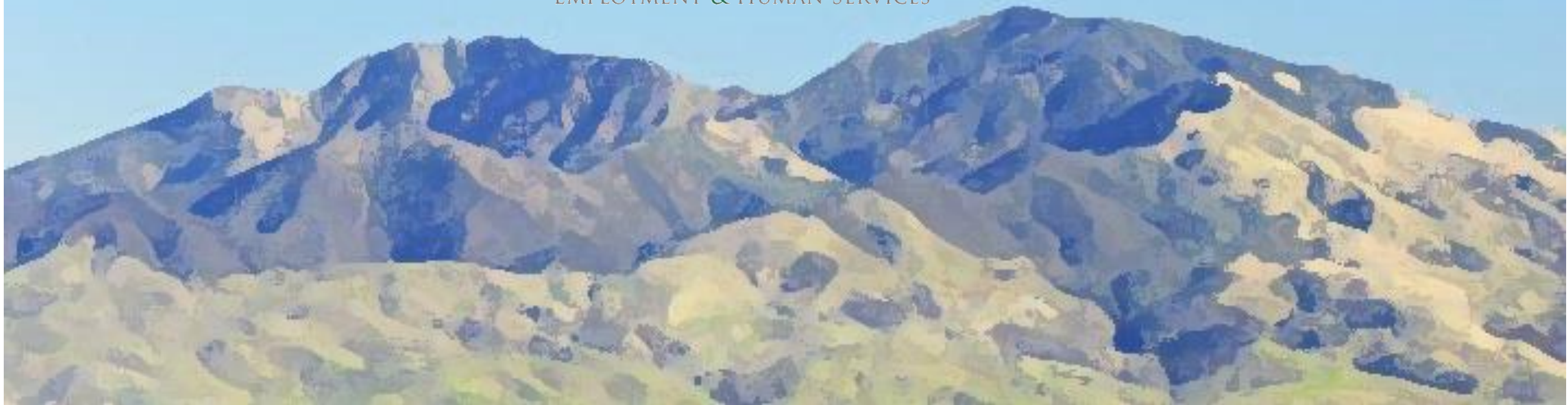


Continuum of Care Reform

Children & Family Services Bureau

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES



CONTINUUM OF CARE REFORM

CCR is a comprehensive child welfare reform that supports children, youth and families across placement settings in achieving permanency.

CCR focuses on:

Increased engagement
with children, youth
and families

Increased capacity for
home-based family
care

Limited use of
congregate care

Changes in rates,
training, accreditation,
mental health services
and accountability &
performance.

Child & Family Team Meetings

TRANSFORMATION TO TRAUMA-INFORMED FAMILY-BASED CARE

The Starting Point: Children and Family Teams (CFTs) Lead the Way

Child Welfare in all counties use CFTs to drive **placement decisions**, **case planning**, and **care coordination**.



PLACEMENT

CASE PLANNING

CARE COORDINATION

Child Family Team Meetings



CFS is completing on average 65 CFT meetings per month this year.

BH staff complete an additional average of 25 CFTs per month for foster youth in receipt of specialty mental health services.

