

CCASSC AGENDA
December 14 & 15
Sea Venture Hotel
100 Ocean View Avenue
Pismo Beach, CA 93449
<https://www.seaventure.com>

December 14, 2017

Introductions

10:00 - 12:00 Jesse Russell, President Big Picture Research
CQI & Leadership

[Click for PowerPoint](#)

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch (Directors and Guests Welcome)

Introductions

1:15 - 2:15 Virginia Rondero-Hernandez, Ph.D. Director
Sandya Rao Hermon, Ph.D. Director of Research & Evaluation
California Social Work Education Center - CalSWEC
Update CalSWEC
Recruitment/Retention Survey

[Click for PowerPoint](#)

2:15 – 2:30 University Report
Jody Hironaka-Juteau, CHHS Dean
M. Vungkhanching, Ph.D, Chair

2:30 - 3:00 Hal Hunter, Deputy Director
Fiscal – Update

[Executive Summary](#)

[1964 Hatch](#)

[Salt Tax](#)

[S1964](#)

3:00 – 4:00 Hub Walsh, Retired Director/Former BOS Merced
Poverty Initiative Central Valley

4:00 – 4:10 Break

4:10 – 5:00 Directors Only CYC

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December 15, 2017

8:30 – 9:00 Breakfast

9:00 – 10:30 Directors Roundtable

Next Steps:

- CQI

[Click for PowerPoint](#)

[Statewide Convening](#)

- Poverty Initiative
- Collaborative - SJVPHC/CCASSC
- Recruitment/Retention Survey

[Click for PowerPoint](#)

- Annual Budget CCASSC – David & Kelly

[2017 Budget](#)

[2018 Option 1](#)

[2018 Option 2](#)

[2018 Option 3](#)

[2018 Dues](#)

- Universal Long Term Care Insurance Program – Jim

[Universal LT Doc](#)

- BRIDGE Program/CalFRESH Employment and Training – Scott
- IEVS/Security Requirements – Scott
- CCASSC Meeting Schedule 2018 – Kelly

[Doodle Results](#)

- CCASSC Mission Statement

[Mission Statement 1](#)

[Mission Statement 2](#)

10:30 – 11:00

Subcommittee Work/Communication to CCASSC –Kelly, Chevon, Devin & Juliet

Subcommittee Work

- Self Sufficiency
- Child Welfare
- Fiscal
- Adults

11:00 – 12:00

RFA – Survey results Central Valley

Survey

Narrative

Agenda/12/12/17

Leadership in Continuous Quality Improvement

Jesse Russell, PhD

Big Picture Research and Consulting



CQI as an *Adventure Story*

Odysseus



Calypso



The Cyclops



Circe



The Sirens



The Lotus Eaters



Scylla and Charybdis



What is CQI?

What is it?

Better monitoring and assessment of **performance**, and using findings to guide program improvement activities



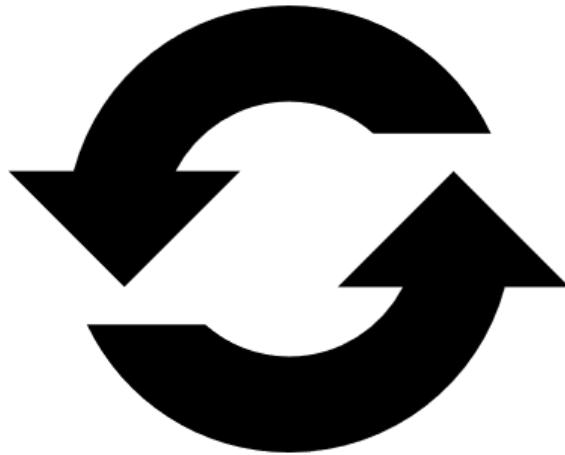
What is it?

A systematic application of scientific methods to assess the conceptualization, design, implementation, and **utility** of interventions and programs.



What does it involve?

Involves the Plan, Do, Study, Act cycle



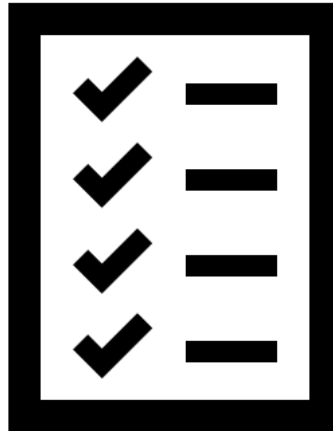
For example:

I observe that [there is a specific problem]. I think it is because [of this reason]. So I plan to [implement some intervention], which I think will result in [the desired outcome].



What is the benefit?

Is related to the internal “owning” of a **process** by the team in the program



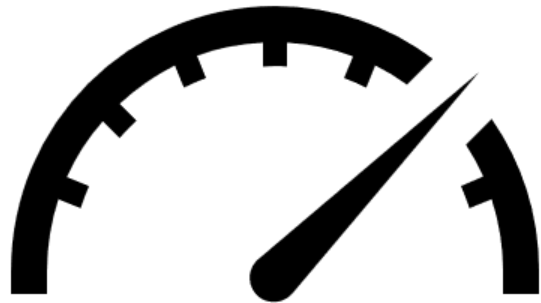
What is the benefit?

Ensures programs are **improving** services and outcomes for children and families you serve



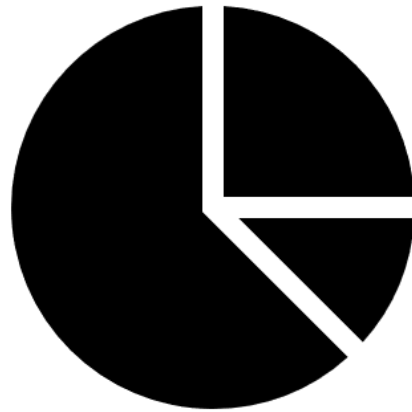
What is the benefit?

Collects and uses data to make positive changes—even when things are **going well**— rather than waiting for something to go wrong and then fixing it



What do we get out of it?

Allows us to adjust our practices based on **data**



What do we get out of it?

Allows for operating in continuous and **reflective** practice to identify what is working well and where there are areas for growth



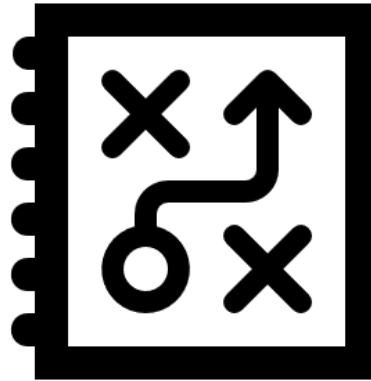
What do we get out of it?

Increases **buy-in** and decreases resistance to change



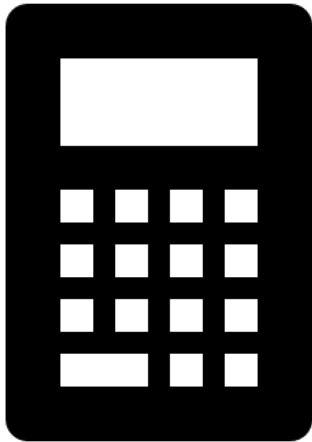
What do we get out of it?

Increases adaptability



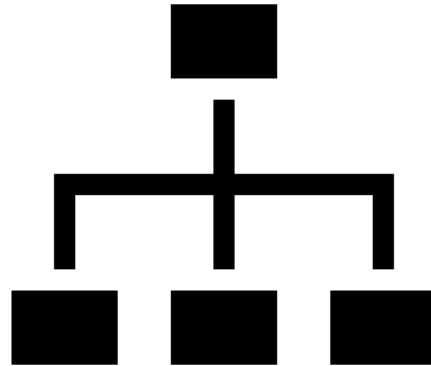
What needs to go into it?

Data collection and analytic capacity



What needs to go into it?

CQI knowledge and skill building throughout the agency hierarchy



What needs to go into it?

Supportive **administrative** structures and functions



What needs to go into it?

Leadership and culture



CQI Thanksgiving

Five Indicators



CQI CPM

Five Indicators





Thank you!



THE CALSWEC WORKFORCE STUDY: EXAMINING WORKER ATTITUDES AND RETENTION AMONG CHILD WELFARE WORKERS

Sandhya Rao Hermon, Ph.D.

12/14/2017

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1993

MEASURING SUCCESS

2015

- Increase the number of professionally trained social workers in public social services by providing a competency-based education
- Increase the number of professionally trained social workers who reflect the population being served
- Increase the number of counties that have MSW in their workforce

RESULTS

- 9,860 students have been supported
- The number of MSWs in public child welfare nearly doubled from 21% to 41%. (Data from the 2011 Workforce Study.)
- 67% of our graduates are non-Caucasian, 44% have second language
- The number of counties CalSWEC MSW's work in has gone from 38 to 55
- On average 95% are hired into public child welfare, mental health, or Tribal social services agencies
- Coordinate delivery and evaluation child welfare curriculum
- Over 35 research based curriculum development projects supported

CALSWEC'S EVALUATION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS

❖ Current and past work:

- ❖ *Evaluated Title IV-E stipend* program by surveying workers at multiple time points after graduation (e.g., new grads, 3- and 5-year follow-up)
- ❖ Conducted studies to understand characteristics of Title IV-E employees who are retained in the workforce
- ❖ Evaluated the *Common Core Curriculum* for all county new hires

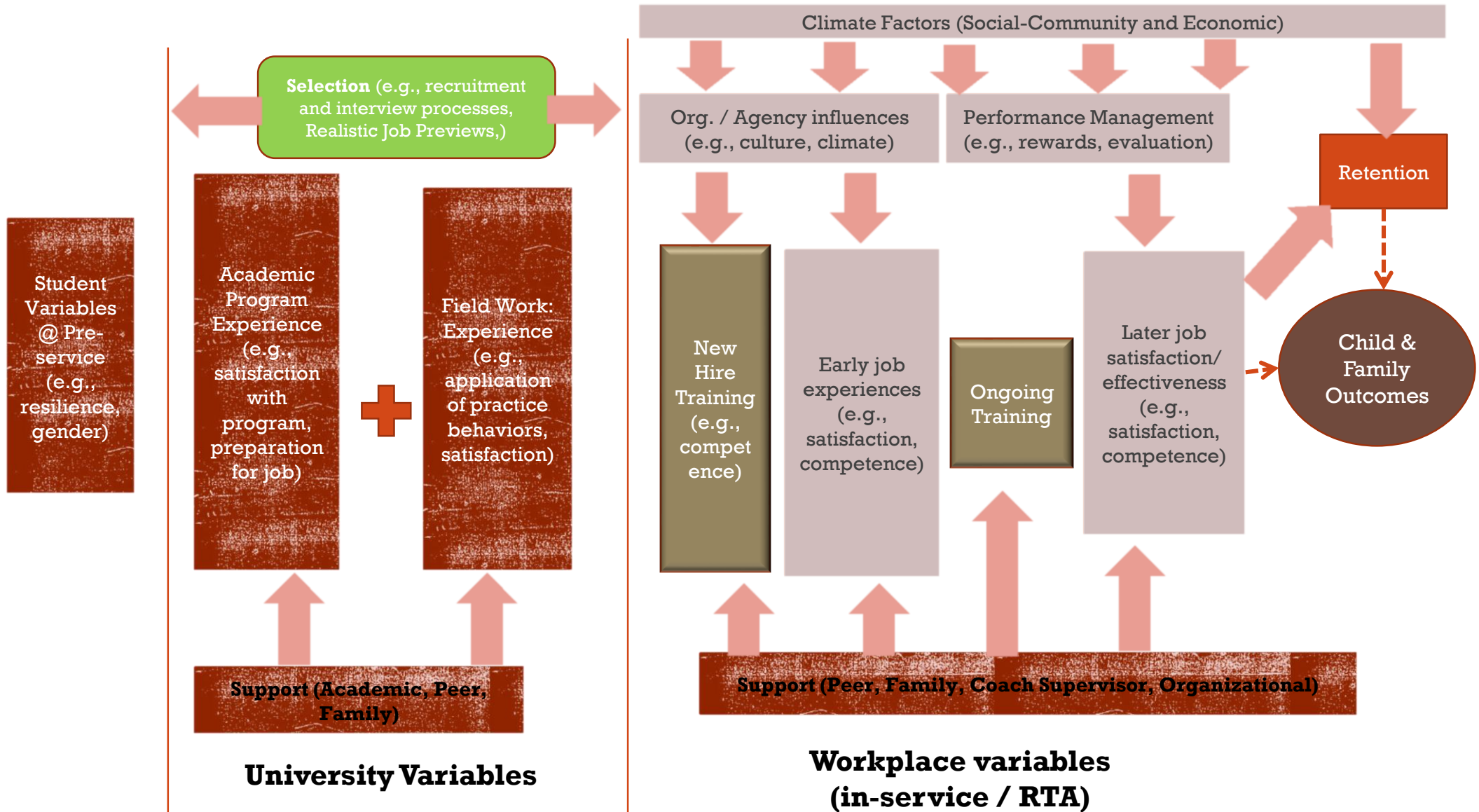
❖ Workforce Study

- ❖ Done ~every 3 years since 1993
- ❖ Completed a point-in-time workforce study of all staff and counties
- ❖ Methods—Administrative Survey and Individual Survey
- ❖ Focused primarily on the educational and training needs of workers and understanding turnover and other administrative numbers from agencies

FOCUS OF CURRENT WORKFORCE STUDY

- ❖ Develop a fuller picture of the CWS workforce by analyzing data at key points within CalSWEC's Ecological Model
- ❖ Dive deeper to understand the complex relationships between worker variables, training, agency / workplace factors and outcomes at the case level and worker retention
- ❖ Tell *each county's story with data gathered from its workforce* to help management understand their workforce and plan strategically to improve it

CALSWEC'S ECOLOGICAL MODEL OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



PROCESS & METHODS

Proposed & approved at CalSWEC Board



Presented at CWDA



Voluntary participation from Counties (10 in Phase 1)



Data gathering (Jan 2015 – present)



Data analysis
1. Sharing customized findings with counties
2. Deeper analysis on consolidated data



[Link to compliance data](#)

SURVEY OF ORGANIZATIONAL FUNCTIONING (TCU SOF)

Resources
Staffing
Training

Staff Attributes
Growth
Influence
Adaptability
Efficacy

Organizational Climate
Mission
Cohesion
Autonomy
Communication
Stress
Openness to Change

Job Attitudes
Burnout
Satisfaction
Director Leadership

Workplace Practices
Reflective Dialogue
Focus on Outcomes

Institute of Behavioral
Research. (2005). *TCU Survey
of Organizational Functioning
(TCU SOF)*. Fort Worth: Texas
Christian University, Institute
of Behavioral Research.
Available at ibr.tcu.edu



SCORING THE TCU SOF

- ❖ **Scoring Instructions.** Numbers for each item indicate its location in the administration version, in which response categories are 1=Strongly Disagree to 5=Strongly Agree; ® designates items with reflected scoring. Scores for each scale are obtained by summing responses to its set of items (after reversing scores on reflected items by subtracting the item response from “6”), dividing the sum by number of items included (yielding an average) and multiplying by 10 in order to rescale final scores so they range from 10 to 50 (e.g., an average response of 2.6 for a scale becomes a score of “26”).



ADDITIONAL SURVEY FACTORS

- ❖ Commitment to Child Welfare
- ❖ Commitment to Agency
- ❖ Satisfaction with Supervisor
- ❖ Satisfaction with Unit

- ❖ Field Education
- ❖ Common Core Training
- ❖ Demographics (age, race/ethnicity, etc.)
- ❖ Details of their job

Pizzas/
Incentives



PARTICIPATING COUNTIES – 2015-APR 2016



- ❖ Contra Costa (23%)
- ❖ Madera (5%)
- ❖ Ventura(9%)
- ❖ Orange (45%)
- ❖ Napa (5%)
- ❖ Glen (2%)
- ❖ Siskiyou (2%)
- ❖ Lassen (1%)
- ❖ Trinity(%)
- ❖ Yolo (6%)
- ❖ (N = 502)



RESPONDENT PROFILE

- ❖ 82% were female (N = 413)
- ❖ 15% were between 22-30, 28% 31-40, 28% were 41-49, 9% were 50-59, and 9% were over 59
- ❖ 5% have lived experiences with foster care; 60% had lived experiences with MH
- ❖ 78% were line workers, the rest were supervisors
 - 47% Front-end / ER/Front-end Emergency Response or Court Investigations / Social Case Work Specialist
 - 27% Back-end /Ongoing /Ongoing/VFM
 - 3% Other / Court / Resource Family Approval/Family Meeting Facilitator / Transitional Aged Youth Unit
 - 27% Support / Support Services



RESPONDENT PROFILE (CONT'D)

- ❖ 48% were White, 26% were Hispanic, 9% African American, 8% Asian, 4% Other, 4% Multiracial, and < 1% Native American
- ❖ Highest education level: (25% did not indicate their educational accomplishment) 74% had a Masters and 21% had a Bachelors
- ❖ 32% were former stipend recipients (N = 160)
 - ❖ Former IV-E stipend students were no more likely to be supervisors than non-IVEs
 - ❖ Were similar in their experiences with foster care and MH as non-stipend students
 - ❖ More IV-E students were in the 22-30 age group than non-IV-Es
 - ❖ More IV-E students were likely to be Hispanic than non-IV-Es



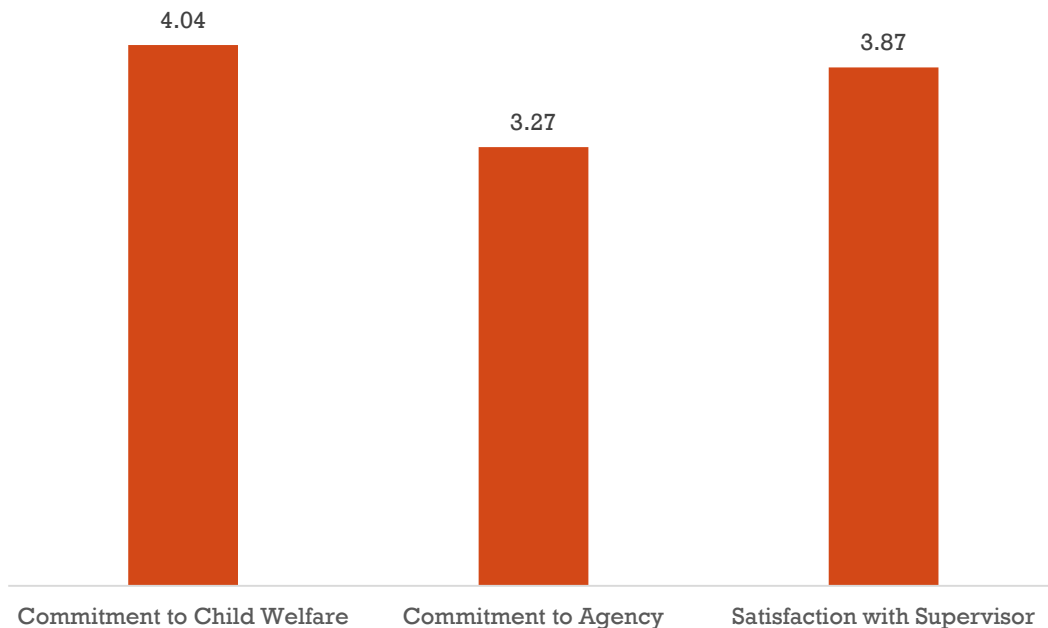
FLOW OF FINDINGS

- ❖ Overall climate, job resources, staff attributes across agencies
- ❖ Differences between Leavers and Stayers



STAFF ARE COMMITTED TO CW BUT NOT THE AGENCY

- Committed to Child Welfare and fairly satisfied with their supervisor



Job Attitudes

(1 = Strongly Disagree to 5 = Strongly Agree)

- **Love my supervisor!**

- *“My supervisor has been amazing as she knows the court and was a social worker herself. I don't have any suggestions.”*

- **Be available / present / supportive**

- *“Be available and responsive to my timely requests or need for direction/approval.”*

- **Be more knowledgeable / provide guidance**

- *“More guidance. She typically tells me to use my critical thinking skills and figure it out. I need more guidance to focus in on the right decision, especially as a new worker.”*

