

Welcome to the 2024 Northern/Mtn. Valley Regional Meeting

December 3, 2024

9:00 am – 12:00 pm



The CFPIC Linkages Team



Linkages Program Director
Danna Fabella



CFPIC Associate Director
Melissa Connelly



Linkages Program Associate
Andrea Lewis

Housekeeping

- Please have your camera ON whenever possible
- Make sure you are MUTED if you are not talking
- Change your screen name to include your first name, last name, and county

Thank You!

Today's Agenda

Introductions/Ice Breaker

Building Leadership Champions & Creating Staff Buy In: More than Training

Creating the Coordinated Case Plan

AB 135: CalWORKs Family Reunification (Cash Aid)

Closing with Exit/Planning Survey



Please share:

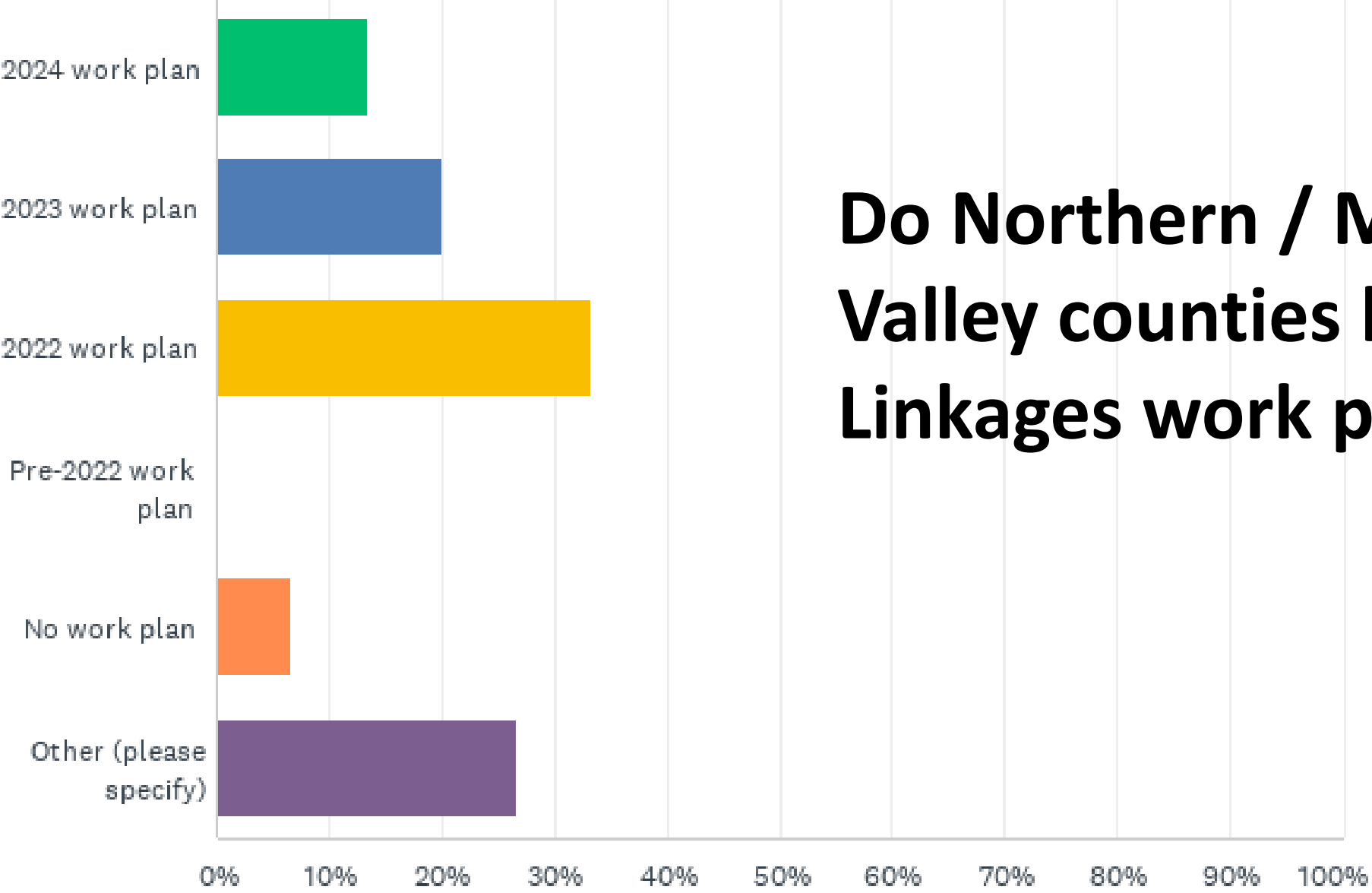
- Name
- County
- Program
- Linkages Role
- What's one fun thing you plan to do over the holiday break?



Northern Region

- Amador
- Butte
- Calaveras
- Glenn
- Humboldt
- Lake
- Mendocino
- Merced
- Nevada
- Placer
- Shasta
- Siskiyou
- Tehama
- Trinity
- Tuolumne
- Yolo

Do Northern / Mountain Valley counties have Linkages work plans?