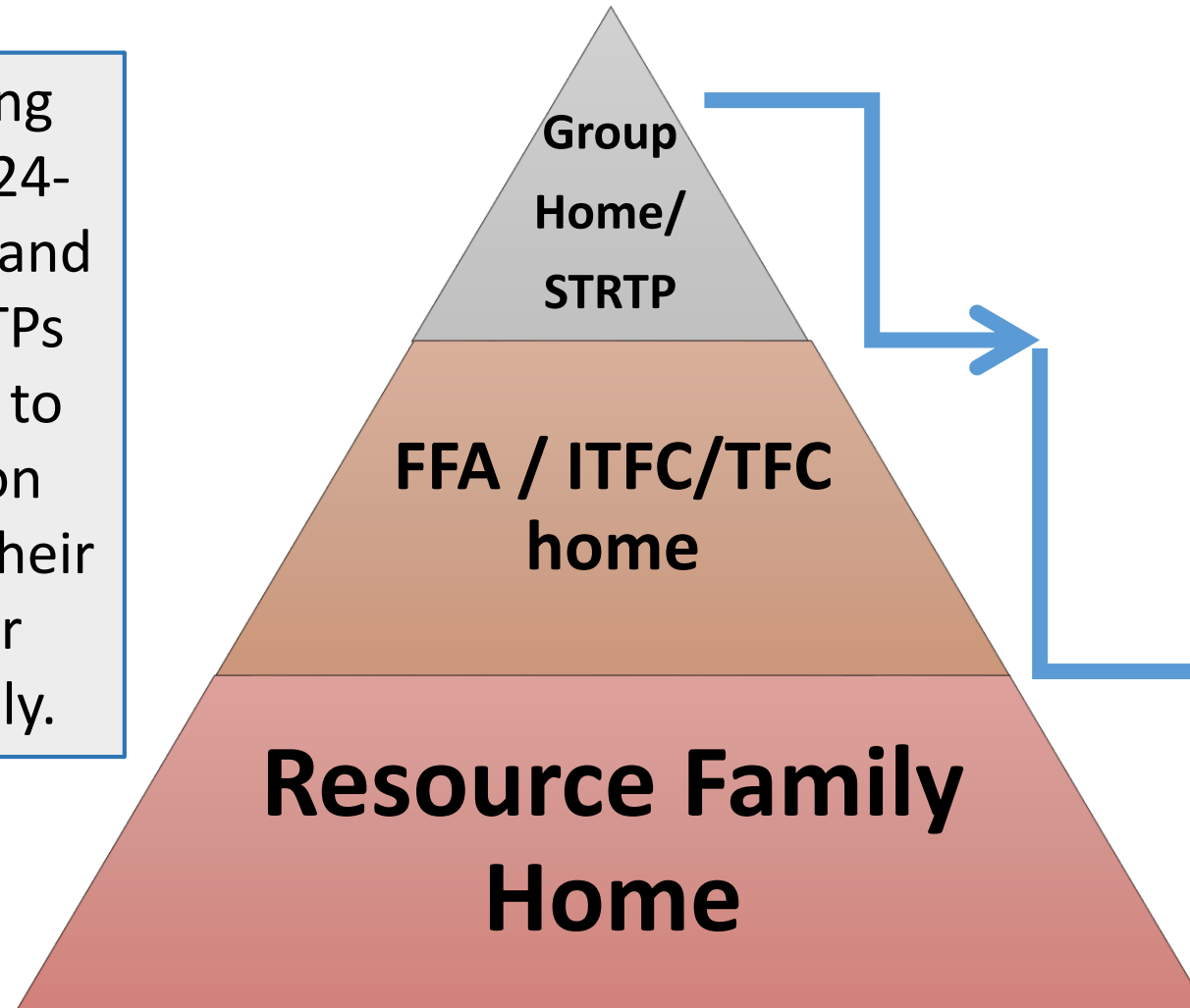
Since March 2020, CFT meetings have been held virtually, utilizing online platforms

In February 2020, CFS implemented a CFT Evaluation that can be done either on paper (hard copies) or online using a link or a QR code

Child Adolescent Strengths and Needs (CANS) Assessments are linked with the CFTs effective 10/2020.

