

Consolidated Linkages 2.0 Theory of Change

Through collaboration between the CalWORKs and Child Welfare programs, families in CalWORKs receive information, services and supports to prevent the occurrence and recurrence of child maltreatment, and families in Child Welfare receive information, services and supports to help them achieve child and family well-being, and to achieve and sustain financial self-sufficiency.

Three levels of approaching coordination occur as follows:

Primary prevention:

Target Population: families in CalWORKs who have not been referred to Child Welfare, or who have been referred to Child Welfare and evaluated out with no referral for additional services (such as Differential Response).

IF CalWORKs staff provide Child Abuse Prevention information to CalWORKs recipients and the families receive services to address potential barriers in a framework of inclusivity,

THEN, families will have the opportunity to

- Strengthen parenting skills
- Achieve financial stability
- Achieve housing stability
- Strengthen resiliency, and
- Strengthen child and family well-being

SO THAT, families can provide safe, stable, nurturing relationships and supported environments for their children,

AND there will be a decrease in referrals of CalWORKs families to Child Welfare.

Secondary Prevention:

Target Population: families in CalWORKs, or potentially eligible, who have been referred for Child Welfare Services who may be evaluated out and referred for additional services (such as Differential response) or are receiving Emergency Response Services but who do not have active Child Welfare cases

IF there is coordination of culturally sensitive, early intervention services between CalWORKs and Child Welfare (e.g. Family Stabilization, Kinship Navigator, Active Efforts (ICWA), Differential Response and benefits access)

THEN, families will have the opportunity to

- Strengthen parenting skills
- Achieve financial stability
- Achieve housing stability
- Strengthen resiliency, and
- Strengthen child and family well-being

SO THAT, families can provide safe, stable, nurturing relationships and supported environments for their children,

AND there will be a decrease in re-referrals to Child Welfare, decrease the likelihood of entering into foster care, and reduce disproportionate impacts to children of color.

Tertiary Prevention:

Target Population: families with open Child Welfare Services cases who are receiving, or eligible for, CalWORKs

IF parent's Welfare-to-Work and Child Welfare Case Plans are coordinated and they receive coordinated case management;

IF families receive resources and services leveraged by CalWORKS & Child Welfare to address barriers to child safety and family stability;

IF child safety and family well-being is a shared responsibility;

IF the family self-sufficiency goal is a shared responsibility;

IF families receive culturally appropriate services from staff who are culturally and trauma informed;

THEN families will:

- experience more stability with the provision of services to address barriers to child safety, family well-being and barriers to employment.
- be more likely to engage and complete their case plan resulting in children remaining or returning to their parents.
- have increased capacity to recover and heal from multi-generational historical trauma.