

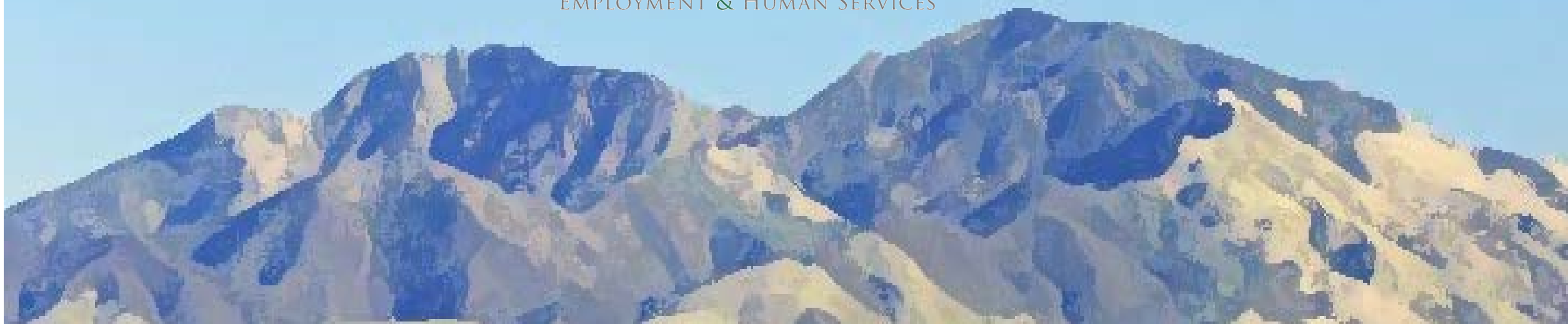
# Continuum of Care Reform and Family First Prevention Services Act

Children & Family Services Bureau

09/27/2021

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES



# CONTINUUM OF CARE REFORM

**Increased  
engagement with  
children, youth and  
families**

**Increased capacity  
for home-based  
family care**

**Limited use of  
congregate care**

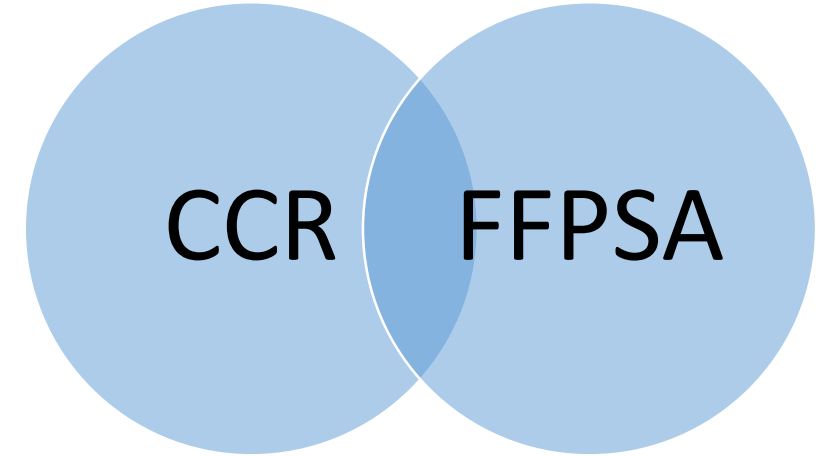
**Changes in rates,  
training,  
accreditation, mental  
health services and  
accountability.**

# Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

Title IV-E funding for time-limited (12 months) prevention services to provide services for children and youth who at risk of entering foster care

Provide comprehensive prevention and early intervention services that will reduce entries or re-entries into foster care.

# New and Renewed Goals



Prevent children from entering foster care by providing mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and in-home parenting skill training for families.

Improve well-being of children already in foster care by reducing placements of children in group care.

# FFPSA Part I – Prevention

States receive funding to provide services for children who are candidates for foster care or are pregnant/parenting foster youth and the parents or kin caregivers of the children.

Services available for federal reimbursement

- Mental health
- Substance abuse prevention and treatment
- In-home parenting skill-based

# Part I - Potential Candidates

Receiving Voluntary or Court-Ordered Family Maintenance services

Probation youth subject to a petition under WIC 602

Guardianship or adoption at risk of disruption

Indian children

After ER investigation, substantiated or inconclusive disposition and no case opened

Have siblings in foster care

Homeless and runaway youth (if due MH or SA issues in family)

Substance exposed newborns

Trafficked children

Exposed to DV (services for non-abusing caretaker)

Caretakers have substance use disorder

**Potential Candidates are children in these categories (above) AND at imminent risk of foster care entry.**

# Three Pathways to Prevention

## Community

Anyone can refer a family to a Community Based Organization who will work with the family.

## Agency

For families who already have some involvement with CFS (voluntary case, etc)

## Tribal

For Indian children at risk of entering the Child Welfare System.

