

All County Letter No. 22-23
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LETTER OF INTENT (Attachment A)

April 30, 2022

California Department of Social Services
Attention: Family Centered Safety and Support Bureau
ffpsapreventionservices@dss.ca.gov
744 P Street, MS 8-11-87
Sacramento, CA 95814

Director Kim Johnson:

RE: COUNTY OPT-IN TO THE FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES (FFPS) PROGRAM

The purpose of this letter is to inform the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) that Fresno County intends to opt-in to and receive State FFPS Program Block Grant funds for prevention services under Part I of the Family First Prevention Services Act and Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 16585 – 16589.

The county is opting-in as:

- Child Welfare Agency and Probation Department collaboration-opting in together
- Child Welfare Agency is the lead
- Probation department is the lead.

The county Mental Health Plan (MHP) was consulted and has been informed of the agency's decision to opt-in to the FFPS Program:

- Yes
- No

The county has hired/is considering hiring a FFPS Consultant.

- Yes. Name of Consultant Considering - to be determined
- No
- Unsure

The county's contact person on the FFPS Program:

Child Welfare Tricia Gonzalez, Deputy Director, gonzapd@resnocountyca.gov, (559) 600-2306
Name, email and phone number

Probation 
Name, email and phone number

KIRK HAYNES, KHAYNES@FRESNOCOUNTYCA.GOV
(559) 600-1298

AGREEMENTS

By choosing to opt into the FFPS program and as a condition of receiving FFPS program State Block Grant funds, Fresno County agrees to the perform the following activities:

1. Ensure cross-sector collaboration that is inclusive of all entities described in Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) §16585(b)(4) and WIC §16587(a).
2. Meet all applicable state and federal FFPS program and fiscal requirements for Title IV-E prevention services, including but not limited to, the requirements set forth in WIC Sections 16585 through 16589 and Section 471(e) of Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act.
3. Develop and implement the local Comprehensive Prevention Plan (CPP), which shall include the following elements:
 - A description of the outcome of any Capacity and Readiness assessments completed by the county that inform the plan's content.
 - A description and rationale for the selection of the candidacy population(s) to be prioritized and the services to be included in the plan.
 - The theory of change or logic model which describes the activities and intended outcomes for children, youth, parents, caregivers and families. The logic model may help connect the goals of the cross-sector collaborative to align with the intent of both the state and federal legislation.
 - A description of the county's governance structure or engagement strategies to ensure that required cross sector collaboration was utilized in decision making for the CPP.
 - A description of efforts to invite and engage Indian Tribes in cross sector collaboration and input into the CPP.
 - Assurance and plans for meeting the workforce and training requirements established under the state's five-year Title IV-E Prevention Plan. County Title IV-E agencies will follow the statewide curriculum to ensure that caseworkers within both the community and child welfare pathway are trained on all foundational requirements including the understanding of how the Tribal pathway intersects with community based and child welfare pathway services.
 - A description of how agencies will ensure that required cross sector collaboration is engaged in ongoing monitoring of the FFPS Program and how their input for will be incorporated into strategies for continuous improvement of the local FFPS Program.
 - A description of how the county will ensure that all Evidence Based Programs (EBPs), whether delivered by a contracted service provider or by county Title IV-E agency staff, will adhere to model fidelity protocols, and an assurance that the county Title IV-E Agency will participate in state

level fidelity coordination and conduct a rigorous evaluation of the EBP if required.

- Assurance that the agency will monitor child safety, including conducting periodic risk assessments. County Title IV-E agencies that contract with community-based organizations for services will also describe the process for how safety monitoring and periodic risk assessments will be overseen. Agencies must include language within service contracts that describes this process to ensure that roles and responsibilities are clear.
 - Strategies for use of the Integrated Core Practice Model (e.g., candidacy assessment, family engagement, service delivery and transitioning).
 - Inclusion of the county Title IV-E agency's spending plan which describes how the State FFPS Program Block Grant will be used for prevention activities and services and the extent to which additional funds are leveraged for comprehensive planning.
 - A description of the coordination with the local Mental Health Plan to ensure adherence to federal requirements that Title IV-E remains the payer of last resort.
 - A description of the county's plans to ensure the sustainability of services in the CPP and/or the barriers and needs to ensure that sustainability.
 - Assurances of all other requirements under the state Title IV-E Prevention Program Plan approved by the federal Administration for Children and Families.
4. Complete required asset mapping and needs assessments via cross sector collaboration..
 5. Contribute a portion of the state's MOE as negotiated with the CDSS.
 6. Create and begin to implement a CPP due to the CDSS no later than January 31, 2023.

Fresno


County further agrees that the funds will be used consistent with guidelines set forth in All County Letter XXXXX, including, but not limited to all written guidance by CDSS.



Signature of Authorized CWS Representative

4/27/2022

Date



Signature of Authorized Probation Representative

5/9/2022

Date



Signature of Authorized Behavioral Health Representative

05/09/2022

Date