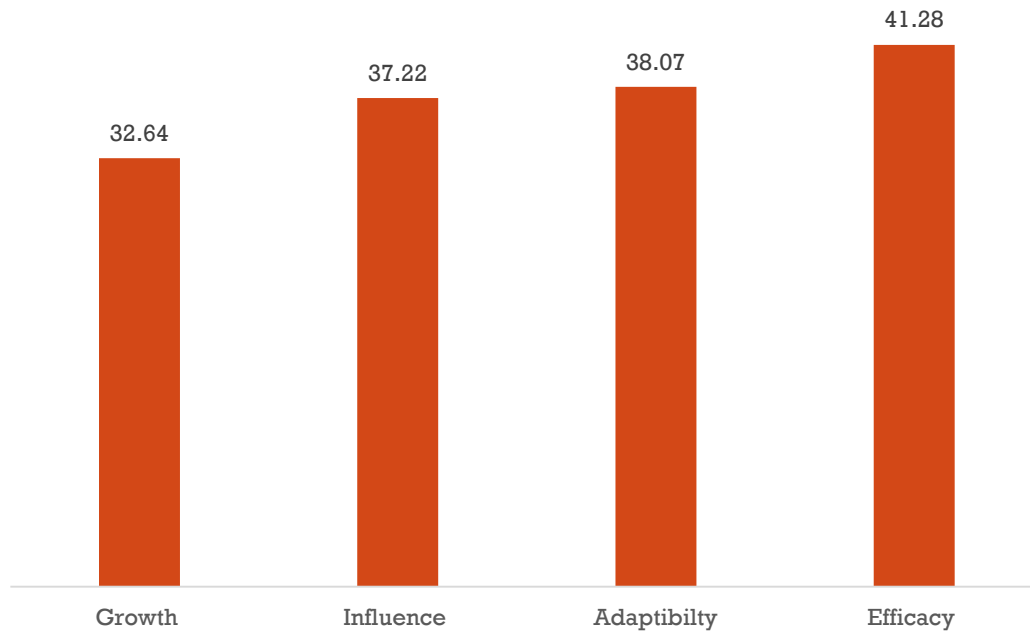
- **Communicate better**

- *“If I knew my expectations clearly / Often I am having to figure out what I expected to do and know.”*

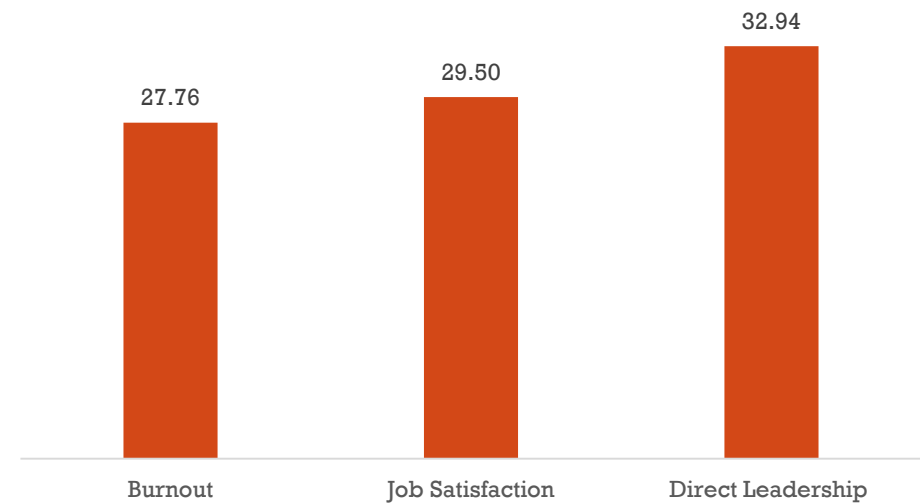


STAFF HAVE FAVORABLE VIEWS ABOUT THEIR ABILITIES

- Staff believe they are efficacious, adaptable and have some influence
- They are not burned out



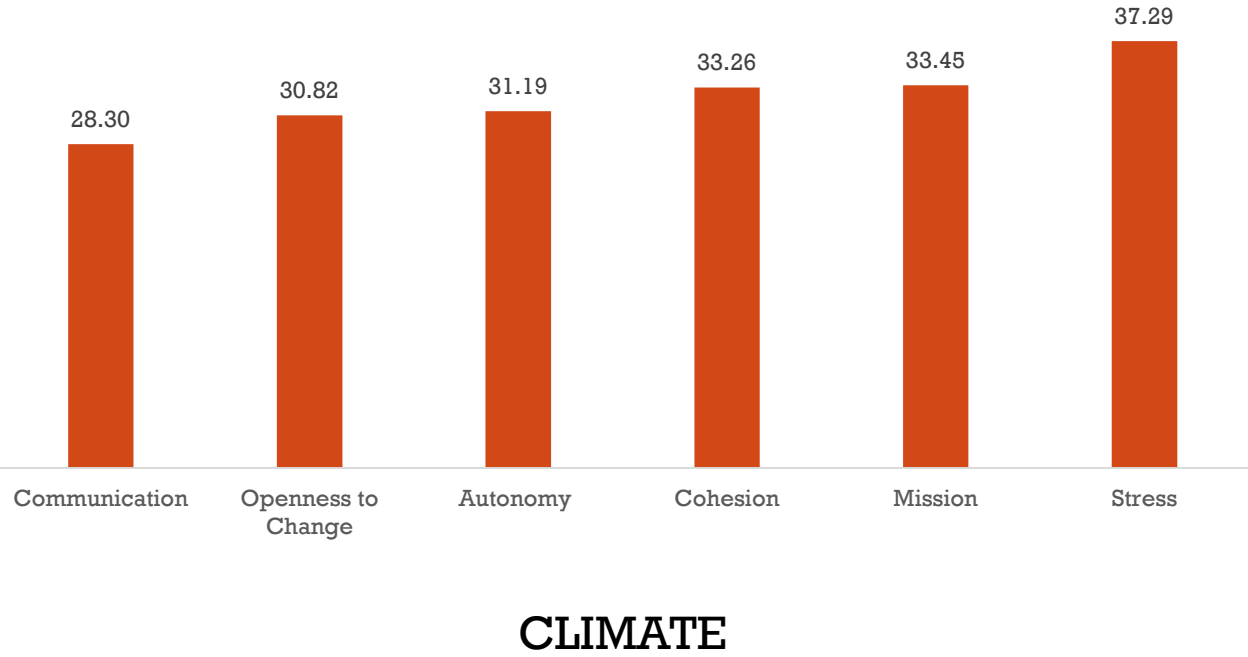
Personal Attributes



Job Attributes



STAFF PERCEPTIONS OF AGENCY CULTURE & CLIMATE ARE LESS FAVORABLE



REASONS FOR WANTING TO LEAVE



- **Compensation & benefits not adequate**
 - *“Continued lack of wage increase or cost go living increases.”*
- **No real ability to grow**
 - **Want to change focus areas**
 - *“As there doesn't seem to be any chances I would be picked for management I will leave the agency whenever it is possible.”*
- **Work/focus too law-suit driven / Clients not prioritized**
 - *“I left the field when it became clear that the ability to protect children was no longer our main focus but our interventions were law suit driven.”*
- **Poor support from management / bad management practices**
 - *“Disconnect between upper management and line staff. / decisions are not well thought out, often discussed with staff, told they are coming and then a back tracking later on. / senior management has no social work experience.”*
- **Retiring/ waiting for full benefits to kick in**
 - *“I will have been here ten years and have full retirement.”*
- **Favoritism**
- **High Stress**

Similar themes for both
line workers and supes.

THINGS THE AGENCY COULD DO



- **Mgmt. could listen and make communications more transparent**
 - *“Let us know a date when something (example: a new procedure) is going to happen so we can prepare instead of letting us find out afterwards.”*
- **Praise & acknowledge staff for work well done**
 - *“Emphasize acknowledgement of work well done and not just that which needs improvement.”*
- **Be more visible, interact with staff**
 - *“I was told that I am not allowed to email the director with out running it by my supervisor first and my supervisor would have to read the email before I could send it to the director. I don't like how we are discouraged to speak with upper management on our own. I feel like they should be more accessible.”*
- **Hire more! Hire better!**
 - *“This agency's leaders would do well to hire more staff, to develop these new recruits, and do their best to retain them.”*
 - **Reduce case loads**
 - **Provide more opps for growth**
 - **Be aware of practice conditions**

Similar themes for both
line workers & supes.



PERCEPTIONS OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- ❖ Most important contributors to job performance:
 - ❖ 1. On-the-job learning (including coaching, mentoring, shadowing, practicing, etc.) – 56%
 - ❖ 2. Education – 28%
 - ❖ 3. Common Core (new hire training) – 14%



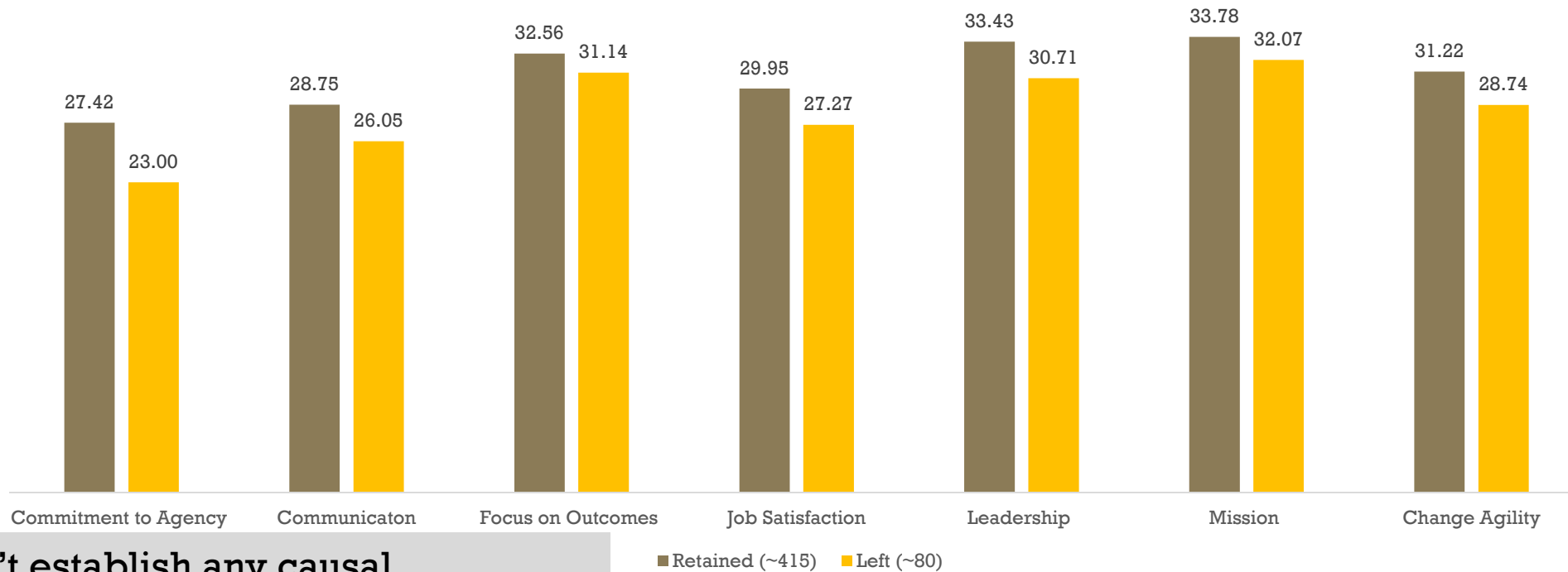
THE LEAVERS...

- Of the survey recipients who completed the survey, 15% left their agency
- Leavers were:
 - More likely to have an MSW, be former IVEs, male, & under 30
 - No different from Stayers in terms of race, former foster youth status or lived experiences with mental health



DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STAYERS AND LEAVERS

CLIMATE MATTERS!

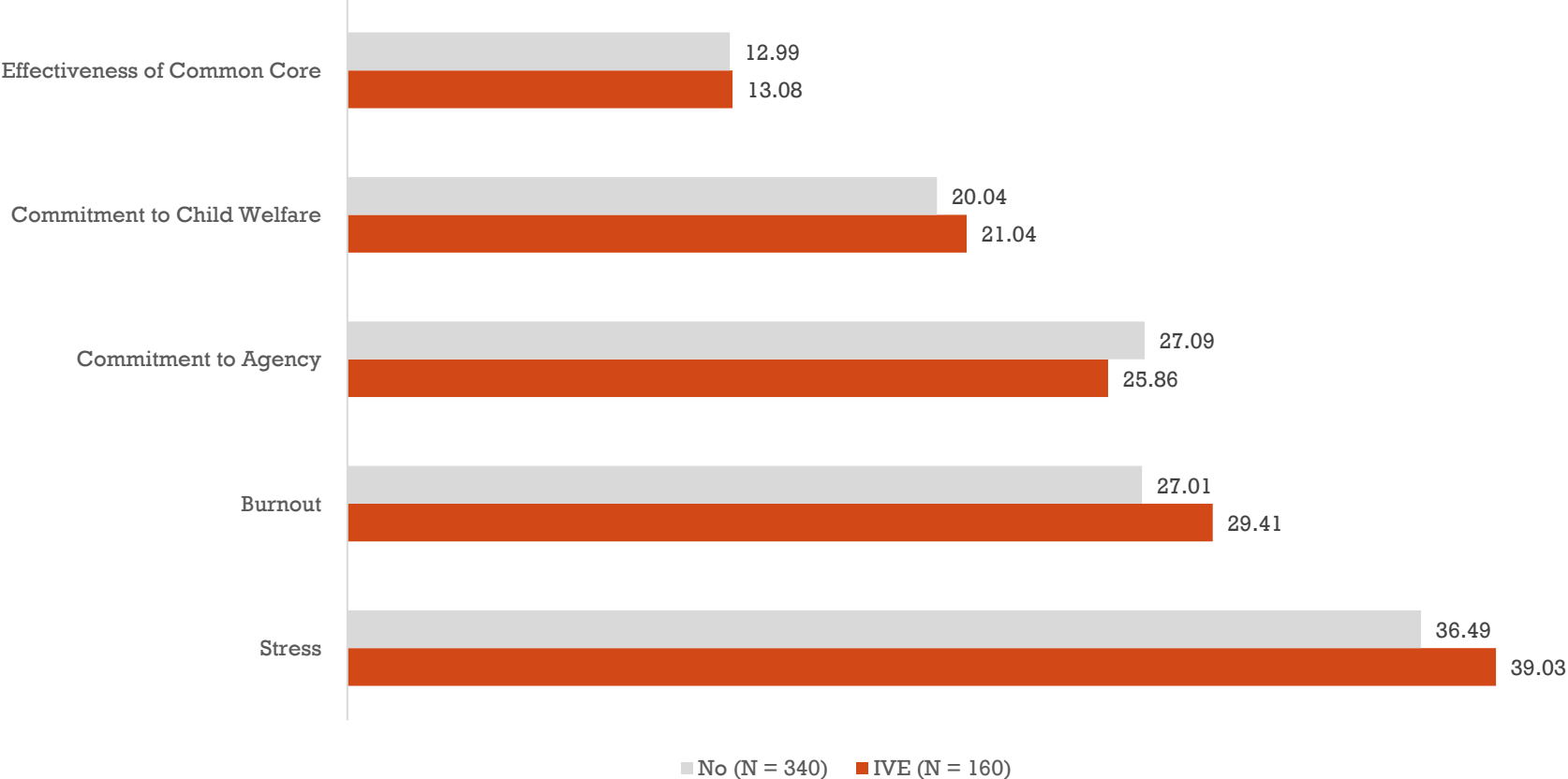


- Doesn't establish any causal relationship!
- How does it matter at a case level? We don't know.

$p < .05$



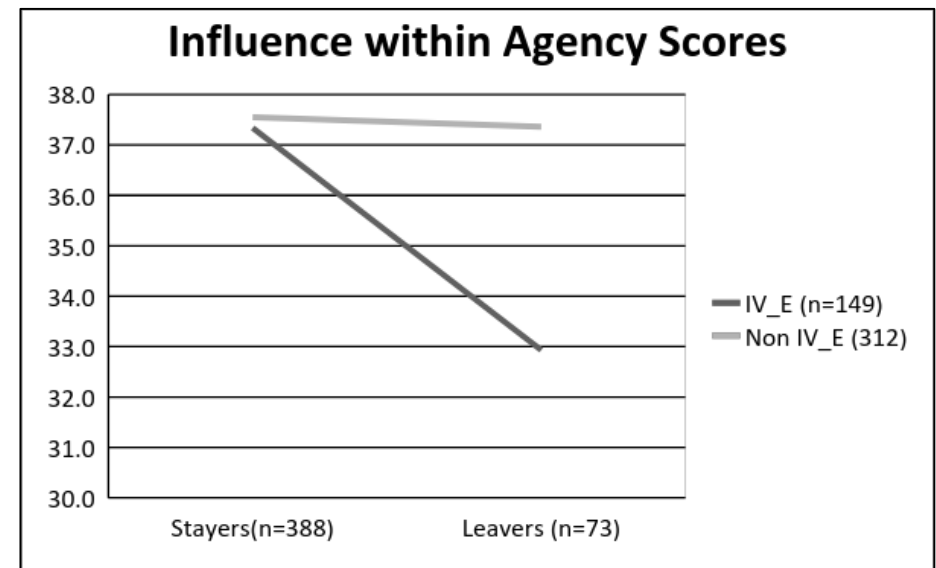
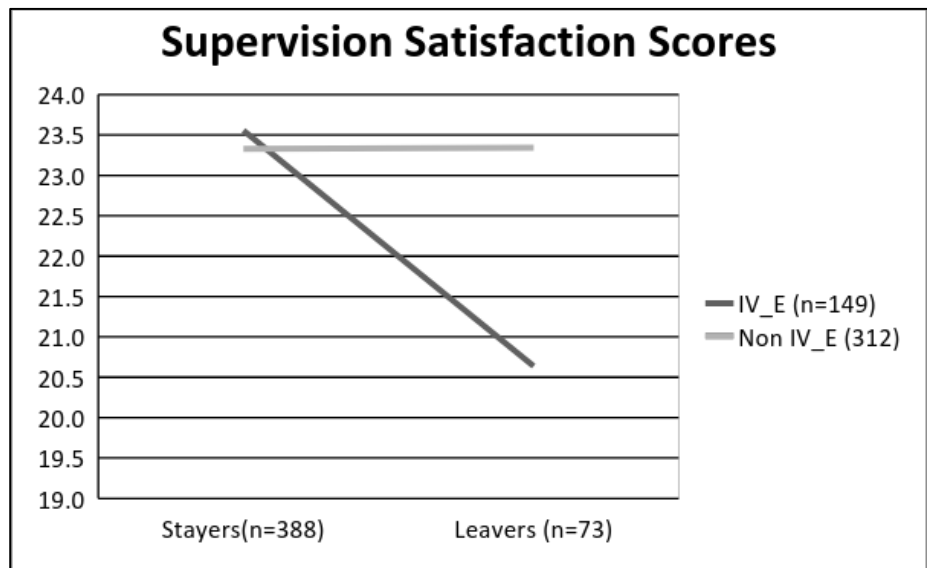
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN IV-ES AND NON-IV-ES



$p < .05$



INTERACTION BETWEEN IV-E AND RETENTION



TAKE AWAYS

- ❖ Hire more, especially admin support
- ❖ Celebrate successes – within the unit and within the agency
- ❖ Give staff more room for growth
 - ❖ Offer opportunities for training, including those to improve social and interpersonal skills
 - ❖ Provide promotion opportunities
- ❖ Improve transparency in communications & decision making
- ❖ Ensure that supervisors & management understand the actual conditions of practice and the work that line staff do
- ❖ Find ways to better support front-line staff

AGENCY

- ❖ Find ways to support more on-the-job learning
- ❖ Help identify training needs, which will tap into staff's desire for professional growth
- ❖ Beef up training for supervisors (esp. the soft skills)

RTA

- ❖ Supervision & influence are particularly important to IV-Es
- ❖ Need to better understand why IV-Es are more stressed and burned out
- ❖ More coverage of topics on coping / secondary trauma in the curriculum?

IV-E



LIMITATIONS

- ❖ Only 10 out of a possible 58 counties participated
 - ❖ Current findings limited to 10 counties
- ❖ Within counties, a smaller sample of respondents who completed most of the survey
 - ❖ Limited generalizability
- ❖ Attitudinal data aren't always the best predictors of behaviors
- ❖ Measure restricted to one survey instrument, at one point in time
 - ❖ Can't establish causation with relation to turnover



APPENDICES: FACTOR AND ITEM COMPOSITION

My expectations for this job were met.

