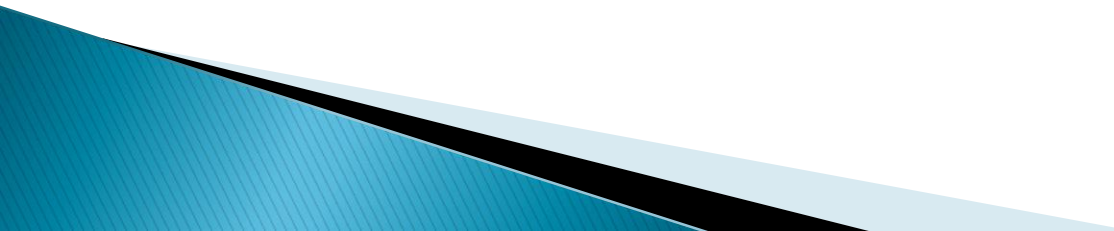


Policies and Practices for Children 0-5 in the Child Welfare System

Judy Webber, LCSW, Deputy Director
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What is the Child Welfare System (CWS) Work Plan?

- ▶ Action Plan for CWS priority system change efforts
 - ▶ Plan included three systems change activities:
 1. Professional development through training for social worker staff
 2. CWS practice integration concerning mental health services for children 0-5 and
 3. Policy development targeting children ages 0-5
- 

County of Ventura Child Welfare Data

10/1/2013 – 09/30/2014

- Number of referrals received alleging child abuse or neglect: **9,231**
- Most Recurrent Allegation Type: **General Neglect**

	# Total	# 0-5	% 0-5
Referrals Investigated	5,107	2,037	40%
New Cases Opened (Child)	594	339	57%
Child Cases (as of 10/1/14)	1,206	500	41%
Emergency Response	19	10	2%
Family Maintenance	200	96	19%
Family Reunification	414	223	45%
Permanency Planning	494	172	34%
Supportive Transition (18-20 yr)	79	n/a	n/a
Placement Type (as of 10/1/14):			
Foster Home/Foster Family Agency	296	176	35%
Relative	342	182	36%

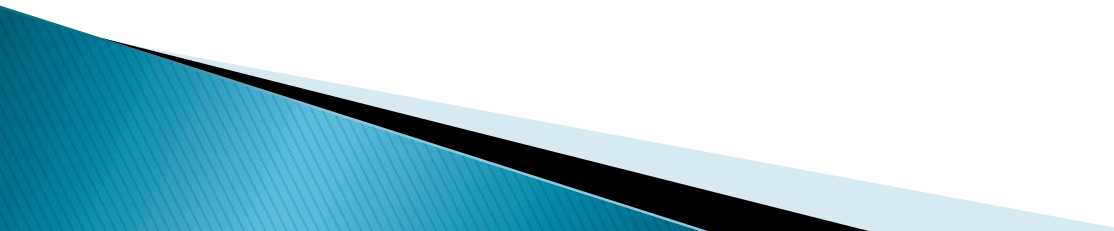
Data Source: CWS/CMS 2014 Quarter 3 Extract

Data Source: California SafeMeasures, Referrals, Oct 2013 – Sep 2014,
California SafeMeasures, Allegation Type by Client, Oct 2013 – Sep 2014

Professional Development for Staff

- ▶ Children and Family Services (CFS) and partner staff training focused on the 0-5 population
 - Trauma Informed practices
 - Five Protective Factors
 - Katie A Integrated Services
 - Training topics related to children 0-5 years
 - CFS trainings to community
 - Using technical equipment for quick access to resources

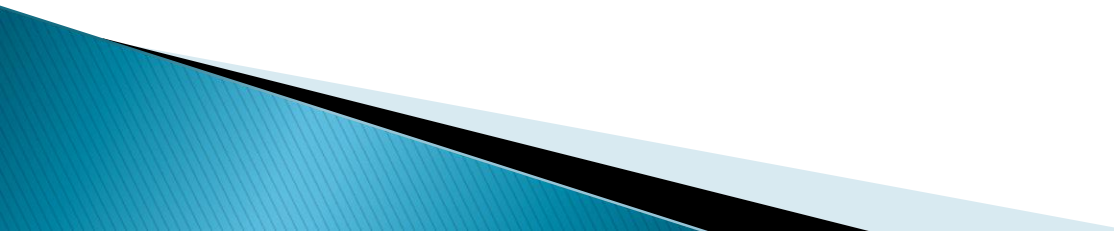
Mental Health Services Practice Integration

- ▶ Integration of mental health services into standards of care
 - ▶ Mapping of available services in support of increased referrals
 - ▶ Cross integration of above strategies
 - ▶ Mental health services specific to CFS children 0-5
 - ▶ Training and mapping informed policy and procedure development and changed practice
- 

Policy Development

- ▶ Integration of Five Protective Factors into practice and resources
- ▶ Identified topics for policy and procedures development to integrate specific best practices in serving children 0-5
- ▶ Identified areas of practice that have an immense impact on the permanency and well being of children 0-5.
 1. CWS/CMS documentation
 2. Mental Health Screenings
 3. Placement
 4. Visitation
 5. Court Appointed Special Advocates
 6. Training
 7. Reunification/Permanency

CFS Priorities

- ▶ Protecting Children by Strengthening Families
 - ▶ Core Practice Model
 - ▶ Align Department Structures and Supports
 - ▶ Continuous Quality Improvement
 - ▶ Key Outcomes
- 

Questions?

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Thank you!

