

California – Child and Family Services Review Signature Sheet

For submittal of: CS SI Progress Report

County	Mendocino
SIP Period Dates	5/14/2011-4/14/2016
Outcome Data Period	4/14/2013 -4/14/2014

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Board of Supervisors (BOS) Signature

BOS Approval Date	
Name	

Mail the original Signature Sheet to: Children's Services Outcomes and Accountability Bureau
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California - Child and Family Services Review

Annual SIP Progress Report

APRIL 2014



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Introduction

The Child Welfare System Improvement and Accountability Act (AB 636) of 2001 provides a framework for measuring and monitoring each county's child welfare services performance in ensuring the safety, permanence and well-being of children. The system established by AB 636 builds upon standards established by the federal government and adds outcome and accountability measures developed by California-- the California Child and Family Services Review (C-CSFR).

One component of the C-CSFR is the County System Improvement Plan (SIP). The County SIP outlines how the County will improve its system of care for children and youth and provides a method for reporting on progress toward meeting improvement goals using the C-CSFR outcomes and indicators.

This is Mendocino County's second SIP Progress Report in its five year cycle. The following are the focus outcomes for our Child Welfare Services (CWS) Division for this SIP Progress Report: 1) Reunification Within 12 Months, 2) In Care 3 Years or Longer, 3) Placement Stability, 4) Improve Use of Our SDM Assessment Tools, and 5) Improved Collaboration between CWS and Probation. The focus outcomes for Juvenile Probation are: 1) Exit Outcomes for Youth Aging Out, and 2) Improve Successful Transition into Adulthood for Youth in Foster Care. For each of the focus outcomes, the CWS and Probation Department have established specific goals and strategies for achieving those goals. This SIP progress report describes how well the strategies have been implemented and the status of our progress toward the established goals.

SIP Progress Narrative

2011 SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PLAN

1. Local Planning Bodies and SIP Team

In Mendocino County, the primary planning body that was used in development of the Self Assessment and System Improvement Plan (SIP) was the Policy Council on

Children and Youth/Child Abuse Prevention Commission (PCCY/CAPC). The PCCY/CAPC has been in existence as a community and agency partnership for children since 1992. Key public and private agencies providing services to children are represented on this group, as well as community members and parents. The PCCY/CAPC serves as the Mendocino County Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council and is the advisory body for planning and allocating funds for a variety of child abuse prevention efforts. The PCCY/CAPC publishes a Status Report on Children and Youth and has developed an interagency plan for children's services. Several other councils and cabinets are linked to PCCY/CAPC by having representatives seated on PCCY. These include the Children's System of Care (CSOC), First 5 Commission, the Alliance for Rural Community Health (ARCH), the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Youth Council and the Child Care Planning Council:

- The **FIRST 5 Commission** is a partnership of representatives from County agencies and the community. The Commission has developed a multi-year plan with priorities for Parent Education and Access to Health Care and has funded programs throughout Mendocino County with tobacco tax funds. Regional grants have ensured that services are provided in all geographic areas. FIRST 5 has provided funding to most of the Family Resource Centers. FIRST 5 also brings together all the grantees in each area to share information about their projects and to coordinate services.
- **CSOC** is an established collaboration that is directed toward preventing high-level residential placements for youth or reducing the levels of placement, and bringing youth back into the county. It serves children and youth countywide and involves MCDSS, Mental Health, Public Health, Probation, and the County Office of Education.
- All of the Community Health Clinics countywide work together to serve the people of Mendocino County. The six organizations have clinic sites in Ukiah, Willits, Long Valley, Potter Valley, Anderson Valley, Fort Bragg, Gualala and Point Arena. All six are founders and members of the **ARCH** a non-profit providing clinics with advocacy, training, technical and other support services.
- The **WIB Youth Council** has oversight responsibility for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) youth employment funding. It also coordinates a Youth Summit every other year and provides mini grants for youth-driven projects, with funding from Social Services. The Policy Council on Children and Youth and the Youth Council have linked together to channel youth development planning and coordination through the Youth Council.
- The **Child Care Planning Council** is focused on improving the availability, accessibility, and quality of childcare throughout Mendocino County. Community members, parents, and allied agencies are represented on this group.

Children's Services and Probation Representatives

- Bryan Lowery, HHS Assistant Director
- Jena Conner, HHS Deputy Director
- Jim Mockel, HHS Senior Program Manager
- Deborah Lovett, HHS Senior Program Manager
- Sue Norcross, HHS Senior Program Manager
- Thelma Giwoff, HHS Senior Program Manager
- Albert Ganter, Chief Probation Officer
- Jean Glentzer, Juvenile Probation Department Manager
- Kevin Kelley, Probation Placement Supervisor, Probation Department
- All CWS supervisors

2. Data Sources and Collection

For this SIP PROGRESS UPDATE REPORT, we used the AB 636 data summary reports produced by the Center for Social Services Research at UC Berkeley. We also used Safe Measures and/or Business Objects reports.

CURRENT PERFORMANCE TOWARDS SIP IMPROVEMENT GOALS

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

Our current SIP is in keeping with the themes that emerged from our latest Self Assessment and our PQCR of May 2011. Each unit in the Division was met with individually for ideas and input which was then merged with input from the Self Assessment and PQCR as well as feedback via the PCCY/CAPC.

