

## **2012 System Improvement Plan Executive Summary**

The implementation of Assembly Bill 636 brought a new Child Welfare Services Outcome and Accountability System to California, also known as the California-Children and Family Services Review (C-CFSR). The C-CFSR includes several processes all California counties must participate in including Quarterly Outcome and Accountability Data Reports, Peer Quality Case Review (PQCR), County Self-Assessment (CSA), System Improvement Plan (SIP) and Annual SIP Updates and is overseen by the State of California Department of Social Services (CDSS);

The SIP outlines how the County will remodel its Child Welfare Services (CWS) and Probation services to improve outcomes for children, youth and families and includes specific action steps, timeframes, and improvement targets. The SIP uses information gathered from quarterly data reports, the PQCR and the CSA components of the C-CFSR cycle to determine focus areas and strategies for improvement. The SIP serves as a commitment to specific, measurable improvements in prevention and performance outcomes that the County will achieve within a defined timeframe. The SIP has recently been expanded to include the Child Abuse Prevention, Intervention and Treatment (CAPIT)/Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP)/Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) Three-Year Plan. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS), which is responsible for overseeing and approving the SIP, has extended the SIP from a three-year plan to a five-year plan. The 2012 El Dorado County SIP for CWS/Probation will be effective May 21, 2012 through May 20, 2017.

### Priority Outcome Measures and Systemic Factors

The CWS program within the Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) focused on placement stability of children at least 24 months in care during the May 2011 Peer Quality Case Review (PQCR) and will continue to focus on this measure during the SIP. Adoptions within 12 months of a child being legally free is the second focus for the HHSA and it will employ strategies including foster parent recruitment and support, family finding and engagement to improve this measure. A final focus area for the HHSA will be the completion of Health and Education Passports. Social Worker recruitment, development and retention have been identified as an overarching factor negatively affecting the HHSA's success in these areas. The Probation Department will focus on maintaining children in their own homes whenever possible and appropriate.

### Strategies

Key to the success of the following strategies and action steps is the recruitment of additional social workers and the retention of effective and experienced social workers. Adequate staffing levels are required to maximize the effectiveness of these strategies.

- CWS: Implement a Family Teaming Approach
- CWS: Foster Parent and Kinship Support
- CWS: Develop a Parent Engagement, Training and Mutual Support Program
- CWS: Implement Foster Parent Recruitment
- CWS: Implement Structured Family Finding Procedure
- CWS: Increase collaboration between CPS and Community Partners

Attachment C

- Probation: Continue to refer minors to local resources in an attempt to keep minors in their homes with their families, keeping the number of minors placed out of the home under 15.

CAPIT/CBCAP/PSSF

Program funds will be expended in the following manner:

- CAPIT: Home Visitation Services
- CBCAP: Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities and Community Child Abuse Prevention Education
- PSSF Family Preservation and Time-Limited Reunification Components: Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process to contract with Community-Based Organization (CBO)
- PSSF Family Support Component: Parent Leadership Development, Strengthening Families - Protective Factors Framework and Shaken Baby Syndrome/Safe Sleeping Habits Training
- PSSF Adoption Promotion and Support Component: HHSA Adoption Unit

The HHSA will work with Probation to submit annual update reports to CDSS. While this plan is to cover five years, it may be adjusted by the County with CDSS approval to meet changing needs.