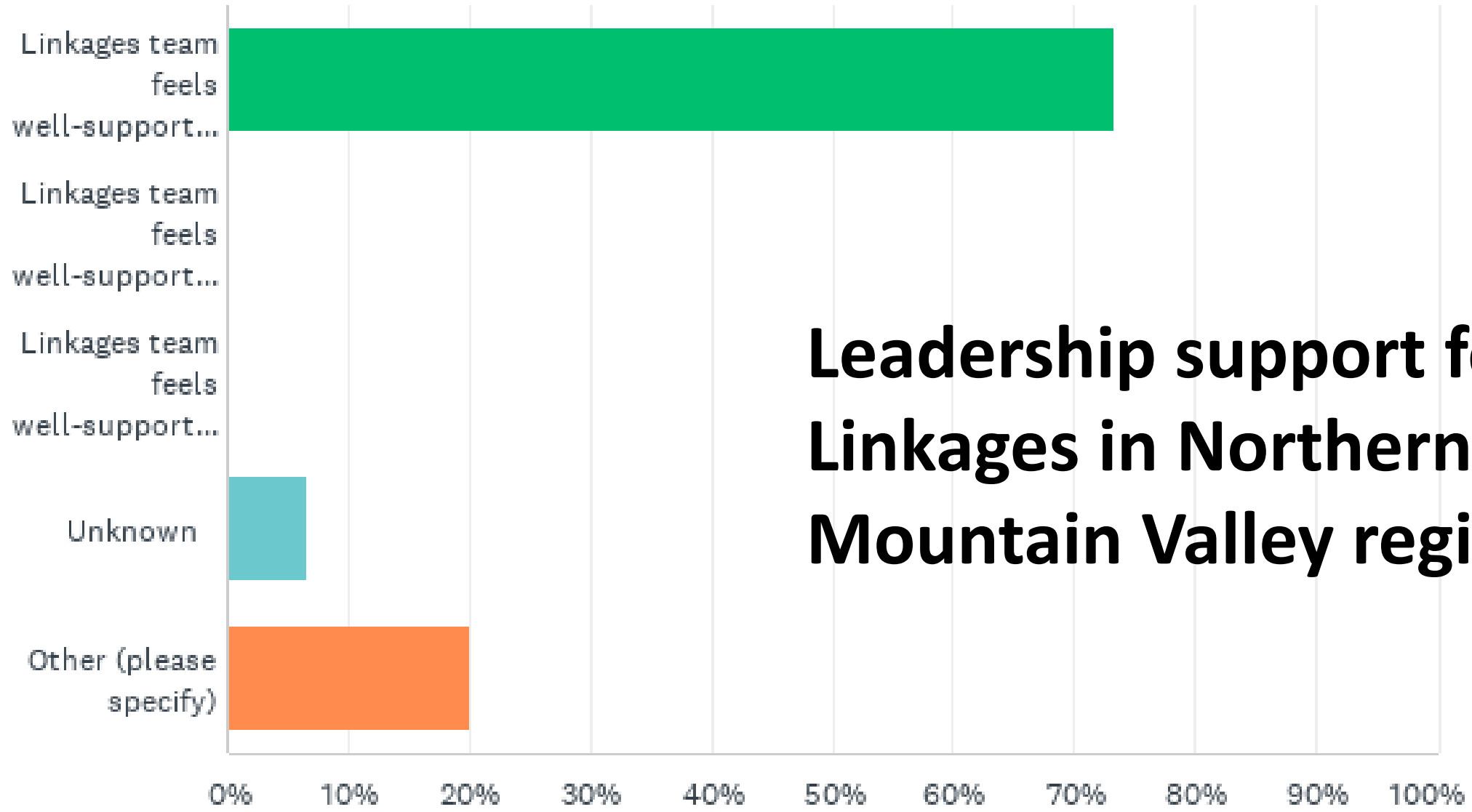
Top Three Challenges Reported by Northern / Mountain Valley Counties

