



CONTINUUM OF CARE REFORM

ACCOUNTABILITY & OVERSIGHT

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.

The Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) seeks to improve outcomes for children in foster care by strengthening the state's oversight framework of foster care providers, namely Foster Family Agencies and the new category, Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Centers. This framework will include three key strategies: national accreditation, cross-departmental state oversight, and publicly available provider performance data.

BACKGROUND

Currently, state oversight of foster care providers is compartmentalized and relatively narrow in focus. Additionally, little data or information is available to the public or to county placing agencies regarding foster care providers.

WHAT WILL CHANGE?

- All providers will be accredited through a national accrediting organization.
- The CCR seeks to develop an oversight framework that integrates existing accountability and oversight processes (licensing, fiscal audits, mental health accountability) and new data measures into a more holistic approach to provider accountability.
- A core CCR principle assumes that information about provider performance is important to counties in making placement decisions and to providers to continuously improve the quality of their services by using data to manage performance. Provider performance measurements will be developed initially from existing administrative data sources: e.g., statewide child welfare data, qualitative case reviews, audits, licensing actions, and data from other state agencies. Client satisfaction surveys will be used to capture the perception of children and their families regarding services they have received.

PROVIDER PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- The performance and measurement system will build from a number of existing and developing activities at the state and local levels.
- From these efforts, and in consultation with national experts, the Department will establish baselines of performance for providers so that improvement over time can be measured.
- Measures specific to probation youth outcome will also to be developed.

PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY

- Beginning 2017, the Department of Social Services will publish foster care provider performance indicators onto a publically available website and will update that information at least twice a year.

MORE INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS

- [CCR: A Report to the Legislature](#)
- [Assembly Bill 403 \(Chapter 773, Statutes of 2015\)](#)
- For additional information or questions, please contact: CCR@dss.ca.gov.