Challenges:

Staffing Issues

Mendocino County continues to have significant staffing shortages and changes in our division. We have replaced $\frac{3}{4}$ of our management staff in the last two years. We filled our vacant Deputy Director position on February 18, 2013. These changes have made an impact to our agency since it put an extra burden on the remaining three Program Managers we had at that time. In November 2013 we hired our fourth Program Manager after a vacancy of that position for two years. We are currently in the process of hiring

additional Social Worker staff to fill vacancies that have existed for some time. We are having difficulty recruiting and retaining qualified social workers since our neighboring county, Sonoma, offers a more competitive salary package. Because of staff reductions due to promotions, retirements and Social Workers leaving to other counties for higher wages, it requires creative solutions such as hiring entry level Social Workers and Social Worker Assistants that can eventually promote into Social Worker positions. This places additional work demands on our more experienced Social Worker staff to meet State mandates regarding child protection and services issues. Until 2/17/14, we were down 16 social worker positions, which includes the addition of four new social worker positions to help reduce caseloads. Since then we have hired 9 new social workers. We are actively trying to fill the remaining 7 vacancies. Probation is experiencing similar staff challenges.

Promising Practices:

Engaging Parents

We are providing intensive services to our parents at the beginning of our involvement with the family. We believe that engaging families in these services at the start we will:

- Reduce the number children needing to be detained and thereby reduce the number of cases needing court involvement.
- Give additional support to families when it's needed most.
- Provide parents with in home services to assist parents in behavior changes designed to enhance child safety.
- Return children to their parents sooner.
- Provide services for children who accompany their parents to residential treatment and for children with parents in intensive out- patient programs.
- Lessen the recurrence of maltreatment by creating a healthier family environment.
- Utilize our social worker assistants to provide and help families obtain supportive services.

These practices include:

- Formal Supervision
- Structured Decision Making
- Safety Organized Practices
- Family Team Meeting

Formal Supervision

We have implemented Formal Supervision for those families at risk of court involvement. Formal supervision is a voluntary service in which the family gets the

intensive support they need to ensure the safety and protection of the child in lieu of a dependency court action being initiated. However, should the family not address the harm or danger to the child, dependency court proceedings are initiated. We work closely with these families including increased contact between the agency and the family to ensure success.

Safety Organized Practices (SOP)

Our Integrated Service unit (ISU) is supporting the division's goal of conducting SOP Family Team Mappings on all appropriate court cases between Jurisdiction and Disposition Hearings, which in turn supports all three goals listed on our chart (beginning on page 16.) We have implemented a process where the Emergency Response Court unit sends a referral to the ISU for a mapping and the ISU sets up a day, time and place to hold the mapping, provides a facilitator and scribe, and conducts the mapping. These meetings establish Harm and Danger Statements and Safety Goals for the Case Plan. We are also mapping some cases pre-dismissal. We intend to map cases at each 6 month family reunification and family maintenance case plan update as well. We have mapped 62 cases over all in 2013.

Most of our social workers are now familiar and comfortable and have a working understanding of Harm and Danger Statements and Safety Goals. The Three Houses tool is used in the field with children. The Future House is used as a frame work in Family Empowerment Groups with parents as they move through the case plan process.

Our ER Court Unit will be working with our external SOP Coach Chellie Gates (U. C. Davis Northern Training Academy) on how to insert Harm, Danger and Safety Goal Statements/language in our court reports and case plans.

Additionally we are using the SOP Mapping format to structure our internal case conferences. We are establishing Harm Statements, Danger Statements, Safety Goals, and Next Steps in Case Conference. The ISU provides a facilitator and scribe for case conferences.

Katie A. Class Action Lawsuit

The Katie A. Class Action lawsuit requires Mental Health and Child Welfare Services work together in collaboration to provide mental health services for children who meet the Katie A sub-class requirements. A child meets the sub-class requirements when they meet medical necessity, have an open Child Welfare case, have full-scope Medi-Cal, and requires intensive specialty mental health services. Medi-Cal and realignment funding and staffing are utilized to implement the Core Practice Model for all kids that meet the Katie A. sub-class qualifications. The Core Practice Model includes:

- Expanded use of Child and Family support teams

- Intensive Care Coordination
- Treatment Foster Care
- Intensive Home Based Services

Katie A. introduces new services that are now billable to Medi-Cal. Child Welfare and Mental Health have introduced mental health screenings to Emergency Response and throughout the life of the Child Welfare case. The new Core Practice Model works together with the Emergency Response Team (ERT), Safety Organized Practice (SOP), Wraparound Program, and the Family Empowerment Model already utilized by the Child Welfare Services Agency. The focus of safely maintaining children in their homes reduces the need for foster care. The earlier intervention of intensive Wrap and mental health services beginning from the start of the child welfare case as outlined in the Core Practice Model, offers the Agency a chance to establish genuine engagement with the family and improve the probability of change to take place within that family system. With more genuine engagement, quicker access to services and a higher level of collaboration between all service providers, the family has a better chance to avoid court action, keep their families together when safety can be assured, and it also allows the Agency to focus less on court report writing and more on social work and skill building within the families.

Katie A. implementation also supports our goal of reunification within 12 months by realizing barriers to reunification and helping the family to create their own support systems while they are together as a family unit by identifying barriers such as substance abuse and mental health issues – two of our primary reasons preventing more timely reunification as evidenced by our research (see Attachment 2, page 1, Action Steps C and D.)

Family Dependency Drug Court

Because we recognize the extent of methamphetamine use in our county and the effect it has on the entire family, we are in our seventh year of our Family Dependency Drug Court, which is funded by a federal Regional

Partnership Grant. In 2012, we were awarded a two year extension grant. This grant period ends 9/30/2014. We currently provide intensive substance abuse services including residential treatment with Juvenile Court oversight. We have seen some positive outcomes in reunification with these cases. We collaborate with agencies such as AODP, CalWORKS Job Services and the Court along with community agencies

which include First Five, Ford Street Project, Youth Project and local Foster Family Agencies. We are working with our FDDC operations committee on a sustainability plan to continue this valuable program including using our State Family Preservation Program funding to cover continued substance abuse treatment when the grant funding ends.

