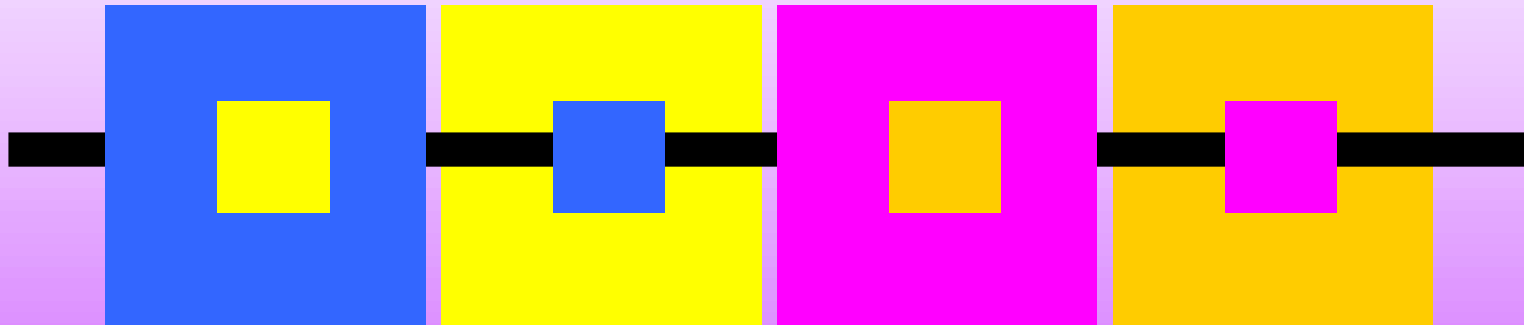


CW S STAKEHOLDERS SUMMIT



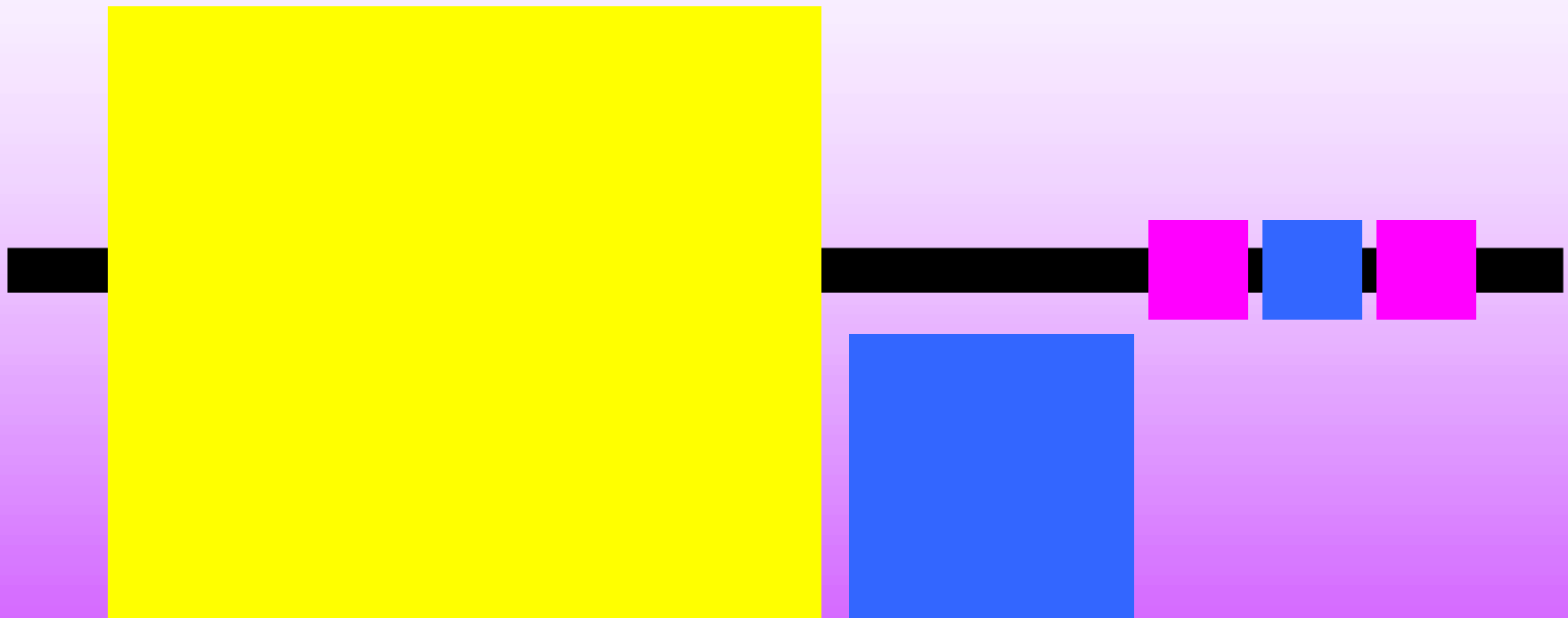
MAY 16, 2002

ANAHEIM ,
CALIFORNIA

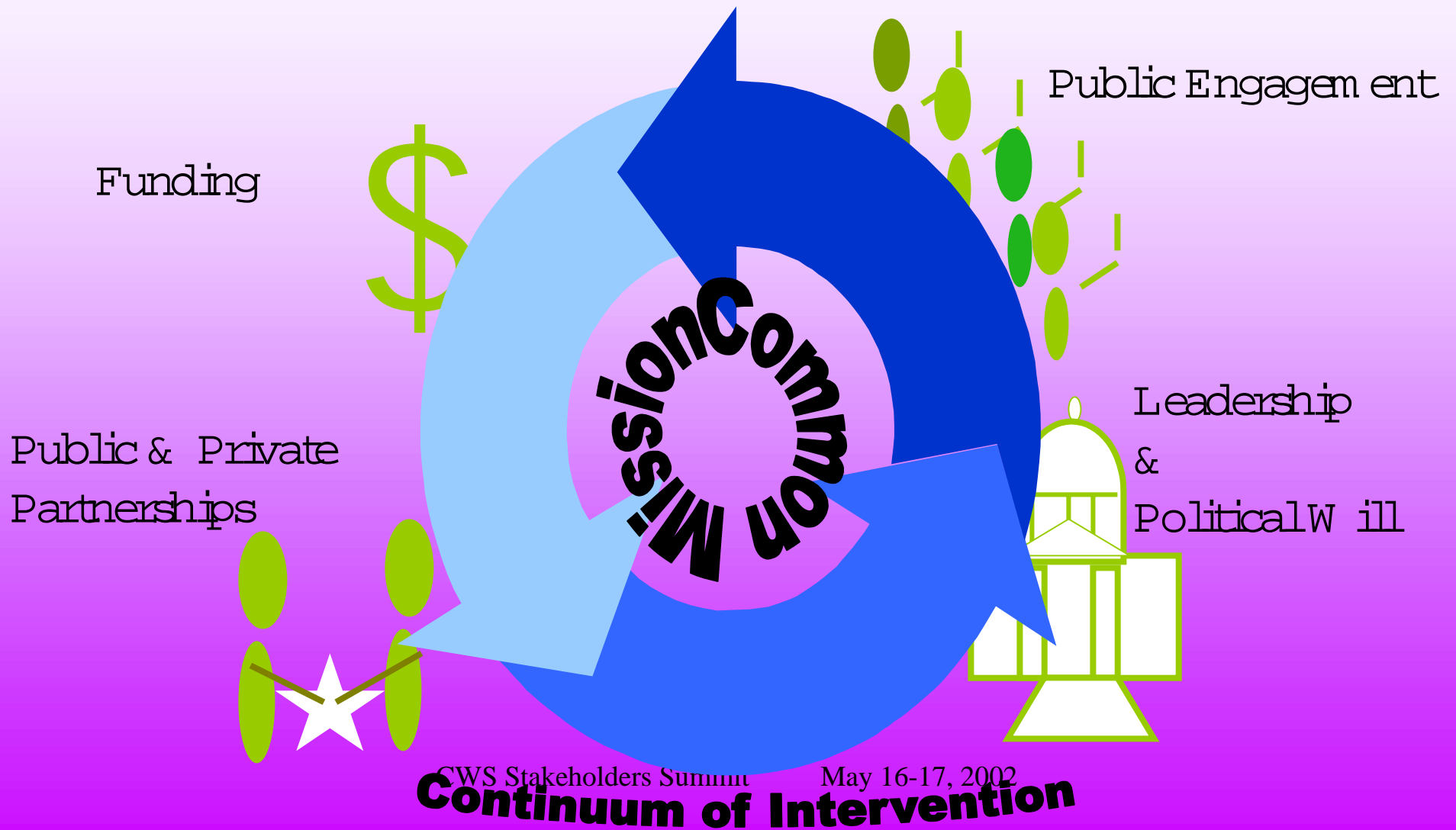
CWS Stakeholders Summit

May 16-17, 2002

A Prevention Framework



Foundations For Prevention Strategies



Proposed Prevention Strategies

Strategy 1

Form alize role of C W S and other agencies

Strategy 3

Engage C om m unity M em bers in local and state partnership activities

Strategy 5

Secure support of legislative & executive branches

Strategy 2

E stablish collaborative prevention strategy

Strategy 4

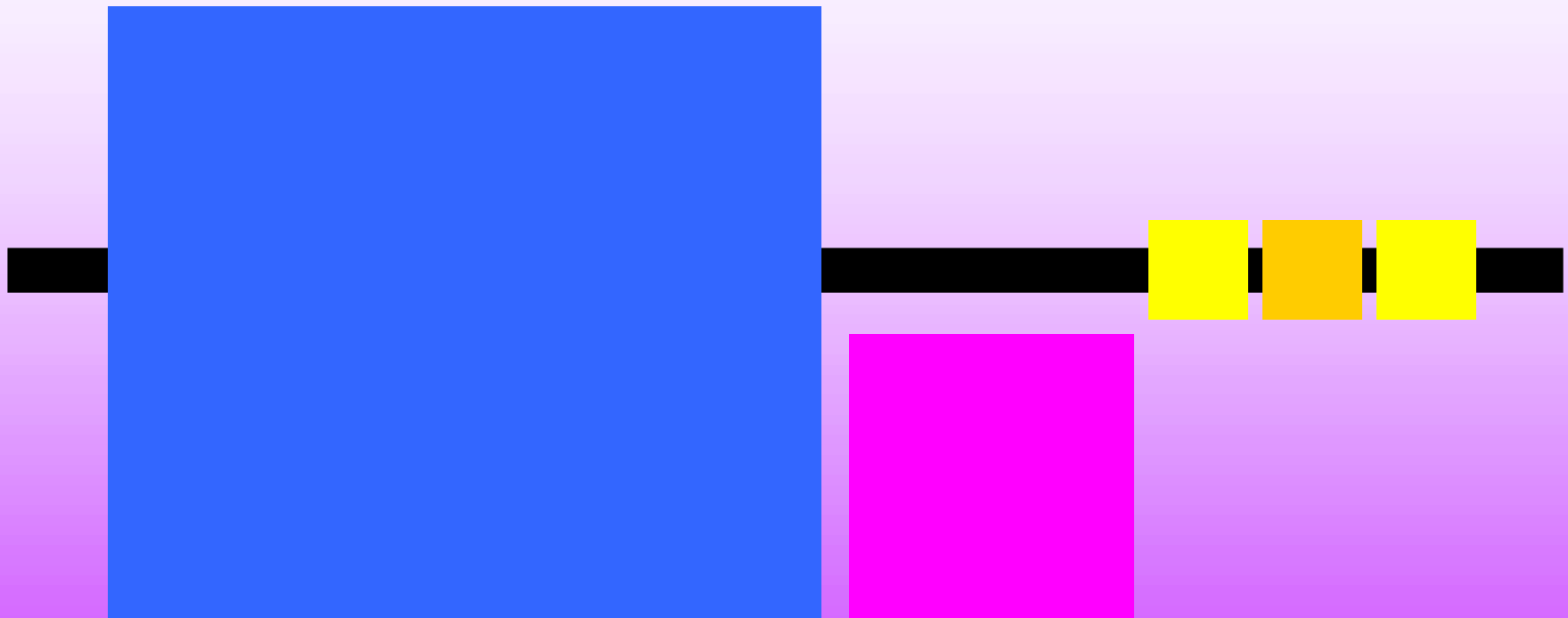
U tilize strengths-based universal approach to prevention

Strategy 6

D evelop dedicated sustained funding

VISION

D I F F E R E N T I A L R E S P O N S E



Presented by:

Patricia Schene, Ph.D .

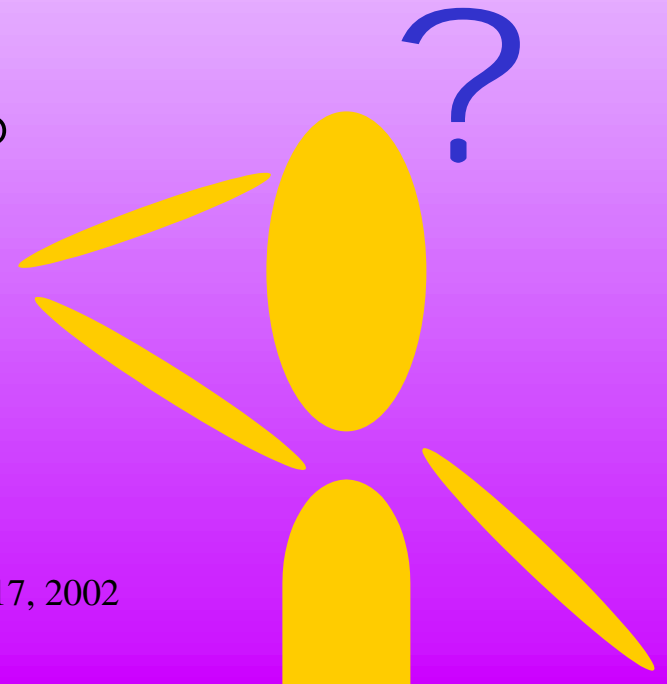
CWS Stakeholders Summit

May 16-17, 2002



What is Differential Response?

- Allows for more than one method of response
- Not all cases receive an "investigation"
 - *one size does not fit all*
- Some referrals can immediately move to assessment and services
- Other referrals involve serious safety concerns and possible criminal charges





Why Differential Response?

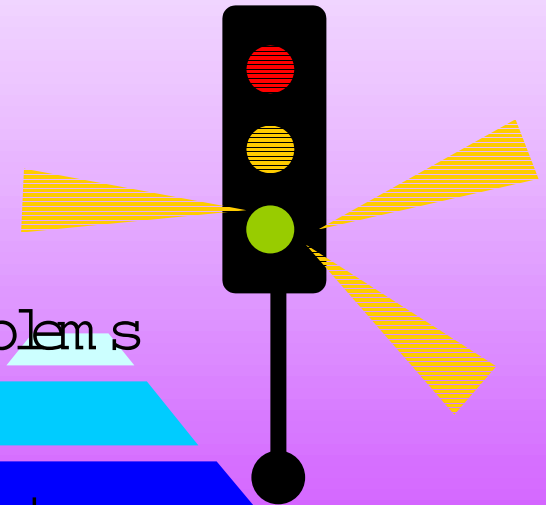


- Investigations are usually adversarial and accusatory
