

CFWB Office of Child & Family Strengthening

November 12, 2025



Presentation Highlights

- ❖ CFWB Vision & Priorities
- ❖ OCFS Core Functions
- ❖ OCFS Outputs
- ❖ First 5 Warm Line
- ❖ 2026 Priorities
- ❖ Projected Outcomes





Child and Family Well - Being Transformation Vision



Focus on prevention and supporting families before foster care becomes a necessary intervention for keeping families safe

- Keep families together and with kin whenever possible
- Hold the family's voice as the expert in how to best keep their children safe
- Provide family strengthening and prevention services to families in a more holistic and integrated way
- Reduce unnecessary child protective actions that have historically harmed and separated families

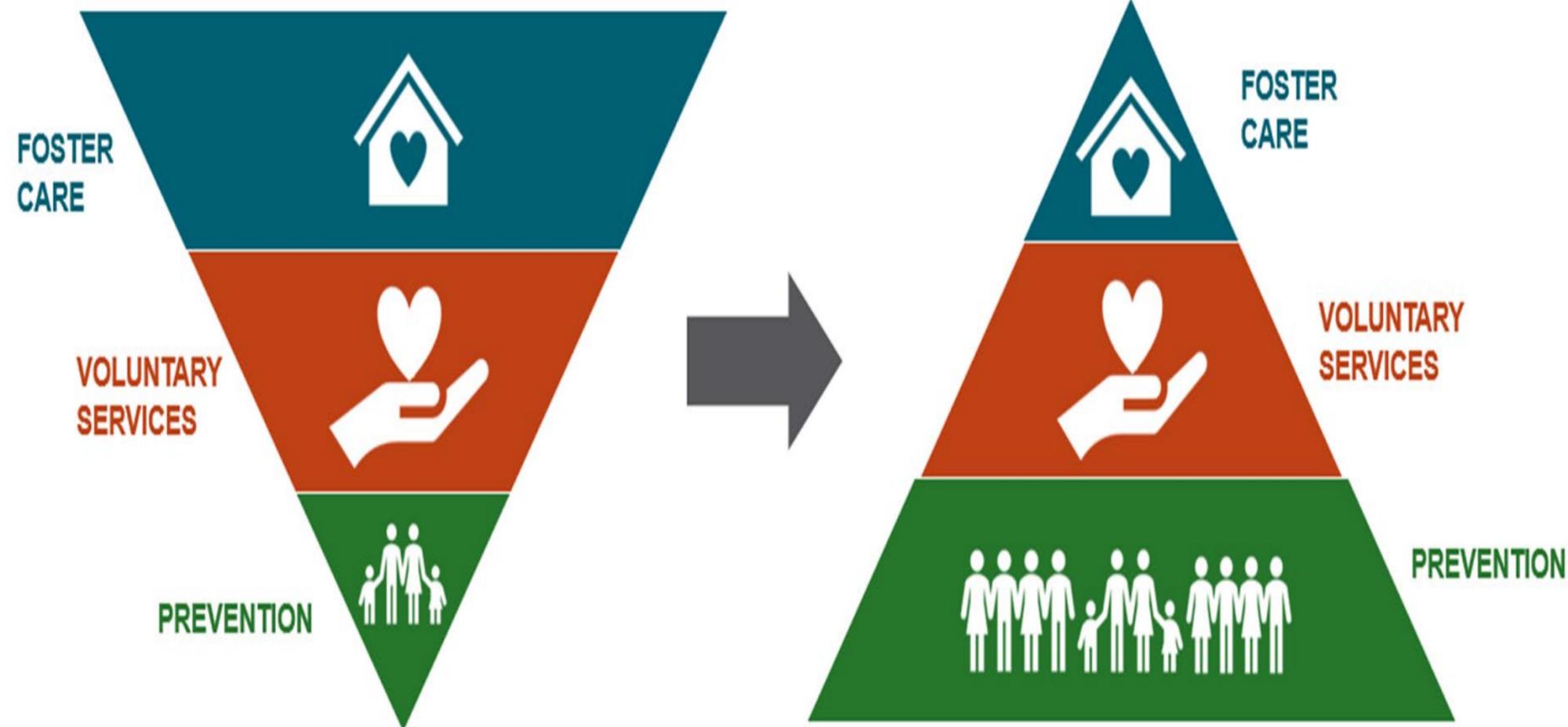
Child and Family Well-Being Department Priorities



- ★ Increase kinship placements
 - First placement
 - Placement stability & relational permanency

- ★ Address disproportionality while maintaining high quality required child safety efforts and system transformation

- ★ Prioritize Prevention



Office of Child and Family Strengthening Core Functions



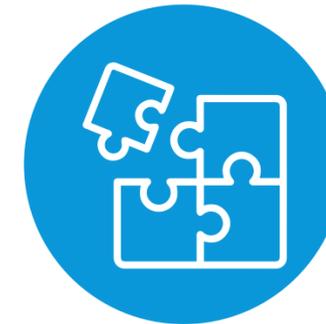
Community Prevention Pathway

- Screening & Referral
 - First 5 Warm Line
 - Prevention system referrals
 - Home Visiting Intake / CBO coordination
 - Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) Implementation
- Community Pathways and Prevention Supports
 - Family Connection Hub
 - Community Schools Pilot
 - Family Income for Empowerment
 - Concrete & Economic Supports
 - FFPSA Evidence-Based Practice Monitoring