I have had opportunities to get ahead in this job.

This job has been outstanding.

This job has NOT helped me improve myself. (R)

I have NOT been satisfied with this job. (R)

I find enjoyment in my job.

Most days I am enthusiastic about my job.

I am usually satisfied with client outcomes.

By continuing to serve as a child welfare social worker, I feel I can make a difference in people's lives.

I became a social worker because I knew it was meant to be.

I believe that my work as a child welfare social worker is important to society.

Social work is my calling.

I am willing to go the extra mile for my clients.

I am proud to tell others I am part of this county agency.

This county agency is the best of all possible places to work.

There is a good chance I will search for another job (outside this agency) within the next year. (R)

I plan to leave this agency as soon as possible. (R)

Under NO circumstances will I voluntarily leave this agency.

I speak highly of this agency to my friends.

Turnover at this agency is too high. (R)

I plan to stay in this county agency as long as possible.

My supervisor gives me good advice on case-related problems.

My supervisor is very knowledgeable about child welfare.

I can/did rely on my supervisor when the going gets/got tough.

My supervisor focuses on my strengths and positive characteristics.

My supervisor helps me think about how to apply things I learn in training to my work with families.

There are enough child welfare workers here to meet current client needs.

A larger support staff is needed to help meet organizational needs. (R)

My immediate supervisor listens to my work-related problems.

Frequent staff turnover is a problem for this organization. (R)

Social workers here are able to spend enough time with clients.

Support staff here have the skills they need to do their jobs.

Staff training and continuing education are priorities at this organization.

I learned new skills or techniques at a professional conference in the past year.

The budget here allows staff to attend professional conferences each year.

This program holds regular in-service training.

Additional on-the-job training would improve my performance on the job.

Staff training provides tools and tips I can use in my job everyday.

I have received sufficient training for my current role.

Satisfaction

Commitment to Child Welfare

Commitment to Agency

Satisfaction with Supervisor

Staffing Agency

Training

This organization encourages and supports professional growth.	Growth
I read about new techniques and practice information each month.	
I have enough opportunities to keep my social work skills up-to-date.	
I regularly read professional journal articles or books on child welfare.	
I do a good job of regularly updating and improving my skills.	
I have the skills needed to be an effective child welfare worker.	Personal Efficacy
I consistently plan ahead and carry out my plans.	
I usually accomplish whatever I set my mind on.	
I am effective and confident in doing my job.	
I frequently share my knowledge of child welfare work with other staff.	Influence
Staff generally regard me as a valuable source of information.	
Other staff often ask my advice about organizational procedures.	
Other staff often ask for my opinions about child welfare practice and related issues.	
I often influence the decisions of other staff here.	
I am viewed as a leader by other staff here.	Adaptability
I am willing to try new ideas even if some staff members are reluctant.	
Learning and using new procedures are easy for me.	
I am sometimes too cautious or slow to make changes. (R)	
I am able to adapt quickly when I have to shift focus.	Mission
Some staff get confused about the main goals for this organization. (R)	
Staff understand how this organization fits as part of the child welfare system in my community.	
My duties are clearly related to the goals of this organization.	
This organization operates with clear goals and objectives.	
Management here has a clear plan for this organization.	Cohesion
Staff here all get along very well.	
There is too much friction among staff members. (R)	
The staff here always work together as a team.	
Staff here are always quick to help one another when needed.	
Mutual trust and cooperation among staff in this organization are strong.	Cohesion
Everybody here does their fair share of work.	

Case planning decisions for clients here often have to be revised by a child welfare supervisor. (R)

Management here fully trusts your professional judgment.

Child welfare workers here are given broad authority in treating their own clients.

Child welfare workers here often try out different techniques to improve their effectiveness.

Staff members are given too many rules here. (R)

Ideas and suggestions from staff get fair consideration by the organization's management.

The formal and informal communication channels here work very well.

Child welfare staff are always kept well informed.

More open discussions about program issues are needed here. (R)

Staff members always feel free to ask questions and express concerns in this program.

I am under too many pressures to do my job effectively.

Staff members often show signs of stress and strain.

The heavy workload here reduces program effectiveness.

Staff frustration is common here.

I feel overwhelmed by paperwork.

I feel like I am not making a difference.

I feel that it is a real effort to come into work.

Novel practice ideas by child welfare staff are discouraged. (R)

It is easy to change procedures here to meet new conditions.

I frequently hear good staff ideas for improving practice.

The general attitude here is to use new and changing technology.

I am encouraged here to try new and different techniques.

My organization's director(s): Inspires others with his/her plans for this facility for the future.

My organization's director(s): Leads by example.

My organization's director(s): Gets people to work together for the same goal.

My organization's director(s): Treats each of us as individuals with different needs, abilities, and aspirations.

My organization's director(s): Takes time to listen carefully to and discuss people's concerns.

My organization's director(s): Encourages new ways of looking at how we do our jobs.

My organization's director(s): Gives special recognition to others' work when it is very good.

My organization's director(s): Provides well-defined performance goals and objectives.

My organization's director(s): Emphasizes using new ideas, services, administrative techniques, etc., before most other programs do.

When making important decisions, the program always focuses on what's best for client improvement.

Many social workers in this program feel responsible that all clients improve.

Our workday is organized to maximize time with clients.

Our agency's program sets high standards for client improvement.

Our agency's program has well-defined expectations for all clients.

Autonomy

Communications

Work Stress

Burnout

Org. Change Agility

Leadership

Focus on Outcomes

In the past year, I have had frequent conversations with colleagues about what helps clients improve.	Reflective Dialogue
In the past year, I have had frequent conversations with my supervisor(s) about what helps clients improve.	
There are enough child welfare workers in my unit to meet current client needs.	Unit
A larger support staff is needed to help meet my unit's needs. (R)	
Frequent staff turnover is a problem for this unit. (R)	
Unit staff here all get along very well.	
There is too much friction among unit staff members. (R)	
Unit staff here always work together as a team.	Field Education
Mutual trust and cooperation among staff in this unit are strong.	
My field placement (s) was/were effective for preparing me for my first six months on the job.	
My field placement (s) connected me with the community that I currently serve.	Common Core Training
Overall, my education was effective in preparing me for my current job.	
My Common Core New Hire Training (s) was/were effective for preparing me for my first six months on the job.	
I was able to apply learning from the Common Core New Hire Training within my first 3 months on the job.	
Overall, the Common Core New Hire Training was effective in preparing me for my current job.	
When I started in my job in child welfare, I did NOT receive adequate preparation for my job. (R)	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Foster care placements for children who are victims of abuse and neglect have historically been managed by a combination of private and public resources. However, the need for specialized foster care services and a shortage of foster care homes in recent years has led to the privatization of many core foster care services. Today, both non-profit and for-profit private agencies contract with and provide foster care services on behalf of State agencies. In 2015, 671,000 children in the United States were provided out-of-home foster care services. There are no official statistics on what proportion of these children received contracted foster care, case management, or other services. State child welfare agencies report they have procedures in place to monitor child welfare providers' performance and outcomes. But this investigation conducted by the bipartisan staff of the U.S. Senate Finance Committee shows that these policies are not always followed; exceptions are made, waivers are granted, profits are prioritized over children's well-being, and sometimes those charged with keeping children safe look the other way. High turnover among staff sometimes makes it impossible to develop case plans to ensure that children are "on-track." Foster parents with questionable backgrounds, who lack the skills to provide care to vulnerable children, are given licenses to parent challenging children, and these children are then inadequately monitored. The outcome of this investigation shows that the child welfare system does not always protect children. The data collection and oversight structures at both the State and Federal levels make it difficult and sometimes impossible to monitor the operations of the child welfare system, as well as its private contractors.

A recent bout of national media attention concerning questionable behavior by private for-profit agencies, abuse and neglect by foster parents working for those providers, and in some instances, abuse and neglect which caused children's deaths, led the Finance Committee to investigate this issue. As the Finance Committee has primary jurisdiction over Federal child welfare and foster care funding and policy (largely through the Social Security Act), the Committee launched an investigation in April 2015 to examine the privatization of foster care services. One specific private company, The MENTOR Network, one of the largest for-profit providers of foster care services in the United States, was used as a case study to highlight the problems that exist with the privatization of human services. This report documents the findings of this investigation and reveals problems with child welfare contracting practices as well as public agency oversight of such contracts and services.

The investigation was conducted by collecting information from public child welfare agencies across the Nation concerning their general policies and practices, including how they contract with

and monitor private agencies. The Committee also gathered information from The MENTOR Network, specifically, by reviewing incident reports about the deaths of children in the company's care, an internal "mortality report," legal settlements, case notes, foster parent applications, and other related documentation.

The Committee staff concluded that children who are under the legal authority of their State, yet receive services from private for-profit agencies, have been abused, neglected, and denied services. The very agencies charged with and paid to keep foster children safe too often failed to provide even the most basic protections, or to take steps to prevent the occurrence of tragedies. In MENTOR's case in particular, investigations into fatalities were never followed up after the fact; autopsy reports which were pending years ago were excluded from files; and the vast majority of children who died were not the subject of internal investigations, even when their deaths were unexpected. The MENTOR Network issued a report which falsely claimed that its death rates are in line with national death rates and the rates of death among all children in the foster care system. Moreover, families of these and other victims of inadequate care have received millions of dollars in financial settlements, significant enough for The MENTOR Network to receive less favorable terms from its insurer.

As the role of private for-profit and non-profit providers of foster care services has grown, oversight of these entities by State agencies—as well as Federal oversight of the States—has been inadequate. The Finance Committee staff has made recommendations to HHS, the States, and to Congress addressing these shortcomings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for States and Tribes

- Improve outreach, customer service, and support services for those interested in becoming foster parents to attract and retain high-quality foster families.
- Support enhanced oversight of foster families to ensure robust background checks, home study assessments, and ongoing placement oversight.
- Frequently review performance of child welfare service providers/contractors to ensure child safety, permanency, and well-being standards are being met.
- Track child safety and well-being related outcomes at the individual provider level, including whether children served by specific providers have higher than average needs (*e.g.*, are medically fragile, have special needs, or require therapeutic foster care placement, etc.).
- Set standards for maximum caseload size for child welfare workers, which may include differentiated standards based on variations in case type (*e.g.*, medically fragile children, children in therapeutic foster care placements, etc.) or activity (*e.g.*, investigations of abuse or neglect, case planning for children in foster care).

- Provide greater funding for the training of front-end staff charged with making removal and placement setting decisions for children entering foster care or at risk of entry.
- Revoke contracts from child welfare service providers who are unable to demonstrate the capacity to provide safe foster care placements for children.
- Provide subsidized guardianship payments to relatives willing and able to provide safe placements for children who can no longer remain at home.
- Ensure child death review teams are transparent, timely, and well-staffed. Require the timely publication of the results of child death reviews while ensuring appropriate and robust privacy protection of sensitive data.
- Make placement setting decisions based on the assessed strengths and needs of children entering foster care using an age-appropriate, evidence-based, validated, functional assessment tool to ensure children receive the appropriate level of care in the least restrictive, most family-like environment.
- Establish child welfare ombudsman offices through which children in care, family members, child welfare workers, foster parents, whistleblowers, and members of the public at large can submit comments and concerns about misconduct within the child welfare system.

Recommendations for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- Work to engage States, Congress, and the broader child welfare community in understanding the purpose and State-specific relevance of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSRs) and ensure this process contributes to meaningful improvement and reform.
- Seek and provide clarification on how States and Tribes are defining, using, and overseeing the delivery of Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) and establish a common definition of TFC for the purposes of Medicaid and title IV–E.
- Develop a uniform definition of “child abuse and neglect fatality” and provide guidance related to determining and reporting such fatalities and ensure States and Tribes are using this new definition when reporting data via the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS).
- Aid States in developing the means and mechanisms to accurately collect provider-specific outcomes data, consistent with the metrics and definitions associated with the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), NCANDS, and the CFSRs.
- Establish maximum caseload guidelines to promote manageable caseload sizes for the child welfare workforce.

Recommendations for Congress

- Support both funding and oversight for States and Tribes to enhance foster parent recruitment and retention activities to ensure robust background checks, home studies, ongoing placement oversight, and strong support services for foster parents.

- Support both funding and oversight for States and Tribes to enhance caseworker recruitment and retention activities to ensure child welfare caseworkers are both prepared to enter the field and given the support services necessary to carry out their jobs effectively.
- Allow States and Tribes to use title IV–E funds to support evidence-based services aimed at safely preventing foster care entries.
- Consider de-linking subsidized guardianship payments from the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) income standard so that States and Tribes can receive a Federal match on behalf of all children placed in subsidized guardianship placements and promote equity in the payment rate for kinship placements.
- Require all States to report to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) using standard definitions and provide support for this data collection and reporting.
- Consider legislation creating an explicit private right of action for children and youth in foster care tied to components of the case plan and case review requirements defined under section 475 of the Social Security Act.¹
- Consider statutory changes requiring HHS to assess fiscal penalties on States for failing to meet CFSR outcomes or system requirements and develop a penalty reinvestment structure under which assessed penalties must be used by the State to address the key identified deficiencies (rather than be deposited into the Federal Treasury).
- Consider amending section 479A of the Social Security Act to require States to collect, and HHS to audit, provider-specific child outcomes data in addition to State-specific data on outcomes such as: child fatalities, maltreatment in care, recurrence of maltreatment within 6 months, exits from foster care by reason for the exit (adoption or guardianship, reunification, emancipation), time to reunification, re-entry rates, and the average number of placements. Ensure this performance data is available to the public and considered by States or Tribes before making or renewing a contract with the provider.
- Consider prohibiting Federal title IV–E reimbursements for providers who consistently perform poorly on key safety, permanency, and well-being indicators. Charge HHS with auditing States and providers to determine which providers shall be excluded from Federal title IV–E reimbursement.
- Require States to make their contracts with private child welfare service providers publicly available and include details on whether such providers are private not-for-profit or private for-profit.

¹“Compilation of the Social Security Laws,” Social Security Act, section 475, https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title04/0475.htm.

How the Tax Bill Will Force States to Cut Medicaid

One of the most destructive ways the tax bill attacks health care has gotten the least attention. In addition to kicking people off coverage by repealing the individual mandate and setting the stage for huge funding cuts down the road because of the ballooning deficit, the tax bill will sap states' ability to fund vital health care programs.

Republican tax plan starves states of funding for Medicaid

The House and Senate tax plans propose reducing or eliminating taxpayers' ability to deduct state and local taxes, including property and sales taxes, on their federal tax returns. This may sound like a dull issue that impacts only wealthier people, but it is a big deal for anyone who cares about Medicaid.

If the state and local tax deduction ("SALT deduction") is eliminated or greatly reduced, it could spell big state Medicaid cuts.

The SALT deduction is an important source of revenue for Medicaid

Here's why the state and local tax deduction matters for Medicaid:

- » States, counties, cities, and towns have the obligation to do a lot of things—staff schools, set up fire departments, purify water, and pay for the "non-federal" share of Medicaid, based on Medicaid's long-standing shared financing between the federal government and states/localities.

- » To do all these things, states, counties, cities, and towns need money. That money comes from taxes—and state and local taxes are critical to each state's Medicaid funding.

Taking away taxpayers' ability to deduct state and local taxes on their federal return means that state and local taxes will be included in federal income and get taxed twice—at the state and the federal level. That's right—the "tax cut bill" will tax your state and local taxes.

That would be a [tax hike for many](#)—43 out of 50 states have income taxes, and almost everyone who itemizes tax returns takes the deduction. Even in states with no income tax, like Texas, getting rid of the sales and property tax deductions will hit many taxpayers.

Taxpayers hit with those higher tax bills driven by double taxation aren't going to be happy. To offset the tax increase they'll feel if the SALT deduction goes away, they are going to demand a cut in state and local taxes.

That will mean less revenue for states. That will mean less money for states to do things like pay for Medicaid. And that means Medicaid cuts.

This is just a backdoor plan to cut safety net programs like Medicaid

The Republican plan to get rid of the SALT deduction is a backdoor way to force states, particularly those with more generous Medicaid programs, into a box where they have to do less. And that's intentional. Just [check out](#) this piece by Breitbart's Senior Editor-at-Large, who envisions that ending the SALT deduction will cause wealthy voters to demand cuts in state spending.

In a tax bill that massively shifts income to the wealthy and corporations, irresponsibly raises the deficit, undermines the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and [sets the stage for massive federal cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, and the ACA](#), getting rid of the SALT deduction is another blow against health care.

Whether your state wants to or not, if the tax bill passes, your state will probably have to cut Medicaid—along with a host of other programs people rely on.

If you care about health care, tell your members of Congress to oppose the tax bill.

Publication ID: ACA-DEF-113017

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115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1964

To encourage kinship guardianship placements and support payment rate equity for such placements, to improve oversight of State child welfare programs funded under the Social Security Act, to strengthen national data on child fatalities from maltreatment, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 16, 2017

Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. WYDEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To encourage kinship guardianship placements and support payment rate equity for such placements, to improve oversight of State child welfare programs funded under the Social Security Act, to strengthen national data on child fatalities from maltreatment, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Child Welfare Over-
5 sight and Accountability Act of 2017”.

1 SEC. 2. DE-LINKAGE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KINSHIP GUARD-
2 IANSHIP ASSISTANCE FROM AFDC INCOME
3 LIMITATIONS AND DECREASE IN MINIMUM
4 NUMBER OF MONTHS REQUIRED TO BE RE-
5 SIDING IN A RELATIVE HOME BEFORE BEING
6 ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE.

7 (a) CHILD’S ELIGIBILITY FOR A KINSHIP GUARDIAN-
8 SHIP ASSISTANCE PAYMENT.—Section 473(d)(3)(A)(i)(II)
9 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 673(d)(3)(A)(i)(II))
10 is amended by striking “eligible for foster care mainte-
11 nance payments under section 472 while residing for at
12 least 6” and inserting “residing for at least 3”.

13 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO LIMITATION ON
14 AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—Section 473(d)(2) of such Act
15 (42 U.S.C. 673(d)(2)) is amended by striking “foster care
16 maintenance payment” and all that follows through the
17 period and inserting “highest foster care maintenance
18 payment which could have been paid on behalf of the child
19 if the child were eligible for foster care maintenance pay-
20 ments under section 472.”.

21 (c) APPLICATION OF FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PAR-
22 ENT RECORDS CHECKS REQUIREMENTS.—Section
23 471(a)(20)(C) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 671(a)(20)(C)) is
24 amended—

25 (1) by striking “criminal records checks, includ-
26 ing fingerprint-based checks of national crime infor-

1 mation databases (as defined in section 534(e)(3)(A)
 2 of title 28, United States Code),” and inserting
 3 “checks described in subparagraph (A)”; and

4 (2) by inserting “, including procedures that re-
 5 quire that a child shall not be placed in the home
 6 of any relative guardian if any such checks reveal in-
 7 formation which would prohibit a prospective foster
 8 or adoptive parent from being finally approved for
 9 placement of a child on whose behalf foster care
 10 maintenance payments or adoption assistance pay-
 11 ments are to be made under the State plan under
 12 this part” after “under this part”.

13 **SEC. 3. REINVESTING PENALTIES TO IMPROVE SUCCESS-**
 14 **FUL COMPLETION OF REVIEWS OF CHILD**
 15 **AND FAMILY SERVICES PROGRAMS AND OF**
 16 **FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE**
 17 **PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PLANS.**

18 Section 1123A(b)(4) of the Social Security Act (42
 19 U.S.C. 1320a–2a(b)(4)) is amended—

20 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “, ap-
 21 proved by the Secretary, designed to end the failure
 22 to so conform” and inserting “designed to end the
 23 failure to so conform that is developed with and ap-
 24 proved by the Secretary, and which, in addition to
 25 specifying all of the ways in which the State pro-

1 gram was determined to have failed to conform,
 2 identifies priority areas that, if successfully com-
 3 pleted under the corrective action plan, will be con-
 4 sidered to have brought the State into substantial
 5 conformity”;

6 (2) in subparagraph (C), by striking “suspend”
 7 and all that follows through the semicolon and in-
 8 serting “, in lieu of withholding of any Federal
 9 matching funds under this section while such a cor-
 10 rective action plan is in effect, require that the State
 11 spend an amount that is not less than the amount
 12 of the Federal matching funds that will be withheld
 13 if the State fails to successfully complete the correc-
 14 tive action plan on the priority areas identified in
 15 the corrective action plan;”; and

16 (3) in subparagraph (D), by striking “if the
 17 failure to so conform is ended by successful comple-
 18 tion of” and inserting “and spending requirement if
 19 the failure to so conform is ended by successful com-
 20 pletion of the identified priority areas of”.

