



CONTINUUM OF CARE REFORM

CCR builds on California's current reform efforts

Approved Relative Caregivers Program (ARC)

Participating counties support relative caregivers with a payment equal to the basic foster care rate.

Child and Family Teaming

An effective approach to coordinated care and case planning for all children and youth in the child welfare system.

Pathways to Mental Health

Originating from the Katie A. lawsuit settlement, Pathways is intended to improve the coordination between child welfare and mental health systems so that children in foster care receive timely, and effective individualized mental health services.

Quality Parenting Initiative

Will create new strategies and practices within child welfare for the recruitment and retention of quality caregivers, and support biological parents with reunification efforts.

Residentially-Based Services Reform (RBS)

A demonstration project begun in 2008 that tested a short-term residential program model with ongoing community-based services and support, and which serves as the foundation for STRTC.

Resource Family Approval (RFA) Program

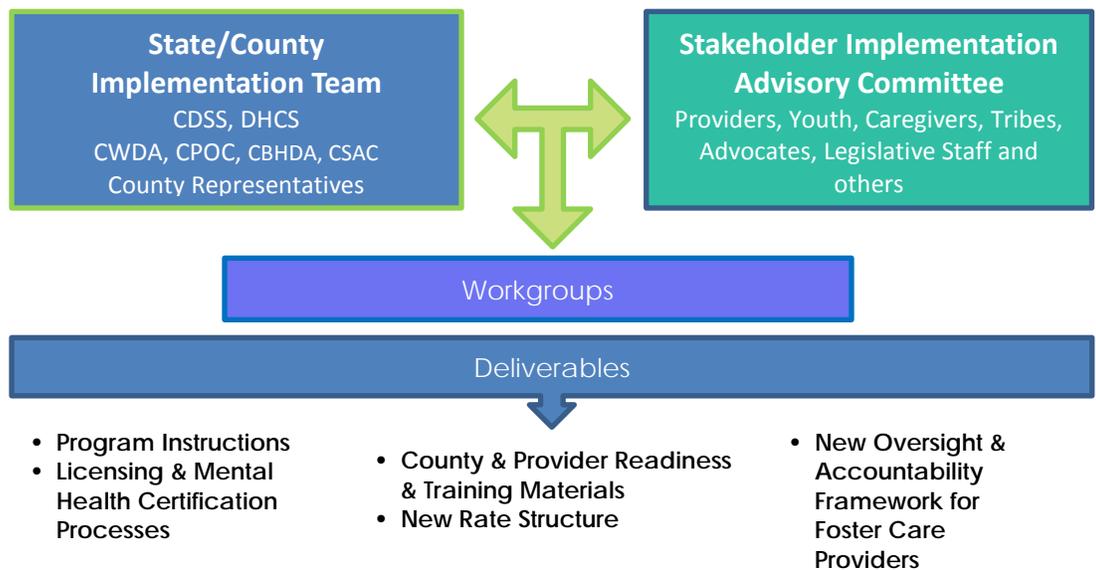
A pilot program that provides upfront training and assessment of families seeking to parent children in foster care will expand statewide.

IMPLEMENTING THE CONTINUUM OF CARE REFORM

[Continuum of Care Reform](#) (CCR) including the public policy changes brought about by Assembly Bill 403 (Stone, Chapter 773, Statutes of 2015), brings together new and existing reforms to our child welfare services program designed out of an understanding that children who must live apart from their biological parents do best when they are cared for in committed, nurturing family homes. Implementation of these reforms will be a multiyear effort that cuts across various levels and branches of government, the public and private human services delivery sector, and a wide array of stakeholders with diverse interests.

The California Department of Social Services, in collaboration with the Department of Health Care Services, is the lead state agency for implementation.

Proposed CCR Implementation Advisory Framework:



IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINES

- The [accreditation](#) of **Short-term Residential Therapeutic Centers (STRTCs)** and Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) will start in 2016 and is expected to take two to three years. Provisional licensure as a STRTC or FFA is permitted for up to two years or until December 31, 2018 in order to secure accreditation.
- In June 2016, policy instructions for the new licensing requirements and rates will be available for STRTCs and FFAs.
- Beginning January 1, 2017:
 - New licensure, rate systems and mental health certification for STRTCs and FFAs takes effect.
 - The current licensure and rate structures for group homes and foster family agencies sunset unless an extension is granted permitting a facility to continue operation as a group home under the existing rate structure.
 - The new [Resource Family Approval](#) process goes statewide.
 - Additional county review of children placed in STRTCs for more than six months.
 - New and updated training requirements for resource families and foster care providers take effect.