State Family Preservation (SFP)

The current State Family Preservation Program Summary is attached as an addendum to this SIP update. The SFP plan fits with our SIP goals, specifically issue #1- reunification within 12 months (exit cohort) and strategy 1.3 regarding the provision of parenting classes.

SIP Goals

Status of Strategies

Measure C1.1, Reunification Within 12 Months (Exit Cohort)

This is an area we have continued to struggle with and saw a 13.5% decline in our reunification within 12 months rate from 2012-2013. Our most recent reporting period indicates we are at 56.5%, whereas the national goal is 75.2%.

Mendocino	CCLT Reunification Within 12 Months (Exit Cohort)			
	OCT 2009- SEP 2010	OCT 2010- SEP 2011	OCT 2011- SEP 2012	OCT 2012- SEP 2013
	%	%	%	%
Reunified in less than 12 months	70.5	64.6	70.7	56.5
Reunified in 12 months or more	29.5	35.4	29.3	43.5
Total	100	100	100	100

Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Williams, D., Yee, H., Hightower, L., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., and Henry, C. (2014)

Child Welfare Services Reports for California

Retrieved 1/20/14, from University of California at Berkeley Center for Social Services Research website URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare>

We continue to implement family engagement activities during referral investigation, voluntary or Formal Supervision cases and dependency court cases to help ensure successful reunification within 12 months. These activities include:

- Complete SOP mapping process
- Complete Family Safety Networks process
- Implement Formal Supervision for appropriate cases
- Increase number of monthly contacts for Formal Supervision cases



- Utilize our social worker assistants to provide and help families obtain supportive services

A recent change that occurred in 2013 is that we now have two Alcohol and Other Drug (AODP) substance abuse counselors imbedded with our child welfare services staff in our Willits and Ukiah offices. This helps ensure clients with substance abuse issues are able to receive immediate assessments and rapid entry into treatment. With the expedited assessments and entry into services, this should help improve our reunification time, as research (Attachment 2, page 1, Action Step D) shows substance abuse is one of the primary reasons Family Reunification exceeds 12 months.

SDM

We recognize the need to improve our use of the Structured Decision Making tools throughout the life of cases that are in family reunification and family maintenance. By working on our compliance with the use of the SDM tool, we hope this will also help address our reunification time. Staff has affected our goal of reunifying children within 12 months. On Attachment 2, page 1, Action Step A was to evaluate the SDM when children returned home from FR. Our staff shortages allowed only slight improvement in this action step, but it was not consistently applied. SDM training was provided to social worker staff (Attachment 2, page 1, Action Step B) and the Leadership Team (Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers, Program Administrators and Supervisors) continue to make consistent use of the SDM tool a priority by individualizing training during conference time and reviewing SDM information weekly to ensure timely completion (Attachment 2, page 1, Action Step C.)

We have begun sampling cases to determine what trends cause reunification to surpass 12 months. Using the Safe Measures extraction of cases during the 2013 calendar year that were coded “reunification,” our Quality Assurance Administrator reviewed 10 of the 41 cases that had the most time in placement after the initial 12 months. The predominant factors causing reunification beyond 12 months were due to mental health issues, substance abuse, housing or a combination of two or more of those factors. This will be taken into consideration for our next SIP revision.

Measure C3.3 In Care 3 Years or Longer

This is another area we have continued to struggle with and saw a 12.2% increase in our rate of youth in care 3 years or longer. Our most recent reporting period indicates we are at 66.7%, whereas the national goal is 37.5%. We attribute this increase to expanded services provided under AB12 to non-minor dependent foster youth ages 18 – 21. With the extended foster care benefits afforded to youth who voluntarily stay in the system to assist them in more successfully transitioning to adulthood, we anticipate we will continue to have more youth staying in care longer. (Attachment 2, page 3, Action Step A).

Mendocino	C3.3 In Care Three Years or Longer			
	JAN2010- DEC2010	JAN2011- DEC2011	JAN2012- DEC2012	JAN2013- DEC2013
	%	%	%	%
In care less than 3 years	33.3	52.6	45.2	33.3
in care 3 years or longer	52.4	66.7	54.5	66.7
Total	100	100	100	100

Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Williams, D., Yee, H., Hightower, L., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., and Henry, C. (2014)

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The following have been recommended as useful in minimizing the negative impact of long-term foster care:

- Concurrent permanency planning
- Family finding
- Involvement of older youths in permanency planning

Our strategies were:

- Continue and expand our recently revitalized Family Finding efforts through the life of a case as needed (Attachment 2, page 2, Strategy 1.) A program specialist is currently assigned in locating all possible caretakers for a child during the first 30 days of detention. Seventy-seven Family Findings reports were filed between December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2013 to find possible relative caretakers. Action Step A of this goal was to identify staff to do Family Finding during the first 30 days. In February 2014 additional staff was assigned to assist with Family Findings in an effort to increase locating relatives for placements and connections. We have designated two staff members to process Family Finding. We estimate that 55 Non-Minor Dependents (NMD) will stay in the system over the next 18 to 24 months. Our current AB12 cases are being carried by one full-time Program Administrator, two full-time Social Workers and one part-time Social Worker intern. The unit presently carries an average of 33 cases. Four of these are former probation youth, and Probation carries two of those. Six of our AB12 youth live out of county and staff travel statewide for monthly visits. We anticipate hiring one more additional full-time Social Worker for this unit. An update for

Action Step B is that we are working on performing Family Finding at each 6 month status review hearing, and creating monthly reports to determine the rate of placements with relatives or NREFMs (Action Step C.)