21 **SEC. 4. STATE CHILD WELFARE CASELOAD AND WORKLOAD**
 22 **STANDARDS.**

23 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 471(a)(22) of the Social
 24 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671(a)(22)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “that, not later than” and in-
2 serting “that—

3 “(A) not later than”;

4 (2) by adding “and” after the semicolon; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(B)(i) not later than January 1, 2020,
7 the State, in consultation with the Secretary
8 and national organizations with expertise in
9 caseload and workload issues, and based on the
10 most recent research, best practices, and such
11 other data or information relating to caseload
12 and workload issues as the State and Secretary
13 determine appropriate, shall develop and imple-
14 ment caseload and workload standards for case
15 workers for children on whose behalf aid, serv-
16 ices, or assistance may be provided under part
17 B or this part that are based on the unique
18 needs and circumstances of the State and that
19 establish minimum standards with respect to—

20 “(I) the number of active initial as-
21 sessments or investigations per month per
22 caseworker;

23 “(II) the number of active, ongoing
24 cases per caseworker and the rate of new

1 families assigned to a caseworker for every
2 open family case;

3 “(III) the number of combined assess-
4 ment or investigation and ongoing cases
5 per caseworker;

6 “(IV) the number of families per case-
7 worker being provided intensive family-cen-
8 tered or preservation services;

9 “(V) the number of cases per case-
10 worker that involve children with intensive
11 caseworker or supervision needs; and

12 “(VI) supervisor to caseworker ratios;
13 and

14 “(ii) not later than January 1, 2025, and
15 every 5 years thereafter, the State shall update
16 the standards developed and implemented under
17 clause (i), in consultation with the Secretary
18 and national organizations with expertise in
19 caseload and workload issues, and based on the
20 most recent research, best practices, and such
21 other data or information relating to caseload
22 and workload issues as the State and Secretary
23 determine appropriate.”

24 (b) APPLICATION TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL
25 ORGANIZATIONS.—Section 471(a)(22)(B) of the Social

1 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671(a)(22)(B)), as added by sub-
2 section (a), shall apply to—

3 (1) Indian tribes, tribal organizations, or tribal
4 consortiums that have a plan approved under section
5 471(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671(a))
6 in accordance with section 479B of such Act (42
7 U.S.C. 679c); and

8 (2) Indian tribes, tribal organizations, or tribal
9 consortiums that have a cooperative agreement or
10 contract with a State for the administration or pay-
11 ment of funds under part E of title IV of the Social
12 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670 et seq.).

13 **SEC. 5. TRAINING CHILD WELFARE WORKERS.**

14 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 474(a)(3)(A) of the Social
15 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 674(a)(3)(A)) is amended—

16 (1) by striking “75 per centum of so much of
17 such expenditures as are for the training” and in-
18 serting “50 percent of so much of such expenditures
19 as are for the short- and long-term training”; and

20 (2) by inserting “or of personnel employed or
21 preparing for employment by State-licensed or State-
22 approved child welfare agencies, without regard to
23 whether such personnel provide or will provide serv-
24 ices to foster or adoptive children on behalf of whom
25 foster care maintenance payments or adoption as-

1 sistance payments may be made under this part, in
2 areas directly related to the responsibilities of such
3 personnel, including making a case plan, carrying
4 out case reviews, engaging families, connecting fami-
5 lies with appropriate substance abuse treatment,
6 preparing for judicial proceedings, determining eligi-
7 bility, treating child behaviors or other problems,
8 carrying out or participating with child abuse and
9 neglect investigations and other responses, coordi-
10 nating and connecting children with health services,
11 helping children access psycho-social services as
12 needed, providing post-permanency services, pro-
13 viding child welfare services in a trauma-informed
14 manner, working in multidisciplinary teams, and col-
15 laborating with law enforcement,” after “subdivi-
16 sion,”.

17 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
18 474(a)(3)(B) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 674(a)(3)(B)) is
19 amended by striking “, the members of the staff of State-
20 licensed or State-approved child care institutions providing
21 care, or State-licensed or State-approved child welfare
22 agencies providing services,” and inserting “or the mem-
23 bers of the staff of State-licensed or State-approved child
24 care institutions providing care”.

1 SEC. 6. STRENGTHENING NATIONAL DATA ON CHILD FA-
2 TALITIES FROM MALTREATMENT.

3 (a) IV-B REQUIREMENT TO ANNUALLY REVIEW
4 CHILD FATALITIES FROM MALTREATMENT.—Section
5 422(b)(19) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
6 622(b)(19)) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “contain a description” and in-
8 serting “contain—

9 “(A) a description”;

10 (2) by striking the period at the end and insert-
11 ing a semicolon; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(B) assurances that the State shall—

14 “(i) annually engage in a multidisci-
15 plinary review of all child fatalities from
16 maltreatment in the State that occurred
17 during the previous year in accordance
18 with the requirements of section 429A;
19 and”.

20 (b) ANNUAL REVIEW REQUIREMENTS.—Subpart 1 of
21 part B of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
22 621 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
23 lowing:

1 “SEC. 429A. ANNUAL REVIEW OF CHILD FATALITIES FROM
2 MALTREATMENT.

3 “(a) REQUIREMENTS.—In order to satisfy the re-
4 quirements of section 422(b)(19)(B)(i), a State shall re-
5 quire the State’s multidisciplinary child death review team
6 or other multidisciplinary team established by the State
7 that is comprised of child welfare workers, child protective
8 services workers, prosecutors, law enforcement, coroners
9 or medical examiners, public health care providers, pedia-
10 tricians with expertise in child maltreatment and the child
11 welfare system, substance abuse treatment providers, and
12 other individuals integral to the child welfare system (in
13 this section referred to as the ‘review team’) to annually
14 review all child fatalities from maltreatment in the State
15 that occurred during the most recently ended fiscal year
16 and for which all administrative or judicial review is com-
17 plete or no longer timely. Any child fatality from maltreat-
18 ment in the State that occurred during the most recently
19 ended fiscal year but for which administrative or judicial
20 review is not complete or remains timely shall be reviewed
21 by the review team in the first annual review period that
22 occurs after all administrative or judicial review is com-
23 plete or no longer timely.

24 “(b) REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—The review
25 team shall—

1 “(1) for each child fatality from maltreatment
2 in the State subject to review, make findings regard-
3 ing the causes of child’s fatality and other factors
4 that impacted the child’s fatality, the circumstances
5 of the fatality, the characteristics of the victim, the
6 perpetrators, including their relationship to the
7 child, and the parents or guardians of the child,
8 whether there were previous familial interactions
9 with child protective services and the outcomes of
10 those interactions, whether the child had any sib-
11 lings and how many, and the social services, public
12 cash or in-kind assistance, health (including mental
13 health) services, substance abuse treatment, or other
14 public or private services provided to or on behalf of
15 the child prior to the child’s death;

16 “(2) submit all findings and data made in ac-
17 cordance with paragraph (1) to the Child Death Re-
18 view Case Reporting System (in this section referred
19 to as the ‘CDR Reporting System’) operated by the
20 National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention;

21 “(3) based on the findings made in accordance
22 with paragraph (1), develop recommendations for
23 preventing future child fatalities from maltreatment;
24 and

1 “(4) submit an annual report to the State Gov-
2 ernor, the State Legislature, and, if the incident re-
3 porting threshold established under subsection (c) is
4 met, to the Secretary, that contains the findings and
5 data submitted to the CDR Reporting System under
6 subparagraph (2) (de-identified) and the rec-
7 ommendations developed under paragraph (3).

8 “(c) ANNUAL INCIDENT REPORTING THRESHOLD.—

9 “(1) STATE-SPECIFIC THRESHOLDS.—The Sec-
10 retary annually shall establish a national reporting
11 incident threshold for each State for purposes of
12 protecting the privacy of families and other living in-
13 dividuals whose information is part of the findings
14 and data submitted under subsection (b)(2) and the
15 annual report to the State Governor and State Leg-
16 islature required under subsection (b)(4). In estab-
17 lishing such threshold for a State, the Secretary
18 shall ensure that the reporting threshold is sufficient
19 to prevent the re-identification of living individuals
20 who could be identified in the information contained
21 in the annual report required under subsection
22 (b)(4).

23 “(2) APPLICATION.—If the number of child fa-
24 talities from maltreatment in a State in a fiscal year
25 is below the reporting threshold established for the

1 State for the fiscal year, the State shall not submit
2 the annual report required under subsection (b)(4)
3 to the Secretary but shall submit to the Secretary—

4 “(A) the findings and data submitted to
5 the CDR Reporting System under subsection
6 (b)(2) for the purpose of making such findings
7 and data accessible as a public use data set on
8 the national website required under subsection
9 (g) after redacting any personal identifying in-
10 formation; and

11 “(B) the recommendations developed under
12 subsection (b)(3).

13 “(d) FUNDING.—Amounts expended by a State dur-
14 ing each quarter beginning after December 31, 2017, for
15 administrative costs (as defined in section 422(c)(1)) to
16 carry out this section and section 422(b)(19)(B) shall be
17 deemed to be amounts expended during such quarter as
18 found necessary by the Secretary for the proper and effi-
19 cient administration of the State plan under part E for
20 purposes of Federal matching payments under section
21 474(a)(3)(E).

22 “(e) INDIAN TRIBES, TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—The
23 Secretary, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary-In-
24 dian Affairs of the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the De-
25 partment of Interior and tribal child welfare organiza-

1 tions, shall determine how and the extent to which the re-
2 quirements of this section shall apply to Indian tribes and
3 tribal organizations (as defined in section 4 of the Indian
4 Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25
5 U.S.C. 450b).

6 “(f) NONAPPLICATION.—The limitations on pay-
7 ments for administrative costs under sections 424(e) and
8 472(i) shall not apply to State expenditures made to carry
9 out this section.

10 “(g) NATIONAL WEBSITE.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordina-
12 tion with the National Center for Fatality Review
13 and Prevention, shall publish on a website that is
14 available to the public and maintained and updated
15 at least annually—

16 “(A) each annual report submitted to the
17 Secretary under subsection (b)(4); and

18 “(B) the findings and data submitted to
19 the CDR Reporting System under subsection
20 (b)(2) (with any personal identifying informa-
21 tion or information that identifies the submit-
22 ting State redacted) in a manner that is acces-
23 sible as a public use data set for purposes of re-
24 search to identify risk factors and to prevent
25 future deaths of children from maltreatment.

1 “(2) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary
2 shall notify Congress when information on the
3 website required under paragraph (1) is updated.”.

4 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 425 of the
5 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 625) is amended by strik-
6 ing “426, 427, and 429” and inserting “422(b)(19)(B),
7 426, 427, 429, and 429A”.

8 SEC. 7. DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL DEFINITION STAND-
9 ARDS RELATING TO CHILD FATALITIES FROM
10 MALTREATMENT.

11 (a) PROMULGATION OF NATIONAL DEFINITION
12 STANDARDS.—Not later than 18 months after the date
13 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and
14 Human Services (in this section referred to as the “Sec-
15 retary”) shall promulgate proposed regulations estab-
16 lishing a set of national definition standards relating to
17 child fatalities from maltreatment that States shall use to
18 report data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data
19 System established and maintained in accordance with
20 section 103 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment
21 Act (42 U.S.C. 5104) and, not later than 6 months after
22 the date on which the public comment period on the pro-
23 posed regulations closes, shall issue final regulations es-
24 tablishing such standards.

1 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—In promulgating the regula-
2 tions under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with
3 representatives of—

4 (1) State and county officials responsible for
5 administering the State plans under parts B and E
6 of title IV of the Social Security Act;

7 (2) child welfare professionals with field experi-
8 ence;

9 (3) child welfare researchers;

10 (4) child development professionals;

11 (5) mental health professionals;

12 (6) emergency medicine physicians;

13 (7) child abuse pediatricians, as certified by the
14 American Board of Pediatrics, who specialize in
15 treating victims of child abuse;

16 (8) forensic pathologists;

17 (9) public health administration;

18 (10) public health researchers;

19 (11) law enforcement;

20 (12) a representative from the National Center
21 for Fatality Review and Prevention; and

22 (13) such other organizations or entities as the
23 Secretary determines appropriate.

24 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

25 (1) CAPTA.—

1 (A) NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE AND NE-
2 GLECT DATA SYSTEM.—Section 103(c)(1)(C) of
3 the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
4 (42 U.S.C. 5104(c)(1)(C)) is amended—

5 (i) in clause (iii), by striking “and”
6 after the semicolon;

7 (ii) in clause (iv), by adding “and”
8 after the semicolon; and

9 (iii) by inserting after clause (iv), the
10 following:

11 “(v) information on child fatalities
12 from maltreatment in accordance with the
13 set of national definition standards pro-
14 mulgated under section 7(a) of the Child
15 Welfare Oversight and Accountability Act
16 of 2017;”.

17 (B) ANNUAL STATE DATA REPORTS.—Sec-
18 tion 106(d) of the Child Abuse Prevention and
19 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(d)) is amend-
20 ed by adding at the end the following:

21 “(19) The number of child fatalities from mal-
22 treatment and related information required to be re-
23 ported in accordance with the set of national defini-
24 tion standards promulgated under section 7(a) of

1 the Child Welfare Oversight and Accountability Act
2 of 2017.”.

3 (2) SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.—

4 (A) IV-B PLAN.—Section 422(b)(19) of
5 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(19)),
6 as amended by section 6(a), is further amended
7 by adding at the end the following:

8 “(ii) report information on child mal-
9 treatment deaths required by Federal law
10 in accordance with the set of national defi-
11 nition standards promulgated under sec-
12 tion 7(a) of the Child Welfare Oversight
13 and Accountability Act of 2017.”.

14 (B) ANNUAL REVIEW REQUIREMENTS.—

15 Section 429A of the Social Security Act, as
16 added by section 6(b), is amended by adding at
17 the end the following:

18 “(h) APPLICATION OF NATIONAL DEFINITION
19 STANDARDS.—The review team shall use the set of na-
20 tional definition standards promulgated under section 7(a)
21 of the Child Welfare Oversight and Accountability Act of
22 2017 to make and submit findings and data to the CDR
23 Reporting System and to develop the recommendations re-
24 quired under subsection (b)(3).”.

1 SEC. 8. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL RE-
2 PORT TO CONGRESS BASED ON AFCARS AND
3 OTHER DATA.

4 (a) PROVIDER-SPECIFIC CHILD OUTCOMES.—Section
5 479A(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 679b(a))
6 is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (6)(C), by striking “and”
8 after the semicolon;

9 (2) in paragraph (7)(B), by striking the period
10 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

11 (3) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(8) develop a set of provider-specific child out-
13 come measures (including with respect to child fa-
14 talities, child fatalities from maltreatment, maltreat-
15 ment in care, recurrence of maltreatment within 6
16 months, exits from foster care by reason for the exit
17 (adoption, guardianship, reunification, or emanci-
18 pation), time to reunification, reentry rates, and av-
19 erage number of placements) that can be used to as-
20 sess the performance of foster care providers, as de-
21 fined in subsection (e), in providing services to chil-
22 dren under this part or part B;

23 “(9) prescribe, not later than October 1, 2019,
24 such regulations as may be necessary to ensure that
25 States—

1 “(A) provide to the Secretary the data nec-
2 essary for the Secretary to assess the perform-
3 ance of States and foster care providers (as so
4 defined) with respect to the outcome measures
5 developed under paragraph (8), as a condition
6 of the State receiving funds under this part;

7 “(B) include with the data submitted to
8 the Secretary under subparagraph (A) for each
9 foster care provider (as so defined), information
10 as to whether the provider is a for-profit or not-
11 for-profit entity; and

12 “(C) review and consider the performance
13 of each foster care provider (as so defined) with
14 respect to such outcome measures prior to en-
15 tering into or renewing any agreement with the
16 provider that relates to the provision of services
17 to children under this part or part B; and

18 “(10) include in the report submitted pursuant
19 to paragraph (5) for fiscal year 2021 or any suc-
20 ceeding fiscal year, State-by-State data with respect
21 to the outcome measures developed under paragraph
22 (8) and the data and information submitted under
23 paragraph (9).”.

24 (b) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF STATE-SPECIFIC IN-
25 FORMATION.—Section 479A of the Social Security Act (42

1 U.S.C. 679b) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall
4 publish, in a manner that is accessible as a public use data
5 set for purposes of research, the data, ratings, and per-
6 formance measures collected and determined under this
7 section with respect to each State on a website that is
8 available to the public and maintained and updated at
9 least annually.”.

10 (c) APPLICATION TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL
11 ORGANIZATIONS.—Section 479A of such Act (42 U.S.C.
12 679b), as amended by subsection (b), is further amended
13 by adding at the end the following:

14 “(d) APPLICATION TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL
15 ORGANIZATIONS.—The data collection and outcome meas-
16 ures requirements of this section shall apply to Indian
17 tribes, tribal organization, or tribal consortiums that have
18 a plan approved under section 471(a) in accordance with
19 section 479B, in the same manner as such requirements
20 apply to a State under this part.”.

21 (d) DEFINITION OF FOSTER CARE PROVIDER.—Sec-
22 tion 479A of such Act (42 U.S.C. 679b), as amended by
23 subsections (b) and (c), is further amended by adding at
24 the end the following:

1 “(e) DEFINITION OF FOSTER CARE PROVIDER.—For
2 purposes of paragraphs (8) and (9) of subsection (a), the
3 term ‘foster care provider’ means any entity, other than
4 a foster family home, that receives funds from a State
5 under this part or part B for the provision of placement
6 or supervision services for any child in foster care under
7 the responsibility of the State.”.

8 SEC. 9. PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION FOR FAILURE TO COM-
9 PLY WITH CASE PLAN AND CASE SYSTEM RE-
10 VIEW REQUIREMENTS.

11 (a) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—Section 475A of
12 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 675a) is amended by
13 adding at the end the following:

14 “(c) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An individual who is or
16 was a child in foster care under the responsibility of
17 the State may obtain appropriate relief with regard
18 to a failure to comply with a case plan requirement
19 in section 475(1) or a failure to comply with a case
20 review system requirement in section 475(5) that
21 applies or applied to the individual while the child
22 was such foster care not later than 5 years after the
23 date on which the individual exits foster care by
24 bringing a civil action in an appropriate district
25 court of the United States. In the case of an indi-

1 vidual with more than 1 period in foster care under
 2 the responsibility of the State, each such period shall
 3 be treated separately for purposes of applying the 5-
 4 year deadline under the preceding sentence.

5 “(2) EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REM-
 6 EDIES.—An action under this subsection may be
 7 commenced, and relief may be granted, only after
 8 the individual commencing the action has sought or
 9 exhausted any available administrative remedies.

10 “(3) WAIVER OF STATE SOVEREIGNTY.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of a
 12 State receiving funds under this part, the State
 13 shall voluntarily and knowingly agree that—

14 “(i) an action under this subsection
 15 may be maintained against, among others,
 16 a party that is a State governmental enti-
 17 ty; and

18 “(ii) relief in an action under this
 19 subsection may include money damages
 20 even if the defendant is such a govern-
 21 mental entity.

22 “(B) STATE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY DE-
 23 FINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘State
 24 governmental entity’ means a State, a local gov-
 25 ernment within a State, and any agency or

1 other governmental unit or subdivision of a
2 State or of such a local government.

3 “(4) RELIEF.—In an action under this sub-
4 section, the court shall grant—

5 “(A) all necessary equitable and legal re-
6 lief, including, where appropriate, declaratory
7 relief and compensatory and punitive damages,
8 to prevent the occurrence, continuance, or rep-
9 etition of the designated failure and to com-
10 pensate for losses resulting from the designated
11 failure; and

12 “(B) to a prevailing plaintiff, reasonable
13 attorneys’ fees and litigation expenses as part
14 of the costs.”.

15 (b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The private right of
16 action established under section 475A(c) of the Social Se-
17 curity Act with regard to a failure to comply with a case
18 plan requirement in section 475(1) of such Act or a failure
19 to comply with a case review system requirement in section
20 475(5) of such Act, as added by subsection (a) of this sec-
21 tion, shall not be construed as an expression of congres-
22 sional intent with respect to the creation of, or prohibition
23 of, a private right of action with respect to a failure to
24 comply with any other provision of title IV of Social Secu-
25 rity Act.

