

*Statewide Convening 2026*



LINKAGES<sup>2.0</sup>

*Building Bridges for Families.*

**Bridging  
Practice Across  
Systems:  
Using Vignettes  
to Support  
Collaboration**



**Anita Sanchez**  
Field-Based and Trainer  
Development Specialist  
Central California Training Academy



**Melissa Connelly**  
Associate Director  
CFPIC

**Our  
Presenters**

**By the end of the session, participants will be able to:**

- 1. Describe how training vignettes support Linkages implementation or practice.**
- 2. Identify at least two ways vignettes can strengthen cross-system collaboration and consistency.**
- 3. Develop one concrete strategy to integrate vignettes into local training or implementation efforts.**

# **Learning Objectives**



**CalWORKs**



**Child  
Welfare**



**Leadership**



**Training**

**Let's Get to  
Know Each  
Other**



**Where do  
collaboration  
gaps most  
often show  
up?**



**What  
happens  
when  
practice isn't  
aligned?**

**Warm-Up  
Conversation**

## Vignettes can deepen practice beyond traditional training and...



**Focus on common cross system challenges:**

- Timelines,
- Terminology,
- Different definitions of success



- Create shared language
- Explore assumptions
- Bridge policy to practice
- Encourage joint problem-solving

## Why Vignettes?

## Vignette Structure

- Scenario
- Decision point(s)
- Cross-system tension
- Guided discussion prompts

**Let's Try it  
Out**

### **Scenario:**

James Sanchez is a 34-year-old Latino father living with his partner and their two children (ages 5 and 8). Spanish and English are spoken in the home, with Spanish being the primary language. James has open cases with both Child Welfare Services (CWS) and CalWORKs. The CWS social worker learns of domestic violence in the home, information which James shared confidentially during a CWS assessment. The CWS worker knows this has *not* been disclosed to the CalWORKs worker and is not part of the current CalWORKs case file. Meanwhile, the CalWORKs worker (unaware of the domestic violence) continues to focus on job search requirements with James impacting his ability to participate in other services.

## **Scenario**

## Questions:

- What would CW prioritize?
- What would CalWORKs prioritize?
- Where could misalignment occur?
- What would aligned practice look like?
- When should CWS share sensitive information (e.g. domestic violence disclosures) with CalWORKs?  
What triggers or criteria should be used?
- How can confidentiality be maintained while ensuring coordinated service delivery across systems?
- What existing protocols, memoranda of understanding (MOUs), or privacy guidelines do agencies use (or should use) to guide interagency communication in these situations?

## Discussion

## **Discuss in Small Groups**

- Where could these vignettes fit in your county?
- What adaptations would be needed locally?
- What barrier might you encounter?
- What is one concrete next step you could take in the next 90 days?

## **Application Activity**

## **Your Group Ideas for**

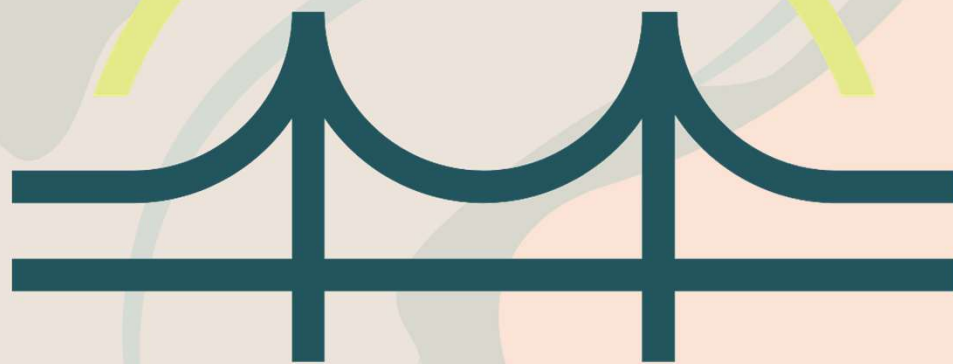
- One integration strategy
- One anticipated challenge
- One actionable next step

**Share**

**What conversation will you start  
next week because of this session?**

**Next Steps**

*Statewide Convening 2026*



LINKAGES<sup>2.0</sup>

*Building Bridges for Families.*

**Thank you!**