- Work with youth to assure a transition plan is in place for each one, to be reviewed at least every six months (Attachment 2, page 3, Strategy 2.) CWS has been updated to capture ILP services. With the passage of AB12, Action Steps A and B are being re-evaluated as the number of teens in placement has increased. We have continued to enter ILP services to satisfy NYTD requirement. This information is reviewed and updated on a quarterly basis. Our ILP liaison works with our transition youth to help them develop future plans and make wise life decisions.
- Work with Probation to incorporate mentoring with CWS youth (Attachment 2, page 4, Strategy 3.) Mentoring programs continue to be developed (Action Step A) and evaluated for appropriateness. We also continue to expand our use of family group counseling to strengthen and empower families. This is happening through AB12 and our youth that we both serve. Action Step B, including mentoring programs at FRCs in our RFP for CBCAP funds aimed at young parents and homeless or potentially homeless youth, was completed.
- Strategy 4 (Attachment 2, page 5), was to continue our current model to strengthen family supports and systems (Action Step A). We revised it to implement SOP instead of Personal Village, as an ongoing goal.

Measure C4.3, Placement Stability (at least 24 months in care)

Placement changes for children in the Child Welfare System are inevitable at times. There are circumstances which make it more beneficial and needed. The review highlights how important it is to minimize the number of changes children experience. The last column shows the percentage change that was in the time period between 11/1/12 and 12/31/12. We have decreased by 19.2% the number of children experiencing more than two placements and increased by 16.4% the number of children experiencing less than two placements in this time period.

Mendocino 10/1/2012 to 9/30/2013	C4.3 Placement Stability (At least 24 months in care)						
	Age Group						
	Under 1	1-2	3-5	6-10	11-15	16-17	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<=2 placements	0.0	65.9	53.3	41.5	29.4	18.9	37.6 - ↑16.4%
>2 placements (prior)	100.0	23.3	33.1	39.9	37.8	36.6	35.6 - ↑2.7%
>2 placements (recent)		10.8	13.6	18.6	32.8	44.5	26.7 - ↓19.2%
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Williams, D., Yee, H., Hightower, L., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., and Henry, C. (2014)

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Our strategies for improvement are as follows:

- Reduce the number of placements children experience while in foster care. According to statistics gathered by Berkeley Center for Social Services Research, our statistics show that we have reduced our greater than two placements by 19.2%. However, we still show a marked difference between our 73.2% placement rate with three or more settings than the national goal of 41.8%. A major contributing factor is our practice to place a child in our emergency shelters until an appropriate foster or relative care home can be located.
- Attachment 2, page 6, Strategy 1 - Continue Family Finding during the first 30 days of cases and on into the life of the case. As mentioned previously, a program specialist is currently assigned in locating all possible caretakers for a child during the first 30 days of detention. Seventy-seven Family Findings reports were filed between December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2013 to find possible relative caretakers. In February 2014, additional staff were assigned to assist with Family Findings in an effort to increase locating relatives for placements and connections (Action Step A – completed.) Family Finding is being included in Concurrent Planning at every six-month review (Action Step B) and we create monthly reports to determine the rate of placements with relatives or NREFMS (Action Step C.)

- Increase social worker visits at foster placements for highest-risk kids (Attachment 2, page 7, Strategy 2.) Despite our short staffing, we have done a good job ensuring children in open child welfare cases are seen in person at least once a month by a social worker to ensure child safety and promote placement stability. Our average compliance rate from January 2013 to December 2013 was 90.3% as compared to the national goal of 90%. In addition, the majority of the contacts are done in the child's residence. Our average compliance rate from January 2013 to December 2013 was 63.8% as compared to the national goal of 50%. All three Action Steps are ongoing to continue this trend.
- Explore with FFAs the possibility of having some of their foster parents having open communication with/mentoring birth parents. (Attachment 2, page 8, Strategy 3.) Currently we have one foster family agency who is actively participating and encourages their foster parents to stay in close contact with biological parents in regards to medical, educational and behavioral needs of children in placements. We are collaborating (Action Step A) with the other agencies in our county to have them implement. Action Step B is an ongoing process.

Improve the use of our Structured Decision Making (SDM) assessment tools, specifically at case closure to assure the safety of families into the future.

Strategies we plan to use are:

- Retrain social workers on SDM Case Closure Risk and Safety assessment (Attachment 2, page 9, Strategy 1.) Although social workers were re-trained in January 2012 and May 2013 by UC Davis on SDM in Ukiah (Action Step A), we have not had adequate staffing to ensure full compliance with this while ensuring other mandates are met such as timely court reports, contacts with children, etc. Certain staff attended the Signs of Safety training provided by First 5 (Action Step B.) Staff training is an ongoing process.
- Management will monitor monthly SDM compliance reports and read cases for appropriateness of assessments (Attachment 2, page 10, Strategy 1.) Our supervisors review SDM reports with their social worker staff on a monthly basis (Action Step A.) However, this is an area in which Management needs to focus more specifically to ensure improved compliance. We use Safe Measures to monitor improvement.

Improving exchange of information between CWS and Probation

An issue that was raised repeatedly through our PQCR and CSA processes was the need for CWS and Probation to work together better for the best continuum of care for children who pass from one agency to the other. Strategies include:

- Evaluate the current usage of the 241 Referral Form (Attachment 2, page 11, Action Step A)
This has been completed.
- Create a checklist for transferring case
This has been completed.
- Link Probation with CWS/CMS (Attachment 2, page 12, Strategy 2)
This has been completed.
- Train Probation workers to use CWS/CMS (Attachment 2, page 12, Action Step B)
This has been completed.

Probation officers have been trained to enter contacts, Independent Living Program information, etc. The Probation clerk does the majority of the work when it comes to entering CWS/CMS information.