1 SEC. 10. TRANSPARENCY IN CONTRACTING WITH PRIVATE
2 CHILD WELFARE SERVICE PROVIDERS.

3 Section 422(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
4 622(b)), as amended by section 7(c)(2)(A), is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (18), by striking “and” after
6 the semicolon;

7 (2) in paragraph (19), by striking the period at
8 the end and inserting “; and”; and

9 (3) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(20) provide that the State shall make publicly
11 available on a website maintained by the State, in
12 accordance with such procedures as are necessary to
13 maintain the confidentiality and privacy of children
14 and families provided assistance under this part or
15 part E—

16 “(A) any agreement with a private foster
17 care provider (as defined in section 479A(e))
18 that relates to the provision of services to chil-
19 dren under this part or part E; and

20 “(B) with respect to each such provider
21 with such an agreement, information as to
22 whether the provider is a for-profit or not-for-
23 profit entity.”.

1 SEC. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE.

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsections
3 (b), (c), and (d), this Act and the amendments made by
4 this Act take effect on January 1, 2018.

5 (b) REINVESTMENT OF PENALTIES.—The amend-
6 ments made by section 3 take effect on October 1, 2018,
7 and shall apply to conformity reviews conducted with re-
8 spect to fiscal years beginning with fiscal year 2019.

9 (c) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—The amendment
10 made by section 9(a) shall take effect on January 1, 2019.

11 (d) DELAY PERMITTED IF STATE LEGISLATION RE-
12 QUIRED.—In the case of a State plan approved under part
13 B or E of title IV of the Social Security Act which the
14 Secretary of Health and Human Services determines re-
15 quires State legislation (other than legislation appro-
16 priating funds) in order for the plan to meet the additional
17 requirements imposed by this Act, the State plan shall not
18 be regarded as failing to comply with the requirements of
19 such part solely on the basis of the failure of the plan
20 to meet such additional requirements before the first day
21 of the first calendar quarter beginning after the close of
22 the first regular session of the State legislature that be-
23 gins after the date of enactment of this section. For pur-
24 poses of the previous sentence, in the case of a State that
25 has a 2-year legislative session, each year of such session

- 1 shall be deemed to be a separate regular session of the
- 2 State legislature.

Æ

OCTOBER 17, 2017

Press Contact:

202-224-4515, Katie Niederee, Rachel McCleery & Samantha_Offerdahl

Hatch, Wyden Respond to Significant Need to Improve Government Oversight Following Foster Care Investigation

Bipartisan Senate Finance Committee Investigation into Foster Care Uncovers Abuse, Neglect and System Failures at Every Level

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) and Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) today released a bipartisan report detailing their two-year investigation into foster care privatization and the increasing practice of states tasking private entities (for-profit and non-profit) with protecting our nation’s most vulnerable children. As a result of the investigation’s findings, Hatch and Wyden also introduced legislation, the *Child Welfare Oversight and Accountability Act of 2017 (S. 1964)*, to address issues raised by the report.

The investigation – launched in April 2015 with inquiries to the governors of all 50 states and conducted by the bipartisan oversight staff of the Senate Finance Committee – examined the privatization of foster care services in the 33 states that responded. The investigation found that flaws in data collection and oversight structures at both the state and federal levels make it difficult and sometimes impossible to monitor the operations of the child welfare system, especially its private providers, and ensure that foster children receive proper care.

“For many years, I have worked to improve outcomes for vulnerable children, and this bipartisan investigation uncovered that too often children in foster care are experiencing substandard care,” **Hatch said**. “The lack of oversight of the nation’s child welfare system, at both the state and federal level, is unacceptable. The Child Welfare Oversight and Accountability Act, which I introduced today with Ranking Member Wyden, would help to ensure better government oversight and protect children in foster care in Utah and across the country.”

“It is outrageous and heartbreaking that so many vulnerable children experience neglect and abuse within our foster care system,” **Wyden said**. “The ultimate indictment of this system is there is so little oversight that the government can’t even confirm the gaps that caring advocates tell us are getting worse. What’s even more outrageous is that efforts to fix flaws in the system have been held up by stonewalling in the United States Senate. To end this unacceptable treatment of children I intend to doggedly pursue the report’s recommendations. Chairman Hatch and I are committed to making this issue a priority for the committee and will work to bring America’s foster care systems up to the standards our children deserve.”

One specific private company, The MENTOR Network – one of the largest for-profit providers of foster care services in the United States – voluntarily provided data and analysis that showed that over a 10-year period, approximately 70 percent of children’s deaths were unexpected.

S. 1964 will strengthen oversight and accountability of child welfare systems and individual providers, improve training for caseworkers, and provide incentives for more children in foster care to be placed with family members. The bill text of the *Child Welfare Oversight and Accountability Act of 2017* can be found [here](#) and a one-page summary can be found [here](#).

Additionally, Finance Committee staff made a series of bipartisan [recommendations](#) to the Department of Health and Human Services, the states and to Congress about how to address child welfare systems’ shortcomings identified in the report. Those recommendations can be found [here](#).

An executive summary of the report can be found [here](#), and the full report can be found [here](#).

Background

Foster care placements for children who are victims of abuse and neglect have historically been managed by a combination of private and public resources. However, the need for specialized foster care services, combined with a shortage of foster care homes that has been exacerbated by the nation’s opioid epidemic in recent years, has led to increased privatization of many core foster care services.

Today, both non-profit and for-profit private agencies contract with and provide foster care services on behalf of state agencies. In 2015, 671,000 children in the United States were provided out-of-home foster care services. State child welfare agencies report they have procedures in place to monitor child welfare providers' performance and outcomes. Following media reports in 2015 highlighting problems with foster care placements made by for-profit entities, the bipartisan investigation used The MENTOR Network as a case study of the state of foster care in the U.S. and the growing role of private providers.

The Senate Finance Committee has jurisdiction over federal child welfare and foster care funding.

###

Related Files

[An Examination Of Foster Care In The United States And The Use Of Privatization.pdf](#)

[Executive Summary.pdf](#)

[Recomendations.pdf](#)

[Figures 1 & 2.pdf](#)

[Appendix A - 50-State Overview Letter.pdf](#)

[Appendix B - Responses to 50-State Overview Letter.pdf](#)

[Appendix C - 5-State In-Depth Letters.pdf](#)

[Appendix D - CRS Memo on HHS Children and Family Services Review.pdf](#)

[Appendix E - Letter to The MENTOR Network.pdf](#)

[Appendix F - MENTOR Level 4 Incident Reports.pdf](#)

[Appendix G - MENTOR Mortality Report and Backup Data.pdf](#)

[S. 1964 CW Oversight and Accountability Act.pdf](#)

[S. 1964 CW Oversight and Accountability Act Summary.pdf](#)

[Errata.pdf](#)

Recent News

12/06/17The Senate Tax Overhaul Will Help #Millennials, Future Generations

12/05/17Hatch Announces Executive Session to Consider CBP Nomination

12/05/17GOP United on Tax Reform

12/04/17Finance Committee Republicans Applaud Senate Passage of Historic Tax Reform

12/04/17More Than 200 Industry Stakeholders and Job Creators Support Senate Tax Overhaul

CCASSC Minutes
September 21, 2017

Present: D. Foster, K. Woodard, J. Webb, S. Pearl, C. Kothari, M. Miller, L. Du'Chene, S. Bugay,
S. Pettygrove, K. Brinks, C. Uetz, D. Drake, D. Martinez

Student Stipend Awardees/Guests & Health Partners also in attendance.

- I. Introductions
- II. Student Stipend Program – Power Points Posted CCASSC Website. Awardees presented as follows:
 - A. Savannah R. Gomes, MSW, Adolescent and Young Adult Oncology: An Evaluation of Patient-Centered Care.
 - B. Vanessa Cregar, MSW, Self-Care Practices of Fresno State MSW Title IV-E Students.
 - C. Leonor Sierra, MSW Candidate, Physician-Assisted End of Life Option Act and California Social Workers.
 - D. Ryan Smith, MSW PPS, Correlational Study: The Influence of Personal Online Communication on Adolescents' Self-Disclosure.
- III. **CCASSC/SJVPHC Joint Meeting**
- IV. **CCASSC Summary/History**
 - A. CCASSC/CCTA -David Foster, Director
 - Provided Power Point of History of CCASSC**
 - Evolution
 - Formation/ CCASSC and SWERT work on issues to better the region
 - Dues Counties/ supported by University time.
 - Annual Plan
 - Quarterly meeting
 - Dr. Iran Barrera will be joining CCASSC. Working on the ACES program.
 - Student Stipend Program
 - Joint endeavor Social Welfare and Health work group established.
 - B. **SJVPHC – Kathleen Grassi Director/David Luchini Assistant Director**
 - Encouraged to model CCASSC
 - Funding was going to Larger Counties/regions. Funding driven by population base
 - Combining efforts would increase the base.
 - Attention from California Endowment, who provided funding. Endowment wanted Them to work on child-hood obesity.
 - 2011 modeled after CCASSC model
 - County dues
 - Operating Principles were established. Mission, Vision and Purpose.
 - Two Elected Officers, Chair and Chair Elect. They do a rotation of the counties.
 - Subcommittees include: Data, Policy, STC Controllers and PHAB Accreditation.
 - Collaboration: GARE, BARHI, CCASSC, CVHPI Leadership Program, and BMSG.
 - Focus on Long Term sustainability

-Staff Training/Staff Development

V. **SJVPHC/CCASSC Collaboration/Presentation. Power Point on the CCASSC website.**

A. Corinna Brown

Ilesha Sanders, MPH

-Training Program, great networking opportunity.

-2017 has a cohort with a member John Palm present

-Directed to make partners with each other. Focus on cultural competence. Health Equity became focus/ along with cultural humility.

-Developed objectives/ results.

-John Palm, next focus will include developing committees based on what found Through first cohort.

VI. David Luchini Assistant Director, Fresno County Community Health

-Update on Health Priority Index Provided. See Power point

-Looking at child abuse rate.

-David will send out a copy of his power point.

VII. Kathleen Grassi/Lori Williams GARE Regional Training.

-Government Alliance Race and Equity. Initial work in Seattle Washington. Look at governments' role in racial equity. California Endowment funded.

VIII Iran Barrera, PHD

Has joined the SWERT/CCASSC groups as the faculty liaison. Discussed his Columbia experience, ACES program, and work in the Central Valley. He discussed the Glove Reef Sunset School district project. Used a game board, bingo style; questions have a purpose. Current work, includes perceptions of mental distress Latino population. Looking at vulnerable groups in Mexico. Looking at local, National level.

IX. **Next Steps for the SJVPHC/CCASSC Collaboration**

-ACES

-Whole Person Care

-In respective meetings tomorrow can discuss next steps.

CCASSC Minutes
September 22, 2017

Present: D. Foster, K. Woodard, J. Webb, S. Pearl, C. Kothari, M. Miller, L. Du'Chene, S. Bugay, S. Pettygrove, K. Brinks, C. Uetz, D. Drake, D. Martinez

- I. **Paperless** – those present ok with going paperless. Document sharing and systems discussed included Whova, Box, (Stephanie advised she could provide members a link) and Google Drive.
- II. **Mission, Vision and Purpose** – this is going to be revisited.
ACTION: David or Stephanie will send the original to members. This will be calendared for a future discussion
- III. **WIOH** – Documents/Agreement – Discussion on the perception of funding by some workforce agencies. One county (not a CCASSC Member) had a one page simple agreement that they entered into with their workforce. Funding not as fluid as it once was (social services historically viewed as a cash cow).
ACTION: Chevon will ask Eileen Cubanski, CWDA to create a fiscal trends document.
- IV. **Facilities** – Discussion on how facilities have been financed. Members shared how financed. Super Circular was changed. Sanja suggested reviewing this. Also discussed was how county Auditors classify assets. Bonds, for financing buildings was also discussed.
ACTION: Sanja will send her documents to Kristin and a cc: to Stephanie and Kelly so that it can be shared with membership.
- V. **Public Authority** - Question Posed, who is your county public authority? Varied with members. Most Directors are the Public Authority. The focus of public Authorities has shifted over time.
ACTION: Sanja will provide Stephanie and Kelly her PowerPoint for sharing with membership.
- VI. CWDA/CCASSC Lobbying on Poverty Issues – Frank Mecca approached some directors on names of people who have a background in this area. A couple of names discussed.
ACTION: Invite Hub Walsh to upcoming meeting tie our regional poverty initiative. Pete Webber was also mentioned as a resource tied to his advocacy work in the San Joaquin Valley Region – David and Kelly
- VII. **SIU is Your County External or Internal?** - Welfare fraud investigation is different for different counties. Some Welfare Fraud Investigator, peace officers. Discussion of guns and having peace officers within social services. Some counties have Eligibility Workers along with DAs office handling fraud cases. Productivity of units along with how you measure productivity was discussed.
ACTION: Mike Miller will send to Stephanie and Kelly his job specs to be shared with membership.
- VIII. **Pepper Spray** – A couple of counties allow workers to carry pepper spray. Chevon would like a copy.
ACTION: Those counties with protocols are asked to forward to Stephanie and Kelly so that they can be shared with CCASSC membership
- IX. **FADS Participation** – FADs for CCASSC has former members attending. Fiscal should be incorporated into a larger discussion.
- X. Subcommittees – Fiscal is one of CCASSC's subcommittees. Discussed at least yearly having Children's co-chairs coming to CCASSC. Further, it was suggested having a CCASSC member

being a link to subcommittees. That member would go to the meetings and bring content to this group. Also discussed the need to have an Adult Services subcommittee.

ACTION: Kelly to lead an adhoc group/develop written document on Subcommittees.

Directors who volunteered to participate include: Chevon, Devin, Juliet.

ACTION: CCASSC members to develop projects the region may tackle.

- XI. **Social Worker/Education/Recruitment/Retention** – Merced provides supervision for LCSW licensure. Further, they pay an increase for having a license. Difference discussed between those IVE who come from counties and those who do not. Payback years for IVE also discussed. Increasing the amount of time for payback is being discussed. CalSwec is working on a survey and would like the CCASSC counties to participate.

ACTION: Calswec to be invited to December meeting. The group wants to have the Universities present. David and Kelly.

- XII. **Homeless** – San Joaquin formed a homeless task force. The county is looking at hiring a homeless CZAR. Mariposa Social Services has been tasked with tackling issues as well. They do not have a housing authority. They are working with HomeBase; who are also grant writers. Looking at where homeless and housing issues should live.

- XIII. **AAP** – San Luis got contacted by the Feds on their perception of AAP

- XIV. **Elections** – to be held in December.

- XV. **Upcoming Meetings** – December, 2017 is the last meeting scheduled.

ACTION: Stephanie and Kelly will poll group to develop next year's dates for upcoming meetings.

- XVI. **Next Meetings: December 14-15, 2017 Coast**

CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE FOR CHILD WELFARE & PROBATION

March 28-29, 2018

UC Davis Campus



Sponsored by the California Department of Social Services, California's regional training academies, Casey Family Programs, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services and the University of California, Berkeley

CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE FOR CHILD WELFARE & PROBATION

March 28-29, 2018

UC Davis Campus

The statewide CQI Conference for Child Welfare/Probation provides an opportunity for child welfare and probation leaders and their California county teams to come together and share successes, discuss challenges and collaboratively develop new strategies to continue to improve outcomes for children and families. This two-day, interactive workshop will offer tracks for all levels of knowledge and all levels of implementation related to CQI.

This interactive, two-day conference is sponsored by the California Department of Social Services, California's regional training academies, Casey Family Programs, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services and the University of California, Berkeley,

Who should attend

This conference is intended for child welfare and probation leaders and their respective county CQI teams, including directors, managers, supervisors, case reviewers, CQI staff, analysts, probation officers, social workers and other key members who are committed to working collaboratively toward continuously improving outcomes for children and families.

Learn more

More information about the 2018 CQI Conference will be available soon. If you'd like to receive updates about this conference via email, please get on our email list at academy@ucdavis.edu. You can also contact the Northern California Training Academy at (530) 757-8725 if you have any questions.

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT US

Phone: (530) 757-8725

Email: academy@ucdavis.edu

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2017 CCASSC BUDGET: Annual Dues = \$127,919 Carryforward = \$106,435.34

Period January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018

Annual Service Fee Budget	Proposed Budget	Expended	Balance
Personnel:			
CCASSC Staff Director	\$ 16,000	\$	16,000
Faculty Research Consultant (BO)	\$ 8,000	\$	8,000
Research Associate	\$ 40,000	\$	40,000
Clerical	\$ 10,102	\$	10,102
Total Personnel	\$ 74,102	\$	74,102
Operational:			
Supplies/Material	\$ 1,246	\$	1,246
Phone/Communications	\$ 500	\$	500
Duplication/Copies	\$ 2,000	\$	2,000
Total Operational	\$ 3,746	\$ -	\$ 3,746
Meeting/Facilitation:			
Quarterly Meeting:	\$ 20,225	\$	20,225
Travel		\$	-
Community Relations		\$	-
Total Meeting/Facilitation	\$ 20,225	\$ -	\$ 20,225
CSUF Foundation Indirect - 8% of Budget	\$ 7,846	\$	7,846
Total Personnel & Operational	\$ 105,919	\$	105,919

Development and Research	Budget	Expended	Balance
Information and Research	\$ 13,000	\$	13,000
University Conferences/Workshops	\$ 4,000	\$	4,000
Student Research Assistants	\$ 5,000	\$	5,000
Balance	\$ 22,000	\$ -	\$ 22,000
Total CCASSC Budget AND EXPENDITURE	\$ 127,919	\$ -	

In-Kind: College of Health & Human Services:
Space Equipment, CHHS Fiscal, Chair DSWE, Dean CHHS

	\$ 9,000	\$	9,000
Total Operating Budget including In-Kind	\$ 136,919	\$ -	

Revenue Summary	Budget	Expenses	Remaining Balance
Annual Operations & Revenue (2017)	\$ 105,919	\$ 105,919	\$ -
Annual Research and Development (2017)	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ -
Balance	\$ 127,919	\$ 127,919	\$ -

CARRY FORWARD FUNDS			
Carry Forward from 2012	\$61,238.33		
Carry Forward from 2013	\$35,136.00		
Carry Forward from 2014	(\$14,520.00)		
Carry Forward from 2015	\$8,318.00		
Carry Forward from 2016	\$16,263.01		\$106,435.34
Balance			

2018 CCASSC BUDGET: Annual Dues = \$121,929 Carryforward = \$106,435.34 (total not yet known)

Period January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018

Annual Service Fee Budget	Proposed Budget	Expended	Balance
Personnel:			
CCASSC Staff Director	\$ 16,000	\$	16,000
Faculty Research Consultant (BO)	\$ 8,000	\$	8,000
Research Associate	\$ 40,000	\$	40,000
Clerical	\$ 10,102	\$	10,102
Total Personnel	\$ 74,102		\$ 74,102
Operational:			
Supplies/Material	\$ 1,246	\$	1,246
Phone/Communications	\$ 500	\$	500
Duplication/Copies	\$ 2,000	\$	2,000
Total Operational	\$ 3,746	\$ -	\$ 3,746
Meeting/Facilitation:			
Quarterly Meeting:	\$ 20,225	\$	20,225
Travel		\$	-
Community Relations		\$	-
Total Meeting/Facilitation	\$ 20,225	\$ -	\$ 20,225
CSUF Foundation Indirect - 8% of Budget	\$ 7,846		\$ 7,846
Total Personnel & Operational	\$ 105,919		\$ 105,919

Option #1
Keep budget the same as 2017 reduce the reserve by \$5,990 - Calaveras Annual Fee

Development and Research	Budget	Expended	Balance
Information and Research	\$ 13,000	\$	13,000
University Conferences/Workshops	\$ 4,000	\$	4,000
Student Research Assistants	\$ 5,000	\$	5,000
Balance	\$ 22,000	\$ -	\$ 22,000
Total CCASSC Budget AND EXPENDITURE	\$ 127,919	\$ -	

In-Kind: College of Health & Human Services:			
Space Equipment, CHHS Fiscal, Chair DSWE, Dean CHHS	\$ 9,000	\$	9,000
Total Operating Budget including In-Kind	\$ 136,919	\$ -	

