



Child Abuse Prevention Month Webinar Series

*A Collective Perspective to Community
Supporting: A Call to Action*

April 26th, 2023
11:00am-12:00pm

Safe & Sound Lunch & Learn Webinar Today! 12:00pm-1:00pm

Immediately following our webinar today, Safe & Sound is hosting a virtual Lunch & Learn titled:

FOCUSING UPSTREAM: THE ROLE OF COMMUNITIES IN KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER

Time: 12:00 - 1:00pm

Speakers:

- **Dr. Jill Duerr Berrick**, Distinguished Professor of Social Welfare, University of California at Berkeley
- **Roger De Leon, Jr.**, Parent Partner, Children's Services Division, Riverside County
- **Dr. Pegah Faed**, Chief Executive Officer, Safe & Sound
- **Gagan Sandhu**, Chief Program Officer, Safe & Sound
- **Katie Albright**, Senior Advisor, Safe & Sound (Moderator)

Agenda



- Welcome & Opening Remarks
- Overview of Prevention & Early Intervention (PEI) Subcommittee Community Pathway Recommendations
- Panel Discussion
- Closing Remarks

PEI COMMUNITY PATHWAY RECOMMENDATIONS

Dana Blackwell

Child Abuse Prevention Month

April 26, 2023



RECOMMENDATIONS: CORE TENETS

- **California’s vision for Child, Family and Community Well-Being**, centered on equity and social justice and respect for tribal sovereignty, requires an approach that **is dependent upon the successful implementation of a Comprehensive Prevention Plan (CPP) in each County.**
- The CPP must be **co-created with individuals, parents and families with lived expertise in order to build a Community Pathway** that is available for **families to access culturally derived, appropriate, relevant and responsive services and supports**, that are located in their community, from organizations and community partners they know and trust.
- Success will only be realized if **current practices and policies** regarding mandated reporting, and responses to child abuse and neglect allegations, **are dramatically reformed.**



RECOMMENDATION 1: SHIFTING THE FOCUS

Implement a statewide Mandated Reporting to Community Supporting Task Force, in alignment with the recommendations of the California Citizen Review Panel, by July 2023. The Task Force shall be implemented under the auspices of the Child Welfare Council with oversight by the PEI Committee and in partnership with CDSS. It will lead a coordinated statewide effort to reform the mandated reporting system in order to avoid child welfare system involvement for families that can be supported in the community.

Task Force goals are to provide guidance and actionable recommendations regarding: 1) Legal and legislative reform, including setting limits on liability and narrowing the legal definition of neglect; 2) Redesign of mandated reporter training to shift the focus to child safety and address disproportionality, implicit bias and the consequences of over surveillance; 3) and policy and practice reforms necessary to implement the change.

The Task Force shall provide quarterly updates and a final report. All reports will be delivered at Child Welfare Council meetings. The final report will be delivered at the end of Fiscal Year 2023-2024.



RECOMMENDATION 2: ACCOUNTABILITY/OVERSIGHT

Community Pathways will only be successful if they are built by and for families in the community, with an intentional focus on communities impacted by disparities and disproportionately. Resources and supports must match the needs and assets of the community, be accessible and culturally responsive, and be available from community partners that families know and trust.

There needs to be planning AND oversight specific to the Community Pathway at both the State and County level, that incorporates youth and parents with lived expertise, community residents and community partners.

Therefore, we recommend a State Community Pathway Advisory Group be established as a subcommittee of the State FFPS Advisory Committee. Further, the State should encourage all Counties implementing a Community Pathway to implement and maintain an Advisory Committee or use an existing similar group to provide the accountability and oversight of services and outcomes achieved, in alignment with local system of care integration (AB 2083).



RECOMMENDATION 3: CONSISTENT DEFINITIONS

California should develop a statewide Community Pathway implementation framework that ensures access for all families regardless of FFPSA candidacy and/or eligibility.

While each county requires flexibility, core components are necessary statewide for achievement of the State's vision, inclusive of consistent definitions and identified outcomes that are informed by individuals with lived expertise, community residents, and community partners.

We recommend these core components include:

- No Wrong Door
- Build on and Integrates Existing Resources
- Defines the Roles of Public and Private Cross System Partners
- Equitable Access and Services Build on Community and Lived Expertise
- Supportive of the Protective Factors



RECOMMENDATION 4: FINANCING

Financing the Community Pathway requires identifying resources and funding that support an equitable continuum of care, knowing how to blend and braid that funding, and creating equitable procurement and claiming methods so ALL community partners can participate in Community Pathway delivery.

For Counties to implement equitable and accessible resources and supports, they must be intentional in their financial planning. To help counties be successful, the State must provide guidance and support, and assist with eliminating barriers.

We recommend:

- Counties conduct **Community Pathway Inventories** that focus on resources and funding unique to their communities.
- Every effort be made to **build on existing resources and services**.
- Counties incorporate **strategies that develop infrastructure and support sustainability**.
- **Equitable procurement strategies** so non-traditional partners can participate.
- **Community Pathway Advisory Committees advise** on decisions regarding reimbursement and funding allocations.
- **The State provide clear definitions and guidance** on concepts that impact financial planning, such as “Payor of Last Resort” and “imminent risk.”



