



2017-2022 California Child and Family Services Review & System Improvement Plan

San Diego County Child Welfare Services



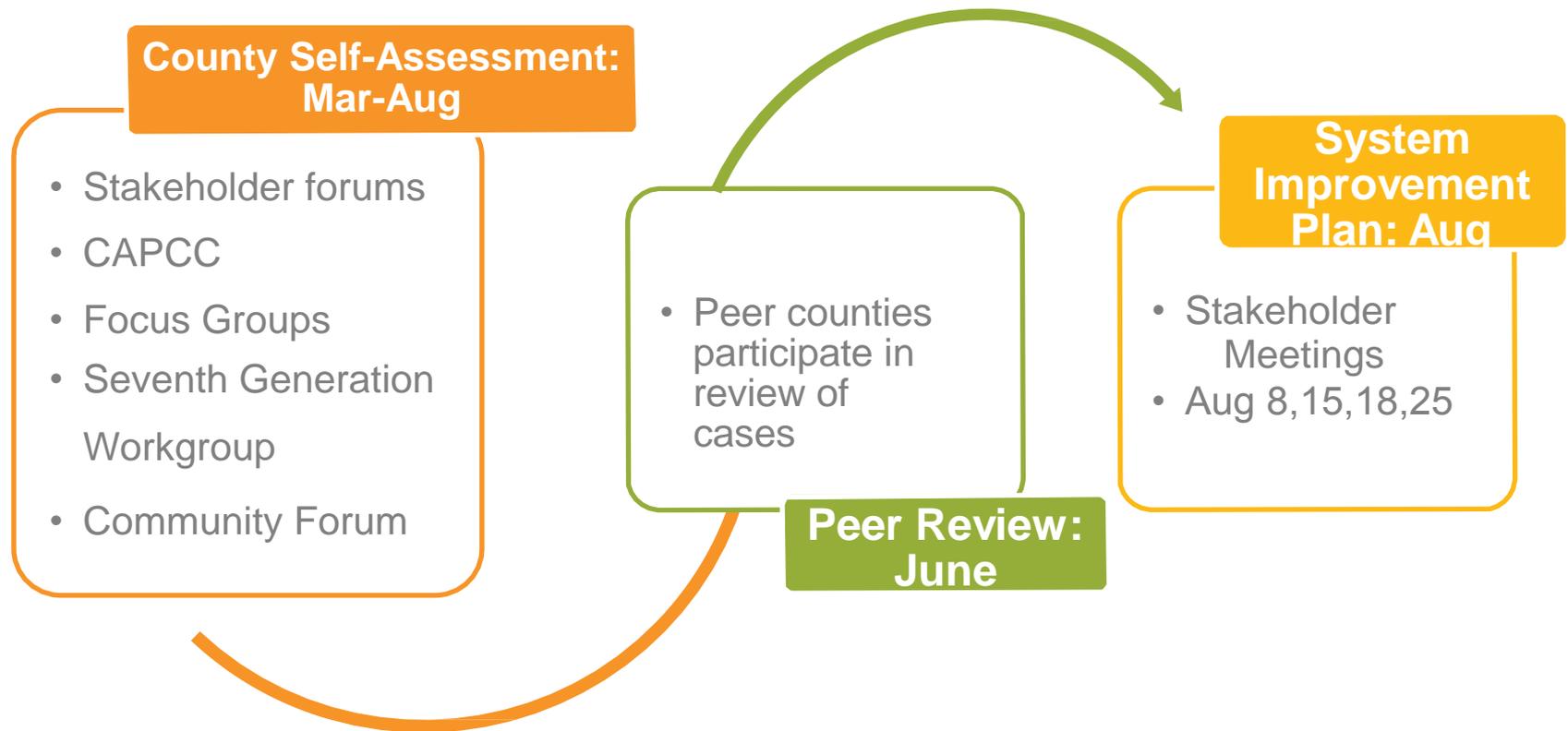
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



STAKEHOLDERS

Behavioral Health Services	Public Defender's Office
California Border Patrol	Public Health Services
California Department of Social Services (CDSS)	Resource Family
Casey Family Programs	San Diego County Office of Education
Child Welfare Services	San Diego Foster Family Association
Community Stakeholder	San Diego Police Department
County Counsel	San Diego Regional Center
Cultural Brokers	San Diego Sheriff's Department
Dependency Legal Group (DLG)	San Diego Youth Services
District Attorney's Office	Seventh Generation (Tribal group)
Family and Youth Roundtable	SAY San Diego
Home Start, Inc.	South Bay Community Services
Housing and Community Development	Tribal Star/PCWTA
Juvenile Court	Vista Hill Foundation
Juvenile Probation*	Voices for Children
North County Lifeline	YMCA of SD YFS
POPS	

