

Pathways to Well Being – Glossary of Terms

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)	Adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood (age 0-17 years). It is a 12-question section located on the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) utilized for child/youth suspected of experiencing this type of trauma.
Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)	A term formerly known as Long Term Foster Care. APPLA is provided to youth age 16 and older. It is one of the permanent plans for a child if reunification efforts between the child/youth and their parent(s) have failed. The preferred order of permanency for the child/youth is a) adoption; b) guardianship with a relative; c) guardianship; d) placement with a fit and willing relative and e) APPLA.
Behavioral Health Assessment (BHA)	A comprehensive psychosocial assessment document that includes presenting problems, relevant mental health history, risk factors, pertinent family information, and a clinical formulation where a formal diagnosis is stated and an appropriate plan for treatment is outlined.
Behavioral Health Services (BHS)	A division of the County of San Diego's Health and Human Services Agency that provides a continuum of mental health and alcohol and other drug services for children, youth, families, adults, and older adults.
Care Coordinator	The BHS Provider responsible for intensive care coordination including developing the Child and Family Team (CFT), ensuring CFT meetings are occurring, assist in pre-planning for CFT meetings, tracking and adhering to mandated documentation timelines, case management services for the youth/family to ensure that plans from partners are integrated and coordinated and discharge planning including warm hand off as needed.
Case Plan	A case plan is a written document developed with the child and family involved with CWS. It outlines goals and objectives to resolve the protective issues that brought the family to the attention of CWS. The case plan is updated every six months with recommendations from the child and family team, and provided to the Juvenile Court along with a court report.
CCBH (Cerner Community Behavioral Health)	County of San Diego Mental Health Services Management Information System electronic health record for client tracking/billing and for managed care authorizations.
Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)	This tool is a collaboratively completed measure of child and family strengths and needs. This evidence-based, standardized assessment was developed to support decision-making, including level of care and intervention planning, to facilitate quality improvement initiatives, and to allow for the monitoring of clinical and functional outcomes. As a communication tool, it facilitates the linkage between the assessment process and the design of individualized service plans.
Child and Family Team (CFT)	The Child and Family Team (CFT) is comprised of the child/youth, the family of the child/youth, and the family's informal and formal support persons. The team is integral in assuring collaboration among those providing support and services to the child/youth and family, with the goal of achieving positive outcomes of safety, permanency and well-being within a nurturing environment. All CWS-involved, out-of-home Probation, and when indicated, BHS involved youth will have a CFT that includes the youth, family, and their natural support network invested in the youth and family's success. The CFT will provide input for assessment, placement, case planning, and youth's mental health and well-being.

Pathways to Well Being – Glossary of Terms

Child and Family Team (CFT) Meeting	CFT meetings are structured, strengths-based and needs-driven, with the youth's and family's voice at the center. Behavioral Health providers ensure that CFT meetings for youth identified as eligible for enhanced services occur within 30 days of establishing eligibility and at least every ninety days thereafter. CWS initiated CFT meetings occur at critical decision points in the case including within 5 working days of removal, for case planning, before jurisdiction, before court hearings and when there is a change of placement. All CFT meetings are guided by the youth/family schedule, location, needs and preferences.
Child Welfare Services (CWS)	A division of the County of San Diego's Health and Human Services Agency that works with families and the community to respond to, reduce, and prevent child neglect and abuse. CWS's primary focus is strengthening families so that children grow up safe and nurtured.
Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS)	A statewide computer system used by CWS to automate the case management, services planning, and information gathering functions of child welfare services.
Children's System of Care (CSOC)	An organizational philosophy and framework involving collaboration across government agencies, public, education and private sectors, families, and youth for the purpose of improving services and access to services.
Children's System of Care (CSOC) Council	A group of stakeholders that represent the family, public, education, and private sectors who serve as an advisor to the Behavioral Health Director regarding BHS Children, Youth and Families (CYF) services and needs.
Children, Youth and Families (CYF)	A division of BHS aiding children, adolescents and their families who are identified as having significant, complex emotional needs. CYF offers a wide variety of services, from early intervention to residential services. All services provided are oriented to meet the unique linguistic and cultural needs of the public.
Client Categories Maintenance (CCM)	PWB Identification and data collection tool for Pathways to Well-Being located in the County of San Diego Mental Health Services Management Information System electronic health record within Cerner Community Behavioral Health (CCBH)
Client Plan	A plan that represents an agreement made between the therapist and client to address behaviorally specific needs using measurable goals, objectives, and interventions.
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)	A form of human trafficking. It involves a range of crimes and activities involving the sexual abuse or exploitation of a child for the financial benefit of any person or in exchange for anything of value (including monetary and non-monetary benefits) given or received by any person.
Commercial Sexual Exploitation-Identification Tool (CSE-IT)	Screening tool to assess for risk of commercial sexual exploitation.
Community Treatment Facilities (CTF)	A sub-acute mental health treatment facility that is authorized to lock its doors and to utilize restraint and seclusion.