# Part IV – Ensuring Necessity of Placements that are not Foster Family Homes

After 2 weeks, no federal reimbursement for group home placements, unless the child is in:

- A Qualified Residential Treatment Program
- A setting that specializes in providing prenatal, post-partum, or parenting services for youth
- Supervised independent living for youth over 18
- CSEC youth

Results in new case plan requirements, new court hearing requirements, and requirement for CFTs



# Part IV – QRTP Components

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A trauma-informed treatment model that treats children with emotional or behavioral disorders

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Registered or licensed nursing staff and clinical staff onsite

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Outreach to child's family members

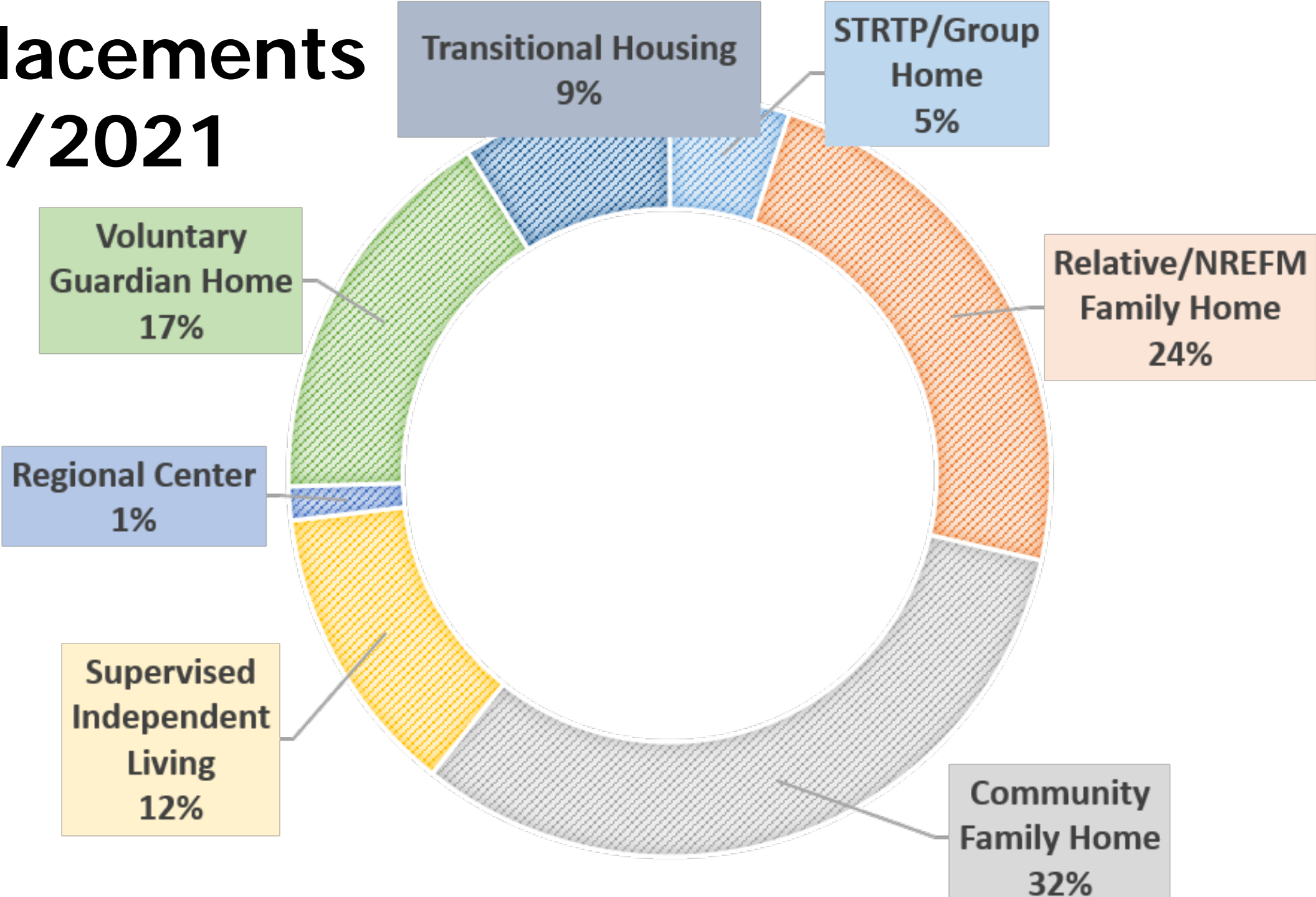
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Integration of family members into child's treatment process

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Discharge planning and family-based care and supports for 6 months after child leaves (possibly high fidelity wraparound)

# CCC Placements 08/2021



# Part IV – Qualified Individual

Assess and document child's need for QRTP placement, including barriers to family based placement

Work with the family and permanency team

Identify treatment needs and goals

# Part IV - Court Involvement

Within 60 days of QRTP placement, the juvenile court will review and approve/disapprove the placement.

If the placement is not approved, the county has 30 days to move the child to an approved placement and would no longer be eligible to federal funds 30 days after the determination was made.

# Ongoing STRTP/Q RTP Challenges

## Youth whose needs exceed STRTP/Q RTP level

- 5150's
- Substance Abuse Treatment needs
- CSEC involvement

## High costs and sustainability of the STRTP/Q RTP model

# Fiscal Impact

## One Time Transition Grant funding available

- to plan prevention activities (at least 50%), build or expand Evidence Based Practices, plan Part IV requirements, evaluate Evidence Based Practices, other Title IV-B activities (PSSF)

**Existing Title IV-E funds may need to be redirected to meet the requirements of FFPSA while still meeting the needs of the current families being served.**

## Cost of high level placements is a concern, in instances where:

- Court does not approve QRTP placement
- STRTP does not meet QRTP regulations
- Child is not admitted to any of the QRTP facilities (needs exceed the level of services provided)

# California's Vision

- *To transform from a child protection and foster care system for children who have been harmed to a child well-being system that prevents child maltreatment.*
- *To build a child abuse prevention system that increases equitable approaches and addressing disparities faced by Black, Native American, Latino, and LGBTQ families and youth.*
- *We are committed to adapting to the evolving needs of our population, and seeking the best possible outcomes for youth in our care.*