- Valuable resources used to substantiate allegations
- Many cases do not receive services; many families are re-reported only to be re-investigated and still not helped
- We need to find ways to engage families in services
- Safety of children can be promoted with earlier, assured response



Criteria for Response

- Ability to assure safety of child
- Severity of maltreatment/ongoing risk
- Chronicity of parenting problems
- Willingness/capacity of parents to accept help
- Availability of relevant services/supports
- Comprehensive assessments of strengths/problems in the family in placing care of child
- Need for involvement of law enforcement/courts



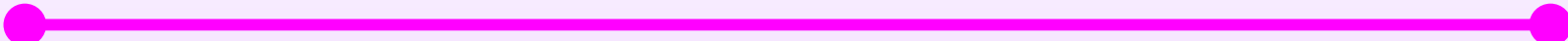


Assumptions of Differential Response

-
- Not all families reported have the same response to their own behavior nor do they need the same approach to change
 - The majority of reports involve situations that truly need attention and services, but most do not need court-ordered interventions
 - Services can be in place more quickly if it is not necessary to examine and determine validity of allegations
 - The safety of children will not be compromised
 - Service providers can learn to be cognizant of threats to child safety or deteriorating conditions for parents



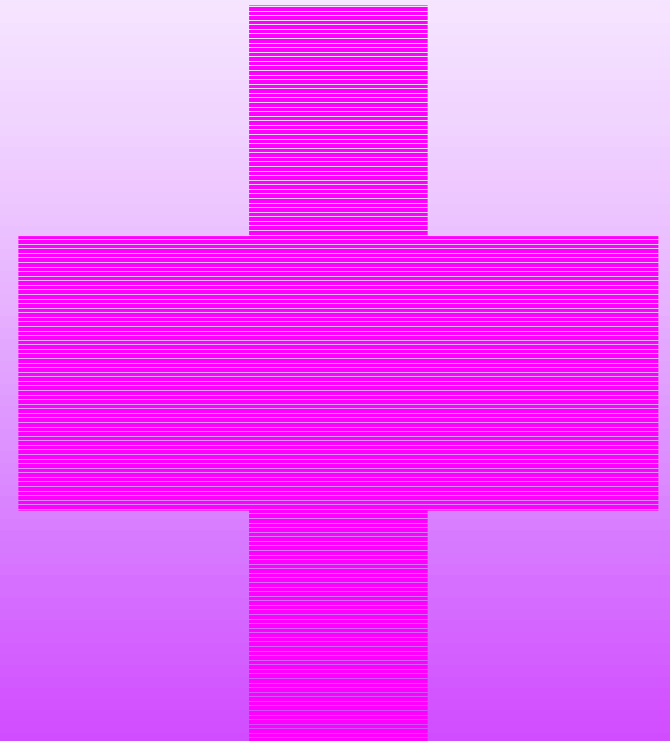
Assumptions..

