

LINKAGES:
COORDINATED CASE PLANNING

A Roadmap to Strengthening Families



Welcome!

Getting Started
and Introductions



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Agenda

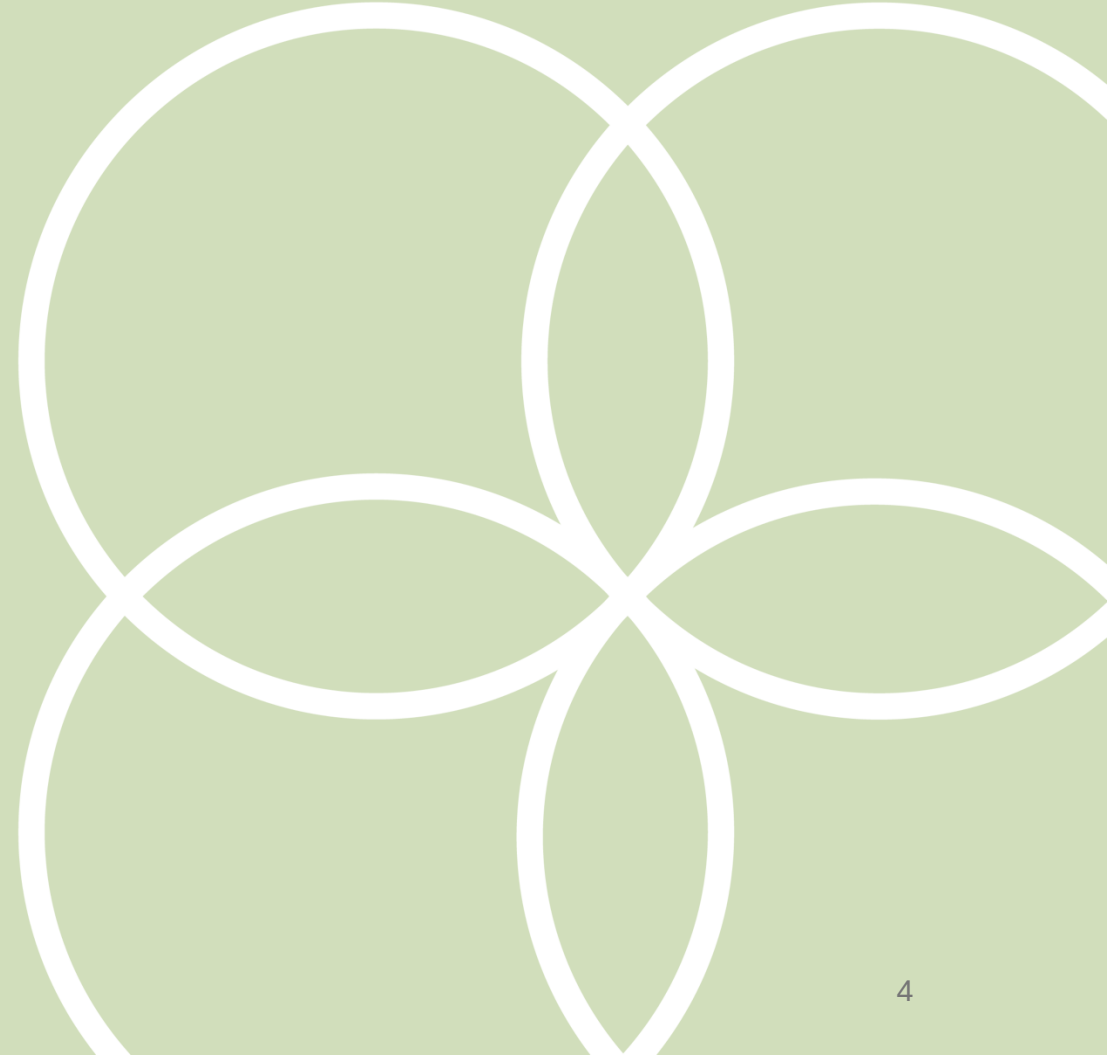
- Introductions/Group Agreements
- Review of Materials
- Linkages 2.0, Brief History
- Does It Work?
- What is Coordinated Case Planning?
- The Power of Partnership
- Teaming with Families
- Local Implementation
- Lessons Learned
- Wrap-Up: Questions and Discussion

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Introduce Yourself

- Name
- County
- Role
- What is your experience with Linkages?
- What keeps you coming back to this work every day?



