



Child Welfare System Improvement Plan (CWSIP) Collaboration with HCA Behavioral Health Services (BHS)

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System Improvement Plan 2024-2029

- Our Community Self-Assessment (CSA) from Spring 2023 determined that we will focus on improving our Placement Stability outcomes.
- Placement stability is defined by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) as the rate of movement per 1,000 days in care, not including the initial placement, trial visits, and exit from care.



System Improvement Plan 2024-2029

- Factors that can contribute to placement instability include
 1. Family poverty
 2. Racial disproportionality and disparity
 3. Lack of child and family voice and choice
 4. Parental substance abuse
 5. Elevated acuity in the areas of mental health, substance abuse, and trauma; and
 6. Lack of access to effective intervention services.



System Improvement Plan 2024-2029

- Increased placement instability can lead to:
 1. Decreased permanency
 2. Decreased academic progress
 3. Disconnection from family and culture; and
 4. Disruption in access to and participation in treatment/supportive services.



System Improvement Plan 2024-2029 - SSA Strategy 1

- Expand and strengthen the integration of Family Finding and Engagement efforts for youth at all stages of foster care with a focus on older youth in out-of-home care.
- Outcome areas: Placement Stability; Staff Caregiver, and Service Provider Training; Service Array



System Improvement Plan 2024-2029 - SSA Strategy 2

- Increase the level of caregiver, youth, and family voice and choice and the capacity of staff and service providers to engage with caregivers, youth, particularly older youth, and families more effectively.
- Outcome areas: Placement Stability; Staff Caregiver, and Service Provider Training; Service Array



System Improvement Plan 2024-2029 - SSA Strategy 3

- Strengthen the system of care for serving older youth with elevated levels of trauma, mental health acuity, and substance use acuity by increasing the capacity of child welfare staff, caregivers, and service providers to effectively engage in meeting the youth's complex needs.
- Outcome areas: Placement Stability; Staff Caregiver, and Service Provider Training; Agency Collaboration



CWSIP

- The CWSIP represents an important opportunity for the County of Orange Social Service Agency (SSA) and Probation Department (Probation) to partner with numerous County and community partners including non-profit foundations, social service and behavioral health organizations, educational providers, legal organizations, and advocacy groups in addressing their respective System Improvement Plans (SIP) outcomes.
- The CWSIP meets monthly and provides SSA and Probation with important feedback, guidance, and support to help address the needs of the children and families involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems of care.



CWSIP Member Agencies - February 2025

Bonfanti Consulting	HCA Children and Youth Services (CYS)	Orange County Dept of Education - Foster Youth Services (OCDE FYS)	SSA Contracts
CalOptima Health	HCA Public Health Nursing (PHN)	Olive Crest	SSA Medical Director
Court Appointed Special Advocates - Orange County (CASA OC)	HCA Post-Partum Wellness	Orangewood Foundation	SSA Quality Support Team (QST)
Children & Families Coalition of Orange County	Orange County Juvenile Court	Probation Dept	SSA Research
Children and Family Futures	Juvenile Justice Commission	Raise Foundation	West Orange County Special Education (WOCSE) / Special Education Learning Planning Area (SELPA)
Children's Cause Orange County	Law Offices of Harold LaFlamme	Saddleback Church	Western Med
County Counsel	New Alternatives	Saddleback College	YMCA Orange County
Family Support Network	OC Behavioral Health Advisory Board	Seneca Center	Young Lives Redeemed
Harder and Company	OC Public Defender's Office	SSA CFS	Youth Voice



CWSIP - BHS Collaboration

- BHS and contracted agency staff participate in 1 or more of the 3 strategy groups.
- BHS and contracted agencies continue BHS provides access to information regarding available services, participation rates, and outcomes as appropriate.
- BHS provides technical assistance on addressing behavioral health-related issues impacting the developing and execution of 1 or more of the 3 strategies.
- BHS and contracted agencies continue to deliver services to the youth in foster care within the SIP target population.



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