**Turnover/Staffing
Challenges
(66%)**

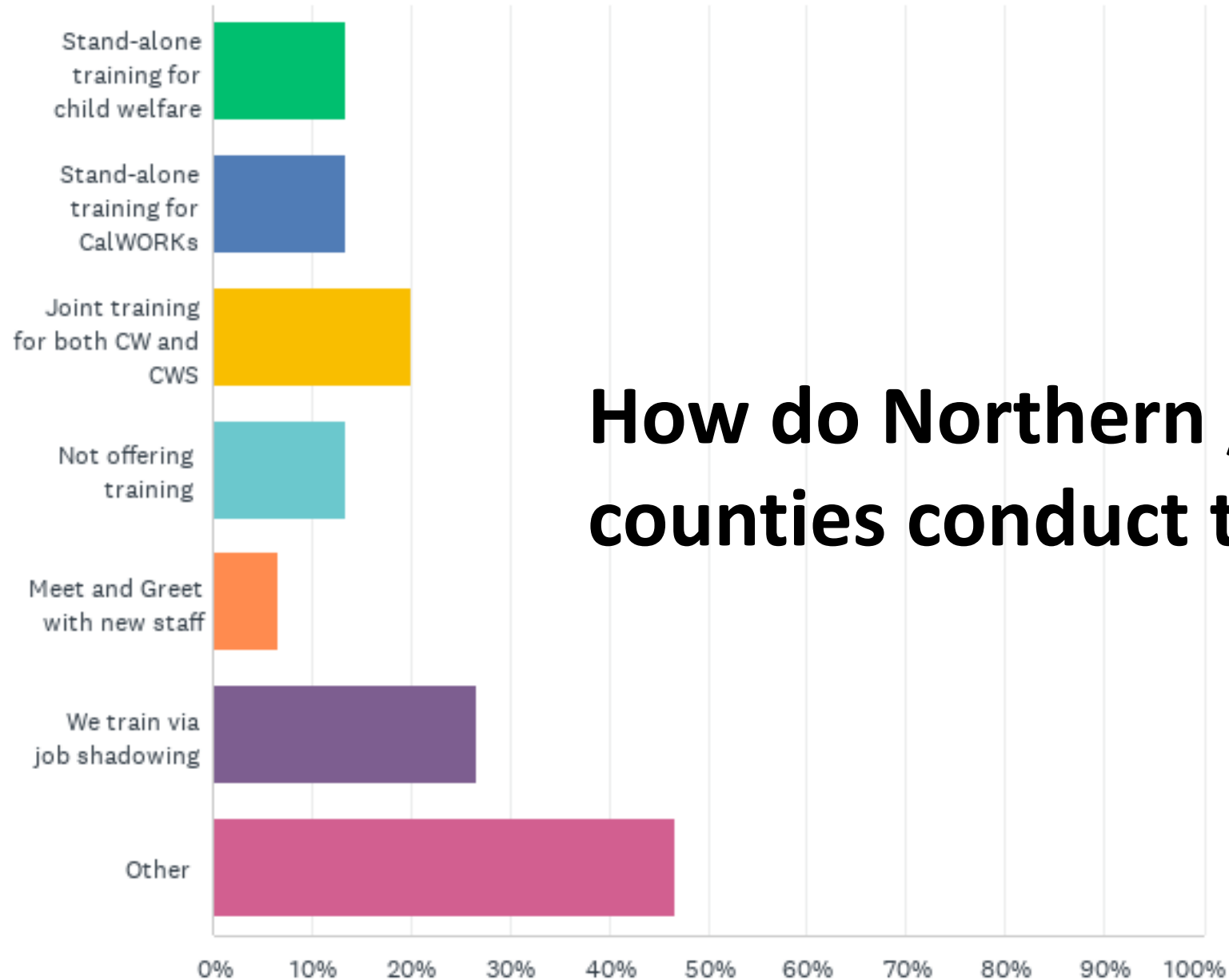
**Preparing for
AB135
(60%)**

**Communication
(40%)**

Building Leadership
Champions & Creating Staff
Buy In:
More than Training



Leadership support for Linkages in Northern / Mountain Valley region



How do Northern / Mountain Valley counties conduct training?

Barriers to Training identified by Northern / Mountain Valley Counties

Staffing and
staff
turnover

Policy and
procedure
updates
needed

Time

Formal
training
resources
needed

Nevada
County
Training
Jennifer
Loper
(CW) and
Faye
Hignight
(CWS)