Revenue Summary	Budget	Expenses	Remaining Balance
Annual Operations & Revenue (2018)	\$ 105,919	\$ 105,919	\$ -
Annual Research and Development (2018)	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ -
Balance	\$ 127,919	\$ 127,919	\$ -

CARRY FORWARD FUNDS			
Carry Forward from 2012	\$61,238.33		
Carry Forward from 2013	\$35,136.00		
Carry Forward from 2014	(\$14,520.00)		
Carry Forward from 2015	\$8,318.00		
Carry Forward from 2016	\$16,263.01		\$106,435.34
Carry over from 2017 - not yet known			\$106,435.34
Calaveras - not a member 2018		\$5,990	\$100,445.34

2018 CCASSC budget: Annual Dues \$121,929 Carryforward = \$106,435.34 (total not yet known)

Period January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018

Annual Service Fee Budget	Proposed Budget	Expended	Balance
Personnel:			
CCASSC Staff Director	\$ 16,000	\$	16,000
Faculty Research Consultant (BO)	\$ 8,000	\$	8,000
Research Associate	\$ 40,000	\$	40,000
Clerical	\$ 10,102	\$	10,102
Total Personnel	\$ 74,102	\$	74,102
Operational:			
Supplies/Material	\$ 1,246	\$	1,246
Phone/Communications	\$ 500	\$	500
Duplication/Copies	\$ 2,000	\$	2,000
Total Operational	\$ 3,746	\$ -	\$ 3,746
Meeting/Facilitation:			
Quarterly Meeting:	\$ 20,225	\$	20,225
Travel		\$	-
Community Relations		\$	-
Total Meeting/Facilitation	\$ 20,225	\$ -	\$ 20,225
CSUF Foundation Indirect - 8% of Budget	\$ 7,846	\$	7,846
Total Personnel & Operational	\$ 105,919	\$	105,919

Development and Research	Budget	Expended	Balance
Information and Research	\$ 7,010	\$	7,010
University Conferences/Workshops	\$ 4,000	\$	4,000
Student Research Assistants	\$ 5,000	\$	5,000
Balance	\$ 16,010	\$ -	\$ 16,010
Total CCASSC Budget AND EXPENDITURE	\$ 121,929	\$ -	

In-Kind: College of Health & Human Services:
 Space Equipment, CHHS Fiscal, Chair DSWE, Dean CHHS

CHHS	\$ 9,000	\$	9,000
Total Operating Budget including In-Kind	\$ 130,929	\$ -	

Revenue Summary	Budget	Expenses	Remaining Balance
Annual Operations & Revenue (2018)	\$ 105,919	\$ 105,919	\$ -
Annual Research and Development (2018)	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ -
Balance	\$ 127,919	\$ 127,919	\$ -

CARRY FORWARD FUNDS

Carry Forward from 2012	\$61,238.33		
Carry Forward from 2013	\$35,136.00		
Carry Forward from 2014	(\$14,520.00)		
Carry Forward from 2015	\$8,318.00		
Carry Forward from 2016	\$16,263.01		\$106,435.34
Balance			\$106,435.34

Carry over from 2017 - not yet known

Option #2
 Reduce information and Research from \$13,000 to \$7010

2018 CCASSC budget: Annual Dues \$121,929 Carryforward= \$106,435 (total not yet known)

Period January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018

Annual Service Fee Budget	Proposed Budget	Expended	Balance
Personnel:			
CCASSC Staff Director	\$ 14,500	\$	14,500
Faculty Research Consultant (BO)	\$ 7,000	\$	7,000
Research Associate	\$ 38,500	\$	38,500
Clerical	\$ 9,102	\$	9,102
Total Personnel	\$ 69,102	\$	69,102
Operational:			
Supplies/Material	\$ 1,246	\$	1,246
Phone/Communications	\$ 500	\$	500
Duplication/Copies	\$ 2,000	\$	2,000
Total Operational	\$ 3,746	\$ -	\$ 3,746
Meeting/Facilitation:			
Quarterly Meeting:	\$ 20,225	\$	20,225
Travel		\$	-
Community Relations		\$	-
Total Meeting/Facilitation	\$ 20,225	\$ -	\$ 20,225
CSUF Foundation Indirect - 8% of Budget	\$ 7,446	\$	7,446
Total Personnel & Operational	\$ 100,519	\$	100,519

Option #3
Reduce Salaries from \$74,102 to 69,102

Development and Research	Budget	Expended	Balance
Information and Research	\$ 12,410	\$	12,410
University Conferences/Workshops	\$ 4,000	\$	4,000
Student Research Assistants	\$ 5,000	\$	5,000
Balance	\$ 21,410	\$ -	\$ 21,410
Total CCASSC Budget AND EXPENDITURE	\$ 121,929	\$ -	

Reduce Information and Research from \$13,000 to \$12,010.

In-Kind: College of Health & Human Services:			
Space Equipment, CHHS Fiscal, Chair DSWE, Dean CHHS	\$ 9,000	\$	9,000
Total Operating Budget including In-Kind	\$ 130,929	\$ -	

Revenue Summary	Budget	Expenses	Remaining Balance
Annual Operations & Revenue (2017)	\$ 105,919	\$ 105,919	\$ -
Annual Research and Development (2017)	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ -
Balance	\$ 127,919	\$ 127,919	\$ -

CARRY FORWARD FUNDS

Carry Forward from 2012	\$61,238.33		
Carry Forward from 2013	\$35,136.00		
Carry Forward from 2014	(\$14,520.00)		
Carry Forward from 2015	\$8,318.00		
Carry Forward from 2016	\$16,263.01		\$106,435.34
Balance			\$106,435.34

Carry over from 2017-not yet known

2018 CCASSC Membership Dues

County	Awaiting Payment as of		CCASSC Payments Received	
	Amount	Invoiced	Date Received	Amount
Kern County	\$ 18,559.00	12/16/2016		\$ 18,559.00
Merced County	\$ 8,380.00	12/16/2016		\$ 8,380.00
Stanislaus County	\$ 12,766.00	12/16/2016		\$ 12,766.00
Madera County	\$ 5,990.00	12/16/2016		\$ 5,990.00
Tulare County	\$ 12,766.00	12/16/2016		\$ 12,766.00
SLO County	\$ 8,380.00	12/16/2016		\$ 8,380.00
Kings County	\$ 5,990.00	12/16/2016		\$ 5,990.00
Mariposa County	\$ 5,990.00	12/16/2016		\$ 5,990.00
San Joaquin County	\$ 18,559.00	12/16/2016		\$ 18,559.00
San Benito County	\$ 5,990.00	12/16/2016		\$ 5,990.00
Fresno County	\$ 18,559.00	12/16/2016		\$ 18,559.00
	<u>\$ 121,929.00</u>			<u>\$ 121,929.00</u>

Forbes / Personal Finance

FEB 22, 2016 @ 09:30 AM 3,297

Yes, We Can Create A Universal Long-Term Care Insurance Program

**Howard Gleckman**, CONTRIBUTOR*I cover news on Washington* [FULL BIO](#) ✓

Opinions expressed by Forbes Contributors are their own.

For three years, I've been working with a diverse group of policy experts to create a consensus framework for financing long-term supports and services (LTSS). This morning, the Long-Term Care Financing Collaborative, released [its recommendations](#). And they are built around two major reforms: a new universal catastrophic long-term care insurance program and major improvements to Medicaid's LTSS benefit.

Our insurance proposal would create an alternative to Medicaid for many middle-income people who now impoverish themselves paying for both long-term care and related medical expenses.

Our plan recognizes that everyone who needs care is not the same. A 45-year old with MS has very different needs than an 85-year-old widow with dementia. Similarly, people with high lifetime incomes should be expected to pay for a share of their care through personal savings, home equity, or private insurance. Others will never have the resources to finance their care.

But while there may be no single solution to these challenges, the universal catastrophic program we proposed is a financially-sustainable plan that could help those who need care the most.

Why catastrophic insurance?

In theory, long-term care insurance could cover a lifetime of risk. But it would be enormously expensive, far beyond the reach of all but the wealthiest consumers. So we focused on the greatest need, those who require a high level of personal assistance for many years.

While we didn't propose a specific plan, it could work something like this: Once a person was certified as having a high level of need, they'd pay for care for, say, the first two or three years. They could use savings, home equity, or private insurance to cover that initial period. After that time, they'd receive public insurance—perhaps \$100-a-day—for life. They could get benefits in cash or to reimburse their costs. Such a universal plan might boost taxes by about \$300-a-year (or less than \$6-a-week) for a middle-income worker.

Last summer, my Urban Institute colleague Melissa Favreault [estimated](#) that half of those turning 65 today will need a high enough level of personal assistance that they'd qualify for long-term care insurance benefits. They'll need that care for an average of two years at a cost of \$138,000 in today's money.

Poll "2018 CCASSC Meeting"

	March 2018				June 2018		July 2018		September 2018		December 2018	
	Thu 15	Fri 16	Thu 22	Fri 23	Thu 21	Fri 22	Thu 19	Fri 20	Thu 20	Fri 21	Thu 13	Fri 14
Michael Miller	OK	OK			OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
Devin Drake	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK		
Kilolo Brodie			OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
David Foster	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
Deborah Martinez			OK	OK				OK	OK		OK	
Martha Vungkhanching				OK					OK		OK	OK
Stephanie Pearl	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK		OK	OK
Chevon Kothari	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
Kathy Harwell			OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
Scott Pettygrove	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
Sanja Bugay	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
Juliet Webb	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
Cindy Uetz			OK	OK	OK		OK	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
Count	8	8	11	12	11	10	11	12	13	10	12	11

RESULTS: March 22-23
 July 19-20
 September 20-21
 December 13-14

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AREA SOCIAL SERVICES CONSORTIUM (CCASSC)

The Central California Area Social Services Consortium (CCASSC) operates as an agency-university partnership supported by a dues-paying membership that promotes and provides training to public human services administrators. Data driven activities, action-oriented research, policy analysis and policy/program development activities are emphasized. CCASSC was founded by the CCTA in 2003 in response to interests in regional needs and issues shared by Central California County Social Services Directors, the Dean of the California State University, Fresno, College of Health and Human Services, and Directors of Social Work Education in the Central California Region.

CCASSC serves as a resource to Central Region County Human Services Directors in the areas of:

- Strategic Planning Facilitation Focused on Regional Issues
- Action Oriented Research that Informs Training
- Program/Policy Related Trainings
- Revenue/Resource Management Training

CCASSC is provided through the active participation of County Social Services Directors, the Dean of the California State University, Fresno, College of Health and Human Services, and the Chairs of Social Work Education at California State University, Fresno; California State University, Stanislaus; and California State University, Bakersfield. In 2008-2009 the 12 member agencies of CCASSC contributed \$122,400 to support the partnership with over \$60,000 dedicated to support faculty research and evaluation activities.

In accordance with the CCASSC By-laws, annual dues are held in a CSU, Fresno trust account (32152) managed by the College of Health and Human Services. Disbursements from the trust are approved by a majority vote of the membership. Staffing support for the consortium includes a Staff Director, Principal Researcher and the newly authorized position of Research Associate. These positions are also approved by membership consent in consultation with the Dean of the College of Health and Human Services.

Central California Area Social Service Consortium (CCASSC)

Mission

The Central California Area Social Service Consortium (CCASSC), a multi-county/multi-university partnership, will engage in strategic planning, training, action oriented policy development and research to improve the quality and responsiveness of public human services programs in the Central California region. The Consortium will be a forum for County Human Services/Social Services Directors to explore and exchange ideas and information and to develop strategies for addressing pressing human service issues faced by residents of the region.

(adopted by members 2003)

DRAFT: November 30, 2017

CWDA Fiscal Meeting/Fiscal Committee/FADs

Process/Representative:

Fiscal Representative shall be agreed upon through consensus of CCASSC membership. Representative from the Central Region (Hal Hunter), shall routinely attend CWDA Fiscal. Further, the representative shall connect with the chairs of the Valley 13 and FADs committees to identify fiscal priorities for the CCASSC membership.

CCASSC Representative: Hal Hunter, Deputy Director, Kings County
Hal.Hunter@co.kings.ca.us
[\(559\) 852-2220](tel:(559)852-2220)

Meetings: CWDA Fiscal
Meets in Sacramento – Monthly meeting; exception July, October and December. See CWDA annual calendar for actual dates.

Valley 13 Fiscal – various County locations
Quarterly Meeting

FADS

Responsibilities:

- Routinely attend CWDA Fiscal meeting. Maintain minutes and work product of meetings.
- The Fiscal representative shall maintain contact with chairs of above fiscal meetings and develop a priority list for the CCASSC Directors from those contacts. From this, develop talking points tied to emerging or pressing fiscal issues. The representative shall let the Chair of CCASSC and the Research Associate know if there are issues that should be shared promptly with membership Directors.
- Work through the CCASSC Chair and Research Associate to establish agenda items of routine and emerging fiscal issues for presentation to CCASSC.
- It is anticipated that the Fiscal Representative may attend up to four CCASSC meetings annually.

CWDA Children's/CWDA Children's Regional

Process/Representative:

Children's Representatives shall be agreed upon through consensus of CCASSC membership. Representatives from the Central Region, (currently Wendy Osikafo and Anita Guerrero) shall routinely attend CWDA Children's Services and CWDA Regional Children's Services.

CCASSC Representatives: Wendy Osikafo, Assistant Director, Kings County
wendy.osikafo@co.kings.ca.us
559-852-4463
Need Phone Number

Anita Guerrero, Deputy Director, Child Welfare Services, Tulare County
AGuerrer@tularehhsa.org
559-624-8080

Meetings: CWDA Children's Services & Operations meetings
Meet in Sacramento – Monthly meeting; exception July, October and December. See CWDA annual calendar for actual dates.

CWDA Children's regional meetings.
Meet at Central California Training Academy – Monthly meeting 4th Thursday of every month; exception July and December.

Responsibilities:

- Routinely attend CWDA Children's Services, Operations and CWDA Regional Children's Services meetings.
- Maintain minutes and work product of meetings.
- Children's Representatives are to ensure CCASSC Chair is aware of CWDA Children's/Operations priority issues. Further, the Children's representatives shall maintain contact with the chairs of the above committees and develop a priority list for the CCASSC Directors. From these meetings, develop a short list of priority talking points. Representatives shall let the Chair of CCASSC and the Research Associate know if there are issues that should be shared promptly with membership Directors.
- Work through the CCASSC Chair and Research Associate to establish agenda items for CCASSC meeting(s).
- Attend one CCASSC meeting annually or more as priorities are established. The focus area of the meeting will be children's services.

CWDA Adult Services

Who Should be rep from Adults?

Process/Representative:

Adult Services Representative shall be agreed upon through consensus of CCASSC membership. Representative from the Central Region (), shall routinely attend CWDA Adult Services. Further, the representative shall connect with the chairs of the PSOC committee to identify Adult Services priorities for the CCASSC membership.

CCASSC Representative:

Meetings:

CWDA Adults

Meet in Sacramento – Monthly meeting; exception July, October & December.

PSOC

Meet in Sacramento – Monthly, First Thursday of the month; exception July, October & December.

Regional Adult – Valley Regional is by conference call and meets the 4th Tuesday of every month. Sharon Diaz, Madera County Supervisor

Responsibilities:

- Routinely attend CWDA Adult Services. Maintain minutes and work product of meetings.
- The Adult Services representative shall maintain contact with chairs of above Adult meetings and develop a priority list for the CCASSC Directors from those contacts. From this, develop talking points tied to emerging or pressing Adult Services issues. The representative shall let the Chair of CCASSC and the Research Associate know if there are issues that should be shared promptly with membership Directors.
- Work through the CCASSC Chair and Research Associate to establish agenda items of routine and emerging Adult Services issues for presentation to CCASSC.
- It is anticipated that the Adult Services Representative may attend one CCASSC meeting annually.

Draft November 30, 2017

Self Sufficiency - Still working on details of this focus area.

Process/Representative:

CWDA Self Sufficiency Representative shall be agreed upon through consensus of CCASSC membership. Representative from the Central Region shall routinely attend CWDA Self Sufficiency and will connect with the chairs for the CalWORKs, Child Care, and Cal Fresh committees to develop Self Sufficiency priorities for the CCASSC membership.

Discussion as CCASSC December meeting on who/which county will have a lead at Self-Sufficiency.

CWDA Self Sufficiency **Representative, to be determined at CCASSC**
Meet in Sacramento – Monthly meeting; exception July and December.
See CWDA annual calendar for actual dates

MediCal Meeting: Cynthia McGuire, Program Specialist, Fresno County
559-600-7438
cmcguire@co.fresno.ca.us

Rebekah Capron
209-385-3000 x 5893
rcapron@hsa.co.merced.ca.us

Medical Meeting
Meet – Fresno – Monthly meeting – 3rd Friday of the month. Exception
No meetings in July and October.
Location Training Site, Fresno, Millbrook Ave.

**CWDA maintains a list on their website as to when/where, CalWORKs,
Child Care, Cal Fresh**

Responsibilities:

- Routinely attend monthly Self Sufficiency meeting.
- Maintain minutes and work product of meetings.
- Connect with the chairs of the Medical, Child Care, CalWORKs & Cal Fresh committees to establish priority issues for the CCASSC membership
- Representative shall let the Chair of CCASSC and the Research Associate know if there are issues that should be shared promptly with membership Directors.
- Work through the CCASSC Chair and Research Associate to establish agenda items of routine and emerging Medi-Cal issues.
- It is anticipated that the Self Sufficiency Representative may attend a CCASSC meetings annually. The focus area of the meeting may include Medical, Child Care, CalWORKs & Cal Fresh.



CALIFORNIA **YOUTH** CONNECTION

Our Voices, Our Future

STATE

1611 Telegraph Ave
Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
P: 800.397.8236
P: 415.442.5060
F: 415.442.0720

NORCAL

744 P Street
MS 8-4-192
Sacramento, CA 95814

CENTRAL

1625 E Shaw
Suite 106
Fresno, CA 93710

SOCAL

3530 Wilshire Blvd
Suite 411
Los Angeles, CA 90070

PROJECTS

y.o.u.t.h. 
TRAINING PROJECT

Central California Area Social Services Consortium (CCASSC)
c/o David Foster, LCSW
Social Welfare Evaluation, Research & Training
1625 E. Shaw Suite 106
Fresno, CA 93710

November 1, 2017

Dear CCASSC,

I write to continue the dialogue that began with CYC's presentation to the CCASSC leadership team back in May. In the time since, we've communicated with both the full CCASSC group and a number of the individual members, and conducted a number of key planning steps:

- In July, we provided for your review a budget that reflected the full actual expenses associated with operating our 7 current Central California CYC chapters, as well as the resources that would be needed to initiate chapters in the remaining CCASSC counties.
- We conferred with staff to draft the attached proposal, which provides a methodology by which shares of the total cost of CYC's regional operations and activities can be allocated among participating CCASSC member counties.
- We've continued to grow the number of active members in the seven CCASSC counties in which we currently operate: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Luis Obispo, and Stanislaus. We have also been in regular contact with a group of CYC-eligible young people in Tulare County who have occasionally joined the activities of our Kings chapter, and with the Tulare County child welfare agency regarding a possible contract. San Joaquin County also expressed interest in hosting a CYC chapter.
- Our lead staff member in the region, Zahra Martinez, has met with the directors of several CCASSC member agencies, most recently with Stanislaus, San Luis Obispo, and Tulare county child welfare agencies.

Today, we offer a revised budget and proposal seeking the collaborative support of the 9 CCASSC counties that currently have a CYC chapter or have asked us to build one. That proposal is attached.

We have also sent individual letters to the child welfare directors in each of the 9 counties included in the proposal, detailing our current engagement with young people in their communities, and asking that they commit to funding shares of the total budget.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. We would appreciate the opportunity to attend an upcoming CCASSC meeting to discuss how best to move the conversation forward.

Again, thank you for your ongoing support, and for taking the time to consider our proposal.

Sincerely,



Haydée Cuza, Ed.D.
Executive Director
California Youth Connection
haydee@calyouthconn.org



CYC CCASSC Funding Proposal
REVISED October 15, 2017

Summary:

CYC is extremely grateful for the past and ongoing support of CCASSC as we seek to provide the transformative experience of CYC membership to foster youth from throughout the region. We currently request that CCASSC increase its financial commitment to ensure that CYC is available to youth in the 9 member counties that currently have a CYC chapter or have asked us to build one. The following details our total budget and funding need for the region, and calculates the necessary commitment from each participating CCASSC county to address that need.

