



Date: 11/19/2019

Time: 10:00am – 3:00pm

Location: Orange County TCD
1928 S. Grand Avenue, Rm A110
Santa Ana, CA 92705

CANS Convening Agenda

Our Vision: We envision a world where the quality of life for individuals, organizations, and communities is transformed into a healthier place.

MORNING SESSION

1. World Café - CFT/CANS Group Discussion
 - a. How do you get buy in from team members about the usefulness of the tool?
 - Importance of sharing “the why”
 - Highlight connection of how tool can help families. Show benefit to worker – better case planning and benefit of better outcomes for families
 - Get buy in
 - Use behaviorally specific language
 - b. How do you handle confidentiality in the team process?
 - Orange county reports – they obtain a signed consent form prior to meeting
 - Cover confidentiality at the beginning of the meeting
 - Sign in sheet has confidentiality information
 - Separate consent forms signed by each party
 - Father, mother, child, caregiver
 - Forms modeled after state ACL
 - Includes check boxes
 - Same form is used for CFTMs and CANS
 - Respect wishes of client – may ask people to leave temporarily
 - Explain confidentiality and what it means
 - Orange County’s CFT consent form is provided – see list of documents
 - c. What cultural or linguistic barriers have you encountered in the process?



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- Address in training
- Expand definition of culture
- How prepared are existing workers
 - Using other mandatory training
- Include different vignettes focusing on out of the box culture
- Examples of how to ask questions around culture
- Pay attention to cultural stress
- Core 200 Level course on ethnographic interviewing

AFTERNOON SESSION

2. CFT/CANS Snapshot Tool – Where do we Start
 - a. Report out
3. CFT/CANS Snapshot Tool – Where are we Now
 - a. Report out
4. CDSS/Praed Update/Q&A –
CDSS addressed the question regarding the challenges one of attendees and the county is experiencing with the signing of release of information, which is occurring at every CFT meeting. This process is creating barriers to timeliness and ability to move forward effectively as a team. Additionally, there was a question about parents not attending every CFT meeting, and therefore unable to sign needed authorizations.

Foundationally, the Child and Family Team (CFT) is a process in which the youth, family, the current caregiver, a representative from the placing agency, and other individuals identified by the family as important, work together to engage the family and their service teams in thoughtful and effective planning. A CFT shall also include a representative of the child or youth's tribe or Indian custodian, behavioral health staff, foster family agency social



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worker, or short-term residential therapeutic program representative, when applicable. The CFT members work together to identify each family member's strengths and needs, working to develop a child, youth, and family-centered case plan.

It is important to note that the CFT process is distinct from a CFT meeting:

It is important to recognize that a CFT meeting does not represent the entire process, but is simply part of a larger strategy, which involves children, youth, and families in all aspects of care planning, evaluation, monitoring and adapting, to help them successfully reach their goals.

(All County Letter No. 16-84, page 4)

Additionally, a CFT facilitator and social worker are essential in the CFT process, helping prepare team members before and between meetings to understand the structure of the CFT meetings and team composition:

Facilitation is a set of activities that supports the process . . . [and] [t]he facilitator may also manage the logistics of the meeting, including scheduling, ensuring participation of all team members, accountability for tasks between meetings, and high levels of communication between members as required.

(All County Letter No. 16-84, Attachment 1, FAQs).

During this engagement process, releases and authorizations could be signed. Some counties have a Release of Information form with blank fields in which team members can list authorized parties, as well date boundaries. Promoting effective and collaborative communication is also important to convey to CFT members, even after



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authorizations/releases have been signed:

Children, youth, nonminor dependents, and families should be made to feel comfortable and safe disclosing sensitive and personal information and families have a right to disclose to the team as much or as little as they choose. There may be occasions when the child, youth, or nonminor dependent, and/or family feels comfortable sharing some but not all information, or sharing some information with only certain team members. Professionals should take care to ensure members understand how sharing information can be beneficial to achieving goals, while also recognizing and addressing concerns.

(All County Letter No. 18-23, Frequently Asked Questions for the Child and Family Team Process)

Regarding the attendance of parents at CFT meetings, engagement is integral in CFT member participation. As a part of engagement with the child, youth, and families, CFT meetings are held in a location that is most convenient for the child, youth, and family. If a team member is unable to attend the CFT in person (due to proximity or other conflicts), it is encouraged that s/he participate by video conferencing or phone. (All County Letter 16-84, Attachment 1, FAQs)