Humboldt
Training
Colleen Ridlon
WTW

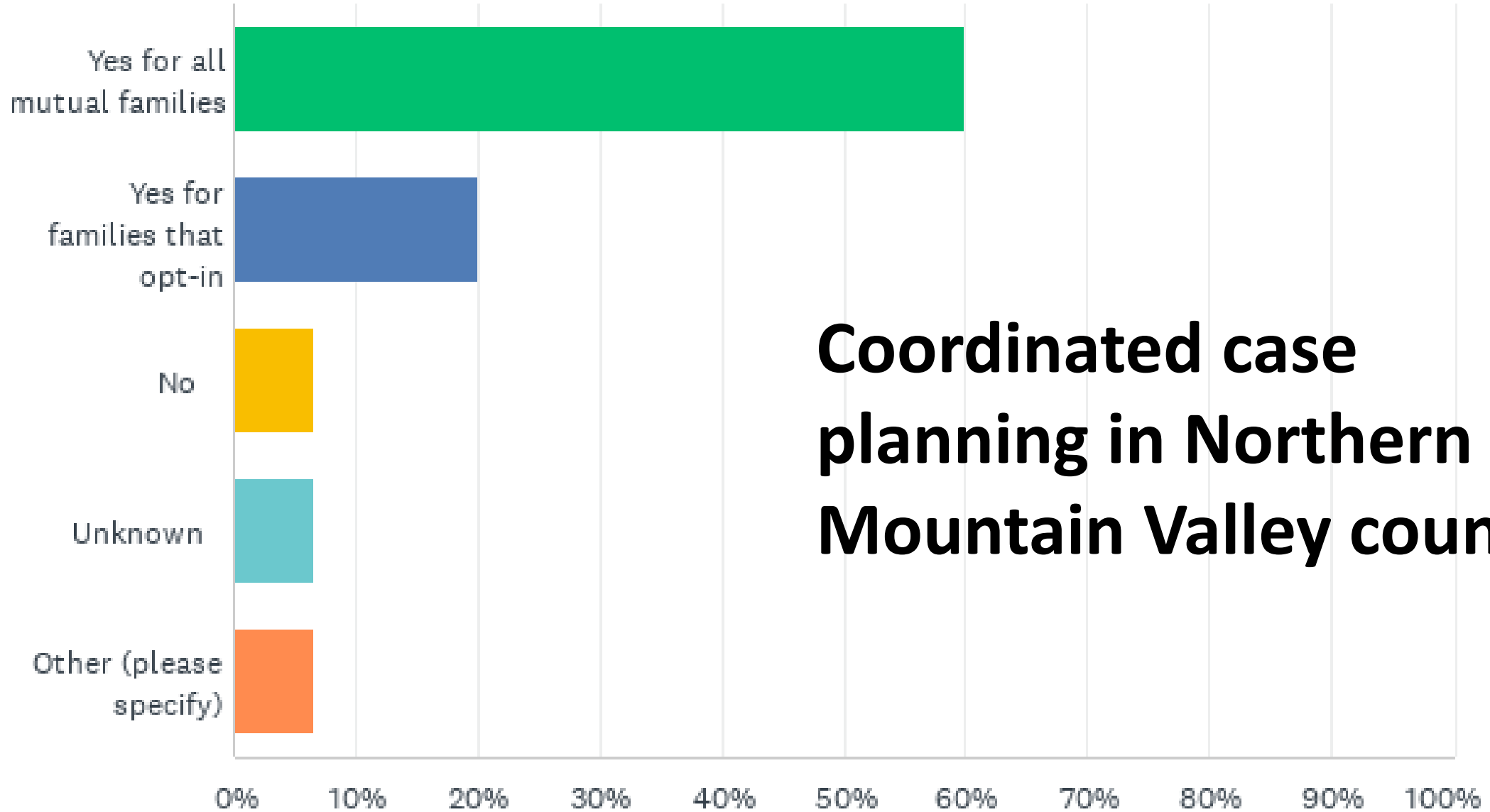
Conversation





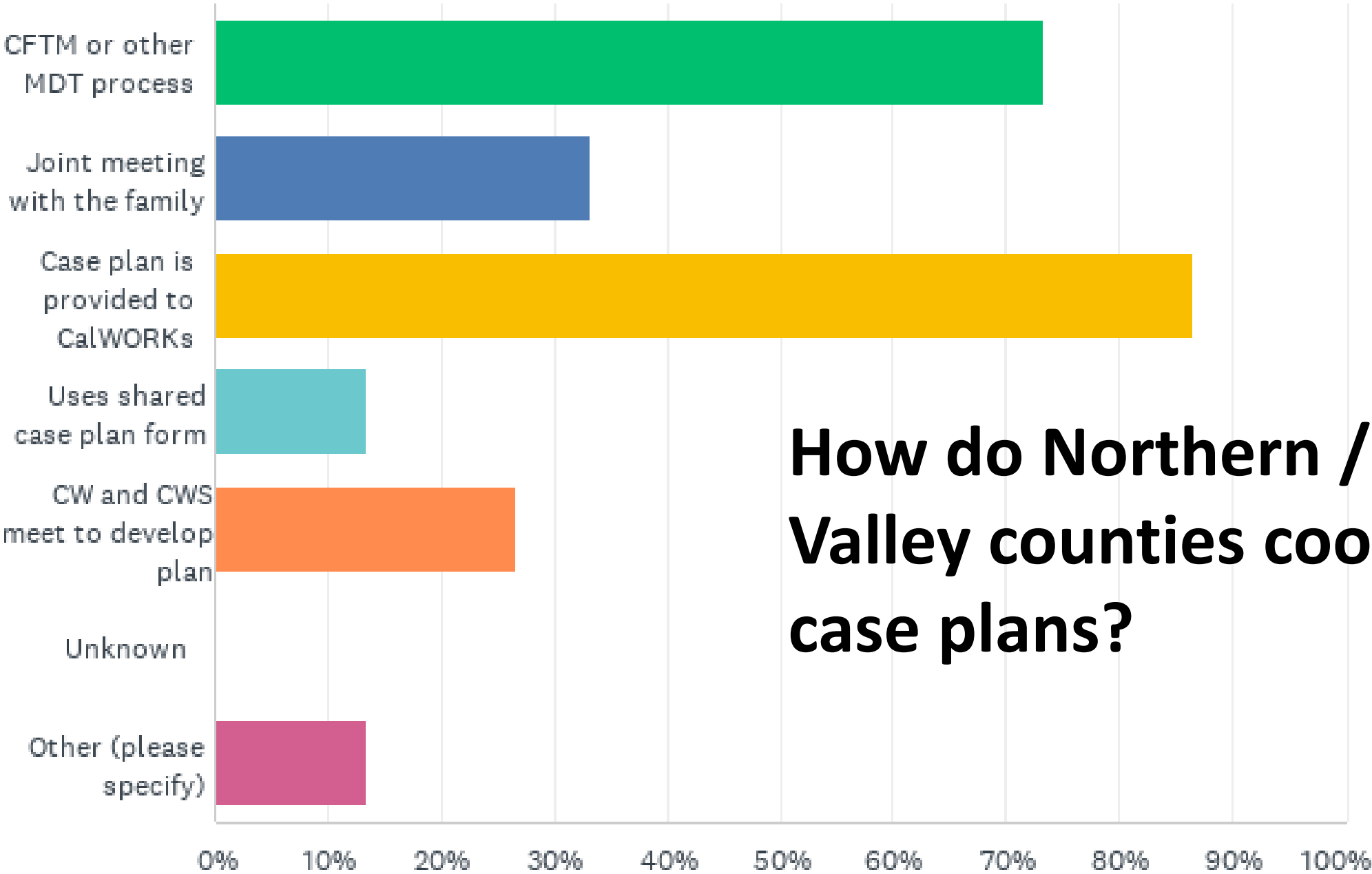
BREAK

Creating the Coordinated Case Plan



Coordinated case planning in Northern / Mountain Valley counties

How do Northern / Mountain Valley counties coordinate case plans?