PROBATION SERVICES

Our current SIP is also in keeping with the themes that emerged from our latest Self Assessment and our PQCR of May 2011.

Challenges:

Staffing Issues

During this past year, probation continues to focus on the implementation of AB 109. AB109 is the legislative mandate that returns adult offenders from the State Prisons to our community for supervision by local probation instead of parole. Initially there was a great impact felt in the juvenile division with movement of senior trained officers to the new positions in adult probation created by AB109. Over the past year we have hired several new staff that have now completed basic probation mandated training. We continue to struggle with staff turnover from promotions and/or senior trained staff moving to other counties seeking higher pay incentives. We currently have 2 open positions for DPO I/II and have just closed our recruitment and will begin the testing and interview process required to fill those vacant positions. We had a huge turnout of applicants in this recruitment so we are hopeful.

In our last SIP update we announced that we had been able to fill the support staff position to assist our placement unit with data entry into CWS/CMS and family finding. Unfortunately that staff person moved to a different clerical position and we had to go through the promotional process to replace her. We now have another fully trained support staff on who is working out well in our placement division but she has not yet

taken on the duties to assist with family finding options as she continues to be required to assist in covering the duties of the vacant position she left until that position can be filled. In May of 2013 a new Chief Probation Officer was appointed.

Title IVE

In October all the probation departments in the state received notice that our Title IVE funding claims for juveniles was at risk due to the outcome of a federal audit that was conducted on two random counties. We are proactively working with state DSS, the federal government and the Chief Probation Officers of California to develop a Corrective Action Plan regarding Title IVE claiming process and time studies. Currently it looks like we will lose a substantial amount of funding from the previously allowed billing for preventative case management services due to changes being required by State DSS as to what will be the point of entry for all probation youth to define eligibility of "at eminent risk". This will assure compliance with federal mandates however it will also have impact on our department budget and most likely reduce the number of juvenile probation officers in our department. That is yet to be determined with our Chief Probation Officer, CEO and Board of Supervisors.

Loss of 26.5 Mental Health/Education AFDC-FC Placements

Probation has been impacted by the 2011 realignment of foster care cost and the loss of 26.5 mental health/education AFDC-FC placements. Probation has experienced an increase in the number of youth booked into juvenile hall who have severe mental health and developmental disabilities and once incarcerated are not eligible for Medi-Cal therefore do not receive treatment from their previous providers nor the Regional Center who is the "last provider of resources" however they are not able to attain competency to stand trial. These youth are a real challenge to our county in order to meet their high level needs for services. Both child welfare and probation are experiencing pressure to fill the void.

2011 Realignment of Foster Care Cost impact on Probation

Due to several events including the 2011 realignment and Katie A Class Action Lawsuit, child welfare has made some changes that have impacted probation. The largest impact has been limiting the utilization of wraparound teams for probationers who are identified as at risk of removal. In the past we have had the luxury of utilizing as many teams as were available, we are now limited to a maximum of three teams at any time. This was a loss of preventative services for our highest at risk probation families. Additionally we were able to access services of the parent partners and parenting classes offered for all families under family strengths teams that were conveniently occurring at our probation school site (New Beginnings). We continue to have the New Beginnings school which is a collaboration program currently run with Mendocino County Office of Education, AODP (Alcohol and Other Drug Program) and the Youth Project (a local private

provider) where 602 WIC wards on probation identified as at high risk of removal are offered assessment and individualized treatment services for substance abuse problems and mental health issues, while in their school setting. Their families are also included in group counseling if needed. However some of the funds for this program are now at risk and this program will be impacted in June. It is yet unknown if we will be able to sustain all the services offered at New Beginnings in the future.

Probation is in a time of transition due to staffing and funding changes. We continue to use our risk/needs assessment tool (FACT) and case management system through Assessment.com and the Forward Thinking Journals on all probationers who are made wards of the court who are identified as medium and high risk offenders. Our goal is to maintain the current level of intervention and supervision. Child Welfare continues to offer the use of any programs offered through their family centers for probation youth and families. We also have the opportunity to utilize the Integrated Service Unit to conduct Safety Organized Practice (SOP) for probation families who are in the wraparound program.

Improving exchange of information between CWS and Probation

This outcome improvement plan and our strategies have been covered in the Child Welfare narrative beginning on page 11.

Measure 8A, Exit Outcomes for Youth Aging Out

Probation continues to work closely with our Juvenile Justice Commission, the Young Parents Program, Youth Project and the Arbor on Main to develop avenues for life long connections to increase the likelihood of success in transitioning our at risk youth to adulthood. We have focused on transitional skill development and mentoring programs offered such as teen peer court, our vocational program where local professionals mentor and offer classes such as yoga, cooking, and photography as part of our curriculum at the New Beginnings school site. We continue to use the independent living skills programs at the Arbor on Main, Young Parents Programs through Mendocino County Office of Education (when there is a probationer who has or is expecting a child), and through transitional housing with the Youth Project. We have a new opportunity through a YouthBuild grant acquired by the Pinoleville Tribe for all at risk youth ages 16 through 21 who are in need of completion of high school or obtaining their GED, which includes education and skills training in construction and leadership skills. This includes support to transition to employment or continuing education into junior college or vocational schooling opportunities.

Probation also continues to work to improve family engagement and assuring timely accurate data collections in N.Y.T.D. and to improve family finding efforts utilizing the tools we have put in place.

