



STRENGTHENING CHILD WELFARE: SACRAMENTO COUNTY'S ROLE IN CALIFORNIA C-CFSR

Background:

The California-Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR) County Self-Assessment (CSA) and System Improvement Plan (SIP) process is essential for continuously improving child welfare services. It is a structured approach that helps counties evaluate their performance, identify strengths and areas for improvement, and develop strategies to enhance service delivery and outcomes for children and families. The process takes place every five years and involves several key steps:

- **Data collection and analysis:** Collect and analyze data to gain insights into performance and service delivery.
- **Stakeholder engagement:** Collaborate and engage a diverse group of stakeholders to ensure comprehensive input and support.
- **Reports:** Provide detailed summaries of strategy development, highlighting both challenges and successes in improving outcomes for children and families.

By following this process, county Child Welfare Services (CWS) and Probation (P) agencies can remain responsive to the needs of children and families, promote accountability, and continuously improve the quality and effectiveness of services.

2021-2026 FEDERAL OUTCOME FOCUS AREAS

**P1: Permanency in 12
Months (CWS)**

**P4: Re-Entry to Foster
Care (CWS)**

**P5: Placement Stability
(CWS & P)**





More information on our Blueprint for Progress

The Child Welfare Services three focus areas below guide us in implementing effective strategies to improve performance and achieve the county's goals, fostering positive change in the lives of children and families.

P1

Permanency in 12 Months

Of all children who entered care in the 12 month period, what percent discharged to permanency within 12 months?

43.7%

April 2019-May 2020 Baseline: 41.3%
Performance goal: 35.2% or above



P4

Re-Entry to Foster Care

Of all children who were discharge to reunification or guardianship within a 12-month period, what percent reentered foster care within 12 months?

13.4%

April 2019-May 2020 Baseline: 15.6%
Performance goal: 5.6% or below



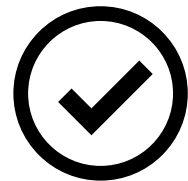
P5

Placement Stability

Of all children who enter care in the 12-month period, what is the rate of placement moves per day?

3.94

April 2019-May 2020 Baseline: 4.11
Performance goal: 4.48 or below





SYSTEM STRATEGIES 2021-2026

A Step Forward

Sacramento County is dedicated to improving the well-being of children and families with its latest initiatives. The main goals are to increase family reunification rates, improve the quality of care for youth with complex needs, and enhance placement stability.

KEY INITIATIVES

Child Welfare Strategies



Implement Family Time Coaching: Strengthening visitation and communication to support the reunification process.

[CWS strategy update:](#)

A Family Services Worker unit and a permanency unit have been identified to pilot the project in February 2025.



Staff Retention: Implementing innovative strategies with the Core Practice Model to retain skilled staff.

[CWS strategy update:](#)

We are thrilled to announce that the Staff Stay Surveys are ready! They will soon be distributed to all staff in the Department of Child, Family, and Adult Services. Your feedback is essential and will help shape our future!



Trauma-Informed Welcome Homes: Providing specialized care for youth with complex needs.

[CWS strategy update:](#)

June 2023: Three Sacramento Welcome Homes established. Work began to contract with community providers with the goal of having contracted providers become licensed as Temporary Shelter Care Facility (TSCF) providers.

February 2024: The first contracted TSCF became licensed.

May 2024: TSCF licenses were approved for three Sacramento Welcome Homes (Temporary Shelter Care Facilities).

Probation Strategy



Intensive Family Finding Process: Expanding placements with family and non-related extended family members to build lasting family connections and reduce youth abscondence.

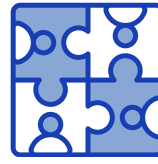
SIP STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Over the past few years, Sacramento County Child Welfare Services and the Probation Department collaborated virtually with stakeholders to conduct the county self-assessment process and gather feedback on the County's System Improvement Plan (SIP). A significant milestone was achieved on May 29, 2024, with the first in-person SIP Stakeholder Meeting marking a transition from virtual interactions necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Stakeholders emphasized the value of collaboration between Child Welfare Services and the Probation Department, improved communication through transparent updates, and the need for more comprehensive resources to address the complex needs of children and families. The feedback highlights a collective commitment to strengthening the critical areas to better serve the community.

SIP STAKEHOLDER SURVEY RESPONSE

Survey responses revealed three key themes.



Collaboration

- Foster cross-system collaboration
- Cultural sensitivity
- Strategic adaptability in achieving youth care and community support goals



Communication

- Build trust through personal interactions
- Integrate feedback mechanisms for continuous improvement
- Community engagement



Support/Services

- Improved service delivery
- Integrated, collaborative, and inclusive approaches in community and youth services
- Leverage professional expertise and individuals with lived experiences to address complex social issues effectively



Opportunities for Collaboration

Community organizations and stakeholders are vital to the success of the county's initiatives. Opportunities for collaboration include:

- Partnering on system strategies
- Coordinating joint events and hosting forums
- Providing resources and support for trauma-informed care initiatives

For more information on how to get involved and contribute to these efforts, please visit our website for California Child and Family Services Review Reports

<https://dcfas.saccounty.net/CPS/Pages/CPS-Home.aspx>

Email: dcfascps-prb-CSA-SIP@saccounty.gov.

Your involvement is crucial to making a positive impact on the lives of Sacramento County's children and families.