Pathways to Well Being – Glossary of Terms

Congregate Care	Congregate care is a highly structured placement setting such as Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs) and residential facilities. STRTPs provide treatment to individuals who need therapeutic intervention and specialized programming in a controlled environment. One goal of CCR is to reduce the use of Congregate Care for children and youth.
Continuum of Care Reform (CCR)	A series of bills enacted into law, created by the State of California with the intent of reducing the use of congregate care, increasing the use of resource families and improving the outcomes of safety, permanency, and well-being for children and families.
Core Services	Trauma informed and culturally relevant services, including Specialty Mental Health Services, Transition Services, Well-Being Supports, Independent Living Skills (ILS), and Permanency services, provided to all youth and children in the Child Welfare Services or Probation system.
Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS)	A probation screening tool which is a research-based risk and needs assessment tool for criminal justice practitioners to assist them in the placement, supervision, and case management of offenders in the community and secure settings.
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)	Trained and supervised volunteers who serve as court-appointed advocates for dependent children. CASAs meet in-person with the children typically monthly, provide support and positive experiences and make recommendations to the court children/youth. CASAs are a mandatory member of the CFT for youth with CWS involvement therefore are invited to the CFT meetings.
Criminogenic	Of a system, situation, or place causing or likely to cause criminal behavior.
Cultural Competence/ Cultural Humility	A set of congruent behaviors, attitudes, and policies that come together in a system, in an agency, or among consumer providers, family member providers, and professionals which enable that system, agency or those professionals, the consumer, and or the family member providers to work effectively in cross-cultural situations.
Day Treatment/Day Rehab	Mental health programs that include assessment, evaluation, plan development, therapy and collateral services. Services are available at least 3 hours each day the program is open and may exist in the community, on school sites, or within some residential treatment centers.
Developmental Screening and Enhancement Program (DSEP)	DSEP utilizes standardized screening measures for children age 0 thru 5.10 years, to determine if a child is on-track developmentally in language, cognitive, physical, social and emotional development. If there are any concerns DSEP makes referrals to services as well as providing direct coaching to parents/caregivers to support the child in meeting developmental milestones.
Dependent	A child/youth who is under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court (Child Welfare Services). A dependent child/youth has been determined by the Court to have been abused, neglected or exploited, or to be in danger of being abused, neglected or exploited. (Defined by WIC 300)
Detention Hearing	The initial hearing at which the Juvenile Court will either dismiss the petition or give CWS the authority to detain the child/youth, (usually out of the home) pending further hearings.
Dispositional Hearing	Juvenile Court hearing to determine, once allegations are found true, what the plan should be for the child. For example, should the child/youth be declared a dependent, in whose custody should the child/youth be placed, and the physical location of the child/youth.
Dual Jurisdiction	Youth who have been declared both a ward and a dependent by Juvenile Court. Not every probation youth who has an open CWS referral/case is a dual jurisdiction youth.
Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, & Treatment (EPSDT)	A Medi-Cal funding source (benefit) for supplemental services for individuals under the age of 21 who have full-scope Medi-Cal eligibility.
Eligible for Enhanced Services (Subclass)	The Eligibility for PWB and Enhanced Services Form describes Eligible for Enhanced Services criteria as follows: open CWS case, meeting medical necessity, full scope Medi-Cal, two or more placement changes within 24 months due to behavioral health needs and/or being considered for, receiving or recently having received intensive behavioral health services as listed on the form.

