivational Interviewing and establish community pathways countywide.

Motivational Interviewing

1. Motivational Interviewing will be integrated into Children & Family Services (CFS)-contracted programs for Title IV-E claiming. This will begin with the Differential Response Program and ultimately expand to include additional CFS contracts such as Family Preservation and Kinship Support Services.
2. Motivational Interviewing will be included in future solicitations for CFS contracted home visiting programs which may include, but not be limited to, those for Differential Response, Family Preservation, and Kinship Services.
3. The county intends to broaden Motivational Interviewing implementation by contracting with public, private, and community/faith-based entities to utilize Motivational Interviewing for cross-cutting case management. These providers may include, but are not limited to: First 5 Contra Costa, Community Schools, and other family resource centers.
4. CFS Social Worker staff will be trained in Motivational Interviewing. As part of Phase 1, Emergency Response staff and Supervisors in East County were trained. The Motivational Interviewing training will continue in East County and then proceed to include Emergency Response and Voluntary Services staff in the Central and West regions.

Community Pathways

CFS-contracted prevention services that could previously only be accessed through a referral from child welfare and/or juvenile probation (such as Differential Response) will be expanded to include a Community Pathway. The County plans to require that CFS-contracted prevention service providers describe and establish a clear community pathway to its services, i.e., how will providers establish community pathways so families can access services voluntarily without direct involvement with child welfare? What will each agency do to increase public awareness of their services so that families can self-refer, or so that public or private entities in their community will refer them?

1. The contracted Differential Response provider in East Contra Costa County will implement a “no wrong door” referral approach through a Community Pathway to their services.
2. The Community Pathway to Differential Response will then be expanded to include the Central and West regions of the county.
3. The Community Pathway approach will be included in future solicitations for CFS-contracted child abuse prevention-focused case management/home visiting programs, which may include, but not be limited to, those for Differential Response and Family Preservation.

In addition to establishing Community Pathways to existing CFS-contracted services, CFS intends to broaden access to services by replicating the CPP Pilot Program established in East Contra Costa County in the West and Central Regions. As with Antioch C.A.R.E.S., the newly established programs will utilize Motivational Interviewing when providing parenting support and case management to families, and will connect families to additional supportive services, including approved FFPS EBPs.

The Probation Department's involvement in truancy court has provided critical insight into the underlying factors contributing to chronic absenteeism, including school disengagement, bullying, and unmet family needs. Through this work, Probation has identified a clear need to strengthen partnerships with schools in East County to enhance early prevention efforts and reduce youth appearances in truancy court. As part of this approach, Probation will assess existing services and identify gaps in current prevention and intervention resources, working collaboratively with education partners to develop or expand targeted programming that addresses those needs.

With the expansion of the CPP, these services will be more broadly accessible through a Community Pathway, allowing families to voluntarily seek support without direct involvement from Probation or Children & Family Services. In partnership with the Office of Education, Probation will also explore if leveraging existing prevention contracts can increase capacity for providing early intervention services, with a focus on addressing school disengagement, preventing truancy, and ultimately reducing the number of youth entering truancy court proceedings.

At this time, the Probation Department is still actively, thoughtfully exploring their spending plan options. Their path forward with Phase 2 was presented to the AB 2083 Interagency Leadership Team (ILT), who formally approved the Probation Department's plan of action, and advised to move forward with notifying the CDSS of the County's updates to their original prevention plan.

Phase 3 – Adding EBPs

In Phase 3, the county seeks to include state-approved federally reimbursable EBPs from the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse available to families in Contra Costa County for children, youth, and their families who meet candidacy requirements.

The county's goal in implementation is to supplement and sustain approved EBPs by leveraging the Title IV-E match for children and youth who are determined to meet candidacy. Through asset mapping, relationship building, and outreach during Phase 1, the CPP Leads identified the following EBPs in Contra Costa County:

- Nurse Family Partnership
- Parents as Teachers
- Multisystemic Therapy
- Family Functional Therapy

Additionally, Contra Costa County Behavioral Health plans to establish Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, as required by the Behavioral Health Community-Based Organized Networks of Equitable Care and Treatment (BH-CONNECT) Initiative.

It is noted in Contra Costa County's original CPP that many EBP programs do not have the capacity to expand or maintain fidelity/purveyor requirements, as they are supported by grants and funding streams that will expire. The CPP Team intends to strengthen community partnerships and pursue contracts with established EBP providers in the county in order to supplement and sustain EBPs in a changing fiscal landscape to address service needs.

Strategies for Further EBP Expansion

The county will continue to work with local public and community-based providers to identify which organizations have an interest and willingness to explore adding or increasing EBP services to their services array. The county will then work with those local organizations that wish to proceed to develop plans to increase the availability of EBP-based prevention services when possible.