Budget Basis, Justification, and Notes:

- The Budget scales the requested commitment for each county by the size of the county's minimum CYC-eligible population, as estimated from CWS/CMS data. See Appendix A for the precise estimates.
- The Budget assumes the participation of 9 CCASSC counties: 7 that currently have a CYC chapter (Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Luis Obispo, and Stanislaus), and two that have approached us about starting a chapter (San Joaquin and Tulare).
 - Calaveras and San Benito informed us that they were currently unable to participate.
 - Mariposa has an extremely small CYC-eligible population. We therefore excluded them from the calculations, but have written to them welcoming a conversation about how best to offer CYC to any of their young people who may be interested.
- CCASSC member counties currently support CYC with a collective total of approximately \$40,000 in funding to support our Central Valley presence, which offsets staff salaries and direct expenses. CCASSC members also provide payments on a youth-by-youth basis to cover the costs of their local members attending our statewide conferences. In total, support from CCASSC counties totals nearly \$100,000 per year.
- The Budget does not incorporate current or recent funding totals from CCASSC counties as a revenue line item, as it proposes revised amounts for each county on the basis noted above, presuming that the current funding arrangements would be replaced by that revised total commitment.

Request:

- CYC requests that the 9 CCASSC members who currently have a CYC chapter or have requested that we start one increase their total commitment to CYC's programming throughout the region by fully financing the outstanding funding need of \$367,225 and that this commitment be formalized as a contract or set of contracts. Our preference would be for a single contract with one county or entity acting as fiscal agent for the collaborative.

- CYC proposes categorizing counties based on the size of their CYC eligible population. For purposes of this proposal Kings and Madera are considered small counties; Merced, Stanislaus, San Luis Obispo, and Tulare are medium counties; and Fresno, Kern, and San Joaquin are large counties. The proposed contributions scale personnel costs at 2% per small county, 8% per medium county, and 21% per large county. They also scale the per-county provision for youth and volunteer participation in CYC statewide events (3 participants per chapter in small counties; 5 in medium counties; and 8 in large counties). Other non-personnel line items are calculated on a per-chapter basis, and thus do not scale proportionately to the county's size.
- The budget allocations by county are based on the funding participation of the 9 CCASSC counties that currently have a CYC chapter or have requested that we build one. We welcome a conversation with the remaining CCASSC counties regarding expanding our presence in their area. The funding level reflected in the budget would allow CYC to commit to launching new chapters in San Joaquin and Tulare counties, and maintaining and expanding our chapters in Kings, Madera, San Luis Obispo, Merced, Stanislaus, Fresno, and Kern counties.
- Summary of requested contribution by county:

Counties	Proposed contribution per county	No of Counties	Total
Kings, Madera	\$18,114	2	\$36,228
Merced, SLO, Stanislaus, Tulare	\$36,472	4	\$145,887
Fresno, Kern, San Joaquin	\$61,704	3	\$185,111
Total:		9	\$367,225

- Per youth cost calculation:

Counties	Proposed contribution per county	Target # of Youth Served per Chapter	No of Counties	Cost per Youth
Kings, Madera	\$18,114	6	2	\$3,019
Merced, SLO, Stanislaus, Tulare	\$36,472	12	4	\$3,039
Fresno, Kern, San Joaquin	\$61,704	20	3	\$3,085

CYC Central Valley Region One Year Budget

Personnel (<i>Salaries as included in CYC FY17-18 adopted budget</i>)	<i>Revised 10/1/17</i>
Regional Coordinator - 2.0 FTE @ \$50,000/FTE	\$100,000
Director of Member Engagement - 0.3 FTE @ \$78,000	\$23,400
CYC Executive Director - 0.1 FTE @ \$130,000	\$13,000
Administrative Assistant - 0.5 FTE @ \$45,000	\$22,500
Communications Coordinator – 0.2 FTE @ \$60,000	\$12,000
Benefits @ 20%	\$34,180
<i>Subtotal Personnel</i>	\$205,080
Consultants	
Youth Stipends - 80 hrs/yr @ \$15hr/youth; 2 youth/chapter; 9 chapters	\$21,600
Training and Facilitation - \$2,000/yr per chapter	\$18,000
<i>Subtotal Consultants</i>	\$39,600
Non-personnel	
Chapter-Managed Budgets - 9 chapters @ \$5,000	\$45,000
Statewide Conference - Day at the Capitol: 50 participants total @ \$1,000/participant	\$50,000
Statewide Conference - Summer Leadership and Policy: 50 ppx total @ \$1,000/pp	\$50,000
Statewide Conference - Shadow Day: 9 participants total @ \$1000/participant	\$9,000
Staff Travel: \$4,000/chapter x 9 chapters	\$36,000
Youth Travel: \$2,500/chapter x 9 chapters	\$22,500
<i>Subtotal Non-personnel</i>	\$212,500
Total Personnel, Consultant, and Non-personnel costs	\$457,180
Administrative/Overhead @ 15%	\$68,577
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$525,757

Budget Narrative:

EXPENSES:

Personnel:

Regional Coordinators: 2.0 FTE @ \$50,000 = \$100,000. Regional Coordinators recruit, train, and support CYC members and volunteers, and maintain supportive local partnerships.

Director of Member Engagement: 0.3 FTE @ \$78,000 = \$23,400. The statewide Director of Member Engagement supervises Regional Coordinators and facilitates chapter interactions with CYC statewide activities and administrative operations.

CYC Executive Director: 0.1 FTE @ \$130,000 = \$13,000. The Executive Director supervises the Director of Member Engagement and is responsible for all aspects of CYC's performance and sustainability.

Administrative Assistant: 0.5 FTE @ \$45,000 = \$22,500. The Central Valley Administrative Assistant provides administrative support to the chapters, Regional Coordinators, volunteers and other staff.

Communications Coordinator: 0.2 FTE @ \$60,000 = \$12,000. The Communications Coordinator is responsible for developing and distributing all CYC communications. The Communications Coordinator will launch and maintain a Central Valley CYC newsletter and distribution list.

Subtotal Personnel salary expenses: \$170,900.

Benefits calculated at 20% of total personnel salary costs = \$34,180.

SUBTOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS: \$205,080

Consultants:

Youth Stipends: Two 80-hour youth internships per year per chapter stipended at \$15 per hour x 9 chapters = \$21,600. Youth interns take leadership roles in their chapters and/or support special projects.

Training and Facilitation: \$2,000 per year per chapter x 9 chapters = \$18,000. CYC's training department coordinates an individualized training program for each chapter. Chapters may also pursue local, regional, or statewide opportunities that they themselves identify.

SUBTOTAL CONSULTANT COSTS: \$39,600

Non-personnel:

Chapter-Managed Budgets: \$5,000 per medium or large chapter; \$2,500 per small chapter; 7 medium and large chapters, 2 small chapters = \$40,000. CYC provides each chapter with a budget to provide for meeting costs including meals, supplies, and other incidentals. Chapters may also decide to fund attendance at third party trainings, conferences, or other activities from the Chapter-Managed budget.

Statewide Conference – Day at the Capitol: 50 participants total (3 from each small county, 5 from each medium county, 8 from each large county) @ \$1000 per participant = \$50,000. Each February, CYC members from every chapter travel to Sacramento for Day at the Capitol, during which they present recommendations for reform of the foster care system directly to lawmakers. The first two days of the conference consist of focused training to help youth prepare to meet state senators, assembly members, and their staff. On the third day, teams of CYC youth meet with every member of the state legislature, including their own local representatives, and with high ranking members of the administration.

Statewide Conference – Summer Leadership and Policy Conference: 69 participants total (3 from each small county, 5 from each medium county, 8 from each large county) @ \$1000 per participant = \$50,000. CYC’s youth-led Summer Leadership and Policy Conference (SLPC) takes place on a California college campus every July. Over 200 current and former foster youth representing every CYC chapter gather over the course of four days to learn about legislative advocacy, build their leadership and communications skills, and discuss foster care reform.

Statewide Conference – Shadow Day: 9 participants (one from each chapter) @ \$1000 per participant = \$9,000. Modeled on “Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work” day, CYC’s Foster Youth Shadow Day takes place every April, and matches members with legislators from their district or region. The youth “shadow” the legislators and their staff for a full day—attending hearings, internal meetings, and other events on the calendar for the lawmakers that day.

Staff Travel: \$4,000 per year per chapter = \$36,000. Provides for CYC staff travel among chapters and to/from regional and statewide meetings, convenings, and events.

Youth Travel: \$2,500 per year per chapter = \$22,500. Provides for CYC youth to travel to/from chapter meetings, trainings, and some regional and statewide trainings, meetings, events, or opportunities.

SUBTOTAL NON-PERSONNEL COSTS: \$212,500

Administrative/Overhead:

CYC includes in all contracts and grant agreements administrative/overhead expenses at a standard rate of 15% = \$68,577.

TOTAL CYC BUDGET FOR 9 PARTICIPATING CCSASSC COUNTIES: \$525,757

Revenue Sources:

CYC statewide raises funds from a number of sources to support our operations in the CCASSC counties. In addition to the current CCASSC commitment of \$40,000, CYC finances the budget above by allocating a total of \$100,000 from our statewide contract with CDSS and \$60,000 from current foundation grants. A number of county agencies throughout the region currently pay conference registration fees and youth travel. CYC must finance the balance of the above budget by drawing on unrestricted funds or operating reserves.

Applying the allocation of funds from our CDSS contract and the dedicated foundation funds leaves a persistent funding need of approximately \$366,000:

Expenses:	
Subtotal Personnel	\$205,080
Subtotal Consultants	\$39,600
Subtotal Non-personnel	\$212,500
Total	\$457,180
Administrative/Overhead @ 15%	\$68,577
Non CCASSC Revenue Sources:	
CDSS	\$100,000
Foundation Grants	\$60,000
Totals:	
Total Expense	\$525,757
Total Revenue	\$160,000
FUNDING NEED	\$365,757
% (Rounded)	70%

All subsequent calculations estimate the funding need at 70%, which due to rounding results in small variations in the figures included in break-out budgets.

Appendix A:

Minimum¹ Number of CYC-eligible Youth in CCASSC Counties:

County	Age 14-21 on 4/1/2017	Age 21-24 on 4/1/2017	Total
Calaveras	40	9	49
Fresno	683	89	772
Kern	755	122	877
Kings	138	19	157
Madera	100	10	110
Mariposa	12	2	14
Merced	245	29	274
San Benito	23	3	26
San Joaquin	614	98	712
San Luis Obispo	185	31	216
Stanislaus	288	36	324
Tulare	339	35	374

Data Source: California Child Welfare Indicators Project (CCWIP)

¹ CYC eligible youth are those who are age 14-24 and have spent at least one day in foster care (child welfare and probation). Youth who have reunified or moved to permanency are thus eligible but are not reflected in the CWS/CMS figures above

Appendix B:

Description of CYC's Chapter Model:

Youth-led since its inception, California Youth Connection (CYC) empowers foster youth ages 14-24 to build leadership skills and forge supportive relationships while advocating for child welfare reforms that directly impact their lives. To build their skills, youth receive one-on-one support and mentoring, specialized training, and frequent opportunities to speak to policymakers, child welfare practitioners, other foster youth, and the general public. Through our youth-led model of development, youth are involved in all aspects of decision-making, from governance to community outreach and legislative advocacy. Especially important to our youth development and leadership model is the groundbreaking way in which CYC volunteer adult supporters collaborate equally with members. Volunteer Supporters provide logistical support for meetings and consistent emotional and social support to youth without questioning or threatening their sense of self-efficacy. Youth and adult supporters work together to achieve common goals with the youth leading the way.

Many youth in foster care report feelings of helplessness and insecurity as well as an inability to have control over the direction of their lives. CYC provides youth a transformative opportunity to develop confidence, a sense of belonging, leadership skills, and agency over their own lives as they improve the foster care system for generations of children and youth.

CYC is organized into county-based chapters throughout California. According to CYC's youth-developed policies, a chapter's core activities are the following: 1) Conduct regular outreach to recruit members and volunteers; 2) Hold youth-led meetings twice per month to identify and discuss local issues; 3) Select and pursue local advocacy and community education goals; and 4) Participate in statewide governance, training, and advocacy activities. In order to facilitate these activities, CYC youth and staff recruit community volunteers, known as Adult Supporters; develop relationships with local stakeholders, including public agencies and non-profit organizations; and access skill development training and education regarding child welfare topics.



CWDA Resource Family Approval Workload Survey

County Information

The goal of this survey is to assess staff workload, challenges and opportunities to improve RFA implementation. The findings from this survey will be shared with CDSS staff this fall.

Questions with an asterisk * require a response. Please complete this survey by September 25, 2017.

If you have questions or concerns please contact CWDA staff Diana Boyer dboyer@cwda.org or Callie Freitag cfreitag@cwda.org.

* 1. County Name:

* 2. Contact Person:

* 3. Phone:

* 4. Email Address:

10. FOR NON-EARLY IMPLEMENTER COUNTIES: What have been the challenges specific to implementation? Please check all that apply below, and use the comment field to explain your answers, or add other challenges.

- Obtaining board approval for positions
- Recruiting/hiring
- Getting staff trained
- Shifting from old practice to new practice
- Other (please elaborate above or add)

14. How long, on average, does it take for a **CONVERSION**? Please break out by time spent on the family assessment (psycho-social) and written report.

Total time (in minutes):

Length of time for Psycho-Social (minutes of staff time):

Length of time for Written Assessment (minutes of staff time):

Length of time for other activities (minutes of staff time):

15. How many **ANNUAL UPDATES** as your county done? How long does completing an annual update take?

Number of Annual Updates Completed:

Completion Time (in minutes):

16. How many resource family applications have undergone **DUE PROCESS**? How much time, on average, does your county spend on each due process case?

Number of Due Process Cases:

Avg Time Spent per Case (in minutes):

17. How many **COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS** has your county conducted on RFA homes? How much time do these take per case?

Total number complaint investigations:

Time (in minutes):

18. Are there other activities that need to be considered for workload? If so, what are they and how long do they take?

* 19. Is your county conducting multiple approvals of relatives on behalf of a single child/sibling set coming into care?

Yes

No

Other (please specify)



Staff Support

* 24. Have you struggled with staff turnover?

- Yes
- No

Explain:

* 25. Have you hired more staff to help your county meet the expectations of the RFA approval process (e.g. the 90 day timeline)?

- Yes
- No

26. If yes to above, answer the following:

By what % did you increase staff?

For what functions/why?

of staffing hired & type of staff (SW/Clerical/etc.)?

27. What is the fully-loaded cost of your RFA worker? (If you have different staffing classifications please separate. For example, adoptions worker who does psycho-social and approval worker who completes other work).

28. Aside from hiring more staff, what other resources would be helpful to help you hire, train, and maintain staff?

* 34. Does the county offer other, non-financial assistance to relatives? If yes, please describe.

No

Yes (brief description):

35. Generally, do you see RFA as a beneficial practice for recruitment, retention and support of resource families? Please explain.

Yes

Somewhat yes and no

No

Explain:

YOU ARE DONE WITH THE SURVEY!!

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

If you have any questions feel free to contact CWDA staff cfreitag@cwda.org or dboyer@cwda.org.



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Recruiting/hiring

Getting staff trained

Shifting from old practice to new practice

Other (please elaborate above or add)

14. How long, on average, does it take for a **CONVERSION**? Please break out by time spent on the family assessment (psycho-social) and written report.

Total time (in minutes):

Length of time for Psycho-Social (minutes of staff time):

Length of time for Written Assessment (minutes of staff time):

Length of time for other activities (minutes of staff time):

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Number of Annual Updates Completed:

Completion Time (in minutes):

16. How many resource family applications have undergone **DUE PROCESS**? How much time, on average, does your county spend on each due process case?

Number of Due Process Cases:

Avg Time Spent per Case (in minutes):

17. How many **COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS** has your county conducted on RFA homes? How much time do these take per case?

Total number complaint investigations:

Time (in minutes):

18. Are there other activities that need to be considered for workload? If so, what are they and how long do they take?

* 19. Is your county conducting multiple approvals of relatives on behalf of a single child/sibling set coming into care?

Yes

No

Other (please specify)



Staff Support

* 24. Have you struggled with staff turnover?

- Yes
- No

Explain:

* 25. Have you hired more staff to help your county meet the expectations of the RFA approval process (e.g. the 90 day timeline)?

- Yes
- No

26. If yes to above, answer the following:

By what % did you increase staff?

For what functions/why?

of staffing hired & type of staff (SW/Clerical/etc.)?

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* 34. Does the county offer other, non-financial assistance to relatives? If yes, please describe.

- No
- Yes (brief description):

35. Generally, do you see RFA as a beneficial practice for recruitment, retention and support of resource families? Please explain.

- Yes
- Somewhat yes and no
- No

Explain:

YOU ARE DONE WITH THE SURVEY!!

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

If you have any questions feel free to contact CWDA staff cfreitag@cwda.org or dboyer@cwda.org.

RFA Survey Narrative questions

Questions 1-6 are County/contact information.

7 a & b

How many hours does your county require for RFA training, of your RFA staff (social workers), is it enough (in your opinion)?

Respondents 5. All exceed recommended minimum 24 training hours. Average is 50 hours.

- 3 respondents felt hours of training is not sufficient.
- 3 felt their training hours was sufficient.

8 a,b,c & d

Do you contract out any part of the approval process?

Respondents 6.

- Five contract out portions to include permanency assessment, preapproval training, psychosocial assessment, TB Tests, Health Screenings and assessment monolingual Spanish speaking families.
- Two do not contract out.

9.

For early implementer counties only; what lessons have you learned over time to make the RFA process easier?

- Do not require more than the written directives require.
- Timeframes and milestones in place.
- Effective and consistent data collection and documentation.
- Training and services in Spanish.
- Support from other units.
- Recruitment and retention.
- Foster care eligibility.
- Revisions of forms.
- Divide RFA staff by RFA application/criminal exemption and psychosocial assessments and family support.
- Engagement of social workers to assist families in completing the process.

10 a,b,c,d & e

For non-early implementing Counties, what have been the challenges specific to implementation?

- Obtaining board approval for positions.
- Getting staff trained.
- Shifting from old practices to new practices.
- eAdopt and CWS/CMS systems do not allow for good supervisory oversight *For example: Safe Measures; RFA Inbox is slow to respond and answer are vague.*
- Recruiting/hiring.
- Tracking information and data on Resource Family homes and the approval process.

- Meeting required time frames.

11 a,b,c & d

How many RFA applications have you received since you implemented? How many have you approved? How many in the queue, How many have been denied/withdrawn?

- Non-Early implementers. Total applications 1088, average 272.
- Non-Early implementers. Applications approved 263, average 66.
- Non-Early implementers. In queue 683, average 171.
- Non-Early implementers. Denial & Withdrawals 224, average 56.
- Early Implementers (*Two respondents*). Total applications 1220.
- Early Implementers. Applications approved 635.
- Early Implementers. In queue 115.
- Early Implementers. Denial & Withdrawals 86 & 412. Total: 498.

12 a, b & c

Conversions needed, completed, in the queue.

- Respondents 7.
- Conversions needed: 1831. Low 16 & high 883.
- Completed: 49. *Please note the low was 0 & high 19. 4 of 7 respondents were 0.*
- In the Queue: 833. *Note the low was 6 & high was 423. (This question did not appear to be answered in the same fashion across respondents)*

13 a,b,c,d,e & f

How long on average does it take for a new RFA approval?

- Respondents 7. Guidelines require approval within 90 days from placement date.
- Average approval for relatives from placement date: 120, 125, 118, 97, 95, 90, 87.
- 2 respondents report meeting timeframe. (*Priority appears to be given to relatives with placement.*)
- How many days on average to approval for non-relatives, from application date: Regulations do not have a 90 day timeline. 130, 140, 123, 121, 130, 90, 87.
- Length of time psychosocial (minutes of staff time). Total 36,255. (*This question did not appear to be answered in the same fashion across respondents; numbers vary from 31,200 to 300.*)
- Length of time for written report (minutes of staff time). Total 39,420. Low 300, High 35,520.
- Length of time for criminal background check requiring an exemption (minutes of staff time). Total 9,385. Low 180, High 7,725.
- Total length of time for other activities/home inspection, LAARs check, noticing, etc. (Minutes of staff time). Total 1,900. Low 150, High 570.

