



CONTINUUM OF CARE REFORM

California's Child Welfare Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) *Overview*

California Department of Social Services

Presented by Sara Rogers
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Background

Context for Change:

- Proportion of children in Group Homes has remained fairly constant despite efforts to reduce it.
- Poor outcomes for children placed in group homes for long periods of time.
- Lawsuit settlement increased Group Home rates by 33% with no new requirements

Legislative mandate*:

Reform Group Homes & FFAs with robust & diverse stakeholder input
Legislative report with recommendations

Builds on previous reform efforts: SB 933, RBS Reform

* Senate Bill 1013 (Chapter 35, Statutes of 2012)



Vision

- All children live with a committed, permanent and nurturing family
- Services and supports should be individualized and coordinated
- System focus is on achieving a permanent family and preparation for successful adulthood
- When needed, congregate care is a short-term, high quality, intensive intervention that is just one part of a continuum of care available for children, youth and young adults



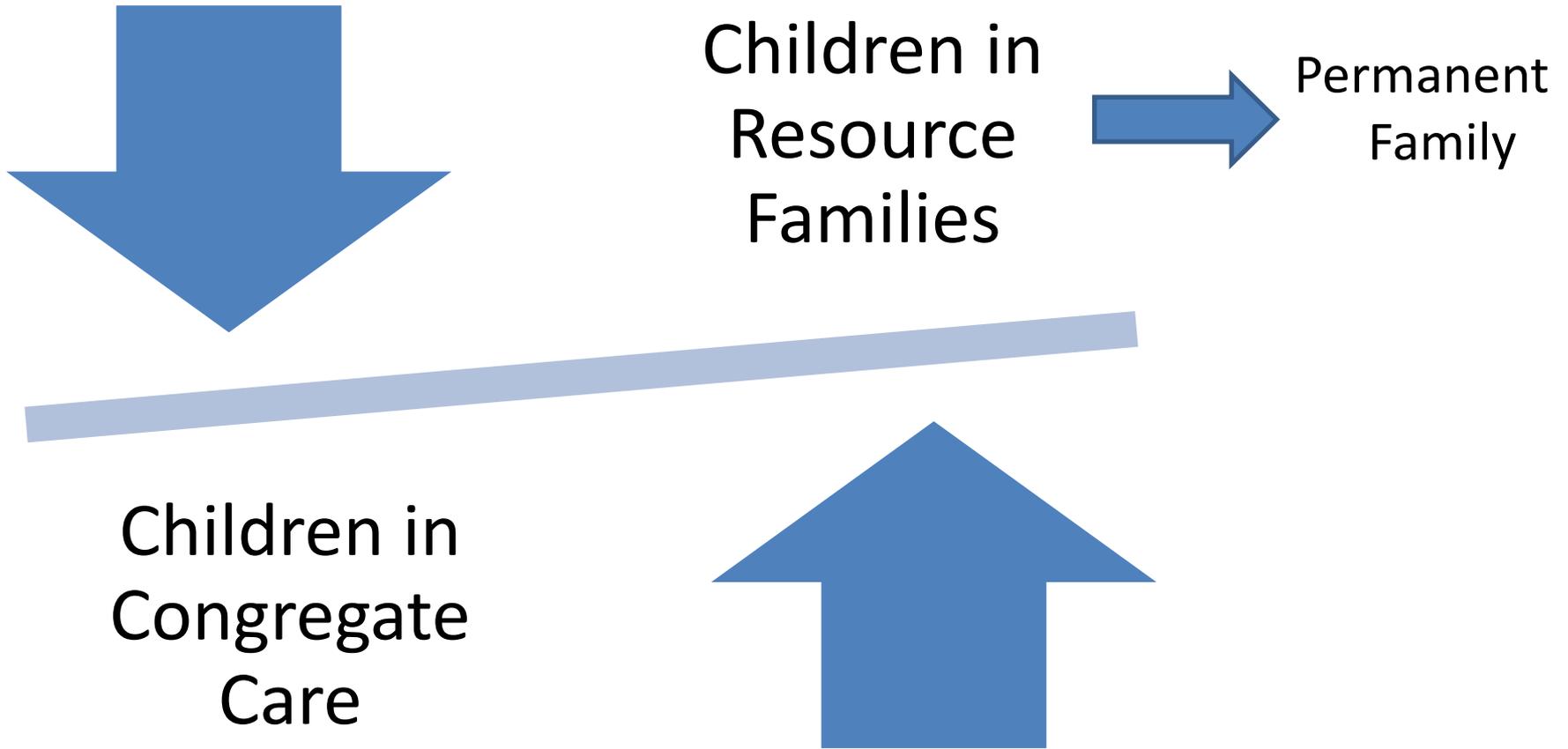
Guiding Principles