- 
- Families are more likely to be motivated to change when engaged through less adversarial approaches
 - Frontline staff in CWS/other agencies must be trained; skills developed in assessing/engaging families
 - Communication patterns have to be in place between service providers & CWS to ensure that emerging risks can be rapidly addressed
 - Agencies outside CWS will take greater responsibility for child protection



Anticipated Benefits

- System of response will be better suited to the variety of conditions present in families
- More children will be protected over time
- More services and supports will become available
- Public responsibility for protecting children will be broadened
- Rate of repeat reports will go down

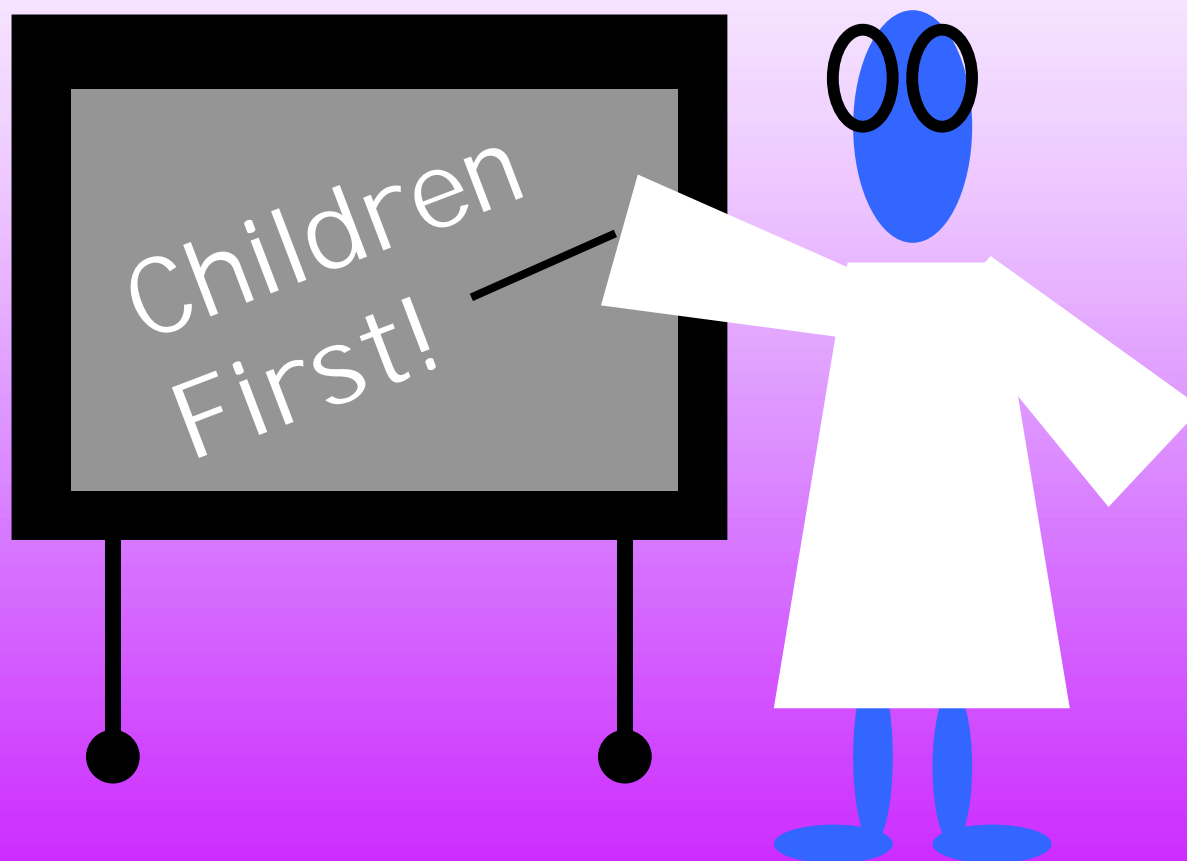




Lessons Being Learned



Lessons Being Learned...

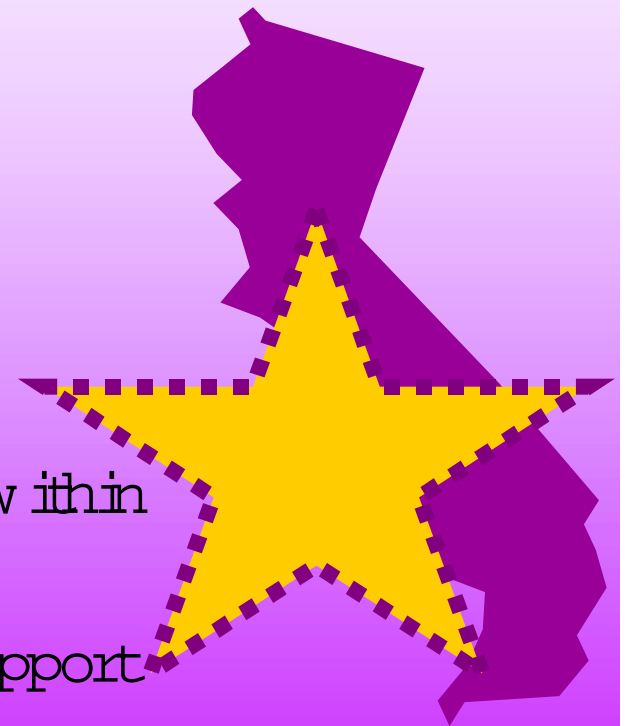




Differential Response for California Rationale



- Families often do not get needed help early enough
 - only 8% of children referred receive more than an investigation
- When referrals are made -no assurance that services were delivered
- 40% of children referred are reported again within 2 years
- Current CWS funding and policies do not support serving families earlier



-REDESIGN NEEDED

CWS Stakeholders Summit

May 16-17, 2002

What is Being Recommended?

- Most Services received without investigation
- Referrals directly from Hotline
- Paths of both family service/non-court and family services-court
- Paths based on initial Hotline assessment



What is Being Recommended..

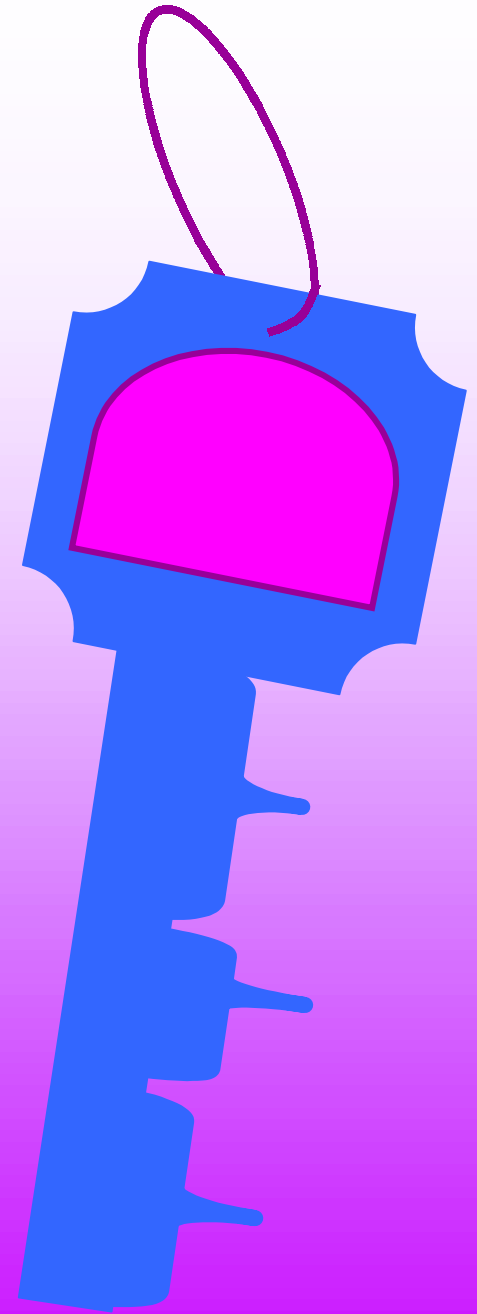


- CWS partnership with other agencies
- Appropriate gathering of evidence for court-involved cases
- Focus on engaging families
- Assessment of safety, risk and family functioning