Evaluating Organizational Capacity

The organizational capacity of community-based providers, local public entities, and Children & Family Services is a major factor in the effort to increase EBP availability. There are two local EBP providers who have clearly stated they do not have the staffing or infrastructure to expand their services at this time. When possible, to increase EBP availability, the CPP Team will partner with county agencies and community-based direct service providers to identify and address barriers to expanding EBP services. In this process, the county will explore community providers' needs for sustainability, and explore and identify methods through which the county can support these providers in implementing EBPs.

Candidates and Target Populations

To ensure opportunities to serve all children, youth, and families assessed to be at "imminent risk" of foster care entry, for its initial CPP Contra Costa County included all the candidate groups identified by the state. In its next CPP phases, the County will continue with the same candidate and target populations, and further broaden its focus from Antioch residents to those of the entire county.

Outreach and Training

Contra Costa County will work to provide mandated reporters with information on community resources available to support families. Contra Costa County has a robust Community Partnership distribution list for the East, Central, and West regions of the county and regularly utilizes these distribution lists to share information and resources with county partners and mandated reporters. Additionally, in 2025, the CPP Team partnered with the County Office of Education Wellness in Schools Program to develop the East County Community Partnership Padlet. The Padlet is an online landing page

for community providers to locate local resources and share services and supports with one another. In 2026, this resource has started to expand to the Central and West regions. Finally, the Contra Costa County Child Abuse Prevention Center (CAPC) provides county-wide mandated reporter training. The CPP Team will coordinate with CAPC to ensure mandated reporter trainings continue to include information on community resources available to families.

Pursuant to All County Letter (ACL) 25-75, Contra Costa County will connect all required audiences to FFPS training as follows:

- CA FFPS Learning Series:
    - FFPS Overview: All county-designated staff administering the FFPS Program and staff of entities providing FFPS services directly to families via a contract and/or MOU.
    - Disproportionality and Implicit Bias: All county-designated staff administering the FFPS Program and staff of entities providing FFPS services directly to families via a contract and/or MOU.
    - Shifting Mindset Toward Prevention: All county-designated staff administering the FFPS Program and staff of entities providing FFPS services directly to families via a contract and/or MOU with participating counties.
    - Integrated Core Practice Model Overview: All county-designated staff administering the FFPS Program and staff of entities providing FFPS services directly to families via a contract and/or MOU.

Revised Spending Plan

Exploring Braided Funding

To support sustainability, Contra Costa County will pursue opportunities to braid funding. In other California counties, many EBPs are currently being delivered through braided funding from a variety of sources, such as Medi-Cal, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), CalWORKs, and local sources such as First 5. Following their example, another strategy Contra Costa will employ is to collaborate with local entities to identify braided funding opportunities. The CPP Team also continues to consult with the ILT about ideas for leveraging other funding sources.

Additionally, Behavioral Health partners are integrating EBPs from the state-approved list (Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, Multisystemic Therapy, and Family Functional Therapy) into their services through the implementation of the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) County Integrated Plan. The CPP Team is looking forward to partnering with County Behavioral Health to create additional fiscal support for these services and to expand service availability.

State Block Grant Spending Plan

Although the Contra Costa County CPP Team is pursuing opportunities to braid funding, the attached spending plan is limited to the State Block Grant allocation and is specific to the Child Welfare agency. The County will advise the CDSS if there are any significant updates made to their spending plan in the future, and also when other funding sources are incorporated.

Cross Sector Decision-Making

This plan is being submitted with the input and approval of the CPP Team (the cross-sector collaborative) and the Interagency Leadership Team.

The Contra Costa County CPP is governed by a cross-sector team of service provider agency leaders known as the CPP Team and the AB 2083 Interagency Leadership Team. The CPP Team meets on a quarterly basis, and the county CPP Lead sits on the Administrative body of the County ILT. On June 9, 2025, July 14, 2025, and August 11, 2025, the CPP Team received presentations and participated in facilitated discussions regarding expanding the Contra Costa County CPP beyond Phase 1, as described in the original CPP. During the August 11, 2025 meeting, the CPP Team came to a consensus that the plan could be expanded as described above: broadening MI implementation countywide; investing in Community Pathways to county-contracted services; and expansion to supplement and sustain existing approved EBPs.

On September 3, 2025, the ILT received a presentation and participated in facilitated discussion regarding expanding the Contra Costa County CPP beyond Phase 1. The ILT approved the expansion as recommended by the CPP Team.

Conclusion

In Phases 2 and 3, the county CPP Team will apply the lessons learned from its initial CPP implementation to align the county's prevention efforts with the state's goal of transforming from a child protection and foster care system to a child well-being system.

Contra Costa County's prevention vision includes an integrated system of care that supports families in providing safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments for their children. The County's aim is to keep children safe at home by strengthening families through continuing the strong prevention service partnerships it has developed with various public and community-based providers throughout its Phase 1 implementation. The County intends to leverage these existing prevention services to embed FFPSA-funded (i.e., fiscally sustainable) EBP prevention services into a comprehensive prevention continuum.