

Efforts to Address the Behavioral Health Needs of Children in Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Care

Network Expansion

- Parent engagement models at four co-located sites, including coordinated care, parent support initiatives, family assessment and engaging parents in adult services
- Co-located crisis providers at the DCS AHIT and Placement Centers
- Daily behavioral health services/support at the DCS AHIT and Placement Center to address immediate behavioral health needs and ensure timely enrollment in behavioral health services
- Increasing funding for DCS TIP programming at JFCS and SWN due to increased capacity needs for transition-age youth
- Development of specialized groups at Canyon State Academy on Anger Management and Transition and Life Skills
- Increased funding to Rapid Response Program
- Added specialty DCS-specific Mobile Crisis Teams
- Increased funding and capacity for all providers to address complex trauma-informed care and trauma treatment
- Expanded services for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers
- Developed a Substance Exposed Newborn Services Program in collaboration with the adult SMI system and Southwest Human Development
- Increased trauma-focused CBT with DCS co-located providers

Training

- Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Caregiver Training Series (June-December)
 - Part 1- Trauma Informed Care: Overview
 - Part 2- Trauma informed Care: Birth to Five
 - Part 3- Trauma informed Care: Strategies and Techniques
- Monthly Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Navigation Forums
- Infant-Toddler Mental Health Training Series with DCS specialists and providers
- On-site community trainings for Group Home and Foster Care providers
- Sex Trafficking 101 for group homes, DCS staff and providers
- Scheduling presentations and discussions at each DCS office on navigating the behavioral health system and overview of behavioral health (in partnership with co-located providers)
 - Planning joint training of DCS YAP and BH providers
 - Working with DCS YAP leadership to provide joint DCS/Behavioral Health training to DCS/BH staff this summer

Communications and Collaboration

- Developed and implemented a comprehensive communication plan to target Kinship/Foster/Group Homes placements and DCS
- Developed and distributed communication/marketing materials for caregivers of youth in DCS care, online and in print, including: Foster and Adoptive Care Guide; 1-page infographic; webpage dedicated to foster/adoptive/kinship care; Training and Navigation Forum flyers; 12 Principles poster for provider offices

- Distributed provider notices reminding service providers and stakeholders about policies and laws regarding services for children enrolled with CMDP
- Social media campaign on Twitter and Facebook about requirements for children’s behavioral health, prohibition of waiting lists, forum announcements
- Collaboration with DCS, providers and other stakeholders on Casey Safe Reduction Workgroup and Title IV-E Waiver Implementation Team Meetings
- Initiating focus group with DCS to discuss needs for Transition-Age Youth
- Participation in Group Home Coalition meetings and Foster Care Licensing provider meetings
- Internal work group to ensure smooth implementation, coordination of House Bill 2442 requirements

Clinical Improvement

- Mercy Maricopa Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Care Oversight Workgroup (meets monthly)
- DCS stabilization and Rapid Response referrals taken directly from DCS foster caregivers
- Tracking and reconciling DCS children’s enrollment and service engagement through DCS Rapid Response Assessments; follow-up intake/service initiation with ongoing provider
- Continued weekly monitoring of system capacity of direct support and specialty providers
- Initiated one-year minimum BH enrollment for children in Department Child Safety (DCS) custody, with minimum requirement of one assessment contact per month