Focus on Home-Based Care

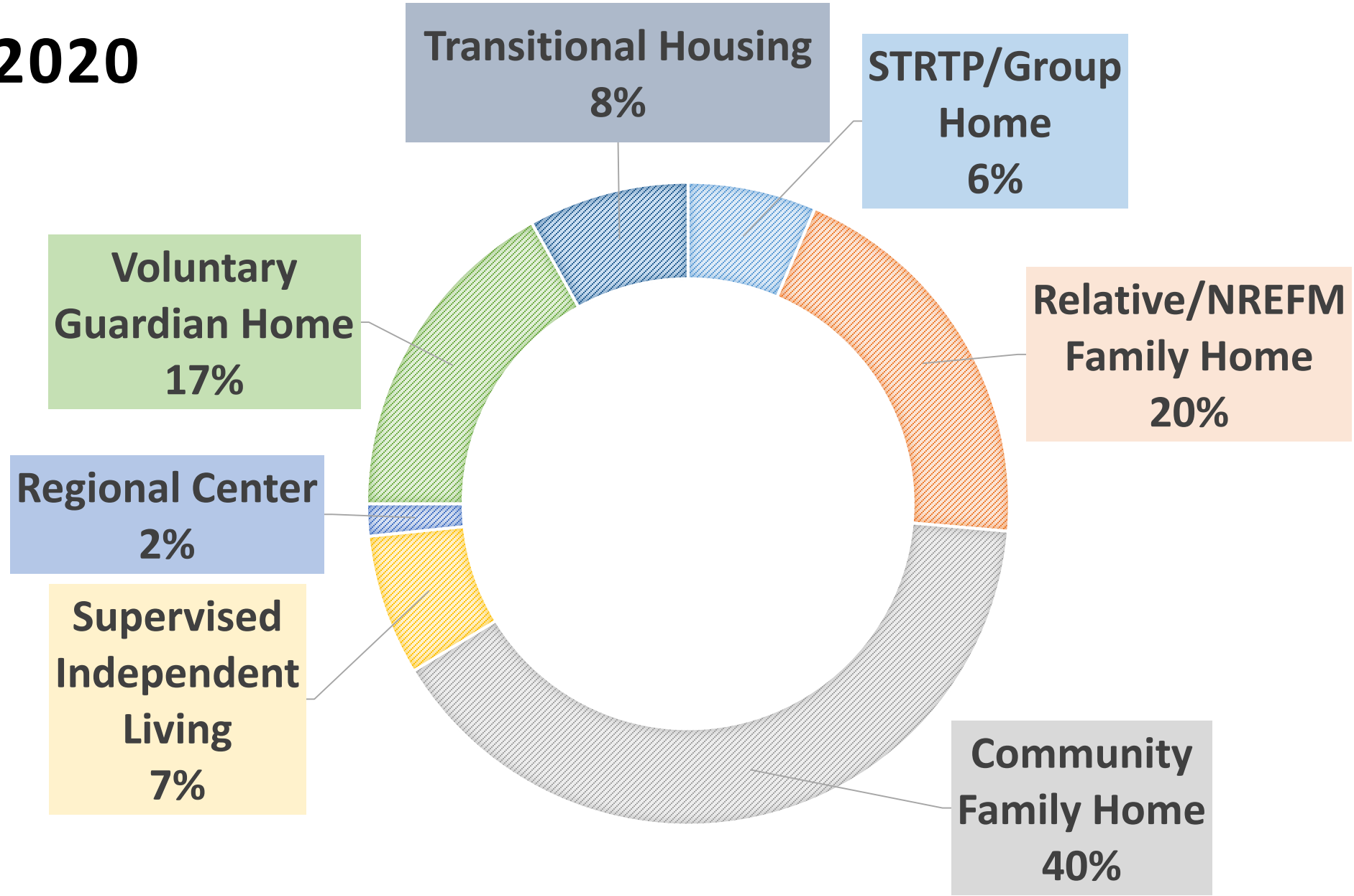
Children requiring highly intensive 24-hour supervision and treatment. STRTPs will be designed to quickly transition children back to their own or another permanent family.



Focused on permanency planning at all placement levels.