- The child, youth and family's experience is valued in:
 - Assessment
 - Service planning
 - Placement decisions
- Children shouldn't change placements to get services
- Cross system and cross-agency collaboration to improve access to services and outcomes
- Recognizing the differences in the probation system



The Goal:



The Work Ahead...

Will take “a village”!

CDSS will be collaborating with a wide array of stakeholders in the implementation work



1-1-17

CCR Report

AB 403

- Preparation
- Policies
 - Rates
 - Outreach
 - Orientations
 - Tools
 - Training
 - Accountability
 - Recruitment
 - Performance measures

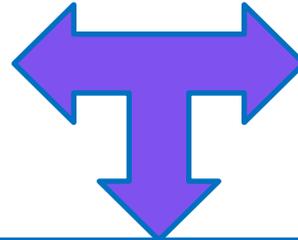
- Pre-Implementation
- Applications
 - Reviews
 - Licenses
 - Mental Health Certification
 - Data testing
 - Training & TA

- Implementation:
Children & families served differently!
- Extensions
 - Data collection
 - Monitoring
 - Technical Assistance
 - Policy Revision



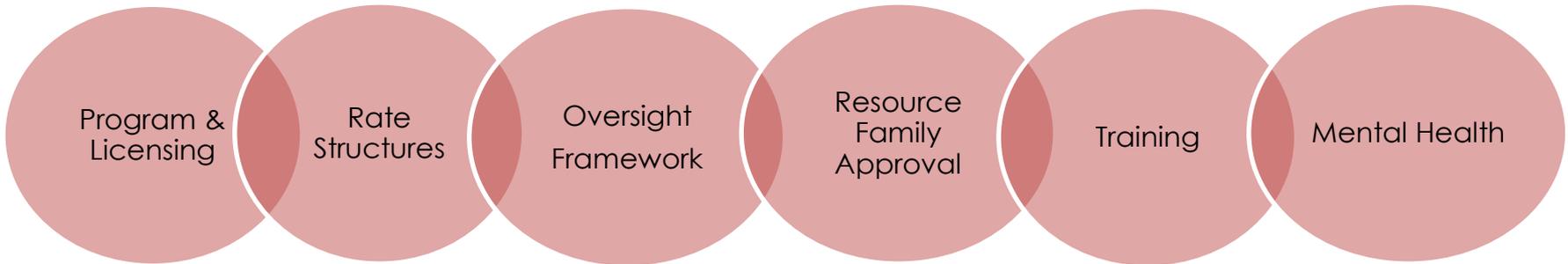
Proposed CCR Implementation Framework

State/County Implementation Team
CDSS, DHCS, CWDA, CPOC, CBHDA, CSAC
County Representatives



Stakeholder Implementation Advisory Committee
Providers, Youth, Caregivers, Tribes, Advocates, Counties, Legislative Staff and others