Group Agreements

*Speak from your own experience
(use “I” statements):*



- Listen for understanding.
- Make space, take space.
- Stories stay, learnings leave – mind confidentiality.
- We are here, we are human – bring your full presence.
- Be willing to experience discomfort individually and together.
- Expect and accept non-closure – multiple realities and experiences can exist and are valid.
- What else?

Review of Trainee Materials

Trainee Workbook



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Learning Objectives

Knowledge

- K1 – Identify the benefits of collaboration between Child Welfare and CalWORKs in providing comprehensive support to vulnerable families, preventing child abuse and neglect.
- K2 – Identify legislation that pertains to Linkages and collaborative work between Child Welfare and CalWORKs.
- K3– Identify and analyze the intersection points between CalWORKs and Child Welfare systems to enhance identification of families to improve coordination of services.

Skills

- S1 – Apply interdisciplinary collaboration steps in real-work scenarios, integrating planning and assessment processes to optimize outcomes for families.
- S2 – Develop an actionable plan for effective collaboration between Child Welfare and CalWORKs which identifies and addresses barriers to collaboration and includes steps to overcome such challenges.

Values

- V1 – Appreciate the power of partnership in Coordinated Case Planning, fostering empathy, trust, and mutual respect between professionals and families.

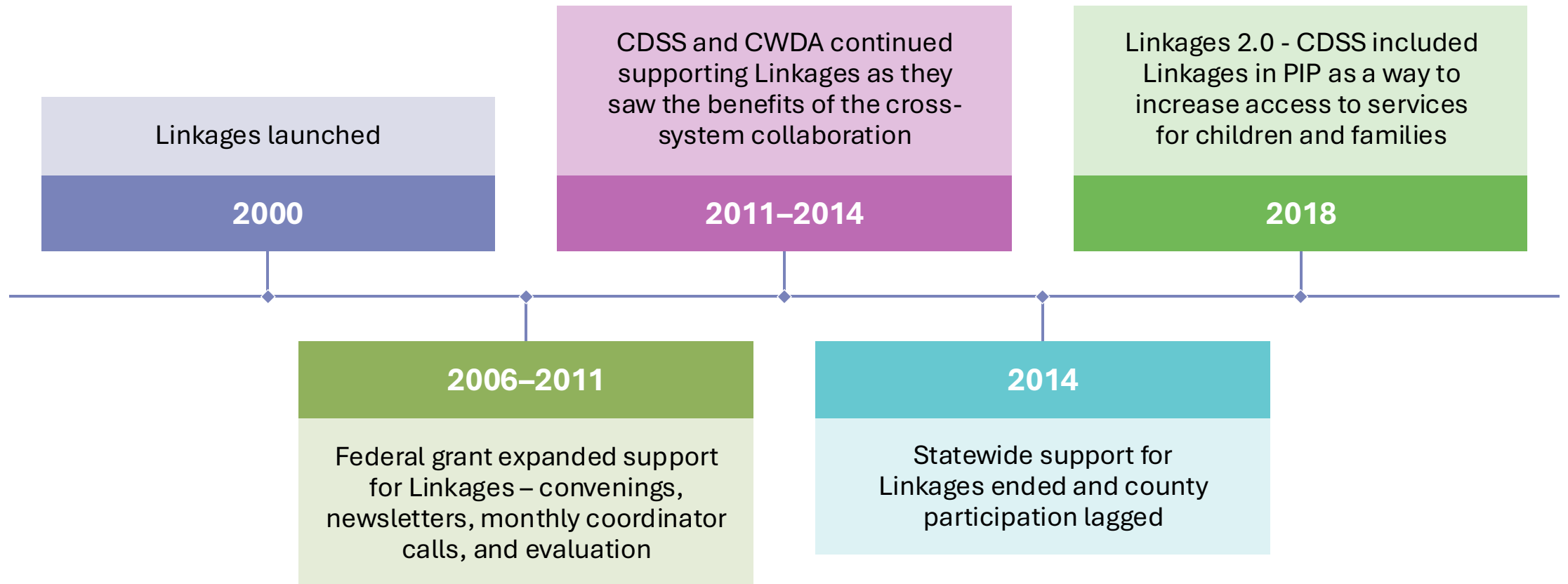
What is Linkages?

