

LINKAGES PROGRAM AND AB 429



**Empowering San Francisco
families through partnership
between CalWORKs and
Family & Children's Services**

photo courtesy to: "Instant Family" movie

Linkages is a practice, not just a program. It entails the coordination, integration of information, and service delivery on common cases between CalWORKs and Family & Children's Services.



photo courtesy to: Seattle Children's Hospital

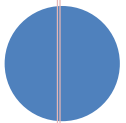
2 Types of Linkages Cases

1) Family Maintenance (FM)

early detection of child neglect and abuse to possibly prevent court intervention (NCFM), CalWORKs benefits being affected, et al.

2) Family Reunification (FR)

qualifies for AB 429 benefits (cash aid and supportive services) after parents' discontinuance from CalWORKs benefits due to child(ren) removal



LINKAGES ELIGIBILITY

- Open San Francisco CalWORKs AND San Francisco FCS common cases in Family Maintenance or Family Reunification(AB 429 benefit)
- It is strongly recommended that PSW asks and engages family in a conversation regarding the family's income and resources. CFT Linkages meetings for FM/NCFM cases benefit clients with questions on CalWORKs, CalFresh, Medi-Cal benefits as well as supportive services (e.g., childcare, housing assistance, employment, education).
- To refer if client is eligible for a CFT Linkages meeting, email Linkages team with **parent's NAME & BIRTHDATE** to:

Linkages@sfgov.org

(415)557-5831

Phone calls are welcome, but email is a must.

- After client's case is reviewed and found eligible, Linkages coordinator will email back CFT scheduling instructions to assigned PSW (you or the new PSW) for the scheduling of parent's attendance to CFT Linkages.

LINKAGES

Why Linkages is important to Child Welfare:

- **CPM/Core Practice Model**
 - **Teaming/Team-Focused**
 - **Prevention**
 - **Data-Driven (e.g., Linkages Dashboard)**
- **Reasonable Efforts**
- **Resources (to address complicating factors*)**
- **Financial Support for Families**

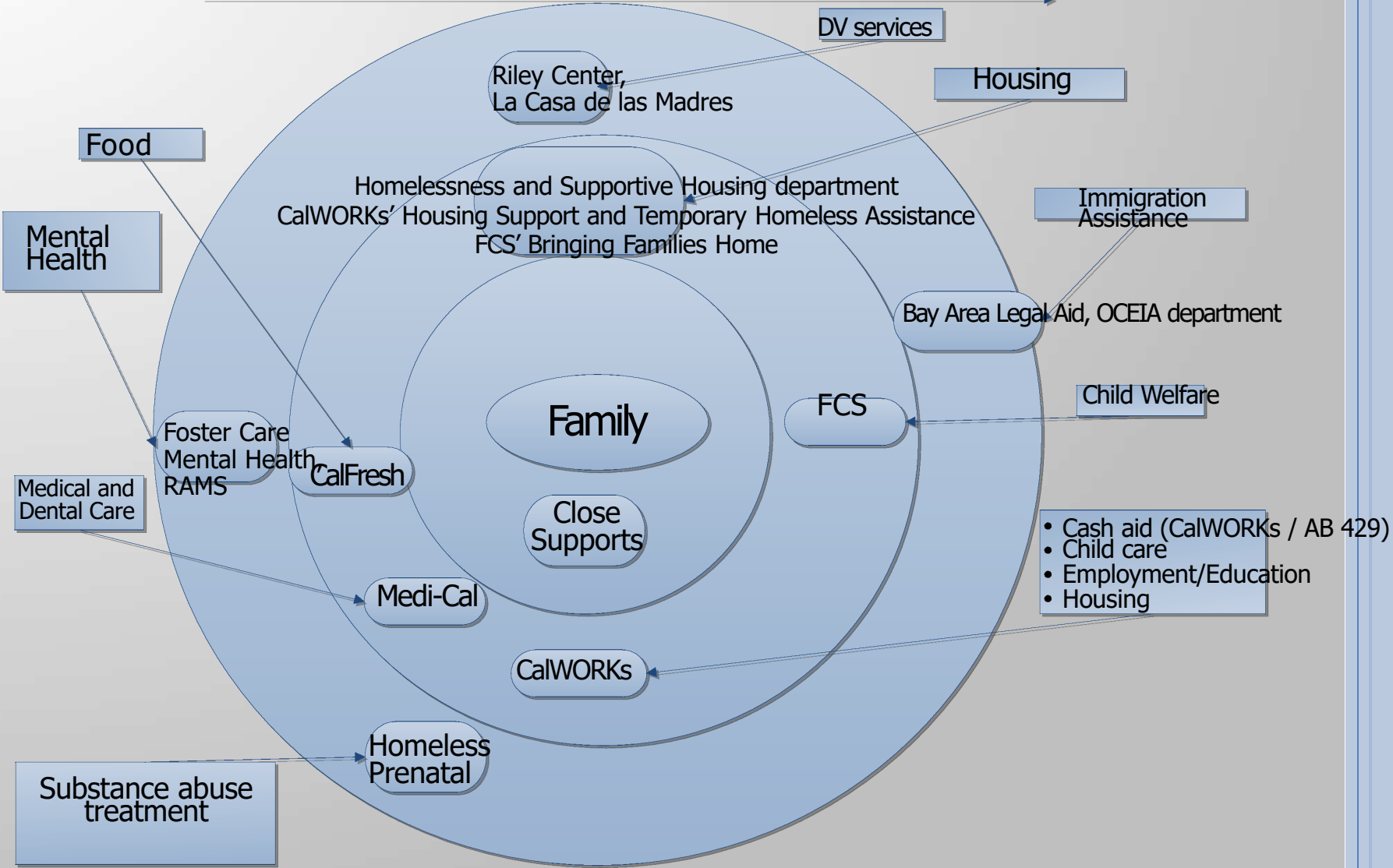
***Complicating Factors could be:**

- Substance Abuse
- Homelessness
- Mental Health
- Domestic Violence
- Unemployment
- History of Childhood Abuse

Linkages Family Support Team

Family Ecomap

Team Framework



HOW TO APPLY FOR CALWORKS

Call **(415)557-5100** CalWORKs Eligibility line for any questions on the options below or the application process. If your client is interested in applying for CalWORKs, they may start the application process via one of the options below:

- By calling [\(415\) 557-5100](tel:4155575100) during non-holiday Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Online at www.MyBenefitsCalWIN.org
-will most likely require a phone interview afterwards to complete the entire CalWORKs application process with required documents or verifications that applicant needs to submit explained

OTHER REFERENCES

- ❖ FCS department Policy Manuals websites:

<https://ds.sfhsa.org/FCSStaffPolicy/>

and

https://ds.sfhsa.org/FCSPolicy/#5/linkages_pm/Linkages.htm%3FTocPath%3DCase%2520Management%7CLinkages%2520Policy%7C_____0

Contains the following:

- 1) Linkages Desk Guide
- 2) Linkages Policy Manual

- ❖ California Department of Social Services (CDSS) website:

<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Letters-Regulations/Letters-and-Notices/All-County-Letters>

All County Letter (ACL) 11-04 dated January 27, 2011





In Service,

your Linkages Coordinator

Catherine “CC” Chafey

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