Pathways to Well Being – Glossary of Terms

Emotionally Disturbed (ED)	Children/youth who have a mental disorder resulting in behavior inappropriate to the child's age according to expected developmental norms. Emotional/behavioral symptoms significantly affect the child's ability to function in at least two life domains.
Evidence-Based Practice (EBP)	Practices that have empirical research supporting their efficacy.
Extended Foster Care (EFC)	A program that is available to youth 18-21 years old who were under foster care placement order at age 18. These youth are referred to as Non-Minor Dependents (NMD).
Family and Youth Partners	An overarching term for an individual with experience as a child or youth or parent/caregiver of a child/youth who is receiving or has received services from a public agency (BHS, CWS, Probation) serving children and families. Youth & Family Partner roles may include, but are not limited to Administration, Advocacy/Community Engagement, Training and Supervision, Support Partners (direct service), Peer to Peer, and Outcomes and Evaluation activities.
Family Maintenance (FM)	An open Child Welfare Services case where the child/youth is in the care of their parent, may be court involved or voluntary services case.
Family Reunification (FR)	An open Child Welfare Services case where the child/youth is placed out of the care of the parent, can be court involved or voluntary services case. The primary goal of a FR case is to assist the family in reunifying the children back to the parent's home.
Family Therapy	Psychotherapy conducted with two or more members of a family.
Fee-For-Service Providers (FFS)	Primarily licensed clinicians in private practice who provide services to clients on a fee-for-service basis.
Foster Family Agency (FFA)	An agency that trains, certifies, and supports foster families. Foster Family Agency homes provide specialized core services to children who need more structured care than what is normally provided in a licensed foster home.
Full-Service Partnerships (FSP)	Outpatient programs providing comprehensive intensive services that address client and family needs and "do whatever it takes" to meet those needs.
Family Urgent Response System (FURS)	Assembly Bill 2043, requiring county child welfare, probation, and behavioral health agencies to establish a joint county-based Family Urgent Response System that includes a mobile response and stabilization team to provide stabilization services for caregivers and current or former foster children or youth who are experiencing a crisis.
Guardian	Guardians are appointed by Probate Court to designate an adult(s) to fulfill the parents' legal decision-making responsibilities. Guardians may be relatives or non-relatives to the child/youth.
Home Based Family Care (HBFC)	A placement setting in a home with licensed foster parents, approved resource families, and relative caregivers in which core services are provided.
Independent Living Services (ILS)	Skills necessary to live as independently as possible. Such skills may include but are not limited to housekeeping, cooking, time management, shopping, laundry, and budgeting.
Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)	Federal law that that was passed to protect and preserve Indian tribes and their most valuable resource, their children. It was created to keep Indian children in foster care connected to their tribal communities and culture and placed in foster and adoptive homes that reflect the unique values of Indian culture. When involved, Tribal members are a mandatory CFT members.
Informal/Natural Supports	Individuals that can further support the child/youth and the family to develop a sustainable system of supports that is not dependent on formal system supports.
Integrated Core Practice Model (ICPM)	As a result of the Katie A lawsuit the ICPM was developed as a collaborative document created by California's Department of Social Services (CDSS) and Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) outlining the principles and values of integrated work between Government Agencies to include BHS, CWS and Probation to best meet the needs of the adults, children and families.