PLACEMENTS

09/2020



Resource Family Approval

Effective 01/2020, expanded pre-approval training from 12-18 hours

- Offered twice per month

Consistent flow of applicants, average of 22 per month*

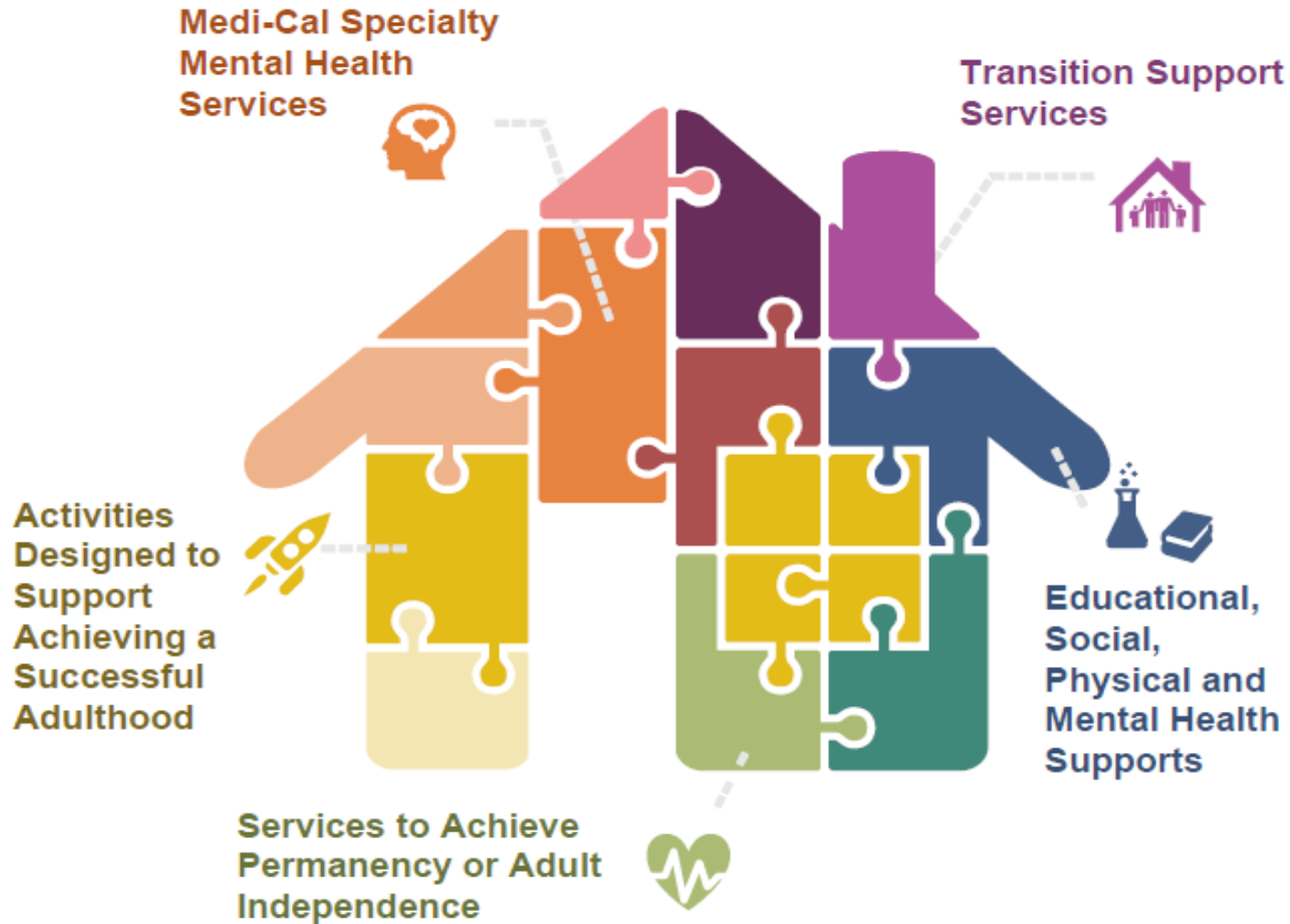
Reduction of backlog of pending applications by 40%*

Expanded supportive services available to home-based placement types

- WRAP
- Caregiver Coaching

* over the past 18 months (April 2019 – Sept 2020)

Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP)



Ongoing Challenges:

- Youth whose needs exceed STRTP level
- Process of conversion to STRTP, high costs and sustainability of the model
- Adequate services being provided in a home with all high needs youth
- Rejections and 14 day notices from STRTPs
- AWOLs and exposure to COVID-19

Current CCR Focus Areas

Increase Appropriate Relative Placements

- **Upfront (TDM) identification of relatives/NREFMs, ensuring relative information travels with the case**