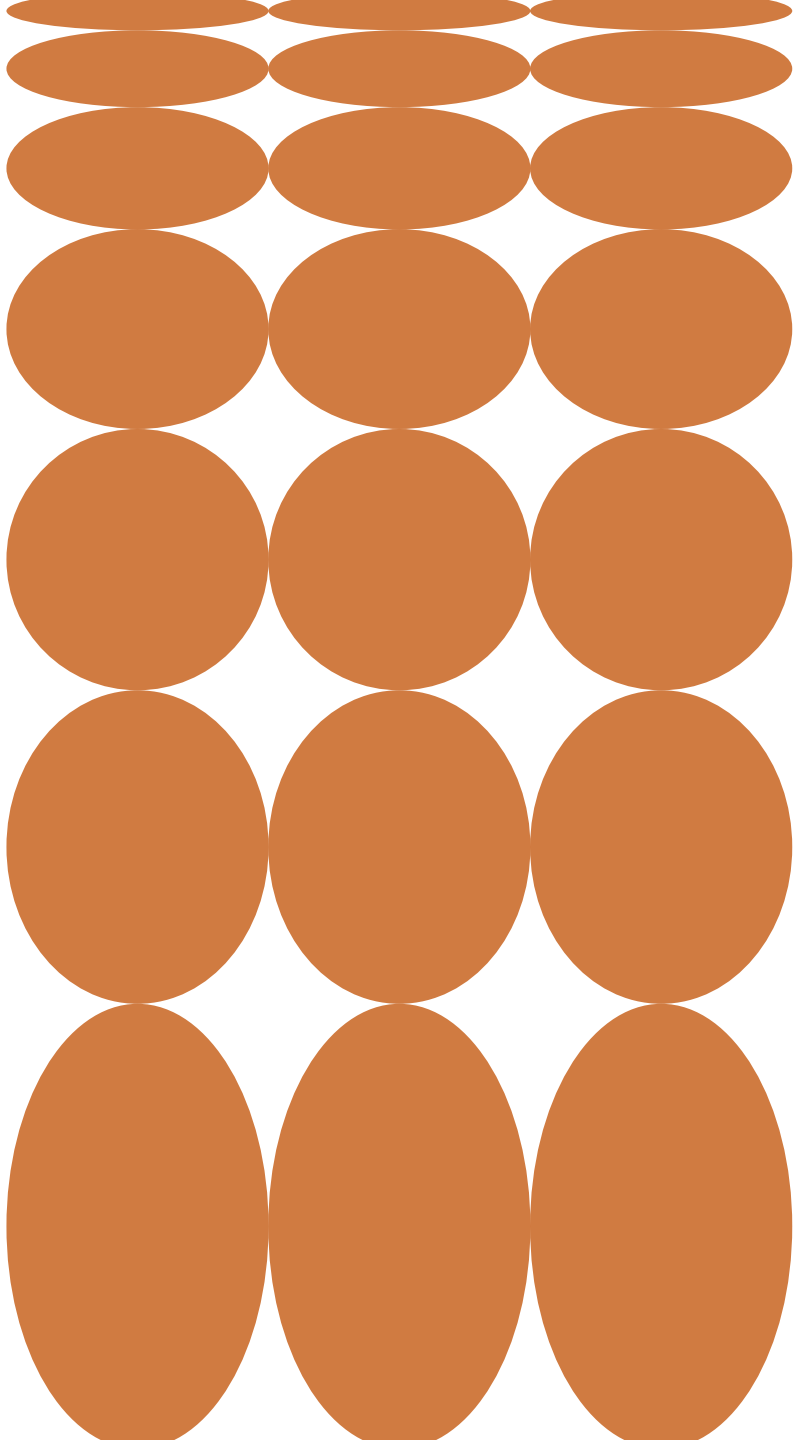


Humboldt County Creating the Coordinated Case Plan Colleen Ridlon (WTW)



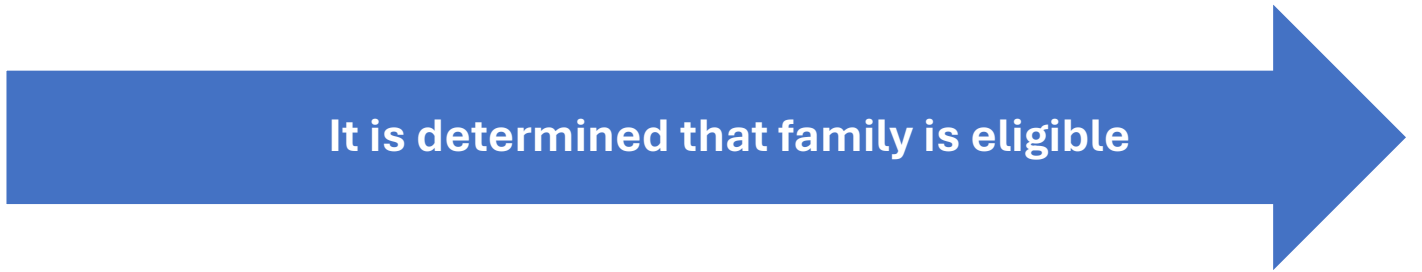
Lake County
Coordinated Case
Plan/WTW plan
Aranza Ambriz
(WTW)





WTW linkages coordinator reviews eligibility

It is determined that family is eligible



Child Family Team Meeting (CFTM) scheduled by CWS

CWS Linkages Coordinator will coordinate the CFTM and invite the team

Case plan is created

WTW Linkages Coordinator will discuss possible supportive services

➤ Schedule a WTW appt with family and complete a WTW 2

COMPARISON OF PLANS

Lake County Department of Social Services Child Welfare Services
 P.O. Box 9000
 Lower Lake, California 95457 County: Lake Jane Doe, FRFM000

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES INITIAL CASE PLAN - [COURT]

CASE PLAN PARTICIPANTS

PARENTS/GUARDIAN

Name	Date Of Birth	Relationship	To
Bugs Bunny	07/28/1938	Caregiver	Al Bunny

CHILD(REN)

Name	Date Of Birth	Age	Sex	Court Number
Al Bunny			M	JV:xxxxx

CASE PLAN GOAL

Name	Case Plan Goal	Projected Completion Date	Projected Date For Termination Of Child Welfare Services
Al Bunny	Return Home	6 months from Disposition	

CASE PLAN SERVICE OBJECTIVES AND CLIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Bugs Bunny

SERVICE OBJECTIVES

1. Stay free from illegal drugs and show your ability to live free from drug dependency. Comply with all required drug tests.
2. Maintain relationship with your child by following the conditions of the visitation plan.
3. Meet your child (ren)'s physical, emotional, medical, and educational needs.
4. Comply with medical or psychological treatment.