RECOMMENDATION 5: MEASURABLE OUTCOMES OF WELL-BEING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

In order to determine if the Community Pathway is effective and generating better results for families, there must be a mechanism to continuously determine if children and families are better off than they were.

In addition to required FFPS data, outcomes should include: (1) expanded access to community-based supports and services— formal and informal, (2) partnerships developed or enhanced amongst key community partners, (3) families getting access to what they want, when they want it and (4) impact of community-based service delivery (items 1-3) on child welfare involvement.

To do so, we recommend the State and Counties implementing a Community Pathway:

- **Work in collaboration with the Community Pathway Advisory Committee** to develop key indicators of success that are informed by parents, youth and children with lived expertise and community residents.
- **Incorporate the voice of parents, youth and children** into the data collection process.
- **Ensure the ongoing review of data** to assess progress on outcomes, as well as adjustments and/or enhancements needed.



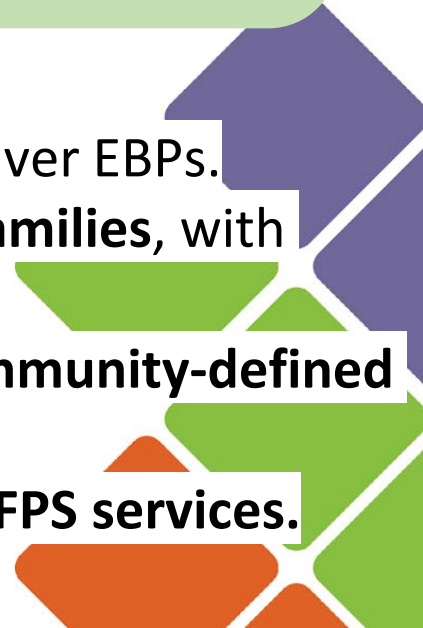
RECOMMENDATION 6: SERVICES AND PRACTICES

Community Pathways should include evidence-based practices (EBPs), as well as primary and secondary services and supports that are reflective of, and tailored to, the needs and strengths of families and communities, as advised by stakeholders including those with lived expertise

Critical to this service array is: 1) support to counties and community partners to promote staff training and capacity building to successfully implement selected EBPs, 2) the integration and expansion of primary and secondary services and supports, and 3) cultivation and identification of community-defined best practices and culturally responsive EBPs for future inclusion in the state FFPSA plan.

To do this we recommend:

- The State support the **training and technical assistance** required to effectively deliver EBPs.
- Community Pathways include **services and supports that target the needs of all families**, with emphasis on building the service capacity of grassroots partners.
- The State use Community Pathway success indicators to identify **evidence for community-defined evidence-based practices** for future inclusion in the FFPSA plan.
- State level training and technical assistance **continue to support and coordinate FFPS services.**



RECOMMENDATION 7: TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The State should provide training and technical assistance (TA) to counties specific to Community Pathways and and in support of implementation of ALL the recommendations stated in this package.

Any technical assistance provided should also be available to community partners and community members involved in planning and development.

To do so, we recommend the State include:

- **Accessible Training and TA Infrastructure:** Develop a central training and TA support infrastructure, accessible to public systems, community partners, Tribal Families, and individuals with lived expertise.
- **Usability:** Ensure that training and TA recognize and address the need for varied audiences/users to interact with, learn from, and develop capacity together.
- **Vendor Selection:** Utilize an advisory process that intentionally leverages the expertise of the State's Community Pathway Advisory Committee.
- **Alignment of Training and TA Content with FFPS Vision:** Prioritize existing strategies that promote integrated systems and service approaches.
- **Oversight and Accountability:** Utilize the State's FFPS Community Pathway Advisory Committee to guide development and oversight of these strategies.





Panel Discussion



Panelists

Damien Ladd, Chief
CalWORKs Engagement (CDSS)

Lourdes Perez, Public Health Advocates
Director of Local Policy
All Children Thrive Partner

John Sydow, Sergeant
Sacramento Sheriff's Office

Jessica Ampah, Section Chief
CalFresh Emergency Foods Programs
Section (CDSS)

Lin Van, Section Chief
CalFresh Healthy Living (CDSS)

Kelly Graesch, Director of Member Services
CA Child Care Resource & Referral Network

Yoland Trevino, Board President/Executive
Director
Pasadena/Altadena Coalition of Transformative
Leaders

Closing Remarks

Dana Blackwell, Sr. Director
California Strategic Consulting
Casey Family Programs

Cheryl Treadwell, Chief
Safety, Prevention, and Early
Intervention Branch
California Department of Social Services



Question

Are you committed to making the change towards
community supporting?

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Thank you!

Please share your feedback!

Please contact us at KidsDay@dss.ca.gov with any questions.