2011 SIP FOCUS AREAS

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

- Reunification Within 12 Months (C 1.1)
- In Care 3 Years or Longer (Emancipated/Age 18 (C3.3)
- Placement Stability (at least 24 months in care (C4.3)
- Improve the use of our Structured Decision Making (SDM) Assessment Tools
- Improved collaboration between CWS and Probation

PROBATION

- 8A Exit Outcomes for Youth Aging Out
- Improve successful transition into adulthood for youth in foster care

Priority Outcome Measure or Systemic Factor: C1.1 Reunification Within 12 Months (Exit Cohort)

National Standard: 75.1%

Current Performance: According to the January 2014 Date Extract report (Quarter 3 2013), of the 133 children reunified, 48 of them were reunified within 12 months, resulting in a reunification rate of 56.5%.

Target Improvement Goal: Improve 12 month reunification rate without subsequent re-entry rate.

Priority Outcome Measure or Systemic Factor: C3.3 In Care Three Years or Longer

National Standard: 37.5%

Current Performance: According to the January 2014 Date Extract report (Quarter 3 2013), of the 28 children who were in care and were emancipated, 11 were in foster care 3 years or longer, resulting in a percentage rate of 64.7 – 27.2% higher than the national standard.

Target Improvement Goal: Reduce the number of children still in care at age of majority of emancipation.

Priority Outcome Measure or Systemic Factor: C4.3 Placement Stability (at least 24 months in care)

National Standard: 41.8%

Current Performance: According to the January 2014 Date Extract report (Quarter 3 2013), of the 80 children in foster care at least 24 months, 10 had two or fewer placement settings. This is a 14.3% rate of placement stability.

Target Improvement Goal: Reduce the number of placements children experience while in foster care.

CWS		
Strategy 1: Improve correct usage of SDM assessments at return of children home from FR.	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): C1.1 Reunification Within 12 Months (Exit Cohort)
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	X N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Evaluate current practice of SDM at return of children home from FR.	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers, Prog. Administrators and Supervisors
B. Increase use of SDM for FM assessments	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers, Prog. Administrators and Supervisors
C. Improve quality of FM assessments	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers, Prog. Administrators and Supervisors
D. Evaluate a sampling of cases to determine overarching issues as to why children are unable to reunify within 12 months.	January 1, 2014 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Quality Assurance Program Administrator

CWS

Strategy 1: Continue Family Finding efforts during the first 30 days of cases and on into the life of the cases	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): C3.3 In Care Three Years or Longer
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Identify staff to do Family Finding during the first 30 days of cases	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Completed	Emergency Response/Court Supervisors, Court Liaison, Integrated Services Unit Supervisor
B. Fold Family Finding in with Concurrent Planning at every six-month review hearing	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Continuing Supervisors
C. Review effectiveness of Family Finding and statistics	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers, Prog. Administrators and Supervisors

CWS

Strategy 2: Transition Plan for each youth, to be reviewed every six months.	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): C3.3 In Care Three Years or Longer
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Evaluate current practice of transition planning and inclusion in Case Conferencing template	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing (Revised due to AB12 implementation)	Social Worker Supervisors
B. Increase youth participation in transition planning. Potential for Youth Resource Center to support buy-in for participation (unfunded)	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Social Workers

CWS

Strategy 3: Collaborate with County Probation to incorporate mentoring with CWS youth.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): C3.3 In Care Three Years or Longer
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Evaluate current mentoring program put together by Juvenile Justice Commission for appropriateness of including CWS youth	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	ILSP Coordinator
B. If opportunities exist, consider including mentoring programs at FRCs in our RFP for CBCAP funds aimed at young parents and homeless or potentially homeless youth	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Completed	Contracts Administrator

CWS

Strategy 4: Continue SOP family mapping for strengthening family supports and systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): C3.3 In Care Three Years or Longer
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Continue our current model with as many families as appropriate and possible	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Revised	Specialists, Administrators, Social Workers

CWS

Strategy 1: Continue Family Finding efforts during the first 30 days of cases and on into the life of the cases	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): C4.3 Placement Stability (at least 24 months in care)
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Identify staff to do Family Finding During the first 30 days of cases	May 13, 2011 – June 30, 2011 Completed	Emergency Response/Court Supervisors, Court Liaison
B. Fold Family Finding in with Concurrent Planning at every six-month review hearing	May 13, 2011 – June 30, 2012 Ongoing	Continuing Supervisors
C. Review effectiveness of Family Finding and statistics	May 13, 2011 – December 31, 2012 Ongoing	Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers, Prog. Administrators and Supervisors

CWS

Strategy 2: Increase Social Worker visits at foster placements for highest risk kids	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): C4.3 Placement Stability (at least 24 months in care)
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Define highest risk kids	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers, Placement Team
B. Establish frequency of visit and coordinate communication for highest risk kids	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers, Placement Team
C. Review efficacy of increased visits using CMS quarterly reports	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers, Placement Team

CWS

Strategy 3: Explore with FFAs having some of their foster parents openly communicate with/mentor birth parents	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): C4.3 Placement Stability (at least 24 months in care)
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	X N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Conduct conversations with FFAs to see if this is a feasible idea	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers
B. If this concept is deemed feasible, select one or two foster parent/family pairs as pilot families	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Social Worker Supervisors, FFAs

CWS

Strategy 1: Retrain continuing social workers on SDM Case Closure Risk and Safety Assessments	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): SDM Assessment Compliance
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Conduct In-House or UC Davis training on Case Closure Assessments	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Training Coordinator
B. Have Social Work staff participate in Signs of Safety training being brought to our county by First 5	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Completed	Training Coordinator

CWS

Strategy 2: Monitor performance on SDM Case Closure Assessments	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): SDM Assessment Compliance
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Monitor monthly SDM Compliance reports	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Deputy Director, Sr. Program Managers

