

Small County Breakout Discussion

- **Calaveras:** Mayle– DD CWS/Adults – 10 years Linkages, Colby – CWS – new to CA and to Linkages
- **Mariposa:** Alicia – PM Eligibility & CW – many years with Linkages across two counties
- **Lake:** Alonza – WTW SW – 3years, Jessica – WTW Supervisor – 5 years
- **Trinity:** Amara– CWS Ongoing Unit Supervisor
- **Del Norte:** Jocelyn – PM Eligibility – nearly 20 years with Linkages, Alise – Integrated case worker

What are some of the challenges you face in small counties with Linkages + What are some idea/strategies you can share to address challenges/strengthen Linkages in your counties?

Buy-in from the social workers – in reality, the WTW worker can be a huge help in partnering on the shared case (helping to do check-ins, safety plan development, etc.)

Having a hard time getting documentation back from CalWORKs that would be helpful to the CWS worker (does anyone have a template)? Suggestion of building a template that would be easy to complete...could post this request on CalPrevents to see if other counties have something they could share or ways that they are able to get info back from CalWORKs

ER unit is slower to refer families – often not making the referral until they're ready to close the referral. Just because it is closing doesn't mean the family wouldn't benefit from the services we could offer. AND – this collaboration could prevent re-referral

RED team can be very helpful for staffing potential Linkages cases

Prevention screening tool would be helpful – get information at intake about the supports needed. CFPIC can share – Placer and Napa piloted and can provide some feedback

An integrated caseworker would be very helpful in small county remote offices – but funding is the challenge

Having a shared language is helpful

Turnover – losing so much knowledge and experience when staff leave – how are we preparing the next wave.

Calaveras – ALL WTW workers are trained in Linkages, which helps if/when staff do leave.

Blessing (and sometimes curse): Workers in small counties often have to do/know all of the programs – functions are not parceled out like they often are in larger counties (good when they stay, hard when they leave)!

Get on the email list in your county to be notified when detention occurs, placement changes occur, etc.