A brief overview



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Linkages Timeline



Legislation Supporting Collaboration

- AB 429 – Allows continuation of CalWORKs services for the parent or parents of children who have been removed from the home. If the county determines that services are necessary for Family Reunification (FR), AB 429 provisions allow the parent(s) to receive CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work (WTW) Supportive Services (i.e., WTW plan), substance abuse, and mental health services, if it is determined that such services are necessary for family reunification.
- AB 135 – Authorizes the provision of cash aid and childcare services to families participating in CalWORKs Family Reunification (FR) as part of their reunification plan for up to six months.
- CalWORKs families receiving FR services now eligible for continued cash aid and childcare services for up to six months (ACL 23-94)
- Improved collaborative technology – increased efficiency and improved information sharing

Linkages Framework

Primary/Prevention

At risk, no CWS case open

- Target Population: Applicants for and recipients of CalWORKs who are not involved in CWS to provide support and education before problems occur.
- Linkages Activity: Provide information & materials to promote child and family well-being.

Secondary/Early Intervention

Hotline/ER/CalWORKs service coordination
Family Stabilization & Home Visiting
Differential Response

- Target population: Applicants for and recipients of CalWORKs with identified risk factors/ service needs who may or may not have been referred to CWS; but if so, a CWS case has not been opened. Families in need of support to alleviate identified problems and prevent escalation.
- Linkages Activity: Align & coordinate early intervention services and supports.

Tertiary/Mutual Client Coordination

Family Maintenance
Family Reunification

- Target Population: Families who are on CalWORKs and have an open CWS case.
- Linkages Activity: Provide interventions for children experiencing maltreatment. Coordinate joint services, supports & resources to prevent re-entry to CWS & alleviate economic stressors.

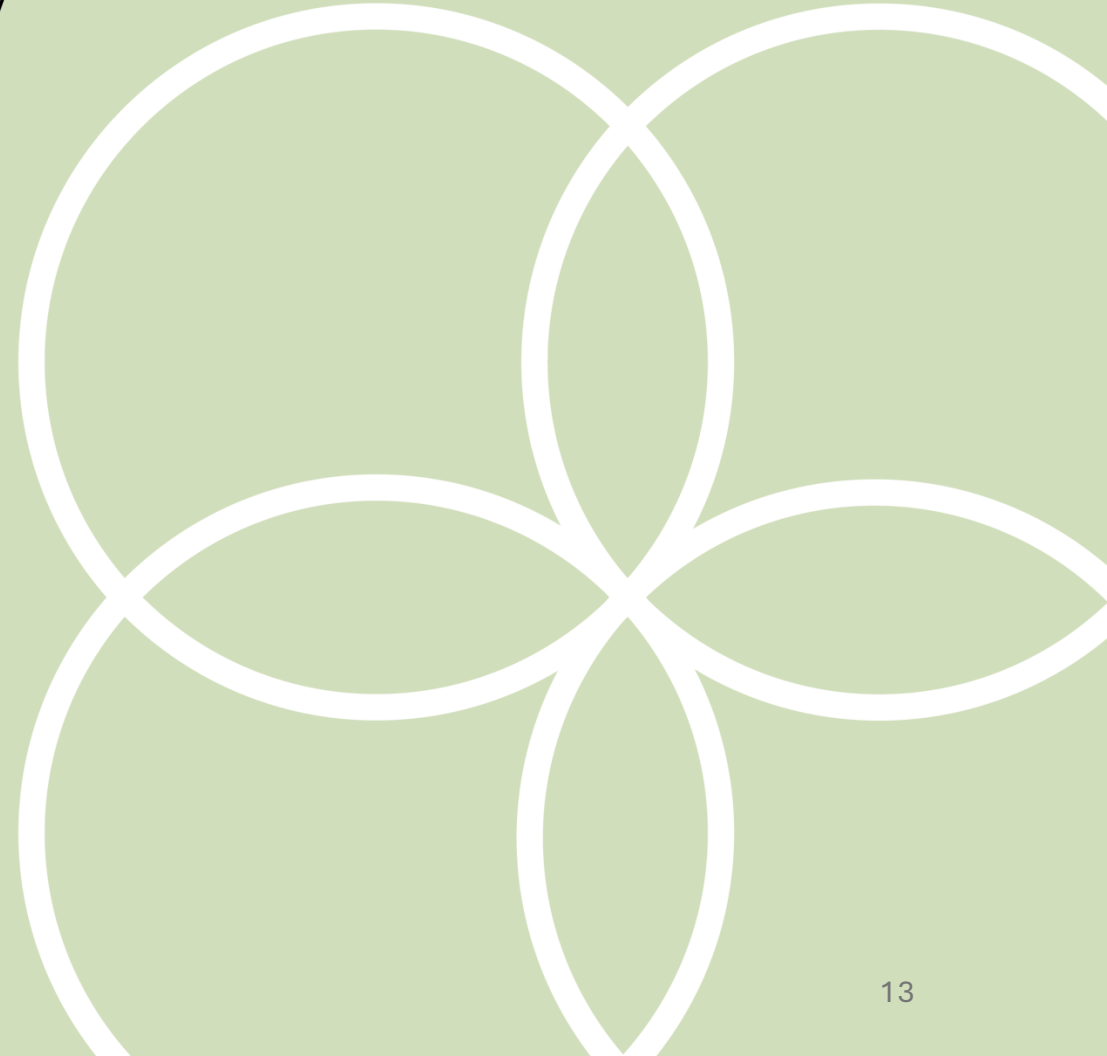
Key Components of Coordinated Case Planning



