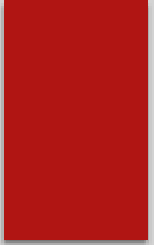


Family Engagement Guidelines for the Linkages Partnership



AN INTRODUCTION
TO THE NEW
LINKAGES FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT
GUIDELINES

Overview

WELCOME!

We'll be looking at...

- ▶ The purpose of the Linkages Family Engagement Guidelines
- ▶ The inspiration to revamp them
- ▶ The content of the Guidelines
- ▶ How you see them reflected in your Linkages work
- ▶ What might make them more complete

Raise your hand if...



- ▶ You're from CalWORKs
- ▶ You're from CWS
- ▶ You've been participating in Linkages less than a year
- ▶ You've been involved with Linkages for less than 3/10/15 years
- ▶ You've found it challenging to engage families from time to time...

Looking at What's Behind the Guidelines

Appreciation to our Fantastic Workgroup Members!

CDSS

- ▶ **Emily Hering**
- ▶ **Lesley Tejada**
- ▶ **Turid Gregory Furlong**
- ▶ **Rebecca Buchmiller**
- ▶ **Jess Zayas**
- ▶ **Johnny Cuestas**

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

- ▶ **Adam Tipps** Orange
- ▶ **Barbara Crespo** Contra Costa
- ▶ **Colleen Ridlon** Humboldt
- ▶ **Maithanh Nguyen** Orange
- ▶ **Nicole Mastin** Orange
- ▶ **Mari Solis** Contra Costa
- ▶ **Polly Dagmy** Orange

WHY revise the Family Engagement Guidelines?

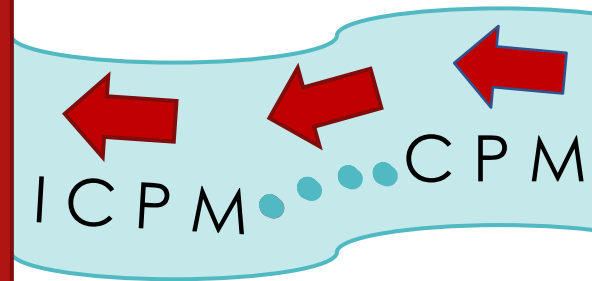
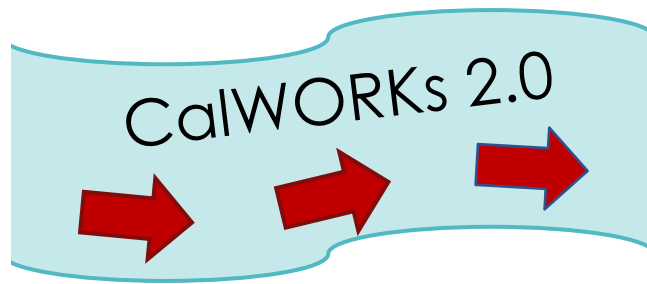
Linkages has expanded to include a prevention focus

Complementary Practice Models have been launched

Both CWS & CalWORKs have shifted how they work with families

WHY revise the Family Engagement Guidelines?

CalWORKS



CWS

What exactly **ARE** the Guidelines?

THE GUIDELINES ARE NOT:

- ▶ A step-by-step manual for specific Linkages protocols
- ▶ Policy or procedures for how CWS or CalWORKs specifically serves families
- ▶ A new concept

THE GUIDELINES ARE:

- ▶ Complementary to CWS and CalWORKs policy & procedure
- ▶ Best practices for family engagement, case coordination and collaboration
- ▶ A revamped document containing updated background information and 18 revised guiding principles

New Guidelines Aligned with Broader Definition of Linkages

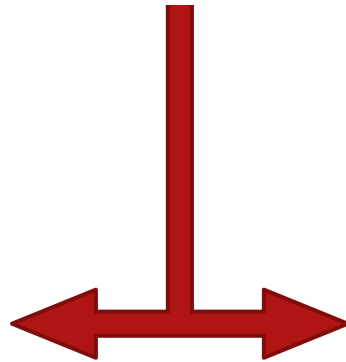
LINKAGES

Level of Intervention	Target Population	Coordinated Activities
Primary: Prevention	Families who are on or potentially eligible for CalWORKs and not involved in CWS	Provide information and materials to promote child and family well-being
Secondary: Early Intervention	Families who are on or potentially eligible for CalWORKs and referred to CWS, but no CWS case open	Align & coordinate early intervention services and supports
Tertiary: Mutual Client Coordination	Families who are on or potentially eligible for CalWORKs and has open CWS case	Coordinate joint services, supports & resources to prevent re-entry to CWS and alleviate economic stressors

Emphasis on Collaboration

CalWORKs and CWS both offer programs to promote child and family well-being. By working together:

Families involved with **CWS** can receive resources, opportunities, assistance to help them achieve and sustain both family and economic stability



Families on **CalWORKs** can receive information, services and supports to prevent the occurrence and recurrence of child maltreatment

Emphasis on Collaboration

LINKAGES COLLABORATION OFFERS A TAILORED RESPONSE TO FAMILY NEEDS AT ALL LEVELS OF INTERVENTION:

Primary Prevention

- ▶ Reduces risk of harm by connecting families to resources *before* issues escalate to point of CWS involvement

Early Intervention

- ▶ Supports vulnerable families by early coordinated response to risk factors & meeting basic needs

Mutual Client Coordination

- ▶ Streamlined, easier access to services & supports
- ▶ Achieves faster, safer reunification

Focus on Family Engagement

FAMILIES EFFECTIVELY ENGAGED THROUGH LINKAGES SHOW INDICATORS OF INCREASED FAMILY STABILITY & SAFETY:

