

ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 74 COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT FAMILY STABILIZATION (FS) PLAN

COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT (CWD):

Kern County Department of Human Services

DATE:

3/31/14

CWD CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME/POSITION:

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Please describe how your CWD plans to utilize funds allocated for the FS Program and include responses to the following nine categories. There is an additional text box to enter other information about your FS program if needed. The text boxes will accept up to 1,000 characters of text. If more space is needed you may also submit attachments to accommodate the additional information. You may also attach any materials that address each of the areas below if the materials can be converted to a pdf format for posting to the CDSS website (i.e. not scanned copies).

Please indicate the date your CWD will begin offering an FS program:

FS SSW's received training from Child Welfare Services and job shadowed CPS Voluntary Family Maintenance SSW's from 2/24-3/7. They received their first assignments on 3/27/14.

What types of services will be provided under the FS program?

- Homelessness
- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Domestic Violence
- Other, please list Family Assessment, Individual Vocational Assessment, Life Skills Workshops

How will clients be informed of the FS program?

Initially, the focus of our program will be working with clients who are in the 1st or 2nd month of being WTW sanctioned. These clients will find out about the program through phone calls, letters and home visits. Once the robust appraisal tool is made available, we will use that to determine who is going to be enrolled in the program and clients will find out about this during their Group Orientation, and/or appraisal appointment with their assigned Social Worker.

How will clients be able to request participation in the FS program?

They can speak with their WTW SSW's after orientation and during the appraisal process.

How will the county determine which clients will be selected for the FS program?

Initially, the focus of our program will be working with clients who are in the 1st or 2nd month of being WTW sanctioned. These clients will find out about the program through phone calls, letters and home visits.

Once the robust appraisal is available, Kern will utilize the appraisal outcome to determine who will be referred to the FS program from WTW.

How will the county notify the clients that are participating in the FS program?

Currently, Kern county is notifying clients via phone contact and home calls. When possible, the FS and CPS SSW's will work together to notify the clients that are participating in the program.

How often will county staff contact FS families?

FS families will be contacted by phone or home call on a weekly basis. The FS SSW is required to complete at least two home calls per month.

How will FS Intensive Case Management differ from general Case Management?

FS case management is going to include a family needs assessment as well as an FS case plan that can include activities for both parents and children over 10 years old if necessary.. The FS SSW's will complete weekly contact with the families and carry a maximum of 20 cases.

What types of partnerships will you develop for your FS Program? (i.e. Community based organizations, non-profits, etc.)

We partnered with Child Welfare Services to train the FS SSW's in CWS program. Kern will also utilize partnerships with Kern County Mental Health, Community Connection for Childcare, Bethany Services, Bakersfield Homeless Shelter, and Alliance Against Family Violence, Child Guidance, and other youth focused programs such as Young Marines, Police Activities League, and sports leagues (little league baseball, Jack Frost, etc)

What strategies will you use to link clients with these providers?

We will use our already established referral procedures for clients who need assistance from Kern County Mental Health, DHS Domestic Violence Services, Alliance Against Family Violence, Bakersfield Homeless Shelter, and Community Connection for Childcare and other community partners.

What strategies does your CWD have to transition clients to WTW?

Once the clients, who qualify for WTW, have completed their FS case plan, they will be assigned to Fosters assessment and a life skills workshop. The assessment and life skills workshops will be their transition exercises while their case is transferred to the WTW SSW.

How does the FS program compliment or enhance your current services?

The FS program is going to assist those clients with a WTW sanction to lift the sanction by using more intensive services to help the client become stabilized in either their housing, mental health, youth focused programs and substance abuse counseling.

Please include any other components of your FS program not covered above:

Please fill out this form electronically and submit to FSPProgram@dss.ca.gov

Note: CWDs must submit their plans no later than 30 days after implementation of their FS Programs. CDSS may request subsequent submittals of AB 74 FS Plans from CWDs depending on the needs of the program.