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What is Coordinated Case Planning (CCP)?

- Working together toward child safety, family stabilization / well-being, & self-sufficiency
- Streamlined services
- Coordinated resources to maximize family's goals:
 - AB 429 and AB 135 - Continuation of CalWORKs support for families whose children have been placed in out-of-home care
 - Behavioral health and substance use disorder services
 - Homeless services
 - Family stabilization
 - Home visiting
 - Consistent communication over life of case



Guiding Principles

Core Practice Model

CalWORKs 2.0

Strengthening Families

Equity and Inclusion

Core Practice Model (CPM)

What Does It Look Like?

- Practice Behaviors
 - Engagement
 - Inquiry and Exploration
 - Teaming



CalWORKs 2.0

- Teaming
- Engagement
- Coordination
- Brokering
- Outreach



Strengthening Families Protective Factors

Parental Resilience

Managing stress and functioning well—facilitated by individual, relational, community, or societal factors—when faced with stressors, adversity, or trauma

Social Connections

Healthy, meaningful, trusting, and sustained relationships with people, institutions, communities, or a higher power that promote a sense of connectedness, belonging, and mattering



Social & Emotional Competence of Children

Providing environments and experiences—grounded in early relational health—that build positive social skills; enable children to regulate thoughts, emotions, and behaviors; and promote effective communication, problem-solving, and decision-making skills

Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development

Learning about prenatal, infant, and child development, and using developmentally and contextually appropriate parenting practices

Concrete Support

Identifying, accessing, advocating for, and receiving high quality and equitable support including the basic necessities everyone deserves and specialized services to address specific needs

Collaboration



Linkages and Child Welfare



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Collaboration is an Action!