SAN DIEGO C-CFSR PROCESS





PERMANENCY

- Activities that **promote parent engagement** (e.g. parents as partners and in home support) are critical to increasing permanency
- **Collaboration** between agencies has improved
- Use of **Safety Organized Practice (SOP)** improved over the last 5 years
- **WRAP** services have improved and contribute to achieving permanency
- Lack of **access to services** presents a challenge in achieving permanency
- Improvements in the **visitation process** could speed up permanency

REENTRY INTO CARE

- **Family centered** approaches are essential
- **Transparency and communication** between CWS staff, other providers and families are key to reunification success
- **Collaboration** between agencies over the last 5 years has improved
- Lack of **access to services** hinders reunification
- **Time constraints** for families, CWS workers and providers (e.g., identifying, coordinating, and accessing services) are a barrier for reunification
- Successful **exits and transitions** of cases could decrease reentry rates

PEER REVIEW



■ Four day review with 6 Peer Counties

- Contra Costa, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, and Ventura

■ 40 cases selected

- 30 CWS
- 10 Probation

CWS and Probation Management

- Review Federal and State CWS measure and performances to identify CSA priority areas

Stakeholder Forums

- Review existing County data and provide input related to CSA priority areas

Focus Groups

- Provide input on experience and areas for improvement with CWS and Probation

Peer Review

- Review CWS and Probation cases to identify strengths and barriers related to service, policy, and practices

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SIP)



- The information from the CSA was distilled and became the foundation for five SIP meetings, where internal and external stakeholders were convened to review the CSA results and then to identify and vote on goals and strategies.
- Over 40 external stakeholders (community partners) and over 65 internal stakeholders were engaged in the SIP meetings.
- In addition, the SIP Team conducted two focus groups, one with youth and another with members of Native American tribes, to elicit their input on SIP priority strategies.



IDENTIFY PRIORITY AREAS



County of San Diego CSA and SIP Areas of Focus

Focus Area	CWS	Probation
3-P1: Permanency in 12 Months for Children Entering Foster Care	√	
3-P2: Permanency in 12 Months for Youth in Foster Care 12-23 Months		√
3-P4: Re-Entry into Foster Care in 12 Months	√	√
Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention (Systemic Factor)	√	√



• **Permanency**

- Increase **access to basic supports** to improve achievement of timely permanency
- Improve **visitation practices** to achieve timely permanency
- Improve **family finding and engagement** to support permanent connections

• **Reentry**

- Strengthen families by increasing **father engagement** via father centered services/supports
- Strengthen families by enhancing **after care and services**

• **Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment and Retention**

- Improve **targeted recruitment** efforts
- Provide **crisis supports to resource families**



Action Steps:

- Increase outreach and marketing in culturally specific ways with grandparents, teens and teen parents, faith based organizations, schools and for children with high needs
- Increase concrete supports for resource families
- Once the efforts are launched, CWS will monitor by region the number of resource families and the number of recruited homes



- Review and complete an assessment of internal current supports and compare to what we know works
- Based on the findings of the internal review, find ways to increase outreach and marketing in culturally specific ways with grandparents, teens and teen parents, faith based organizations, schools and for children with high needs



- Increase concrete supports for resource families
- Work with the regional offices to find someone who can participate in the testimonial
- Work with partners to develop the content for the testimonials



- Develop a dissemination plan for launching the testimonials
- Once the efforts are launched, CWS will monitor by region the number of resource families and the number of recruited homes
- PPS will work with our FARFS team about adding questions to the intake about what motivated the resource family and how the resource family heard about being a resource family (CQI review data annually to see if adjustments need to be made)



- Work with the regional QPI ambassadors to find ways to ensure current services and supports are available and known to resource families (e.g. updating resource books, quarterly check in meetings with QPI ambassadors)
- Review CWS policies and practices to determine how services are transitioned from one placement to another.



- Guided by the findings from the policy and practices, ensure services follow the child to support resource families when transitioning children from Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTPs) to lower levels of care

- Identify team who will provide crisis intervention to families and who will be seen as part of the therapy team



- Provide crisis intervention response to resource families
- Work with internal technical team to establish a resource family hotline for immediate crisis intervention
- Develop a dissemination plan to ensure families are aware of this (e.g. ambassadors)



- Monitor the retention rate for resources families
- Quarterly meetings to evaluate the impact of our efforts and the impact on retention rates



LIVE WELL
SAN DIEGO

A black and white photograph of a diverse group of children, including boys and girls of various ethnicities, laughing and smiling joyfully. They are huddled together, creating a warm and happy atmosphere.

QUESTIONS?

System Improvement Plan Contact Information



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