Key Points

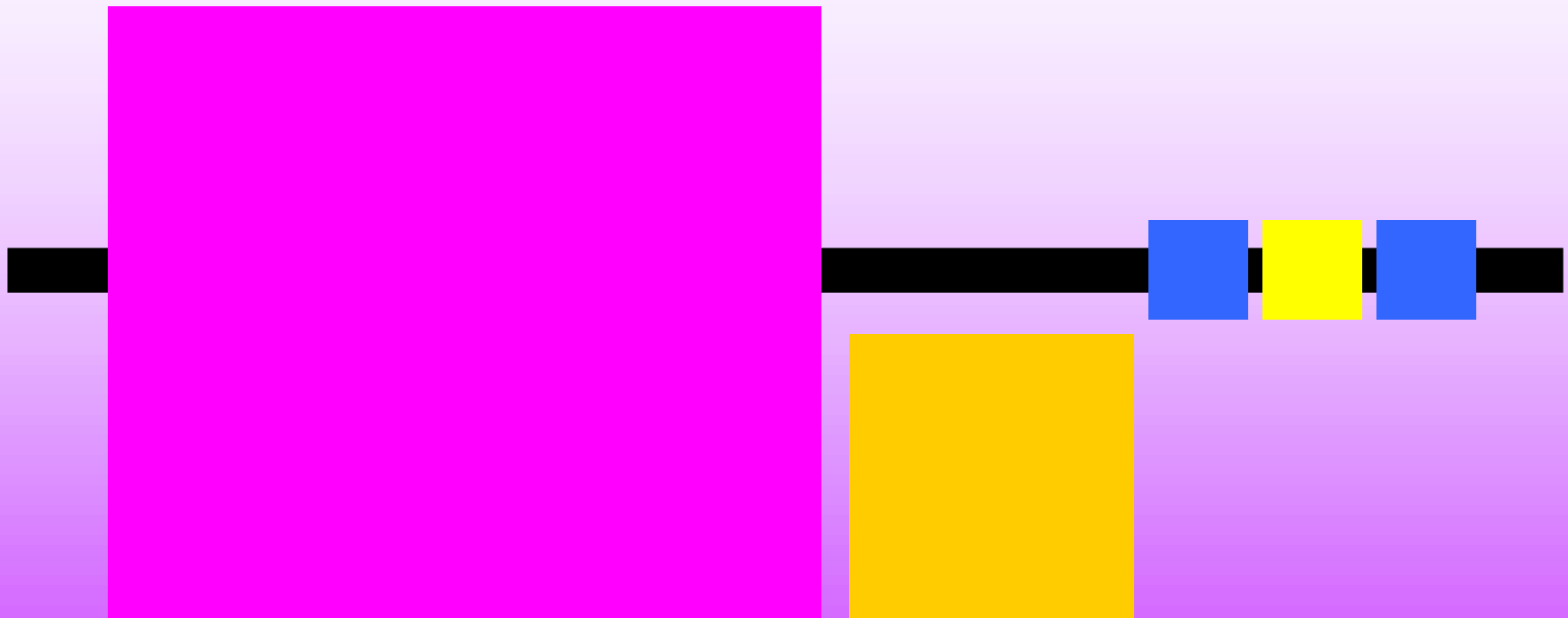
- Redesign recommendations: **not** expanding definitions of who should be referred, but **are** expanding responsibilities to serve children and families who are referred
 - with a more timely and effective response
- No way to separate out *differential response* from need to build a more robust system of early intervention services
- Redesign recommendations depend heavily on involvement of other agencies, community resources, and the families themselves in the work of child protection



Conclusions

- *Differential response* is a policy and practice change that many states are actively implementing or examining
- Any approach to re-design had to be specifically tailored to California circumstances and built upon the many strengths of the child welfare system in the state
- *It is the strong expectation of the Stakeholders Workgroup on Early Intervention and Differential Response that implementing these changes will result in greater safety for children and the strengthening of families.*

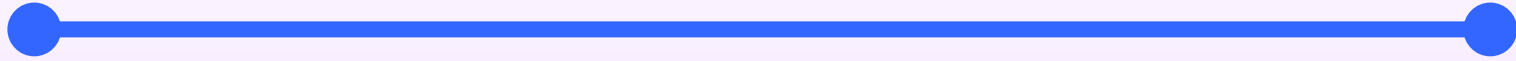
A pproach to Child Safety & Evidence Based Practice



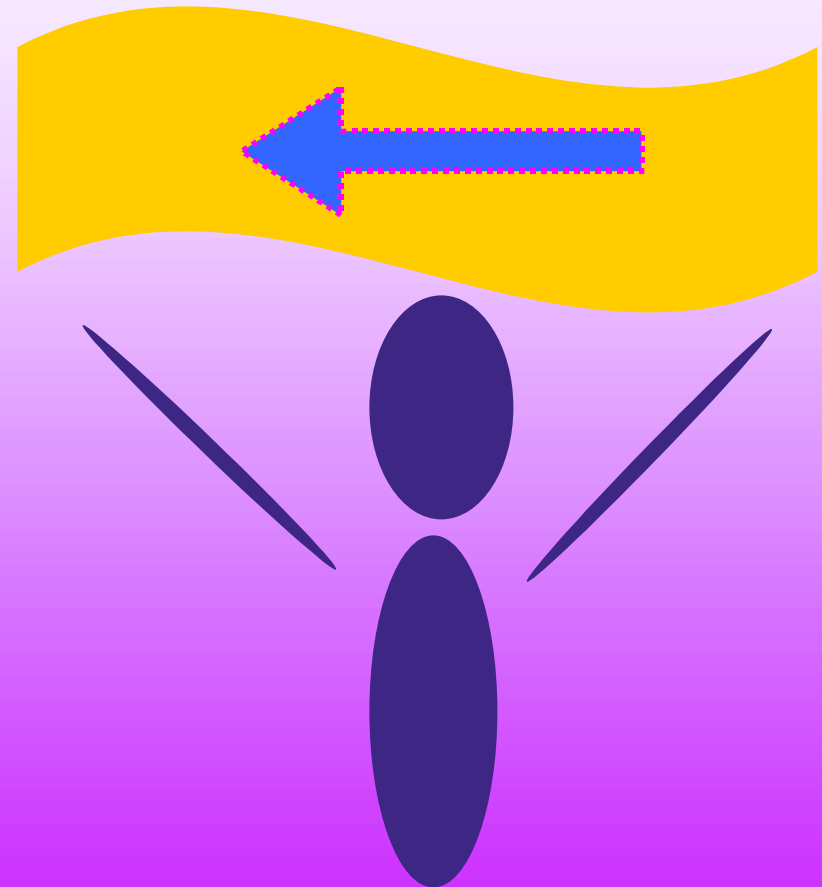
Presented by:
W ayne H older



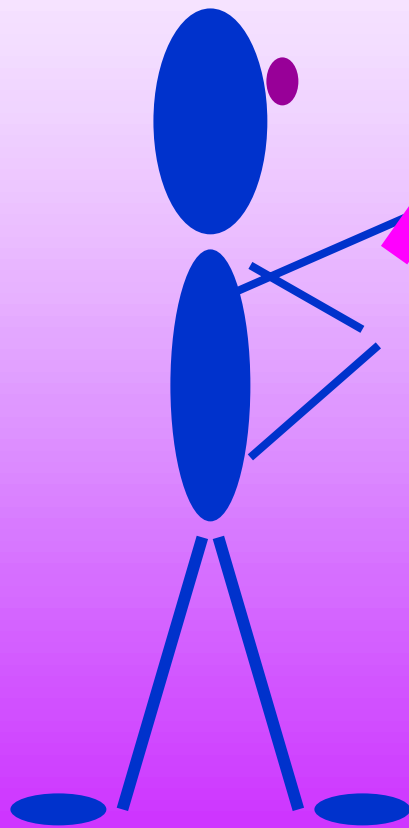
Our Charge



- Examine Assessment/
Practice/ Intervention
Approaches
- Recommend Approach
to Practice and
Achieving Child Safety

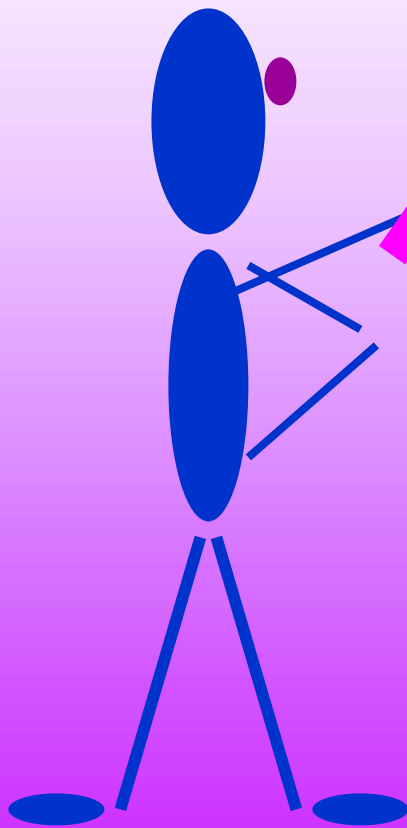


Our Work has Focused on...




- Examining role of courts/identifying necessary core services
- Identifying "Promising Practice" safety interventions
- Identifying safety approach framework suitable to California's needs