Projected Completion Date
6 months from Disposition
6 months from Disposition
6 months from Disposition
6 months from Disposition

CLIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- | Activity | Times | Freq. | Completion Date | Provider | Wrap | Core Svc |
|--|-------|-------|---------------------------|----------|------|----------|
| Counseling/Mental Health Services | | | | | | |
| 1. General Counseling | | | 6 months from Disposition | | | |
| Description
Mr. Bunny will be referred to Lake County Behavioral Health for a mental health assessment. Mr. Bunny will cooperate with all the recommendations of his mental health assessment.
Mr. Bunny will participate in individual counseling to address his past trauma and develop healthy coping skills. | | | | | | |
| Education Services | | | | | | |
| 1. Parenting Education Program | | | | | | |
| Description
Mr. Bunny will actively participate in the Parent Education Series offered by the Department. Mr. Bunny will gain insight into the emotional and development needs of his child. | | | | | | |
| Substance Abuse Services | | | | | | |
| 1. Substance Abuse Testing | | | | | | |
| Description
Mr. Bunny will cooperate with drug testing at the request of CWS and Substance Use Disorder Services (SUDS) staff. Mr. Bunny will test <u>negative</u> for alcohol, marijuana and illicit substances. | | | | | | |
| 2. Counseling | | | | | | |
| Description
Mr. Bunny will be referred to Lake County SUDS for an assessment and treatment plan. Mr. Bunny will follow the recommendations made by the SUDS counselor, to include residential or outpatient treatment, individual and group counseling services, outside support groups, and drug testing. | | | | | | |
| 3. 12-Step Program | | | | | | |
| Description | | | | | | |

Continued

Mr. Bunny will attend outside support groups as described/approved in his Substance Use Disorder Services treatment plan.

Al Bunny

SERVICE OBJECTIVES

1. Receive age appropriate, child oriented services.

Projected Completion Date

08/24/2020

CLIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Times</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>	<u>Provider</u>	<u>Wrap</u>	<u>Core Svc</u>
-----------------	--------------	--------------	------------------------	-----------------	-------------	-----------------

Health/CHDP Services

1. HEP - CHDP Equivalent

Physical Exam

Description

The caregiver will ensure that the child receives all recommended/necessary medical care.

VISITATION SCHEDULE

CHILD(REN) - PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) VISITATION

Al Bunny

Method

Times

Frequency

Beginning Date

Provider

In-Person

(Visits Must Be Supervised)

1

Monthly

Description

The Department will arrange monthly-supervised visitation between the father, Bugs Bunny and the child, Al Bunny. Mr. Bunny will provide a clean drug test in order to visit with the child on the day of the visit.

Per Court order, anyone who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance will not be allowed to participate in a scheduled visitation with the child. The visitation supervisor may terminate the visit if this order is violated.

AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

1. Child and Family Team

For Whom

Times

Freq.

Beginning Date

Provider

Wrap

Core Svc

Al Bunny

1

Every 6 Months

02/24/2020

Description

The case carrying social worker will schedule and participate in Child and Family Team Meetings once every six months.

CONTACT SCHEDULE

SOCIAL WORKER – CHILD CONTACTS

Al Bunny

Method

Times

Frequency

Beginning Date

Provider

In-Person

Monthly

XX/XX/XXXX

Description

The case carrying social worker will meet in-person with the child a minimum of one time month to ensure that the child's needs are being met.

SOCIAL WORKER – PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) CONTACTS

Bugs Bunny

Method

Times

Frequency

Beginning Date

Provider

In-Person

Monthly

02/24/2020

Description

The case carrying social worker will review the case plan with Mr. Bunny a minimum of one time per month and ensure that all ordered/necessary available services are being offered to him. The social worker will assist Mr. Bunny to overcome any barriers that might prevent him from successfully meeting service objectives.

SOCIAL WORKER – CARE PROVIDER CONTACTS

Method

Times

Frequency

Beginning Date

Provider

In-Person

Monthly

02/24/2020

Description

The case carrying social worker will meet with the child's care provider a minimum of one time per month to help ensure the appropriateness and stability of the minor's placement.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S)

ASSIGNMENT AND SERVICES

ACTIVITY, LOCATION, SCHEDULE, AND HOURS

1.	Activity: Mental Health with LCBH		
	Begins: 01/01/2024	Expected To End: 06/01/2024	Schedule: Monday and Wednesday 12PM-1PM
	Hours Per Week: 2	Location: 7000-B S Center Dr. Suite B, Clearlake, CA 95422	
2.	Activity: Parenting Classes with CWS		
	Begins: 01/01/2024	Expected To End: 06/01/2024	Schedule: Friday 2PM-4PM
	Hours Per Week: 2	Location: Zoom	
3.	Activity: SUDS		
	Begins: 01/01/2024	Expected To End: 06/01/2024	Schedule: Thursday 2PM-4PM
	Hours Per Week: 2	Location: 7000-B S Center Dr. Suite B, Clearlake, CA 95422	
4.	Activity:		
	Begins:	Expected To End:	Schedule:
	Hours Per Week:	Location:	

- The county will send me the location and schedule for my _____ activity by _____ Date
- I will go to _____ on/by _____ to get my _____ location and/or schedule. Location Date Activity
- I will give my Welfare-to-Work worker a copy of my _____ schedule by _____. I will tell my Welfare-to-Work worker if any changes are made and give my Welfare-to-Work worker a copy of the changes if required. Activity Date
- I understand that if I do not go to and/or make satisfactory progress in _____ / _____, as required, I may have to go to different activities. I understand that I must give proof of satisfactory progress in these activities to my Welfare-to-Work worker by the date(s) listed below.
 Activity: Mental Health with LCBH Date Proof is Due: 5th of ea. mo
 Activity: Parenting Classes with CWS Date Proof is Due: 5th of ea. mo
 Activity: SUDS Date Proof is Due: 5th of ea. mo
 Activity: _____ Date Proof is Due: _____

Additional Comments:
Please submit your activity attendance sheet the 5th of every month. Please make sure that an Activity Supervisor, Instructor or Counselor signs each week that you attend.