14 a, b, c & d.

Length of time does it take for conversion, on average.

- Total 5 respondents.
- Total time in minute: Total: 4,905. Low, 540, High 1,680.
- Length of time for psychosocial (minutes of staff time). Total: 2,325. Low, 240, High 1,125.

- Length of time written assessment (minutes of staff time). Total: 2,100. Low 240, High 900.
- Length of time for other activities (minutes of staff time). Total: 500. Low 60, High 240.

15 a & b

Annual updates completed.

- 6 respondents. Three answered 0. Other three 11, 174 & 127.
- Completion time in minutes: 300, 330 & 480.

16 a & b

How many RFA applications have undergone due process?

- 7 respondents. Total: 61. Low 0, High 1,200.

Average time spent per case in minutes?

- 7 respondents. Total: 11,120. Low 120 & High 4,800.

17 a & b

How many complaint investigations has your county conducted on RFA homes?

- 7 respondents. 4 – 0. 3 - Other 66, 36, 1.

How much time in minutes?

- 4 respondents. Total 3, 060. Low, 480, High 1,500.

18

Other Activities that need to be considered for Work Load? What are they and how long do they take?

- Preservice training for Caregivers – County staff doing in now (24 hours of time) *this number does not capture prep time it takes to make copies, put packets together, etc.*
- Emergency placement assessments (180 min each).
- Background checks, out of county state arrests and CACI info, ICPC, translation, courtesy RFA requests of other counties, initial out of county emergency home approval, TDMs, RFA foster care eligibility, legal consults, engagement of resource parents to support them in completing RFA, especially if they had a child placed on an emergency basis.
- Staff are presenters at 2 hour orientations (2 hours), Staff are CPR trainers (4hours), clerical staff complete and schedule life scan (1 hour), RFA staff attend legal consults (30 min), ongoing training (1 hour weekly in staff meeting), recruitment activities (varies), ICPC cases for RFA. (varies), travel within large county (2 hours 1 way in Kern).
- Tracking paperwork, such as TB tests, training certificates, health screenings, etc.
- Out of county referrals.
- Communication between counties; supervisor to supervisor/manager to manager. Takes approximately 360 minutes/week to mitigate out of county referrals/processes.
- Training – up to 600 minutes per week.

19 a

Is your county conducting multiple approvals of relatives on behalf of single child/sibling set?

- 6 Respondents. 6 - yes.
- Comments included:
 - When the family selects more than one family to proceed multiple approvals are completed concurrently.
 - When a concern for current placement arises, a secondary relative/family begins the process. This is necessary so relatives do not lose preferential consideration if they apply after the dispositional hearing.

20 a, b, c & d

How many relatives are going through the process on average?

- Total 7 respondents. 3 respondents 1- 2 families; 3 respondents 3-5 families; 1 respondents, other 2-3.

21.

Have you established a workload standard for RFA workers in your County?

- 7 respondents. 7 - no.

22.

Does your county give priority for completing the RFA application to relatives/NREFM over non related non-related applicants?

- 7 Respondents, 6 yes, 1 no.
- 1 responded that RFA is due within 90 days for compelling reasons and emergency placements.

23.

Describe any practices for "streamlining" workload.

- Separate process out to different staff.
- Database with continual updates created.
- Staff development support and workflow/documentation packet revisions.
- Streamline requirements to match written directives.
- Foster care eligibility assessment.
- Streamline training hours for resource families.
- Streamline/centralize services (health screening/TB test, CPR/First Aid, etc.); and in the future – considering specialization among RFA social workers, who currently balance RFA complaints, emergency approvals, renewals, conversions, ICPC, denials and rescissions.
- Paralegal handles due process support, designated exemption SW, e-Adopt, use of aids to pick up and drop off documents, pre-service training and child care.
- Contracts: Psychosocial Assessments, TB tests, health screenings & pre-service training.
- Online RFA orientation.
- Interested families first go through RFA orientation. Once completed they receive application.
- Placement binders.

- Specialized Psychosocial Assessment SW (3).

24.

Have you struggled with Staff turnover? Explain?

- 7 respondents - 4 – yes; 3 - no.

25.

Have you hired more staff to meet expectations of RFA approval process? Example 90 day timeline.

- 7 respondents. 7 - yes.

26 a, b & c.

If yes to the above, answer the following.

a. What percentage did you increase staff?

- 7 respondents. *This answer does not appear to be answered using the same method. Answers ranged from 1.3% to 72%. Actual numbers for the 6 respondents was: 1.3%, 20%, 27%, 72%, 50%, 3% & 46.*

b. For what functions/why?

- Psychosocial report.
- All RFA social worker functions.
- RFA processing and support.
- RFA relative due process.
- Recruitment.

c. Number of staff hired and type of staff.

- Average number of staff hired with 6 respondents was 4. Ranging from Social Workers, Supervisors, Practitioners, Admin Support, And Foster Care Eligibility & Paralegal.

27.

What is the fully loaded cost of your RFA worker?

- 6 respondents.
- Average cost was \$208,309.
- The High was \$367, 500 and the Low was \$120,000.
- Most respondents did not break down by position.

28.

Aside from hiring more staff, what other resources would be helpful to hire, train, and maintain staff?

- Standard report format for counties.
- Staff training.
- Standard caregiver preservice.
- Additional technical support.
- Laptops in the field.
- Portable electronics such as scanners in the field.
- Consistent messaging in written directives.
- Forms in other languages.
- Funding from state for full time Resource Family Training Instructor, outcomes, and data tracking.

- RFA specific trainer.

29.

Are the written Directives clear and understood by staff?

- 7 respondents. 6 - mostly yes & 1 - yes.

30.

Please provide any suggestions regarding Laws or other requirements that would be helpful to modify, to help make RFA successful and timely.

- 5 respondents.
- More funding resources.
- Streamline NOA and denial process (*fewer legal consults required for straight forward circumstances and the need for legal consults prior to negative action*).
- Provide additional training materials for families, including online materials in multiple languages for convenience and support of families.
- Allow sharing of information, criminal and CPS, with contracted FFAs completing psychosocial assessments.
- More information about marijuana use/grows.

31.

Does your county offer a payment/stipend to relatives/NREFM caregivers, with a child placed, pending approval?

- 6 respondents. 5 – yes & 1 - no.

32.

If yes to the above, how much does your county provide?

- 5 respondents. 2 make up the difference between child only Cal Works rates and Foster Care rates, 1 pays in the range of 300 – 399, 2 use TANF, non –needy and Emergency assistance.

33.

If yes to the above, what sources of funding does your county use?

- 5 respondents. 4 - TANF/EA/County Funding. 1 - FPRRS.

34.

Does the County offer other non-financial assistance to relatives? If yes, please describe?

- 7 respondents.
- Baby Locks.
- Behavior Therapist/Home.
- Clothing.
- Buildings and Grounds.
- Child Seats.
- Cribs.
- DMV.
- Formula.
- Family Ment.

- Fire Extinguishers.
- FP Recruit/Retain.
- Pool fences.
- Help bodies of water.
- RFA Approval.
- Respite.
- Smoke/CO2.
- Social Work Visit/5days.
- Tangible goods Training.
- TB Screening.

35.

Generally do you see RFA as a beneficial practice for recruitment, retention, and support of Resource Families? Please Explain?

- 5 respondents. 2 - yes, 3 - yes/no.
- Discussion included:
 - more invested Caregivers but it takes longer.
 - Time consuming.
 - Concept is positive for children.
 - Improving placement stabilization and outcomes to permanency by identifying and clearing placement families at the outset.
 - The RFA documentation is thorough and supports gathering information.
 - Provides immediate training and education for our resource families, including specialized training such as Trauma informed Care, Grief and Loss, Child and Family dynamics, County system of care, Court process, and WIC.
 - To feel more supported.
 - RFA process takes too long.

CCASSC
Overview of Annual Research Topics/Literature Review
October, 2017

Upcoming Events:

Beyond the Bench, Conference, December 19 & 20, 2017.

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/34921.htm>

Webinar, Working with Parents with Intellectual Disabilities and their Families, November 14, 2017.

https://brandeis.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4orBr75XTI6O8PcsAJYhhg

Webinar, John Burton Advocates for Youth. November 1, 2017. Accelerating Success: Turning Insights into Action for Foster Youth at California Community Colleges.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/691750429706309123>

Conference, January 10, 12, 2018 New York. Institute Children Poverty, Housing. Beyond Housing, A National Conversation on Child Homelessness and Poverty, 2018.

http://www.icphusa.org/beyond_housing/overview/

Conference, National Summit on Youth Homelessness. March 19 to 20, 2018, Washington D.C. National Network for Youth.

<https://www.nn4youth.org/events/2018-summit/>

Webinar, John Burton Advocates for Youth. November 17, 2017 from 10 am to 11:15. Join the California Foster Youth FAFSA Challenge.

<http://www.jbaforyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/FAFSA-Challenge-Webinar.pdf>

Conference, California Student Mental Wellness Conference. February 28 to March 1, 2017. Sacramento Area.

http://www.wellnesstogether.org/conference?mc_cid=af4915bc0e&mc_eid=1ecb458376

Adult Services/IHSS

<https://www.aspeninstitute.org/events/caring-economy/#2>

Child Welfare Services

School House Connection Newsletter, October, 2017. Newsletter has information on youth policies and resources

<https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/>

Early Childhood Homelessness in the United States, 50 State Profile. June, 2017. School House Connection Newsletter. Administration for Children and Families. Included are National Childhood Findings and Profiles on Homelessness.

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ecl/epfp_50_state_profiles_6_15_17_508.pdf

John Burton for Youth. September, 2017. Stepping Up for Foster Youth, A Policy Playbook for California's Four Year Universities. Booklet focuses on four College aspects to include: enroll in a college or training program; equip the student with essential resources; earn a degree or certificate; embark on a career.

<http://www.jbaforyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Stepping-Up-FINAL-1.pdf>

Los Angeles Times, October 10, 2017, Nina Agrawal, County (Los Angeles), Picks GA Official for Top Child Welfare Job. Article discusses after a year, Los Angeles appoints a new Director.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171010/281831463951247>

American Bar Association, (John Burton) October, 2017, Proving I Exist, Strategies for Assisting Youth in Obtaining Identification Documents. Article explores barriers and options for establishing identity.

<https://www.americanbar.org/groups/litigation/committees/childrens-rights/articles/2017/fall2017-proving-i-exist-strategies-assessting-youth-obtaining-id-docs.html>

Child Welfare Information Gateway, 2014. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and this was Republished.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/domestic-violence/>

John Burton Advocates for Youth. October, 2017. Financial Aid Guide for Foster Youth.

http://www.jbaforyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/JBAY-financial-aid-guide_FINAL_webmail-version.pdf

John Burton Advocates for Youth. October, 2017. Frequently Asked Questions, Non Minor Dependents and CalFresh.

<http://www.jbaforyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/NMD-and-CalFresh-FAQ-10-2-17.pdf>

No Stigma No Barriers. Newsletter, October, 2017. Focus of collaborative is to ensure California's state wide systems, provide better and more responsive supports to improve mental health outcomes for transition age youth.

<http://www.nostigmanobarriers.org/>

National Mentoring Resource Center Newsletter, September 2017. The review examines mentoring of Foster Youth.

<http://www.nationalmentoringresourcecenter.org/index.php/what-works-in-mentoring/model-and-population-reviews.html?id=298>

Vox, Sesame Street Video. Aja Romano. October 9, 2017. Sesame Street is Helping Children of all Ages Deal with Traumatic Experiences.

<https://www.vox.com/culture/2017/10/9/16447882/sesame-street-traumatic-experiences-series>

Drought Implications

Update below for October

<http://drought.unl.edu/>

Housing

School House Connection; July, 2017, Fact Sheet on Young Children Experiencing Homelessness.

<https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/ECE-Overview-SHC-July-2017.pdf>

Frontline Podcast, October 12, 2017. The Housing Fix Edition 3.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/podcast/dispatch/the-housing-fix/?elqTrackId=8F6C79C42CE28A7395BD45AE3186F94F&elq=09a3c8f8a7ae481785c54f31948386>

Health

Los Angeles Times, October 12, 2017. Chad Terhune. Extra Cost in Some ACA Plans. Article discusses a surcharge is added to Silver Tier Health Policies.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171012/281852938792458>

Los Angeles Times, October 6, 2017. Soumya Karlamanga. Hepatitis A Outbreak May Linger in the State. Article discusses Los Angeles, San Diego and Santa Cruz have had 569 people infected and 17 deaths. The outbreak is occurring within homeless communities.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171006/281805694140522>

Los Angeles Times, October 6, 2017. Paul Sisson. Unease as Open Enrollment Period Nears. Open enrollment is November 1, 2017; article discusses the unease tied to this year' season.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171006/281930248192106>

Los Angeles Times, October 17, 2017. Lisa Macaro & Noah Bierman. Trump Calls for Short-Term Obama Care Fix. Article discusses President is supporting bipartisan talking and appears to be supporting fixes to Obama-Care.

<http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-na-pol-trump-gop-20171016-story.html>

Mother Jones, Patrick Caldwell. October 17, 2017. Article discusses bipartisan Senators have reached a deal that would restore the cost sharing reduction payment.

<http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2017/10/key-senators-just-struck-a-bipartisan-deal-to-stop-trumps-obamacare-sabotage/>

Immigration Social Welfare

Los Angeles Times, October 3, 2017. Maura Dolan. Bond Ruling a Nod to Migrant Poverty. Migrants detained by authorities must e offered an affordable bond for release.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-9th-circuit-immigrants-bonds-20171002-story.html>

Los Angeles Times, October 6, 2017. Brian Bennett and Lisa Mascaro. GOP is Divided as DACA Begins to End. The article discusses the phase out of dreamer is occurring with no new law in place.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171010/281500751469455>

Los Angeles Times, October 10, 2017. Brian Bennett and Lisa Mascaró. Daca Allies Bypass Trump Aides. Article discusses supported of young immigrant hope to persuade Trump to reject view of his hard line advisors.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171010/281500751469455>

Los Angeles Times, October 10, 2017. Lauren Rosenblatt. Article discusses the following immigration topics, Dream Act, Recognizing America's Children, Succeed Act, Bridge Act, Raise Act, Border Security Act, and the status of each.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171010/281530816240527>

Los Angeles Times, October 9, 2017. Noah Bierman and Lisa Mascaró. Deal to Protect "Dreamers" at Risk. Article discusses hard line proposal have the potential of derailing DACA program.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171009/281595240747903>

Los Angeles Times, October 9, 2017. James Queally. Abuse Victims Stay Silent Over Fear of Deportation. Reports of Domestic Violence has fallen in California.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171009/281479276630911>

Poverty

Expand the Tax Credit, News Letter, Strong Families Make a Strong Community. A Project of the Niskanen Center. October, 2017

<https://www.expandthechildtaxcredit.com/>

Public Policy Institute of California. October, 2017. Poverty in California, fact sheet.

<http://www.ppic.org/publication/poverty-in-california/>

Valley Public Radio. October 19, 2017. Farida Jahabvala Romero. California Wildfires-Leave Seasonal Agricultural Workers without Jobs Income. Articles discusses impact of the fires on seasonal workers.

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2017/10/19/558543177/california-wildfires-leave-seasonal-agricultural-workers-without-jobs-income>

CCASSC
Overview of Annual Research Topics/Literature Review
November 2017

Upcoming Events

John Burton for Youth. Children's Advocate Roundtable. Immigration and the Impact on Children. November 30, 12-3. Sacramento.

<http://www.jbaforyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/immigration-event.png>

Beyond the Bench, Conference, December 19 & 20, 2017.

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/34921.htm>

Conference, California Student Mental Wellness Conference. February 28 to March 1, 2017. Sacramento Area.

http://www.wellnesstogether.org/conference?mc_cid=af4915bc0e&mc_eid=1ecb458376

Child Welfare Services

US Citizenship and Immigration. Posted John Burton for Youth, November, 2017. Special Immigrant Juvenile Status Fact Sheet.

<https://www.uscis.gov/green-card/special-immigrant-juveniles/special-immigrant-juveniles-sij-status>

Human Trafficking

Fresno Bee, November 2, 2017. Rory Appleton. Women and Children are Sold Online and on the Streets of Fresno. Article includes highlights of women and children being trafficked on the streets of Fresno.

<http://www.fresnobee.com/news/special-reports/human-trafficking/article182090031.html>

Fresno Bee, November 2, 2017. Aleksandra Appleton. Every 16 Year Old in the Valley has Been Targeted by the Sex Trade. Article discusses how valley youth are targeted by recruiters and that law enforcement say it has occurred in all high schools.

<http://www.fresnobee.com/news/special-reports/human-trafficking/article183592286.html>

Fresno Bee, November 16, 2017. Rory Appleton. Once Sold for Sex, She Now Leads the Fight Against Human Trafficking. Article explores the journey of Arien Pauls from victim to someone involved in tackling human trafficking.

<http://www.fresnobee.com/news/special-reports/human-trafficking/article184943988.html>

Fresno Bee, Special Report. November 16, 2017. Aleksandra Appleton. Meet the Advocates that Help Human Trafficking Victims Rebuild Their Lives. Two minute video showcases advocates.

<http://www.fresnobee.com/news/special-reports/human-trafficking/article184943793.html>

School House Connection, Guest Perspective, November 1, 2017. What it Takes to Graduate, for Students Experiencing Homelessness

<https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/what-it-takes-to-graduate-credit-accrual-and-recovery-for-students-experiencing-homelessness/>

Drought Implications

Ted Talks. January 7, 2016. David Sedlak. Discussion on 4 ways we can avoid a catastrophic drought.

https://www.ted.com/talks/david_sedlak_4_ways_we_can_avoid_a_catastrophic_drought

Drought Update below for November, 2017

<http://drought.unl.edu/>

Housing

Los Angeles Times, November 5, 2017. Steve Lopez. As Renters Struggle, Others are Cashing in. Article explore rents rising faster than wages and the impact on the housing market.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171105/281784219363005>

Los Angeles Times, November 9, 2017. Liam Dillon, Proposed Tax Overhaul Hurts Affordable Housing In GOP Districts, California Treasures Says. Article discusses proposed tax overhaul may hurts affordable housing.

<http://www.latimes.com/politics/essential/la-pol-ca-essential-politics-updates-proposed-tax-overhaul-hurts-affordable-1510247230-htmstory.html>

Los Angeles Times. November 15, 2017. Steve Lopez. Article explores the housing crisis and how if you are a landlord, you are advantaged.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-lopez-landlords-20171115-story.html>

Los Angeles Times. November 28, 2017. Doug Smith. Article discusses a strategy in Los Angeles that tries to break the cycle of repeated arrests of homeless mentally ill.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-jail-homeless-outreach-20171128-story.html>

Health

Los Angeles Times, November 6, 2017. Joshua Emerson Smith. Focus Shifts to San Diego River. The Hepatitis Outbreak approach is now focusing on the San Diego River and the Homeless Population.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171106/281736974724482>

Los Angeles Times, November 10, 2017. Soumya Karlamangla and Gale Holland. Los Angeles ramping up efforts as Cases among Gay and Bisexual Men Surge.

<http://www.latimes.com/topic/health/diseases-illnesses/hepatitis-HEDAI00000272-topic.html>

Los Angeles Times, November 13, 2017. Morgan Cook. Waterfront restroom with a 2 million dollar cost criticized because of the Hepatitis outbreak and the need for more public restrooms in that area.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20171114/281767039511699>

San Diego Tribune, November 13, 2017. Gary Warth. Article discusses arrests have spiked in San Diego as the County is tackling the hepatitis outbreak.

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/homelessness/sd-me-homeless-arrest-20171109-story.html>

Immigration Social Welfare

Chicago Tribune, November 19, 2017. Brian Bennett. DACA Goes from Deal to Dream Amid Demands. Tougher demands on immigration have stalled movement on DACA.

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/chicago-tribune/20171119/283661120099438>

Poverty

Center on Budget Policies and Priorities. November 10, 2017. Chuck Marr. The article discusses the Senate Republican tax plan raise the maximum child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$1,650 per child. Article raises concerns that millions of children whose parents work low wage jobs would receive a limited or no increase at all.

<https://www.cbpp.org/blog/senate-tax-bill-limits-child-tax-credit-expansion-for-low-income-children-extends-credit-to>

Frontline Video. November 25, 2017. Update on film on poor kids in America

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/poor-kids/>