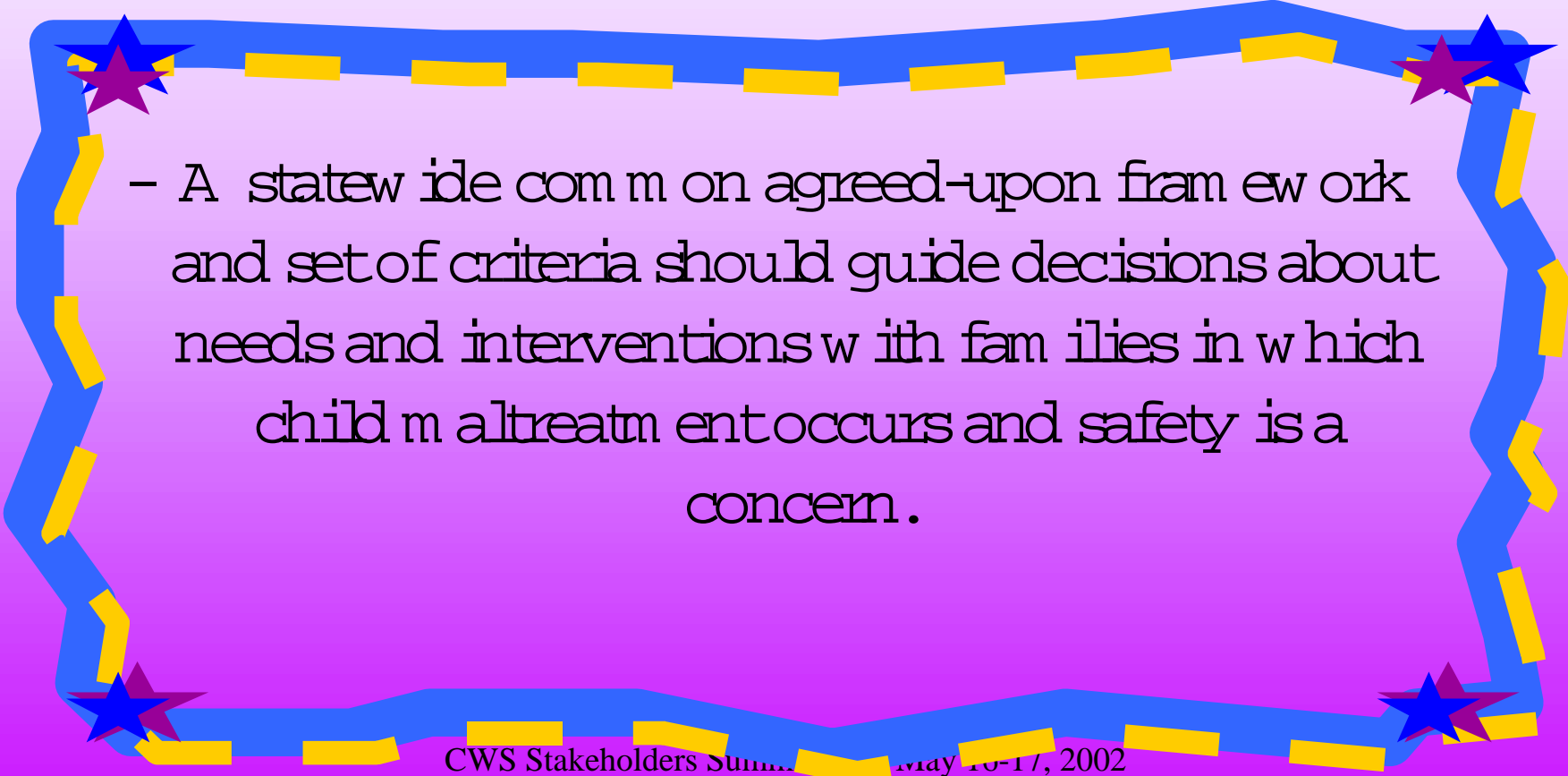
Our Work has Focused on...



- Identifying "Promising Practice" approaches to CWS Worker Interaction with Families.
- Identifying means to develop/evaluate/confirm evidence based practice in CWS.
- Identifying need for practice approach in CWS that engages caregivers and facilitates change.

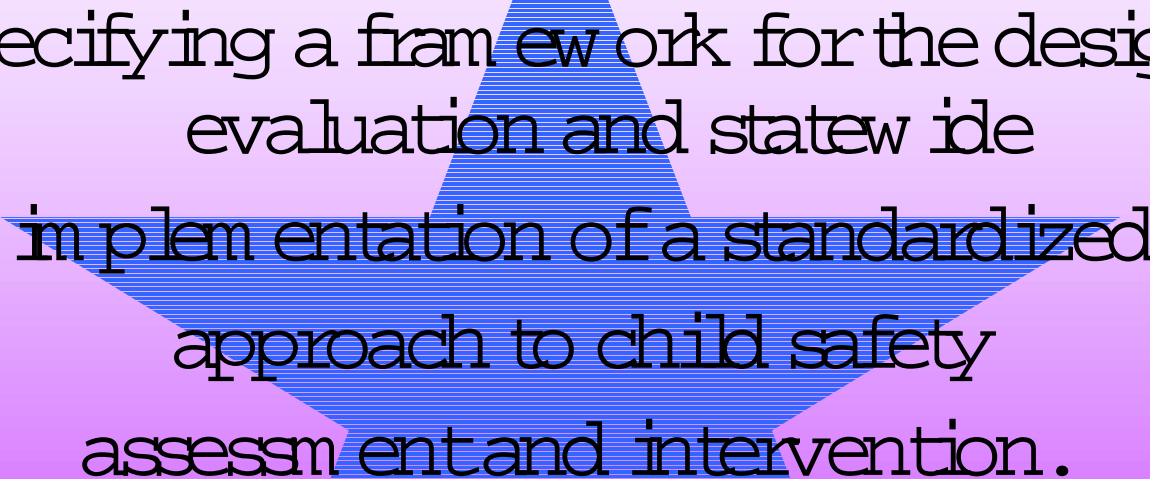


Our Key Stakeholders Group Safety Assumption

- 
- A statewide common agreed-upon framework and set of criteria should guide decisions about needs and interventions with families in which child maltreatment occurs and safety is a concern.



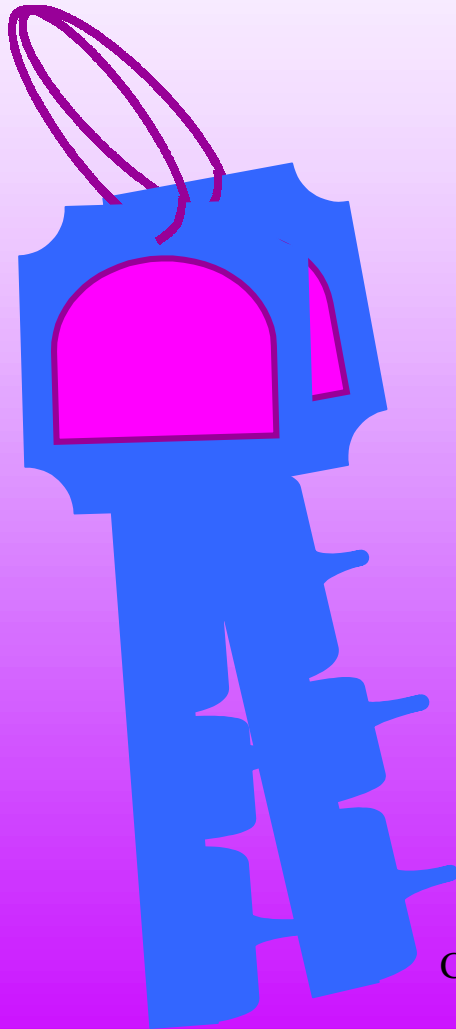
Our Core Safety Strategy



Specifying a framework for the design,
evaluation and statewide
implementation of a standardized
approach to child safety
assessment and intervention.



Recommended Key Elements of Safety Strategy

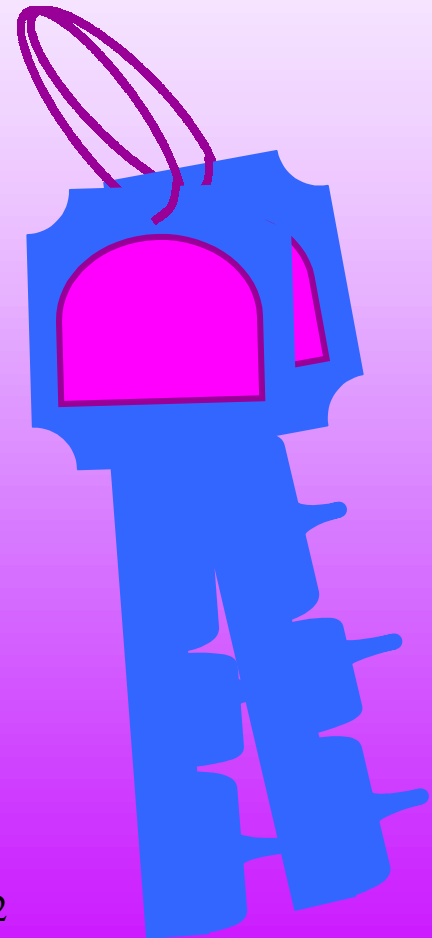


- Use standard of present danger and threat of danger as basis for determining response time; **no longer than 5 days.**
- Develop standardized approach to assessment and intervention for safety



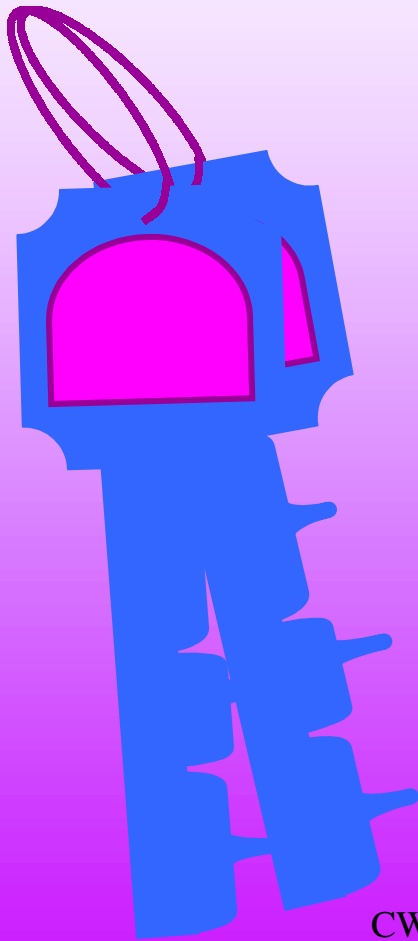
Recommended Key Elements of Safety Strategy...