WTW 2 Completed after
CWS case plan

A photograph of two women sitting at a table in an office environment. The woman on the left, with dark hair in a bun and wearing a light blue button-down shirt, is listening attentively. The woman on the right, with curly hair and wearing a grey sweater, is speaking and gesturing with her hands. The background shows a window with a grid pattern. The word "Conversation" is overlaid in white text in the center of the image.

Conversation



AB 135
CalWORKs
Family
Reunification

Eligibility for CalWORKs Family Reunification (CWFR)

- All CalWORKs-eligible children were removed from the home and temporarily placed in out-of-home care.
- The family was receiving CalWORKs cash aid when the child(ren) was removed.
- CWS or a court has determined that the provision of cash aid, childcare, and/or reunification services is necessary for reunification, and a reunification plan is in development and/or in effect.



Assembly Bill 135 & CWFR Policy Changes

AB 135 (Chapter 85,
Statutes of 2021):



Amended Welfare
and Institutions
Code (WIC) Section
11203



Allows reunification
parents who were
receiving aid when
the child was
removed to also be
eligible **to receive
cash aid and child
care services** if the
county has
determined that
they are necessary
for reunification



Increases the
temporary absence
period from up to
180 consecutive
days to up to 6
months.

MPP Section 82-812.671:

The CWS **OR** court has determined that the provision of cash aid, childcare, and/or reunification services is necessary for reunification and a reunification plan is in effect

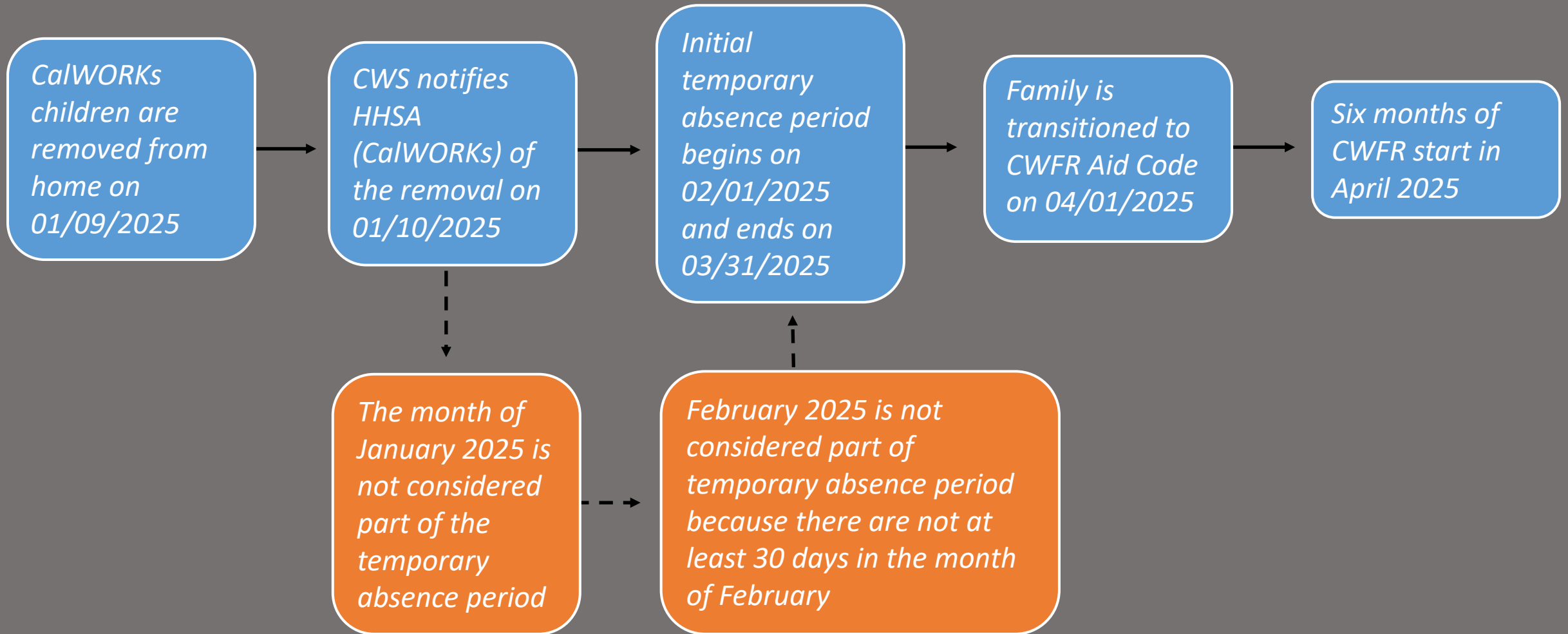
Upon notification that CWS **OR** a court recommends FR and the reunification plan includes a recommendation for the provision of cash aid as necessary to support reunification, the CalWORKs worker must start FR in accordance with the reunification plan and continue the CalWORKs cash grant for a maximum of six months if the family is otherwise eligible. A court order is not necessary to initiate FR. Existing reunification plans that do not already include a recommendation for the provision of cash aid must be amended prior to cash aid approval.

