

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES

*Building Brighter Futures Together*

# Continuum of Care Reform Update

August 4, 2023

Marla Stuart, EHSD Director  
info@ehsd.cccounty.us | 925-608-4800

# 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)

## Federal legislation:

- **Title IV-E funding for time-limited prevention services to provide services for children at risk of entering foster care.**
- **Provide comprehensive prevention and early intervention services that will reduce entries or re-entries into foster care.**



**CCR**

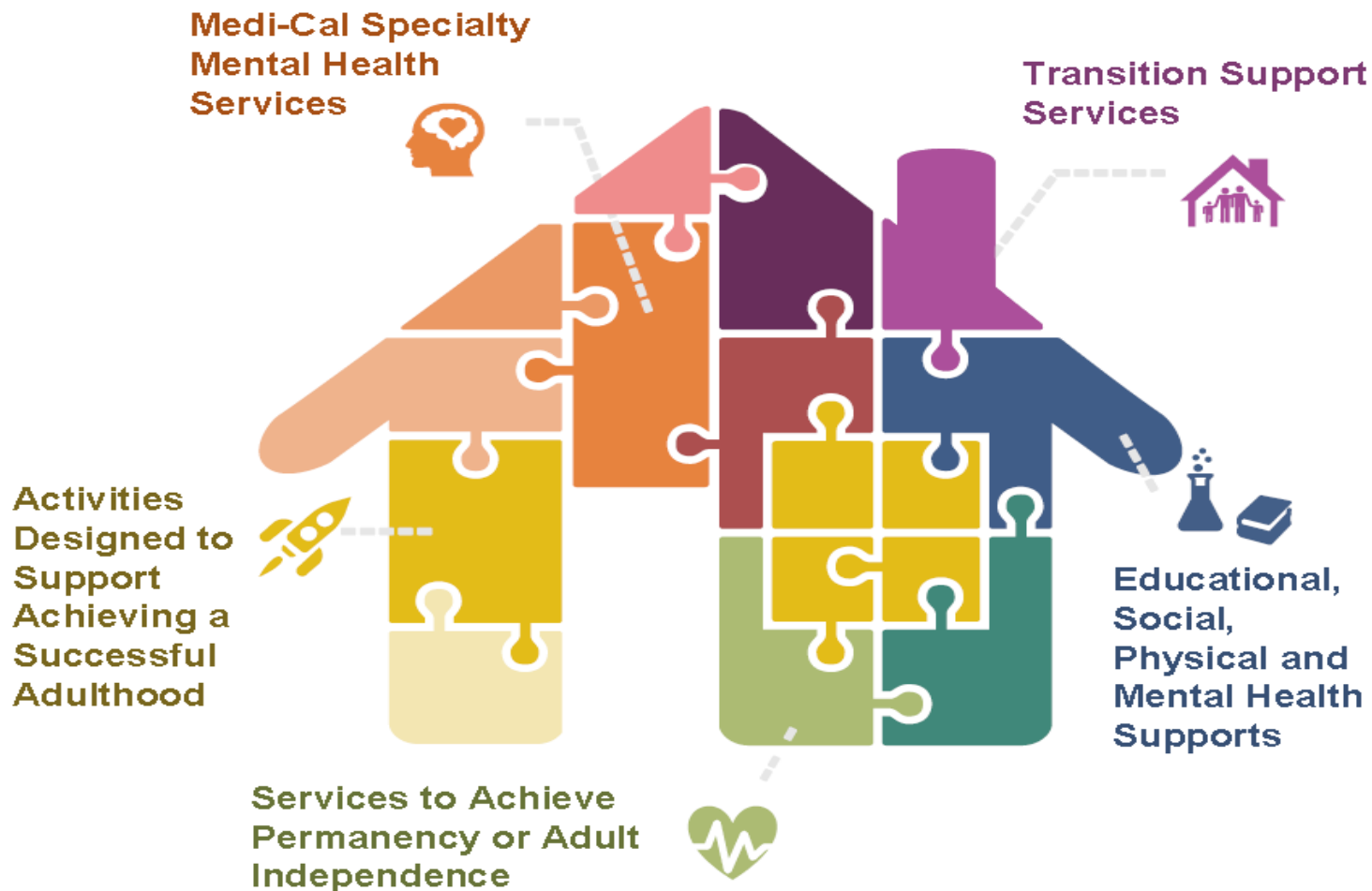
**FFPSA**

# 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 in group care.**

## Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP)



# Ongoing STRTP Challenges

**Youth whose needs exceed STRTP level.**

**High costs and sustainability of the STRTP model.**

- CCC has lost 24 in-county STRTP beds from 3 regularly used providers. Additional providers are working at reduced capacity.