- Develop standardized list of threats of danger / safety factors
- Generate creative intervention strategies infusing what's working in California.
- Use non-adversarial approaches to engage families in decision-making.





Recommended Key Elements of Safety Strategy...



- Use concept of caregiver's protective capacities as focus of decision-making about ongoing intervention.
- Provide core array of services for reasonable efforts to preserve families



Our Key Stakeholders Group Practice Assumptions



Planned change in human social behavior is
more likely to occur in the context of a
supportive helping relationship.



The likelihood of success increases where the
family and professionals
mutually agree upon decisions.



Our Core Practice Strategy

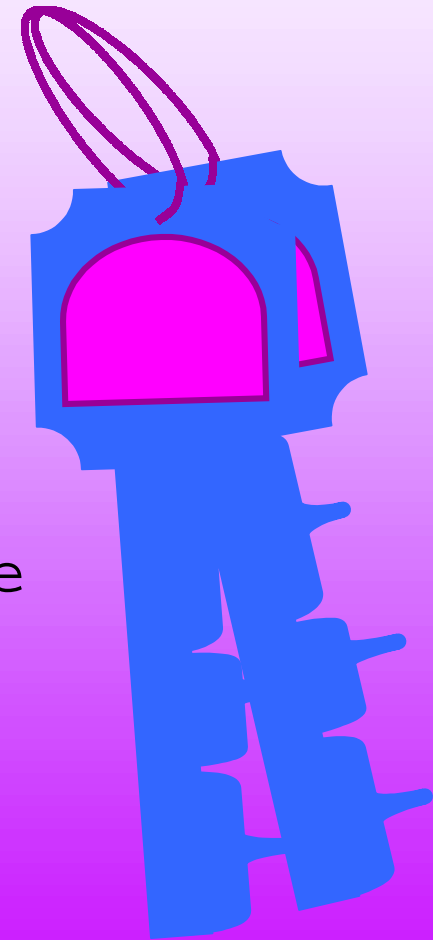


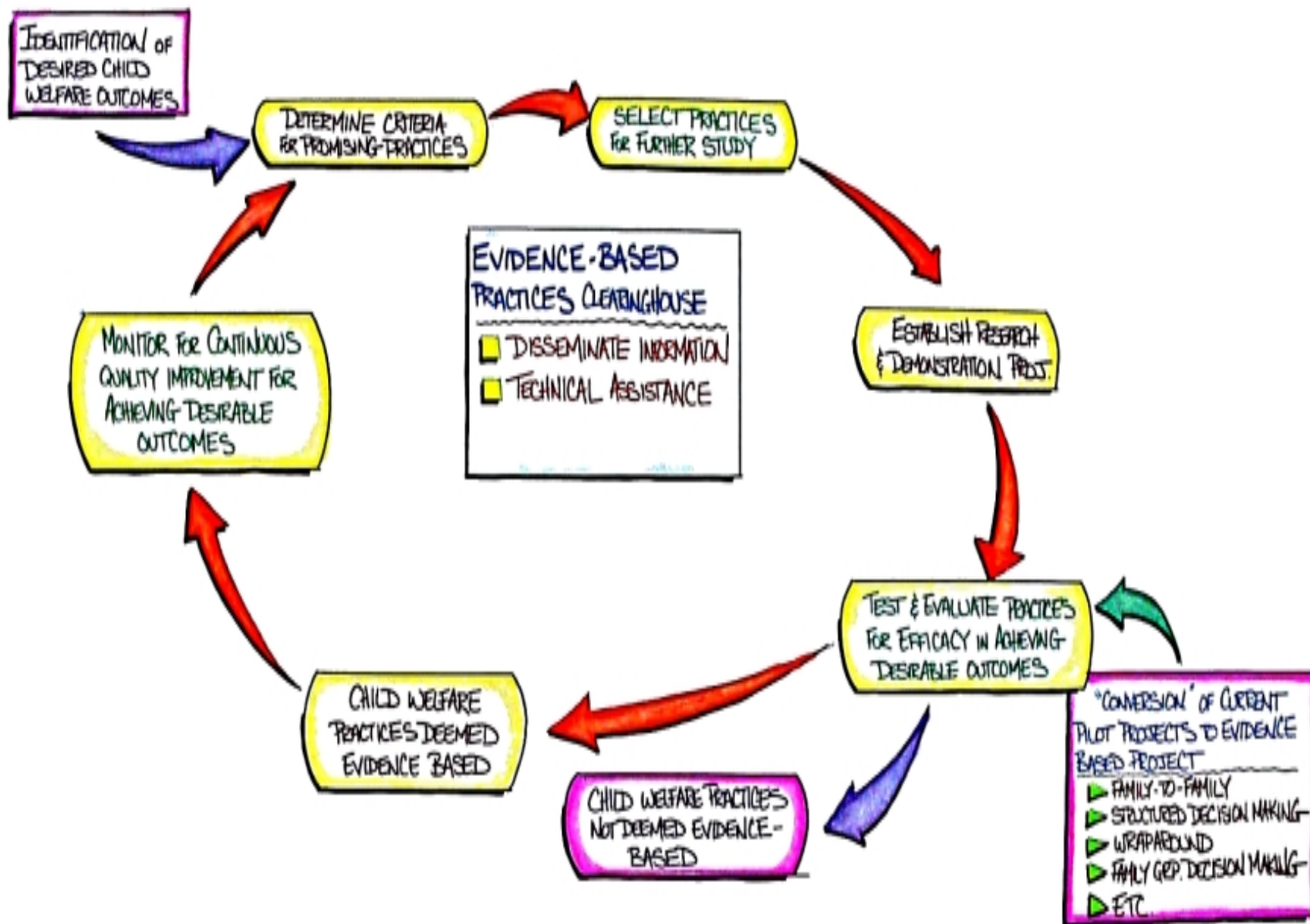
- Establish a process for the
development,
evaluation
and
confirmation
of evidence-based practice that will be offered for
implementation across all counties in California.



Recommended Key Elements of Practice Strategy

- Establish formal process/cycle for development, evaluation and confirmation of evidence-based practice.
- Establish clearinghouse for CWS Evidence Based Practice.
- Use cycle to evaluate change-oriented practice approach and other current promising/best practices.





Pathways to Permanency

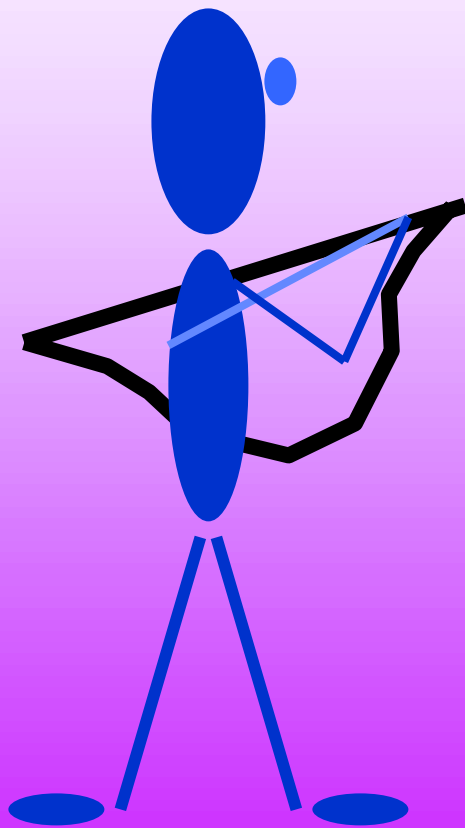


Presented by:

Thomas Morton

CWS Stakeholders Summit May 16-17, 2002

Our Targets

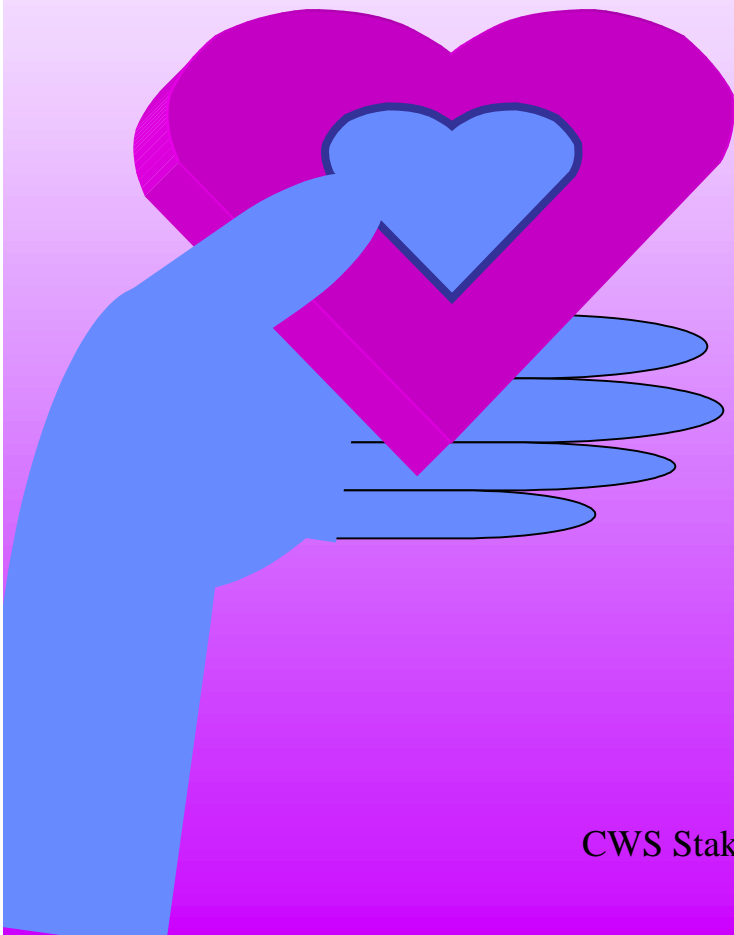


- Permanency through reunification
- Alternative permanency through adoption and guardianship
- Successful adult transitions
- General system strategies