CCR Implementation Workgroups



Deliverables

Program Instructions

- Regulations
- ACLs/CFLs
- Forms

Capacity Building Activities

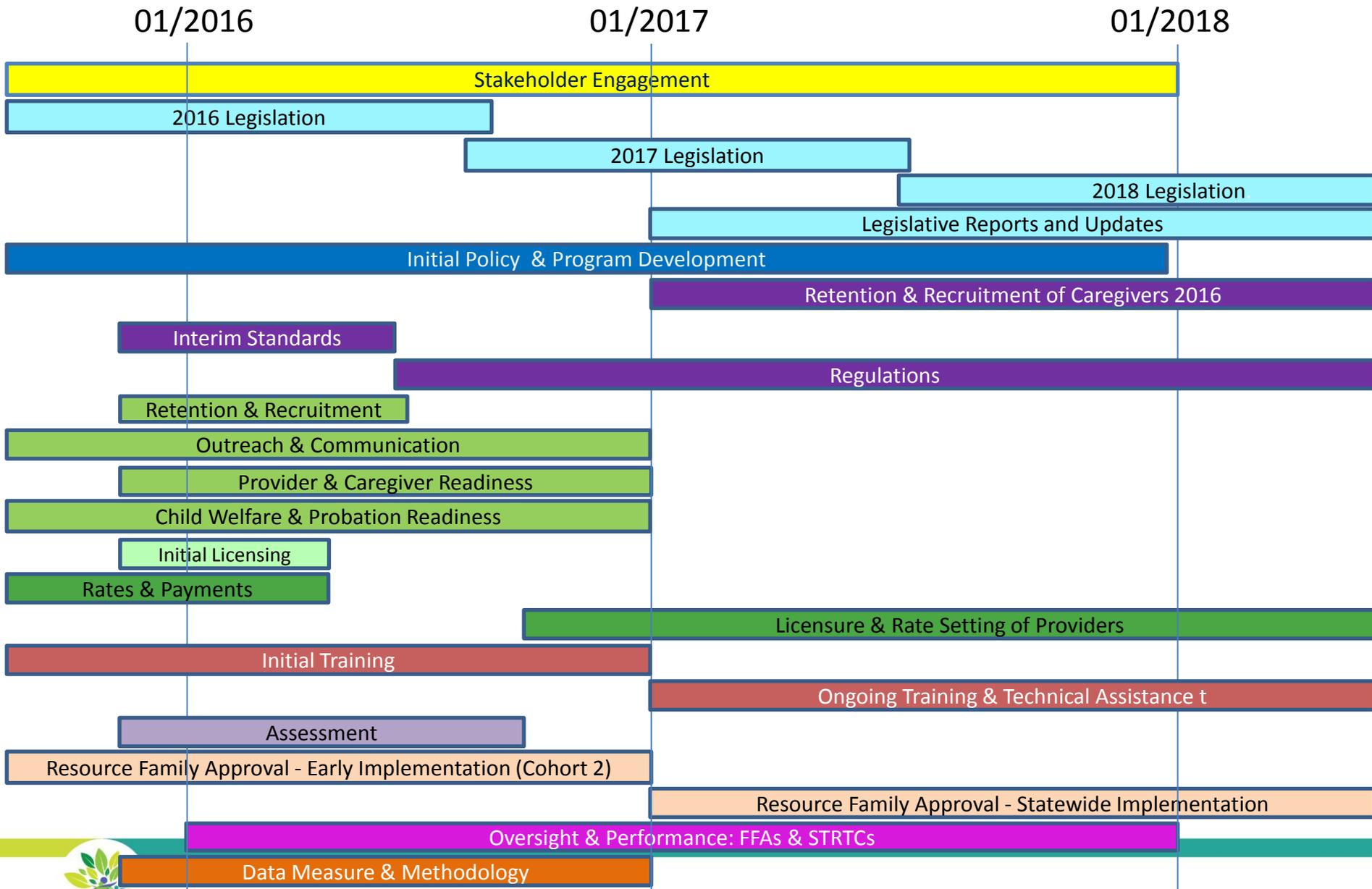
- Outreach Activities
- Communication Materials
- Training Curricula
- Mental Health Certification
- Readiness tools

Accountability & Oversight Framework

- Accreditation Process
- Application review process
- Provider Performance measures
- Consumer Survey



CCR Implementation Timeline



Key Strategies

- Continuum of Care Reform is a comprehensive framework for changing the continuum of services that support children, youth and families across placement settings (from relatives to congregate care) in achieving permanency.
- Pillars for this framework include:
 - Increased engagement with children, youth and families
 - Increased capacity for home-based family care
 - Limited use of congregate care
 - Systemic and infrastructure changes: rate structures, training, accreditation, accountability & performance, mental health services