Title IV -E Strengthening

- Mandated Reporting to Community Supporting (MRCS)
- IV-E Prevention Pathway
- Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE) Implementation
- Prevention Services Coordination Kinship & Re-Entry Prevention Pathway
- Juvenile Probation Prevention Pathway support



System & Capacity -Building

- FFPSA and Prevention System Coordination
- Kinship support system
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement
- Child Care System Collaboration
- Head Start Alignment
- Concrete Support Pathway Building across HHSA
- Community Response Guide Implementation





Prevention System Accomplishments

January 2025 - September 2025

★ 241 Eligible FFPSA Candidacy Determinations Completed

★ Concrete and Economic Supports for 58 families

- Housing Stability
- Food Access
- Transportation barrier removal

★ Family Income for Empowerment Program fully enrolled

★ Cross-training partnerships with Neighborhood House Association/
Head Start MOU updates/ new workflows with CFWB



IV - E Pathway
Example: Piloting
Prevention Services
with Dual and
Extended Foster Care
Pregnant and
Parenting Youth



RELATIONSHIPS



ENVIRONMENT



ENGAGEMENT



EMOTIONAL
GROWTH

The Four Building Blocks of HOPE – transforming practice





Positive experiences

- Promote children's health and well-being
- Allow children to form strong relationships and connections
- Cultivate positive self-image and self-worth
- Provide a sense of belonging
- Build skills that promote resilience



High (over) surveillance and stigmatization of BIPOC families

Impact of poverty perceived as neglect

Biases around cultural values around parenting

High % of reports screening out or unsubstantiated

Flaws in initial assumptions that informed mandated reporting policies

Most needs are best addressed via community supports/resources

AB 2085 (Ca 2023) – “General neglect does not include a parent’s economic disadvantage.”



COMMUNITY RESPONSE GUIDE (CRG)

- Web-based decision tool
- Provides guidance to mandated reporters and community about thresholds for reporting
- Designed through a data-driven workgroup process



Community Response Guide Recommendations

1

**No report
needed**

When possible, continue
relationship with
child/family and provide
support

2

**Community
Support Pathway**

Connect with a local
designated prevention
provider to provide support
for this family without
CFWB intervention

3

Report

Make an immediate report
to the Office of Child Safety



Mandated Reporter Transformation Efforts



- ❑ Community Response Guide finalized
- ❑ Mandated Reporter Training Revision Completed
 - ❑ Community Supporter Trainer Guide Completed
 - ❑ Co-Training model with lived experts
 - ❑ Trained 350+ Mandated Reporters in Community
- Supporting framework
 - ❑ Established ongoing partnerships with 14 jurisdictions
 - ❑ National Warm Line Project Participant
 - ❑ Community Schools Pilot Program MOA in routing



First 5 Warm Line Resource & Referrals (July-October 2025 Data)

Number of calls received	423
Call Break Down	<p>150 total First 5 related referrals made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 136 referrals total to HDS• 9 referrals to First Steps• 3 referrals for Oral Health Initiative• 2 new parent kits <p>217 Requests for resources and referrals outside First 5</p> <p>56 miscellaneous calls</p>

First 5 Warm Line – Next Steps



- Fully integrate Warm Line operations to include closed loop referrals, resource / referral navigation for families, facilitation of referral process.
- Implement use of 211 San Diego Community Information Exchange
- Train workers on resource navigation.
- Develop assessment process to help guide families to the most appropriate resources.
- Explore expansion of Warm Line within the CFWB department to support families with children of all ages.
- Continue national learning collaborative and integrate best practices.
- Seek cross departmental opportunities for collaboration.
- Continue increasing access pathways for families.

2026 Priorities



Upcoming Priorities

- Launch of integrated home visiting program to CFWB
 - Countywide Intake – Staffing, Training, Process, Referral Pathways
- Integrated Prevention & Early Intervention (IPEI) integration
- Evidence Based Practice capacity building
- Community Response Guide Implementation – beginning Fall 2025
- Mandated Reporter to Community Supporting Trainings to Stakeholders
- Community Schools Pilot
- Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences Implementation
- Statewide and Local Prevention Convening -Spring 2026
- Expansion of Community Pathway
- Comprehensive Prevention Plan Version 2
- Prevention funding aligned with CPP Implementation

Projected Outcomes



Better Outcomes for Children & Families

- Improved accuracy of community reporting practices to the hotline
- Reduced entries into foster care
- Decreased disproportionality thru reduced community bias from, improved R&R navigation, Closed loop referrals, community led interventions
- Increased placement stability and kin first placements
- Improved reunification timelines with IV-E Prevention Pathway
- **Improved SDH and family well-being**
- **Increased access to concrete support**
- **Families receive higher quality services**

Stronger Community Connections

- Increased access to resources and supports through “no wrong door” efforts
- Increased community trust
- Expand and deepen prevention network/partnerships
- **Improved accuracy for assessment and referral in early and pre-system involvement**
- Community goal alignment
- Wider collaboration for integrated systems of care

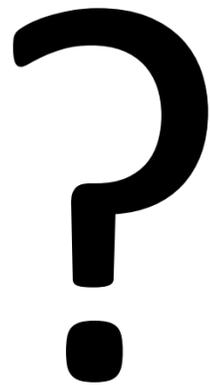
Workforce Improvements

- Decreased burden in case-carrying units
- Remove the task drain plug by creating workflows of support between CFWB and OCFS
- Consistent high-quality practice

Sustainability

- Increased fiscal sustainability through capacity building by braiding and blending funding streams
- Increase of EBPs being funded and implemented

Questions



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