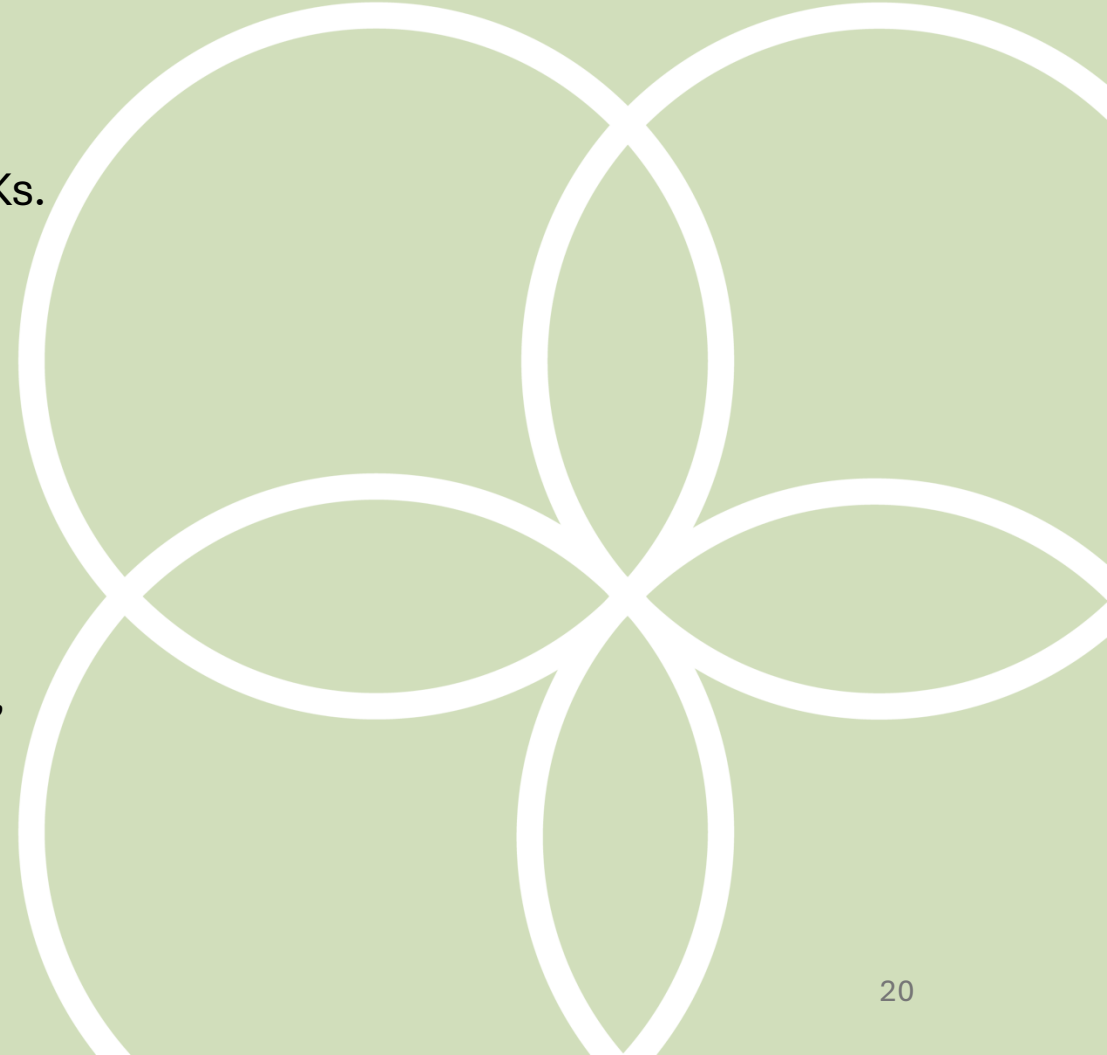
*“People support
what they
have had a hand
in creating.”*

– Margaret Wheatley



Collaborate for Success

- Aligns case plan goals.
- Streamlined access to service.
- Leverage resources from both child welfare and CalWORKs.
- Reduced duplication of service referrals and resources.
- Faster/easier access to needed services.
- Addresses child safety as well family self-sufficiency.
- Considers work readiness or what supports may be required based on the parent's needs and ability to work.
- Ensures families receive a wide range of support services, addressing both their financial needs and the safety and well-being of their children.



Small Group Activity

What's required for
successful collaboration
between CalWORKs
and Child Welfare ?



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What Does Collaboration Look Like?