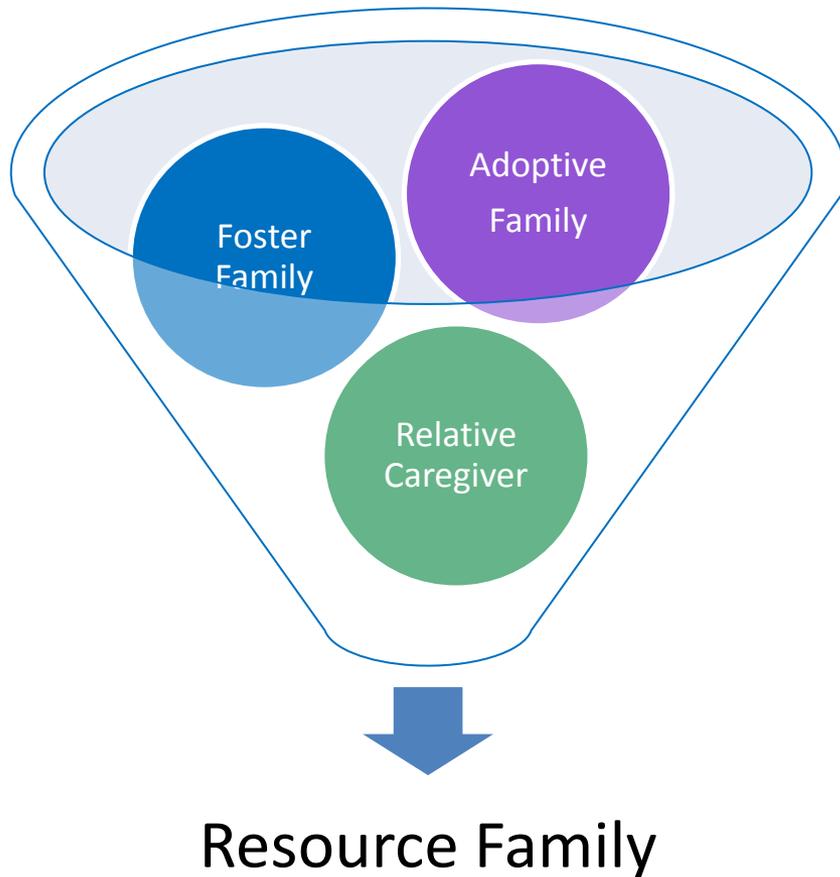


Increased Engagement

- Child & Family Team
- Up-front and continuing assessment along common domains
- Aligns with the practice changes identified in California Child Welfare Core Practice Model (Statewide Practice Model) & Katie A
- Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI)



Foster Families → Resource Families



Resource Family Approval:

- Related and non-related families
- Training for all families
- Resource Families still choose the role they play in the system: temporary or permanent
- Prepared for permanency-no additional approvals necessary
- Foster Family Agencies and residential care providers will also approve resource families.



Increasing Capacity for Home-Based Family Care

- Advancing Resource family approval statewide implementation.
- Additional funding for support, retention, recruitment and training of resource families & relatives for placing agencies (\$17.2 million GF)
- Foster Family Agencies provide Core Services:
 - May provide core services to children in county approved families
- Updated and expanded training requirements across provider and caregiver categories
- Approved Relative Caregiver (ARC) Funding Option Program (2014: \$30 million investment)



Reducing Congregate Care

- Licensed residential care is re-envisioned to provide short term therapeutic care including “core services” that are designed to transition children quickly to a home setting.
- Residential care should only be used when intensive 24-hr care is required that can not be provided in a home based setting.
- Providers must immediately begin planning for a safe transition to a home based setting.
- Providers must have the capacity to approve resource families and to transition children and youth to a home setting safely (either directly, or through relationships with other providers).



Core Services

FFAs and STRTCs make available core services either directly or through formal agreements:

- Services shall be trauma informed and culturally relevant
- Ensure the delivery mental health services (specialty and non-specialty)
- Transitional support services for placement changes, permanency, aftercare
- Education, physical, behavioral and mental health supports
- Activities to support youth achieving a successful adulthood
- Services to achieve permanency & maintain/establish family connections
- Active efforts for ICWA-Eligible children



Oversight, Accountability & Provider Performance Measures

- National Accreditation
- Cross Departmental Oversight Framework
- Evaluate provider performance along common domains
- Client satisfaction surveys
- Public transparency of provider performance



Other Key Elements

- New provider rate structure:
 - Sunset RCL system (1-14)
 - Create new STRTC rate
 - Create tiered FFA rate structure
- Multi-year implementation:
 - New requirements take effect 1/1/2017
 - Provisions for extensions up to two years
 - Additional extensions for providers and longer for those serving probation youth



Questions and Contact Info

- Questions can be sent to: ccr@dss.ca.gov
- Additional information on the CDSS website at:
<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/default.htm>