Pathways to Well Being – Glossary of Terms

Intensive Care Coordination (ICC)	ICC is provided through collaboration with the Child and Family Team (CFT). A CFT must in process of being identified or already established to provide ICC. ICC requires active, integrated, and collaborative participation by the provider and at least one member of the CFT. ICC is a service that is used for the identification and coordination of ancillary supports and systems which promote safety, permanency, and well-being. ICC services are offered to clients with significant and complex functional impairment and/or whose treatment requires cross-agency collaboration.
Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS)	IHBS are rehab-like services available for youth receiving ICC that are individualized, strength-based interventions that assist the client in building skills necessary for successful functioning in the home and community. IHBS is offered to clients with significant and complex functional impairment. These services are primarily delivered in the home, school, or community and outside an office setting.
Intensive Services Foster Care (ISFC)	A program providing intensive services and extensive support to a child/youth in a Foster Family Agency (FFA) or Resource Family Approval (RFA) home. The purpose of the ISFC program is to provide intensive services to meet the child/youth's needs, similar to services available in Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP), while allowing children/youth to continue to reside in a family setting.
Interagency Placement Committee (IPC)	A multidisciplinary team that includes Behavioral Health Services, Probation, Child Welfare Services, Public Health, Education, and therapists who review and determine if a child's behavioral and emotional needs require initial or continued placement in a STRTP.
Jurisdictional/Dispositional Hearing	A hearing in which the Juvenile Court decides if the petition has a true finding, and whether the Court will take jurisdiction over the child as well as where the child will reside.
Juvenile Forensic Services	Provides mental health services to youth in the San Diego County Probation institutions and youth transitioning from detention back into the community.
Katie A. Lawsuit	The Katie A. class action lawsuit, was filed in 2002 against the County of Los Angeles and the State of California by a group of foster youth and their advocates, alleging violations of multiple federal laws. The lawsuit sought to improve the provision of mental health and supportive services for children and youth in, or at imminent risk of placement in, foster care. California settled the lawsuit in December 2011, and in March 2013, issued the Core Practice Model Guide. In May 2018, the CPM was revised and renamed the Integrated Core Practice Manual (ICPM).
Licensed Group Home (LGH) STRTP	An unlocked congregate care setting, licensed by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Community Care Licensing (CCL), in which children/youth receive behavioral health treatment and support 24 hours a day. All LGHs are in the process of converting to STRTPs.
Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI)	Most widely used tool to screen for mental health needs for youth in detention/probation. Clinical scales include alcohol/drug abuse, angry/irritable, depressed/anxious, somatic complaints, suicidal ideation, thought disturbance, and traumatic experiences.
Medical Necessity Criteria	Title 9 (Section 1830.205) Medical Necessity criteria are summarized below: The client must have a diagnosis included in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, Fifth Edition (DSM V) that is reimbursable for outpatient services as described in Title 9, Section 1830.205(1). The client must have at least one of the following as a result of the mental disorder(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A significant impairment in an important area of life functioning. • A probability of significant deterioration in an important area of life functioning; or • Reasonable probability a child will not progress developmentally as individually appropriate if the child does not receive the appropriate services.

Pathways to Well Being – Glossary of Terms

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)	A voter-approved initiative to develop a comprehensive approach to providing community-based mental health services and supports for California residents.
Non-Minor Dependent (NMD)	Foster youth age 18-21. See Extended Foster Care (EFC) definition for additional information.
Non-Relative Extended Family Member (NREFM)	An adult caregiver not related by blood, who has an established familial or mentoring relationship with a child/youth.
Organizational Providers	Community Based agencies (contractors) and county operated sites that provide behavioral health treatment services.
Outpatient Clinic	Clinics offering services including psychiatric evaluation, behavioral health assessment, medication management, individual, group, and family therapy, rehabilitative services and case management. Outpatient clinics offer limited crisis intervention services during business hours. Services are provided to Medi-Cal children/youth and indigent youth through Mental Health Service Act (MHSA) who meet criteria for specialty mental health services.
Pediatric Symptom Checklist	The Pediatric Symptom Checklist is a 35-item parent-report questionnaire designed to identify children with psychosocial difficulties so that appropriate interventions can be initiated early.
Permanency Services	Services that work with children, youth, and families to strengthen and develop lifelong connections and placements to ensure that all children achieve stability either through adoption, permanent placement with relatives, long term placement with a foster family, or living independently in the community.
Pre-Adjudication	A court process in which CWS has filed a petition in Juvenile Court, the Judge has ordered a Prima Facia finding, child may be with parents in the home or may have been removed, and dependency has not yet been established.
Presumptive Transfer for Foster Youth (AB1299)	Per MHSUDS Information Notice No. 17-032 - establishes the presumptive transfer of responsibility and payment for providing or arranging mental health services to foster children from the county of original jurisdiction (placing county) to the foster child's county of residence.
Protective Services Worker (PSW)	The case carrying social worker also referred to as CWS social worker.
Probation	A period of supervision over an offender, ordered by the court instead of serving time in prison. All probation youth are assigned a probation officer.
Probation Officers	An officer appointed by the court to supervise offenders who are on probation. Probation officers monitor and work with probation youth, including dual status youth, to guide them and prevent them from committing new crimes.
Resource Families	An individual or family who the county determines to have successfully met the home approval process for providing care for a child/youth. It replaces the terms foster parent, adoptive family, guardianship families, and relative/non-relative extended family member.
Resource Family Approval (RFA)	The new unified, family-friendly, and child-centered approval process that all caregivers partnering with CWS would go through to be approved for placement of a child, as well as potential future adoption or guardianship if the child's family of origin is unable to reunify.
School Based Services	Outpatient and day services provided at over 360 school sites throughout the County.

