

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

COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT (CWD):

Madera County

DATE:

3/25/14

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:

Madera County will begin offering FS services as of 4/1/14.

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

- Homelessness
- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Domestic Violence
- Other, please list _____

How will clients be informed of the FS program?

New clients will be informed of the availability of the FS program at the time of orientation and appraisal. On-going clients will be informed at first contact after the program becomes available through face to face contact, phone conversation, and/or notices mailed to them.

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

Clients will initially be able to request services at the time of appraisal. The client will meet with a case manager to review the documents completed during the orientation. The case manager will review the forms completed during the orientation including a self-appraisal. This form may provide information that may suggest there may be issues in the home. The client will complete the Self-Assessment Functioning Evaluation (SAFE) during the appraisal appointment. The case manager will further assess for the FS program based on the information provided on the SAFE form and may also complete the ASI assessment tool or FS assessment. On-going clients will then be able to request FS services at any time during their 24 month time clock period. During the participation reviews, case managers will determine who is meeting participation requirements and will address clients who are not meeting requirements. The case managers will make contact with the client and discuss cause for not meeting participation requirements. The case manager will discuss barriers and determine if client meets the criteria for the FS program through the completion of the SAFE form, ASI assessment tool or FS assessment.

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

The orientation and appraisal case manager will review the self-appraisal form, complete the SAFE form, complete an ASI assessment, and/or complete a FS assessment to determine eligibility to the FS program. The continuing case manager will use the same tools initiated either from client disclosure or client's lack of participation.

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

The County will inform the client of their participation in the FS program upon determining eligibility. If good cause is found, a Notice of Action will be provided to the client informing them of their status.

How often will county staff contact FS families?

The case managers will be making every effort to contact the FS families through home visits, phone calls, and correspondence. The frequency of contact will depend on the severity of a client's situation that may require daily to weekly contact. The expectation is that the case managers make at least a weekly contact with each family.

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

FS Intensive Case Management will differ from general Case Management in that contact will be more frequent with the clients ranging from daily to weekly depending on the severity of the situation or need. Clients may be offered services to address their barriers prior to being referred to Welfare to Work activities. Clients may be found with good cause for not meeting participation requirements and therefore stopping their 24 month time clock. The case manager's caseload will be lower to allow for more one on one contact with the clients.

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

We currently have a partnership with Madera Access Point who provides clients with counseling services for AOD, mental health and domestic violence. We have a partnership with California State University, Fresno to assist with the completion of Learning Disability Assessments. We also work closely with Madera Adult School, State Center Community College District at the Madera Center, and the Workforce Development Office to assist with training services. We will be working with Madera Housing Authority and Madera Rescue Mission on assisting clients with housing issues.

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

Case managers will keep close contact with clients and monitor participation to assigned activities or services. Case managers will follow up on scheduled appointments. Case managers will assist to facilitate in working with clients in overcoming barriers for clients to attend services such as transportation and child care.

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

The client will be assigned to WTW activities based on the family's stability level. In a team approach with the service facilitators, the client will be assigned to WTW activities as barriers are resolved.

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

Currently, the client has the opportunity at multiple times prior to the signing of a WTW Plan to self-disclose any barriers that may be keeping them from meeting participation requirements. The client initially meets with a case manager for a one on one appraisal. Unless already participating in an activity at time of orientation and appraisal, the client is then referred to Madera Access Point and is given the opportunity to self-disclose in a private setting to a trained mental health professional. What the FS program will allow will be time to closely monitor client's participation in these needed services due to the lower caseload. The frequent contact will allow the case manager to address barriers quicker.

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

Madera County is pending clarification on a question regarding who is eligible to receive services as ACL 14-12 appears to be contradicting in regards to ineligible unaided AU members.

Please fill out this form electronically and submit to FSProgram@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.