Implement CANS for all cases and increase CFTs

- **Use Needs and Strengths assessment to guide the CFT and feed the case plan**

Child Specific Recruitment

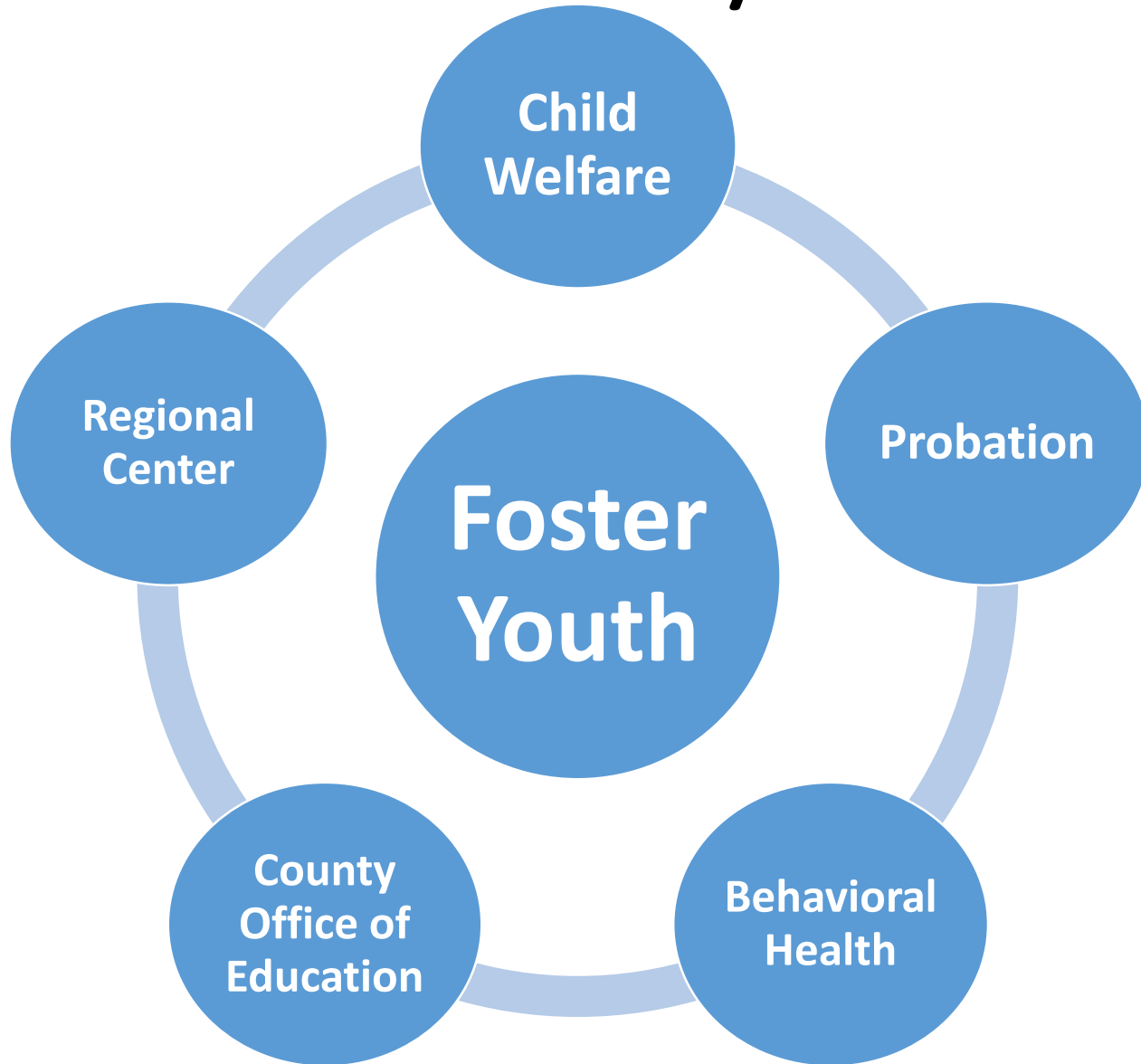
- **Build and utilize child/family's natural support system**
- **Beyond placement, building long term connections**

New Legislation

- **System of Care**
- **Family Urgent Response System (FURS)**

New Legislation

System of Care



The over-arching goal is to better serve youth who have experienced severe trauma by ensuring the services available to them are coordinated, trauma-informed, and timely.

New Legislation

Family Urgent Response System (FURS)

**24/7 Statewide
Hotline for Foster
(and Former Foster)
Youth and Caregivers**

**If in-person response
is required, the state
hotline will complete
warm handoff to
County FURS**

**County FURS Mobile
Response team will
provide in person
response within 1-3 hrs
(or 24 hrs for non urgent
situations)**

FURS builds upon the CCR and the System of Care development, in order to provide current and former foster youth and their caregivers with immediate, trauma-informed support when they need it.

FURS is intended to:

Prevent placement disruptions and preserve the relationship between the child or youth and their caregiver;

Prevent the need for a 911 call or law enforcement involvement and avoid the criminalization of traumatized youth;

Prevent psychiatric hospitalization and placement into congregate care; and

Promote healing as a family.

Notable Financial Impact: Contra Costa FURS teams will need to respond to not only CCC dependents, but every foster child placed in our county, which currently adds 409 youth to our existing 804 active foster youth. This does not account for former foster youth from CCC and other counties who are residing in CCC.

CCR moving forward...

- **CFS, in collaboration with both partner agencies and community based providers, continues to work towards meeting the needs of children and families to set them up for success in home-based care whenever possible, with permanent connections to support them long after they leave our system.**
- **We are committed to adapting to the evolving needs of our population, and seeking the best possible outcomes for youth in our care.**