Pathways to Well Being – Glossary of Terms

Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP)	Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP) are licensed by the California Department of Social Services and provided a Mental Health Program Approval by the Department of Health Care Services. STRTPs are residential facilities that provide an integrated program of specialized and intensive care and supervision, services and supports, specialty mental health services, mental health treatment; and short-term, 24-hour care and supervision to children.
Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS)	Medi-Cal term to define a class of therapeutic services made available to Medi-Cal recipients who are identified as needing such services in order to address significant problems with living. These services include individual, group and family psychotherapy, rehabilitation, targeted case management, collateral services, and Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS).
Teaming	The process of a group of people coming together who are committed to a common purpose, approach and performance goals for which they hold themselves mutually accountable. Teaming brings together child/youth and family, their natural supports and professionals to work toward a shared vision.
Temporary Shelter Care Facility (TSCF)	A 24-hour licensed facility that provides no more than 10 calendar days of residential care and supervision of children under the age of 18 who have been removed from their home as a result of abuse or neglect. For San Diego County, Polinsky Children's Center serves as the only TSCF.
Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS)	A short term one-to-one behavioral mental health coaching service for full-scope Medi-Cal children/youth up to age 21 and their families or caregivers. These services are provided by BHS contractors in conjunction with other treatment services.
Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC)	A service model which allows for a TFC parent to provide of short-term, intensive, highly coordinated, trauma- informed and individualized SMHS activities (plan development, rehabilitation and collateral) to children and youth up to age 21 who have complex emotional and behavioral needs and who are placed with trained, intensely supervised, and supported TFC parents. TFC is intended for children and youth who require intensive and frequent mental health support in a family environment.
Transition Age Youth (TAY)	A term used to describe young people, ages 16 to 24, who are developing the necessary skills to transition into independent adulthood.
Transition Services	A coordinated set of activities, designed within an outcome-oriented process, that promotes movement to a stable, permanent living, including services to become independent
Treatment Evaluation Resource Management (TERM)	Licensed private fee for service practitioners contracted with CWS who provide mental health treatment to children and adults with an open CWS case. TERM providers include Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSWs), Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs), Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCCs), and Licensed Psychologists (PhD/PsyD).
Trauma Informed Practice	A practice that focuses on understanding the impact of trauma on children and families and providing individualized services in an effort to minimize the effects of trauma.
Utilization Management (UM)	A system designed to ensure that the services provided to a client are cost-effective and appropriate considering the client's presenting problems, symptoms, and current level of functioning.
Voluntary Services (VS)	An open case in which CWS has not filed a petition with Juvenile Court with the intent to divert the child/youth from dependency by providing services. Children may either safely remain in the home or in a voluntary out of home placement while the parents accept and participate in services.
Ward of the Court	A child/youth who is under the jurisdiction of Juvenile Court and supervised by Juvenile Probation. Youth may be declared a ward after committing a crime. (Defined by WIC 602)
Warm Hand-Off (Pathways to Well-Being)	The carefully coordinated transfer of a client, who continues to meet eligibility for Enhanced Services (Subclass), to another provider who will be continuing Intensive Care Coordination services. The Warm Hand-Off should occur prior to the case closing to the current provider.
Wraparound	An intensive, individualized care planning and management process. The Wraparound process aims to achieve positive outcomes by providing a structured, creative and individualized team planning process that results in plans and services that are effective and relevant to the child/youth and family.