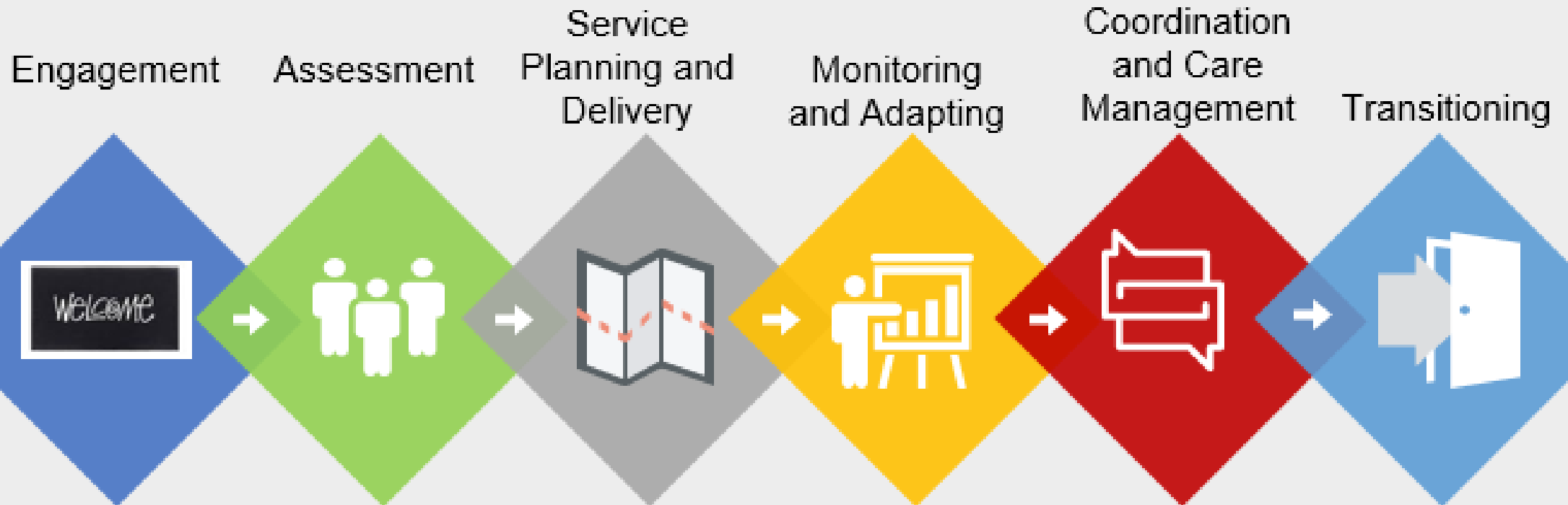
- ▶ Demonstrate greater commitment to the change process
- ▶ Improved self-esteem as the family is respected and valued
- ▶ Increased sense of empowerment
- ▶ Enhanced family resiliency
- ▶ More comprehensive understanding of the information and processes involved in case planning

Family Engagement Guidelines

FOR THE LINKAGES PARTNERSHIP

6 Categories – 18 Guidelines

Categories mirror the Integrated Core Practice Model components



Family Engagement Guidelines

Engagement	Assessment	Service Plng & Delivery
1. Involve the family in all matters pertaining to their future	4. Determine whether a family is involved in the other program at the time of intake	7. Help families prioritize child safety and economic stability needs to focus service planning efforts
2. Value and reinforce consistent communication & persistent collaboration	5. Explore family's strengths, needs & goals in context of child safety & family stability	8. Adhere to standard confidentiality requirements
3. Share a strength-based, family-centered, trauma-informed approach to practice across both service systems	6. Collaborate between CWS and CalWORKs to inform safety planning for mutual clients	9. Utilize court ordered case plans to motivate client participation in WTW activities

Family Engagement Guidelines (cont.)

Coordination & Care Mgmt	Monitoring & Adapting	Transitioning
<p>10. Establish basic knowledge of mission & services of other program across workers, sups & managers</p>	<p>14. Celebrate family's accomplishments to boost their confidence to tackle more complex goals</p>	<p>17. Help the family to connect with a community network of services and supports prior to ending system involvement</p>
<p>11. Coordinate child welfare case plans and WTW plans to improve a family's chances for success</p>	<p>15. Conduct ongoing screening for a family's participation in or potential eligibility for CalWORKs throughout the CWS case lifespan</p>	<p>18. Manage the possibility of one of the plans continuing for a time after the other has concluded</p>
<p>12. Transform existing case planning meetings into coordinated case planning sessions</p>	<p>16. Review CalWORKs status factors that may impact the parent's ability to engage in service activities</p>	
<p>13. Be flexible about using other mechanisms for coordination beyond formal multi-disciplinary team meetings</p>		

Impressions & Questions



Anything Missing?



Let's Get
Engaged

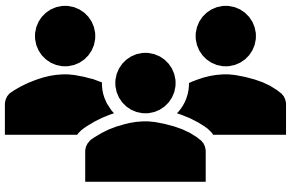
Tabletop Discussion



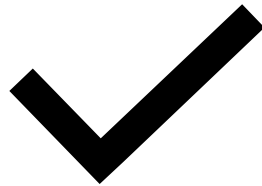
- Reflect on a collaborative situation where you can anticipate applying one of these guidelines to your Linkages effort. Jot down some notes.
- Share your reflection with the people at your table in a circle round.
- You'll have 15 minutes total.

Looking Ahead

Keep an eye out...



Work group
wraps up
their work in
early 2023



ACL will be
issued after
work group
concludes



Guidelines posted
to websites when
finalized (CDSS &
Linkages Toolkit)