# Serving Youth with Unmet Complex Needs

**In 2023, several CA counties have faced lawsuits, fines and citations for temporarily housing foster youth in their offices, hotels or other unlicensed placements.**

**Social Workers in other counties supervising these youth in unlicensed placement settings have been assaulted.**

**CCC contracts with two 72 hour transitional shelter care facilities which has mitigated the need to have youth in our offices when we cannot locate an appropriate treatment program.**

# Two contracts awarded based on RFP

## 1. Enhanced Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP)

- **Capacity: 2**
- **Available: July 1, 2023**

## 2. Two Enhanced Intensive Services Foster Care (E-ISFC) Homes

- **Capacity: 1 in each home**
- **Available: End of 2023**



# Collaboration

**CFS meets regularly with new and existing STRTP providers to provide ongoing support and partnership and offers one-to-one support as needed.**

**Effective 10/01/2023, Behavioral Health will provide MH support to youth at our Transitional Shelter Care Facilities.**

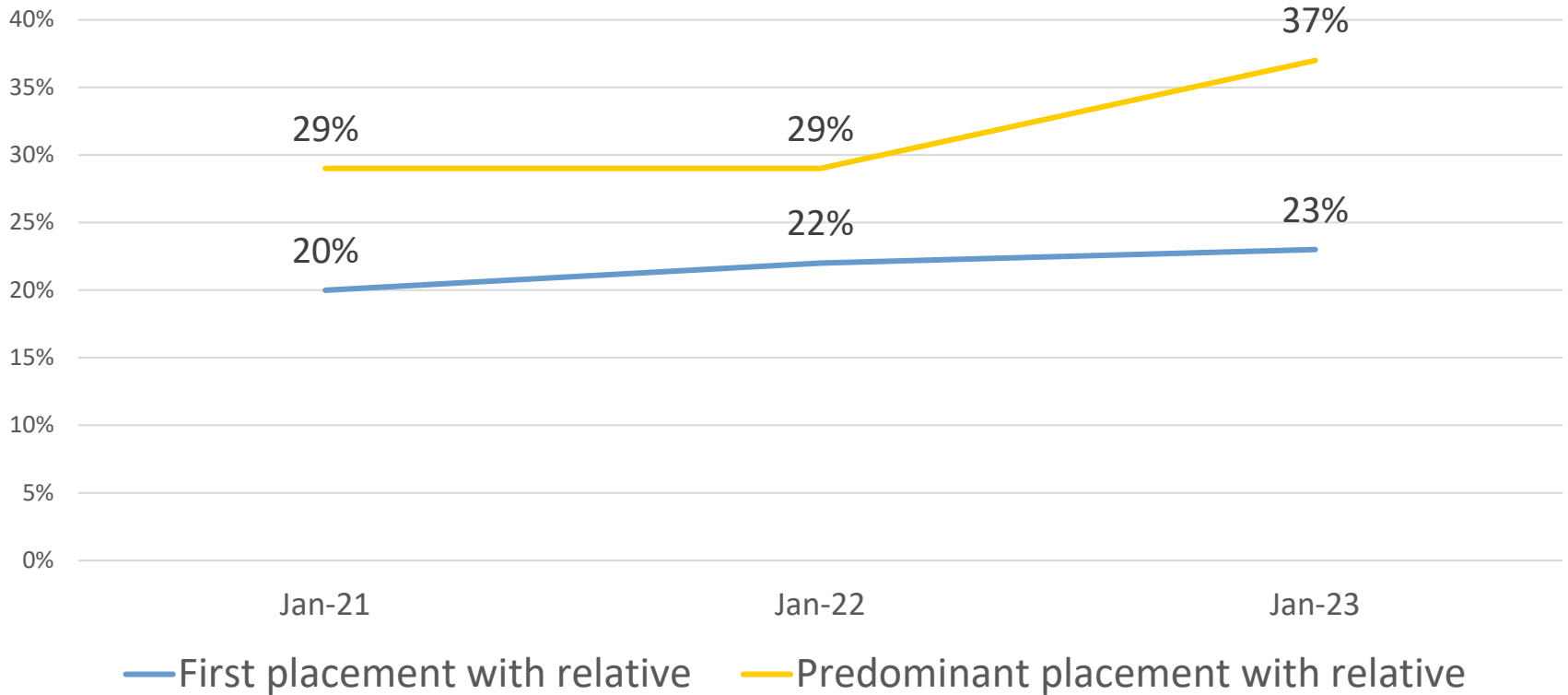
**CFS and Behavioral Health are teaming to support in-county STRTPs with Mental Health Contracts so they can provide specialty mental health services to youth in placement.**

# **Additional Collaboration**

**Behavioral Health's Crisis Stabilization unit opening this fall will assist as an additional bridge between Psychiatric Emergency and placement.**

**CFS and Behavioral Health regularly review staffing challenges in order to try to best utilize any available staff and redefine roles as needed to improve supports to our children and families.**

# Increase in Relative Placement



# Fiscal Impact

**Cost of high level placements, in instances where:**

- **Court does not approve QRTP placement**
- **STRTP does not meet federal QRTP regulations.**
- **Child is not admitted to any of the QRTP facilities.**

**The state has set up Complex Care funding and Capacity Building Allocations.**

- **Concerns about long term solutions with short term funding.**

# Goals

- *To continue to build and support a community system of care with child well-being at the core.*
- ***We are committed to adapting to the evolving needs of our population, and seeking the best possible outcomes for youth in our care.***