CWS/Probation

Strategy 1: Convene workgroup to address these issues	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT <input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP <input type="checkbox"/> PSSF X N/A	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): Reported in our PQCR and CSA that valuable information (i.e. psychological evaluations, treatment need assessments, discharge summaries) are not being passed between Probation and Child Welfare Services. Improved collaboration should make CWS and Probation better partners and improve the continuity of care.
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Redesign the 241 referral form and develop a checklist for documents to be transferred between agencies	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Court Supervisors, Liaisons of both agencies
B. Determine if a court order is required to share documents such as psychological, mental health, AODP assessments and placement discharge summaries between agencies	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Departments heads, Court Supervisors, Liaisons of both agencies
C. Determine if targeted documents are located in CWS/CMS or only in hard copies in department files. Identify who will pull files and copy identified documents.	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Court Supervisors, Liaisons of both agencies

CWS/Probation

Strategy 2: Link Probation with CWS/CMS	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): Reported in our PQCR and CSA that valuable information (i.e. psychological evaluations, treatment need assessments, discharge summaries) are not being passed between Probation and Child Welfare Services. Improved collaboration should make CWS and Probation better partners and improve the continuity of care.
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Train Probation on Safe Measures for access to CWS cases	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Probation management, CWS/CMS Administrator
B. Train Probation workers to use CWS/CMS	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	US Davis Training Academy, CWS/CMS Administrator

CWS/Probation

Strategy 3: Re-evaluate the possibility of Dual Jurisdiction and the current WIC 241.1 process	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPII	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): Reported in our PQCR and CSA that valuable information (i.e. psychological evaluations, treatment need assessments, discharge summaries) are not being passed between Probation and Child Welfare Services. Improved collaboration should make CWS and Probation better partners and improve the continuity of care.
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	X N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Convene task force to review AB12 incremental impacts upon both Probation and CWS systems	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Completed	CWS and Probation Management
B. Review MOU between CWS and Probation for best service to families	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Completed	CWS and Probation Management
C. Re-write MOU and protocols as needed	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Completed	CWS and Probation Management
D. Cross-train CWS and Probation staff on implementation of AB12	May 13, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	CWS and Probation Training Coordinators

Probation

Strategy 1: Provide mentoring services for youth in foster care	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): We chose Measure 8A as a result of our PQCR to identify areas of deficiency in our current transitional services and improve outcomes for entering adulthood.
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Work with the Juvenile Justice Commission on their project to identify current resources and gaps in agencies providing mentoring. Coordinating county mentoring efforts.	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Probation supervisor, Juvenile Justice Commission, Arbor on Main
B. Increase mentors through educating the public on the needs and rewards of mentoring.	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Probation supervisor, Juvenile Justice Commission
C. Develop website for easier access to available mentoring options and/or becoming a volunteer mentor.	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Probation supervisor, Juvenile Justice Commission
D. Develop peer mentoring both individually and through peer support group facilitated by emancipated youth.	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Arbor on Main, Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Probation

Strategy 2: Develop Family Finding resources and strategies	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): We chose Measure 8A as a result of our PQCR to identify areas of deficiency in our current transitional services and improve outcomes for entering adulthood.
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Develop internal procedures to ensure process of Family Finding occurs	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Division Manager, Probation Placement Supervisor
B. Develop training on Family Finding (US Davis, CWS and Family Finding training disc)	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Completed	Division Manager, Probation Placement supervisor, Field Officers
C. Build and encourage on-going family involvement (family tree)	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Probation Supervisors, Probation Officers

Probation

Strategy 3: Improve Transitional Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): We chose Measure 8A as a result of our PQCR to identify areas of deficiency in our current transitional services and improve outcomes for entering adulthood.
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. T.I.L.P. (Transition Plan)	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Completed	Placement Probation Officer and Child
B. 90 day transition plan. Hold “formal” transition conference (assure out of county transition plans include services from the county where the child intends to reside)	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Completed	Placement Probation Officer and Child
C. N.Y.T.D. – Utilize data produced from NYTD to identify gaps and needs	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Probation
D. Develop independent skills classes for transitional age youth (Change Company workbooks, Arbor on Main, employer vocational workshops)	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Probation, ILSP Coordinator, Local Business Owners

Probation

Strategy 4: Family Engagement	<input type="checkbox"/> CAPIT	Applicable Outcome Measure(s) and/or Systemic Factor(s): We chose Measure 8A as a result of our PQCR to identify areas of deficiency in our current transitional services and improve outcomes for entering adulthood.
	<input type="checkbox"/> CBCAP	
	<input type="checkbox"/> PSSF	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Action Steps:	Timeframe:	Person Responsible:
A. Develop educational and support classes for parents (Parent Partner support group, probation parent support group and teen parenting classes)	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Foster Kin and adjunct agencies, Parent Partners, Probation Officer, Youth Project
B. Provide transportation assistance for parents to attend classes, counseling and visitation to placement.	May 11, 2011 – November 13, 2015 Ongoing	Probation

**STATE FAMILY PRESERVATION (SFP) PROGRAM
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

Reporting Period: October 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014

County

MENDOCINO

Designated County SFP Liaison

Name	Jena Conner, MSW				
Title	Deputy Director, Child Welfare Services				
Agency	Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency				
Address	727 S. State St. / P.O. Box 839				
City	Ukiah	State	CA	Zip Code	95482
Phone	(707) 463-7971	Fax	(707) 463-7960		
Email	connerj@co.mendocino.ca.us				

Provide a response to items 1-3 for the county's SFP programs/services:

1. Describe the programs/services to be funded with the SFP funds.

Mendocino County uses the SFP funds to provide Family Empowerment Groups, Youth Support Groups and a variety of parenting classes at our three Family Resource Center locations- Ukiah, Willits and Fort Bragg. However, at this time, the Youth Support Group is only provided at the Ukiah Family Resource Center due to short staffing. The Nurturing Parenting program is only provided at this time at the Safe Passage Family Resource Center in Fort Bragg. A description of each group/class is as follows:

Family Empowerment Group:

This is a supportive group designed to assist parents in making changes in their lives and develop a support base. Each week, after identifying goals and brainstorming solutions with the group, each client prioritizes objectives to complete for the following week and reports on the results of their objectives from the previous week. Parents typically participate in a weekly Family Empowerment Group until their Child Welfare Services case has closed.