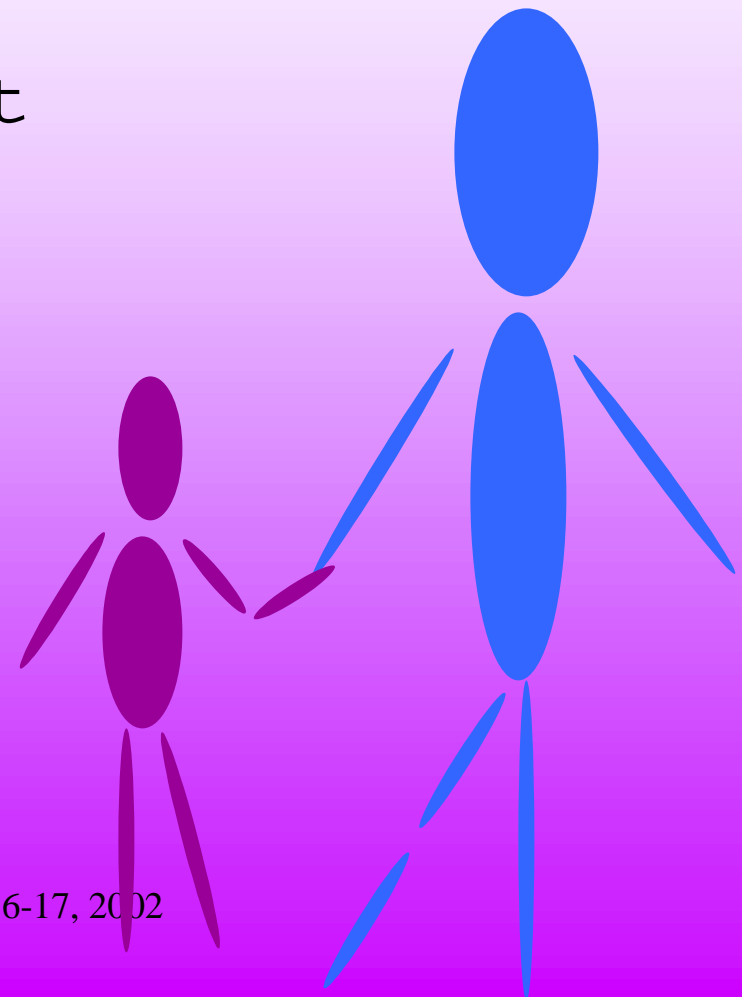
Defining Permanency

- Permanency occurs when a child or youth is living in a legal relationship with an adult caregiver where the caregiver holds a commitment to meeting the child or youth's developmental needs through transition to adulthood and the child or youth experiences a sense of emotional security regarding the enduring nature of his or her relationship with the parent or guardian.



The Components of Permanency

1. **Parental Custody**. The parent or guardian in a permanent arrangement has custody of the child. Custody in permanency cannot rest with the state.



The Components of Permanency...

2. Parental or Guardian

Commitment. The parent or guardian is committed to meet the child or youth's developmental needs, including preparing the child or youth for adulthood.

3. Emotional Security. The child or youth experiences a trust that the parent-child or youth relationship will endure through space and time.





Permanency Preferences

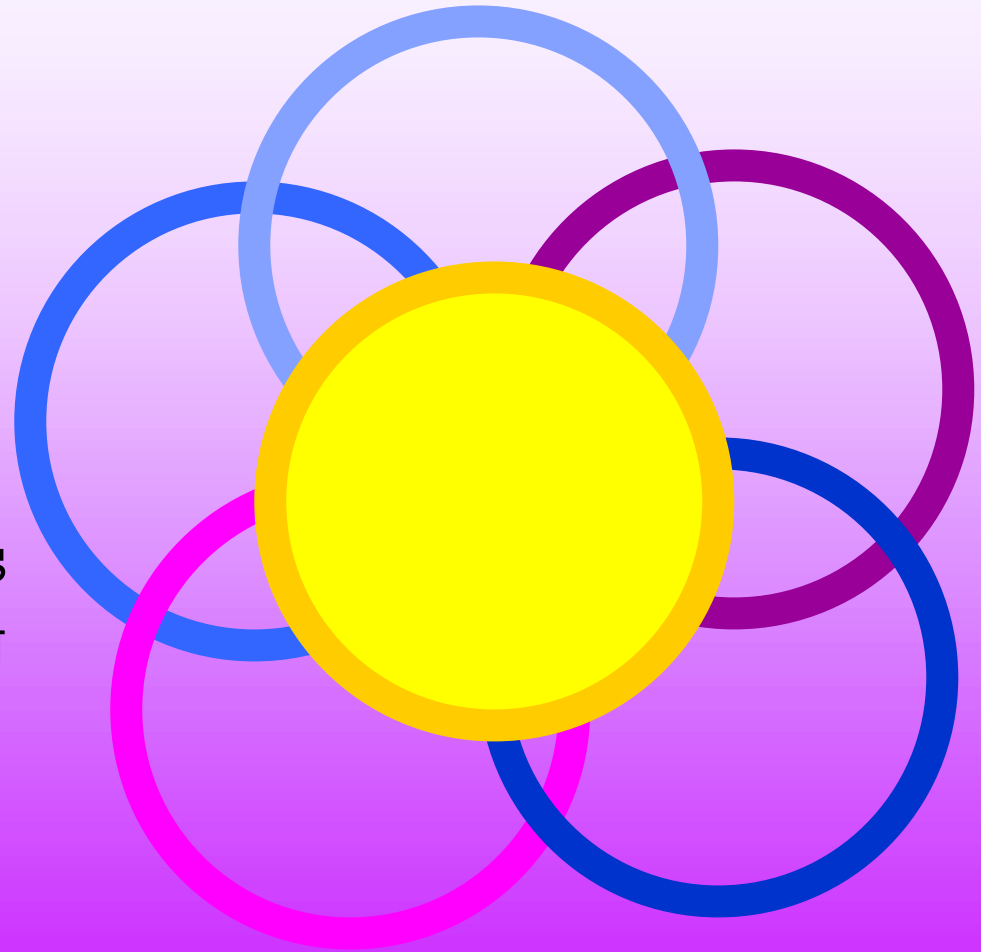
- Safe reunification with birthparents
- A adoption or guardianship by relatives
- A adoption by a non-relative foster parent
- A adoption by a non-relative other than the foster parent
- Non-relative guardianship





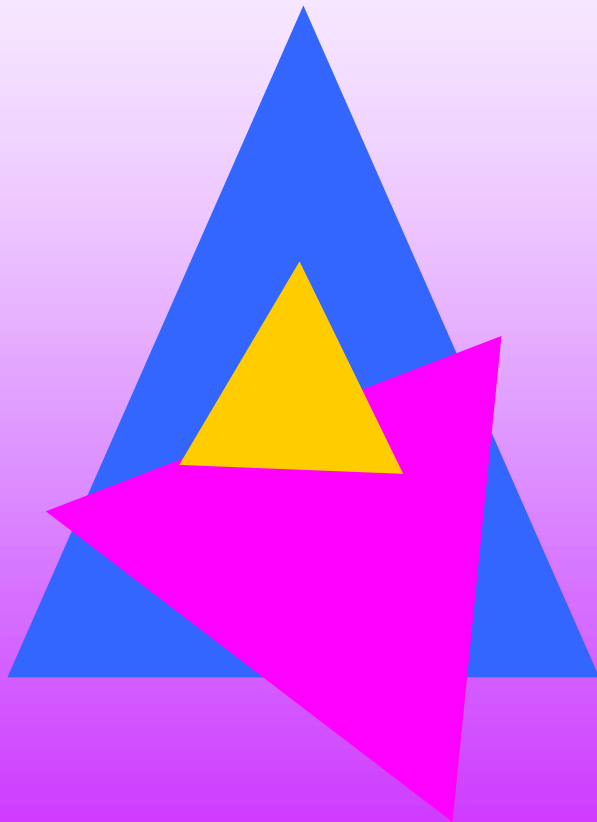
Reunification

- Assertive in-home safety planning
- Engage birth families in on-going parenting role






