



**SAN BENITO COUNTY
AGENDA ITEM
TRANSMITTAL FORM**

Dom Zanger
District No. 1
Vice-Chair

Kollin Kosmicki
District No. 2
Chair

Mindy Sotelo
District No. 3

Angela Curro
District No. 4

Ignacio Velazquez
District No. 5

Item Number: 1.23

MEETING DATE: 05/20/2025

DEPARTMENT: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Yolanda Beltran

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Tracey Belton

SUBJECT:

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY- T. BELTON

Approve the non-monetary San Benito County Child and Family Services Review - System Improvement Plan (SIP) for the period of August 14, 2024 through August 14, 2029, and designate the San Benito County Health and Human Services Agency as the public agency to administer the Child Abuse Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment (CAPIT) funds, the Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) funds, and the Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) funds allocated annually by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) with authorizing signatures from HHSA Director, Chief Probation Officer, and Board Chair.
SBC FILE NUMBER: 130

AGENDA SECTION:

CONSENT AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

The California Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR) System was established through the Child Welfare System Improvement and Accountability Act (AB 636) in 2001 and is modeled after the federal CFSR. Its goal is to improve child welfare outcomes for children while holding county and state agencies accountable for these outcomes. The system involves several key processes, including the County Self-Assessment (CSA), the development of a five-year System Improvement Plan (SIP), annual SIP progress reports, and quarterly monitoring of SIP strategies. All 58 counties in California participate in this review process for continuous quality improvement purposes.

The SIP serves as an operational agreement between the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), county child welfare departments, and probation placement agencies. It outlines specific measurable improvements to the child welfare system, focusing on strengthening families and helping children find permanent families when they cannot return to their original homes. It also includes a coordinated service plan using prevention, early intervention, and treatment funds (CAPIT, CBCAP, and PSSF). While flexible and subject to annual updates, the SIP is designed to address barriers and challenges and may be adjusted as needed.

The SIP development process involves collaboration between the C-CFSR team, stakeholders, and county agencies, continuing the work begun in with a County Self Assessment (CSA). It identifies areas needing improvement and prioritizes resources accordingly. Counties work with CDSS to make final decisions on strategies and resource allocation, and the SIP may diverge from existing service plans if new needs are identified.

San Benito County began preparation of its County Self-Assessment (CSA) with initial meetings in 2023. The CSA Core Leadership Team met regularly through August 2024, until the 2024-2029 proposed SIP strategies were finalized and later approved by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) on March 21, 2025. Through this period, participants engaged a variety of stakeholders including other County partners, community-based organizations, staff and the clients we serve. Focus groups were held with CPS parents, youth, caregivers, the court, management groups, and staff, and with Probation parents, youth, caregivers, the court, and Probation officers and supervisors.

The SIP is updated annually each year until its completion in 2029. This update provides the County with a mechanism through which it can report on progress toward meeting agreed upon improvement goals. Each quarter data reports are reviewed which include the safety, permanency, and well-being Child and Family Services Review outcomes. This regular monitoring will ensure that strategies can be adjusted when needed and to recognize success in meeting goals as a program.

The focus of this SIP is to increase permanency rates for children entering the foster care system within 12 months of their initial entry date. Permanency is defined as reunification with a parent or legal guardian, legal guardianship establishment, or adoption. Strategies to improve these outcomes include:

Child Welfare:

1. Enhancing engagement efforts through the use of Motivational Interviewing. This will help parents successfully complete their case plan activities and reunify with their children within twelve (12) months or less of entering the foster care system.
2. Child Welfare will improve its outreach and engagement efforts with fathers to help them successfully reunify with their children within twelve (12) months or less of entering the foster care system.

Juvenile Probation:

1. Strengthen family finding and engagement, case planning, and the documentation of those efforts.

This System Improvement Plan is approved by the California Department of Social Services and requires

Board approval in order for implementation to begin.

RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:

N/A

CONTRACT NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:

No

RFP AND BID HISTORY:

N/A

LAST CONTRACT AMOUNT OR N/A:

N/A

CONTRACT HISTORY (Describe all amendments and previous contracts):

Previous designee agreement was signed in February 2020.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 1. Operational Development & Excellence

No

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 2. Planning And Sustainable Growth

No

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 3. Technology

No

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 4. Community Engagement

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 5. Health & Safe Community

Yes

BUDGETED:

N/A

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT NEEDED:

N/A

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

UNFUNDED MANDATE:

N/A

SBC BUDGET LINE ITEM NUMBER:

N/A

CURRENT FY COST:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

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ATTACHMENTS:

[System Improvement Plan - SIP](#)