Initial Temporary Absence Period

When all CalWORKs eligible children are removed from the home by the CWS agency:

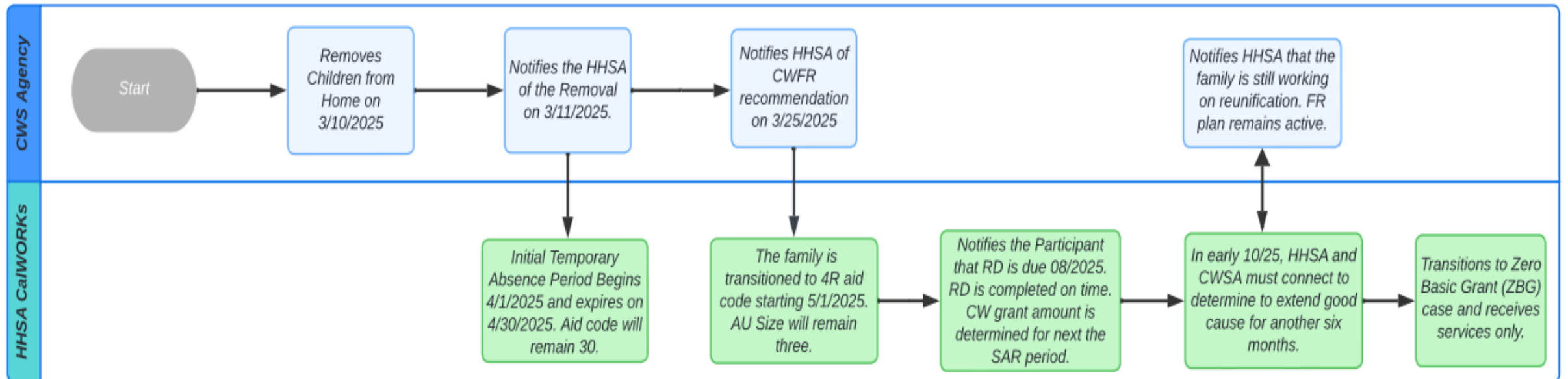
1. The children will be considered temporary absent for one full month. The family will not be discontinued.
2. The CWS agency should provide a notification to the HHSA on whether CWFR will be recommended before the end of the initial temporary absence period.
3. If the family is recommended for CWFR, the HHSA will transition the family to CWFR after temporary absence period has ended.
4. If HHSA receives notification that there will not be a recommendation for CWFR or does not receive a notification, then the family is discontinued from CalWORKs.

Initial Temporary Absence Period - Visual



Process Map for CWFR Cash Aid

- CW Family Composition: 3 (1 Parent + 2 Children)
- Current Aid Code: 30
- RD Due: August 2025



CWS FR Case Plan vs. WTW Plan

CWS FR Case Plan

- Families will not be subject to WTW noncompliance rules and risk financial sanctions.
- Minimizes conflicting requirements between WTW, child welfare, and families.
- Recognizes balancing work, training, and responsibilities can be challenging.

WTW Plan

- Must be used when providing additional activities and services not included in the case plan (i.e., education).
- Eases transition to WTW post-reunification.

CWS Case Plan Requirements

Welfare and Institutions Code 16501.1

Reasonable services, or active efforts, in the case of an Indian child, for family reunification must be documented unless the juvenile court determines otherwise.

CWS Case Plan Requirements

Per Division 31-206 to 225:

- The case plan goal
- Any changes in
 - Treatment services
 - Treatment providers
 - Changes in placement
- A description of the parent/guardian compliance with the written case plan
- Cooperation in keeping appointments

Create CWS Case Plan CWFR in CWS/CMS

1. Create a new case

	Participant	Service Objective Type	Projected Completion Date
1	Benjamin(17)	Complete homework	06/06/2025
2	Benjamin(17)	Other Service Objective	06/06/2025

2. Select "Other service Objective"

3. Enter "Child care for trial home visits" and "Cash aid for basic needs"

Additional Description for Participant
Child care for trial home visits
Cash Aid for basic needs

Projected Completion Date
 Check to select all participants
Date: 06/06/2025

Go to View by Participant

Service Objective
Other Service Objective

Service Objective Detail
Other Service Objective (up to 5)

Ready | Case [C, Benjamin] -> Case Plan [In Progress]

Update CWS Case Plan in CWS/CMS

1. Open Existing Case Plan

2. Go to Service Objectives page

3. Add "Good cause granted to extend six-month temporary absence to meet reunification plan."

4. Click to update the plan

OK - Go to Update

ID	Participant	Service Objective Type	Projected Completion Date
1	J, Benjamin(17)	Other Service Objective	06/06/2025

Additional Description for Participant
Child care for trial home visits
Cash Aid for basic needs

Progress (for Case Plan Update)
Good cause granted to extend six-month temporary absence to meet the reunification plan.

Projected Completion Date
 Check to select all participants
Date: 06/06/2025

Service Objective
Other Service Objective

Service Objective Detail
Other Service Objective (up to 5)

All Service Objectives Met/Progress recorded. Continue with Update

Ready Case [C. Benjamin] -> Case Plan [In Effect]

CWFR Best Practices

- Notify the CalWORKs worker as soon as possible to ensure timely transition to cash aid and services
- Assess the family strengths, needs and goals regarding services needed to begin CalWORKs FR.
- Coordinate services and resources with the CalWORKs partners to reduce stress and eliminate contradicting plans and goals.
- Team with the CalWORKs worker to monitor the case plan to achieve reunification and identify any extra barriers.
- Reach out to CDSS with questions using the resource document.
- Partner with CFPIC for implementation resources

Conversation



Poll!



What's Next?





Thank You