Agency Level	Practice Level
Policies and procedures reflect commitment to Linkages	Identify Linkages families as soon as possible upon case opening (Best practice is identification when referral is received.)
Co-location of staff	CalWORKs staff participates in CW case consultation/staffing.
Linkages implementation teams	CalWORKs staff attends and participates in CW child and family team meetings (CFTM's).
Joint trainings	Develop case plan through CFTM process that includes CalWORKs requirements.
Highlight successes	Meet with family members as required.
Identify practice champions	Participate in ongoing CFTMs and monitor family's progress.

Teaming

Supporting Mutual Families



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Phil Jackson – Los Angeles Lakers:



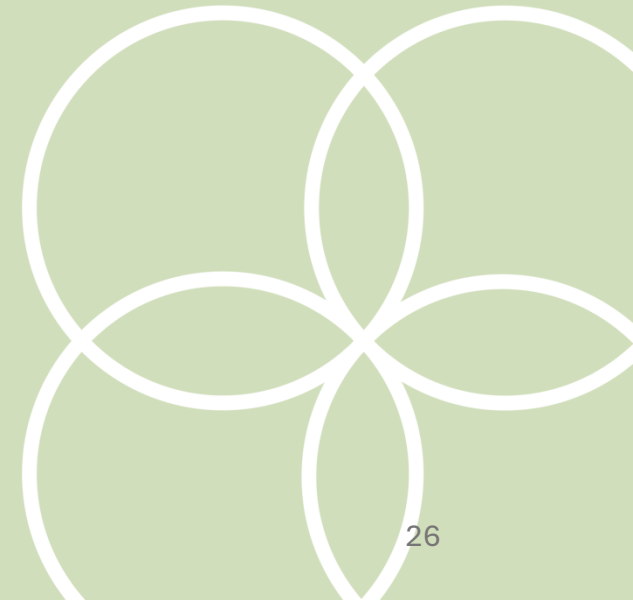
“The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.”

Team Development

- Clear definition of roles/expectations
- Shared goals
- Team members' individual contributions are respected and encouraged
- Team communication is clear and proactive
- Team members are accountable
- Disagreements/conflicts are addressed

Meeting the Linkages Challenge

- Video to come



Activity – Case Vignette: The Linkages Approach

- The Carillo Family: Mom, Dad, and two children, ages 4 and 7
- How might CalWORKs and CWS team to support this family?
- What services might be helpful and how will these services enhance the parental protective factors and child safety?

Assessments and Coordinated Case Planning



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Child and Family Assessments

Agencies use a wide variety of different tools in their efforts to understand what families need to reduce risk of child maltreatment and to enhance safety and well-being:

- Safety Organized Practice (SOP)
- Child Welfare Structured Decision Making (SDM)
- Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)
- On-Line CalWORKs Appraisal Tool (OCAT)
- County-specific assessment tools

Child & Family Assessments

Both CW and CalWORKs use a multitude of assessments that really seek to answer these questions:



1. What's working well?
2. What are we worried about?
3. What needs to happen next?

Coordinated Case Planning: What Happens Next?

- Three-way partnership between the family, Child Welfare and CalWORKs
- Regular Child and Family Team meetings
- Sharing of resources
 - Court-ordered case plan
 - CalWORKs participation requirements

Coordinated Case Planning: Monitoring and Adapting

- Maintain between-meeting communication via text/email/phone
- Ensure required reassessments take place in accordance with county/agency policies
- Transition planning

Activity- Case Vignette CalWORKs Support:

- How could CalWORKs and Child Welfare support the family collaboratively?
- What would they be doing to facilitate communication and check points regarding coordination of services?
- What would CalWORKs need from Child Welfare?
- What would Child Welfare need from CalWORKs?

Breakout Activity: Vignette Collaborative Approach

Breakout Group Discussion

Refer to the Vignette in your workbook and discuss:

- How does/could Linkages work in your county?
- What do you need to support you with collaboration between Child Welfare and CalWORKs in your county?

Lessons Learned: What Works?

Support from
Leadership

Co-location
when/where
possible

Implementation
teams

Infographic/
other materials
depicting
Linkages
workflow

Cross-
training ALL
staff

Highlight
successes

Whiteboard Activity



Write down one thing you need to do to coordinate with the child welfare social worker/WtW case manager on a case where there is a mutual family.

Questions & Comments



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Feedback



- What worked well?
- What could we do better??

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