A lternative Perm anency

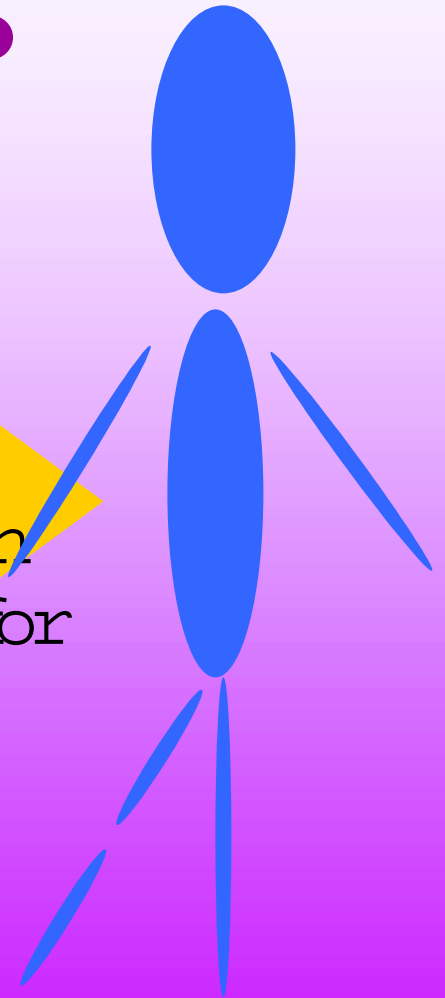
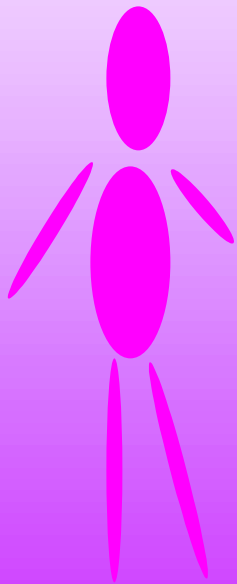


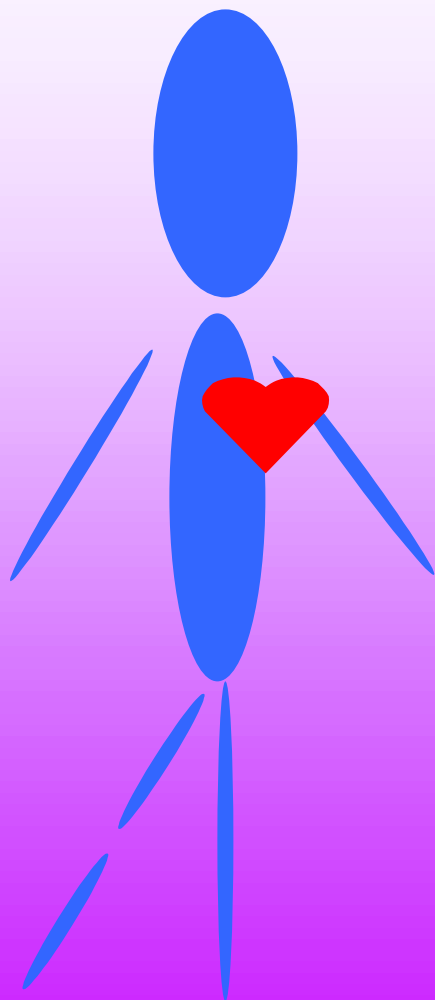
- Options for older youth
- Concurrent Planning
- Post-Adoption Services
- Guardianship





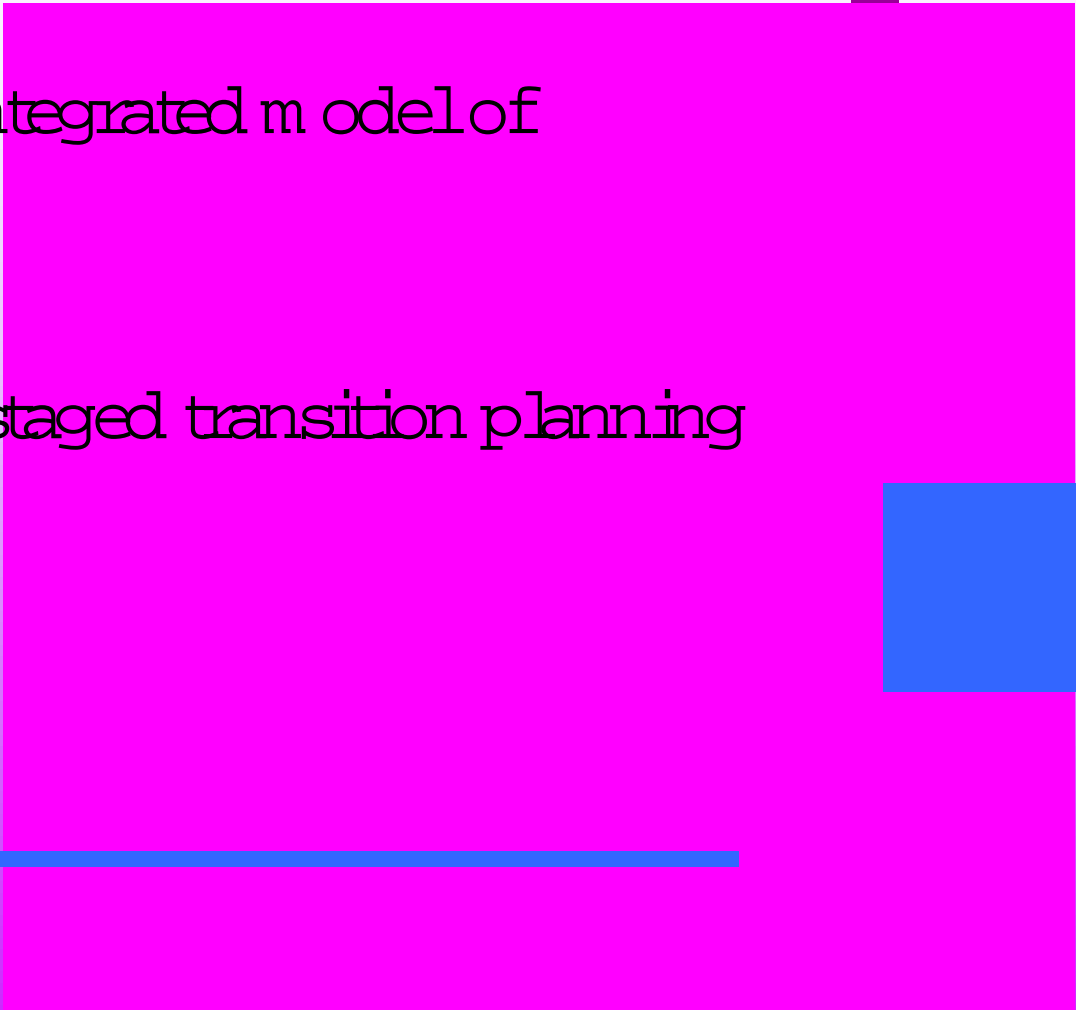
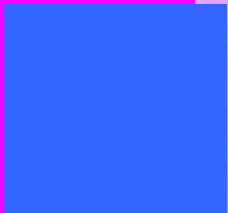

Successful Adult Transitions

- 
- Successful transition to adulthood refers to a planned transition of a youth from state supervised and supported care in which the state makes major decisions regarding the youth's life to a status in which the youth assumes responsibility for these decisions.





-These decisions include employment, housing, medical care, education, association with others and lifestyle. This transition is assisted through financial, material, educational, social and emotional supports designed to recognize the youth's history and experience of being in out-of-home care and the unique challenges that history presents to social functioning as an adult in society.

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- Comprehensive, integrated model of transition services
 - Youth experience
 - Developmentally staged transition planning and preparation
 - Housing
 - Court oversight
-

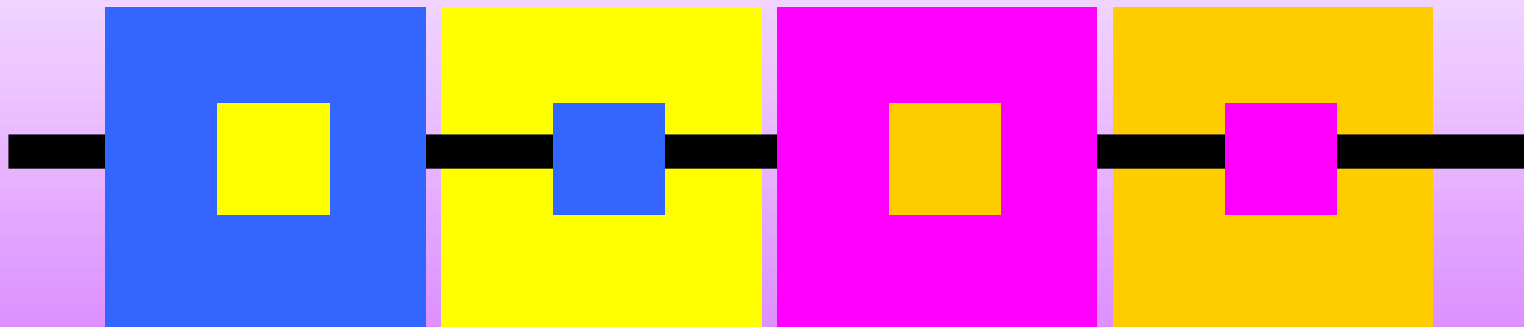


System ic Strategies



- Assuring sufficient competent and supported foster family resources
- Kinship Care
- Disproportionality
- Standardized Safety Assessment
- Standardized Assessment Criteria
- Meeting the well-being needs of all children in care

CW S
STAKEHOLDERS
SUMMIT



MAY 16, 2002

ANAHEIM ,

CALIFORNIA

CWS Stakeholders Summit May 16-17, 2002