Foster Children/Youth Support Group:

This is an educational group which uses expressive arts, story, drama, art, craft, games and cooking to educate and support children and youth who have recently been removed from their homes regarding their experience of living in the foster care system.

Nurturing Parenting:

This is for any parent with young children. They learn new strategies, understand the purpose of their child's misbehavior, stop bribing, nagging, and cajoling, and use the power of encouragement and respect.

Discipline with Confidence:

(8-week on-going sessions) The purpose of this group is to help parents learn new discipline skills. This introduces the structure of positive discipline as a teaching tool. Using the Discipline with Confidence curriculum, the class includes the challenging task of parenting teenagers.

Triple P Teen

This group helps parents find positive solutions for common, and not so common, behavior problems of children ages 13-18. The group is 2 hours each week for 8 weeks. This group offers individual support and is appropriate for families struggling with difficult behavior issues.

Baby's Playhouse-ages birth to 15 months:

(8-week session, scheduled based on client need) Interactive environment between parent and child teaching parenting skills including interactive communication, exploratory play, nutrition, safety and basic first aid. Child supervision is provided.

Toddling Toddlers-ages 15 months to 2 1/2 years:

(8-week session, scheduled based on client need) An educational and activity class for parents and babies focusing on developmental issues of the toddler: autonomy, language, physical and emotional stages. Topics such as the infamous "NO" stage, temper tantrums, potty training and how to engage the toddler in play.

Child's Play-ages 2 1/2 years to Kindergarten:

(8-week session, scheduled based on client need) The purpose of this group is to help parents enhance their parenting skills by learning to play and relax with their children. This activity involves parent and child interactions such as reading stories, pretend play, arts and crafts, etc., thereby creating balance for the more difficult moments when limit setting and discipline are required.

The following two classes we have previously offered but had to discontinue in the past few years due to budget cutbacks. We are hoping and planning to reinstate offering them again soon:

Breaking the Cycle:

This is an 8- week class learning skills and tools on dealing with anger, family violence, relations and communications.

Basic Communication:

This 6-week ongoing class is to help communicate openly, honestly, directly and respectfully with others, learning listening skills, speaking skills and identifying roadblocks.

2. For each of the SFP programs/services, identify the population to be served.

One or more of the below programs and services are included in the Child Welfare Services case plans for clients based on client need to help avoid out-of-home placement or reduce the length of stay in out-of-home placement.

Family Empowerment Group:

The population served is parents or other legal caretakers who are involved with Child Welfare Services. They have open cases, either voluntary cases or court cases, although most are court cases. Children may have been removed from the home, or remain or have returned to the home.

Foster Children/Youth Support Group:

The population served is children and youth who have been recently removed from the home are in out-of-home placement. At this time, we are only able to offer this group for children and youth who are placed near our Ukiah Family Resource Center.

Nurturing Parenting:

The population served is any parent with young children. At this time, this class is only offered at the Safe Passage Family Resource Center in Fort Bragg.

Discipline with Confidence:

This course is open to the public, but also to parents or other legal caretakers who have had contact with Child Welfare Services through a child abuse/neglect referral or who have an open Child Welfare Services case, either voluntary or court, and need support and education regarding discipline.

Triple P Teen

This course is open to the public, but also to parents or other legal caretakers who have had contact with Child Welfare Services through a child abuse/neglect referral or who have an open Child Welfare Services case, either voluntary or court, and need support and education regarding parenting teenagers.

Baby's Playhouse-ages birth to 15 months:

This course is open to the public, but also to parents or other legal caretakers who have had contact with Child Welfare Services through a child abuse/neglect referral or who have an open Child Welfare Services case, either voluntary or court, and need support and education regarding parenting for children ages birth to 15 months.

Toddling Toddlers-ages 15 months to 2 1/2 years:

This course is open to the public, but also to parents or other legal caretakers who have had contact with Child Welfare Services through a child abuse/neglect referral or who have an open Child Welfare Services case, either voluntary or court, and need support and education regarding parenting for children ages 15 months to 2 ½ years old.

Child's Play-ages 2 ½ years to Kindergarten:

This course is open to the public, but also to parents or other legal caretakers who have had contact with Child Welfare Services through a child abuse/neglect referral or who have an open Child Welfare Services case, either voluntary or court, and need support and education regarding parenting children ages 2 ½ years old to Kindergarten.

Breaking the Cycle:

This course is open to the public, but also to parents or other legal caretakers who have had contact with Child Welfare Services through a child abuse/neglect referral or who have an open Child Welfare Services case, either voluntary or court, and need support and education regarding anger, family violence, relationships and communication.

Basic Communication:

This course is open to the public, but also to parents or other legal caretakers who have had contact with Child Welfare Services through a child abuse/neglect referral or who have an open Child Welfare Services case, either voluntary or court, and need support and education regarding communication skills.

3. Describe how the SFP programs/services are coordinated with the array of services available in the county.

Mendocino County Child Welfare Services staff coordinates the services we offer with our County Alcohol and Other Drugs Program (AODP), subsidized housing programs and Job Alliance for clients looking for employment. In addition, we coordinate the services we offer with the Mendocino County Family Resource Center Network, which is a collaboration of non-county operated family resource centers located throughout the county that also provide parenting education and other support services.