



A9 Continuum of Care Reform – Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs)

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SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL THERAPEUTIC PROGRAMS (STRTP)

THE NEW ROLE OF RESIDENTIAL CARE

OVERVIEW OF TODAY

- Introduction
- Re-visit the big picture of CCR and purpose of STRTPs
- Expectation of STRTPs and use of residential care
- Encourage open forum to discuss policy and practice
- Getting to Yes:
 - Non-admissions and 7-day notices
 - What CDSS is doing now
 - What to expect moving forward
- Q&A

THE CONTINUUM OF CARE REFORM (CCR): OUR MISSION

- The CCR is an initiative bringing about changes in policy and practice in California's Foster Care system
- The goal of CCR is to ensure that all youth have a chance to live in a loving, caring, and nurturing family environment where their needs are met.
- Group homes (GHs) placements are NO LONGER a viable placement for foster youth
- STRTPs are a new form of residential care and will be used ONLY AS A LAST RESORT to help youth get back to a family environment as soon as possible.

STRTP BROKEN DOWN

- **Short-Term:** Not a multi-year placement
- **Residential:** Placement
- **Therapeutic:** In order to heal and get well
- **Program:** A specific process to support youth

(Ref: CCR CYC Toolkit, http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/Intres/jpdf/CCR/CYCCCR_Toolkit.pdf)

STRTP IN PRACTICE

- Core services and supports
 - Made available to foster youth
 - Trauma-informed
 - Includes specialty mental health services
- Individualized needs and services plan
- How is the STRTP meeting the unique needs of each individual foster youth they're presented with?
- What is the STRTP doing to provide normalcy opportunities for a safe transition into a family home? Preparation for adulthood?
- Aftercare and Partnerships? (More later...)

STRTP IN PRACTICE (CONT.)

- ACL No. 17-122, dated January 9, 2018
 - Details the Interagency Placement Committee (IPC), per Assembly Bill (AB) 403
 - Placements into an STRTP must be approved by an IPC
 - IPC not required for GHs with <RCL12, which were granted extensions for conversion to STRTP
 - Lists out best practices
 - Must consider recommendation of CFT

STRTP IN PRACTICE (CONT.)

- CFTs
 - Provides recommendations to social work staff for a child's needs and services plan (NSP)
 - What does trauma informed teach about how to interpret the behaviors of each youth?
 - What are the child's hopes and dreams?
 - What does the child love to do?
 - Who loves the child?
 - What is the permanent plan?

STRTP: THE FOCUS NOW AND MOVING FORWARD

- "One of the fundamental interventions of any high quality STRTP is to have a program that includes a collaborative assessment and transition planning process that begins in earnest the moment the child enters" – Sara Rogers, Chief, Continuum of Care Reform Branch
- What are the barriers to home-based placement? What is provider doing to mitigate barriers?
 - What is needed to transition youth into a home setting?
 - What are the collaborative relationships with FFAs? FFAs with ISFC implemented?
- The goal is not to stabilize in an STRTP. Focus should be to prepare and ready a child for stepdown into a home-based placement.
 - Intensive Care Coordination

STRTP: THE FOCUS NOW AND MOVING FORWARD (CONT.)

- Blends funding with functional and creative programs
- Aftercare Services
 - Wraparound approach for each child
 - Involvement with Intensive Home Based Services (IHBS)
 - Assistance with connecting child to educational services and other community services such as: sports, music, and other recreational activities
 - Respite network

STRTP: “GETTING TO YES”

- The expectation of STRTPs is that they serve youth with the highest of needs (short of inpatient hospitalization) requiring that level of care
- When a placement is recommended by IPC (with CFT consideration).
- Collaboration and partnership with county placing agencies, providers and mental health partners

STRTP: “GETTING TO YES”

- Non-admissions and 7-day notices (cont.)
 - The CDSS currently conducts technical assistance calls with counties and providers to gain a better understanding of the barriers.
- STRTPs to serve youth with the highest needs.
- Reviewing each individual's case plan from a strength-based perspective
 - Creating awareness with county probation and social workers that when presenting a case to a provider, to highlight the strengths the youth exhibits and what are best approaches for serving youth.
- Developing webinar to provide an overview of best practices and collaborative partnership.
- See ACL No. 17-122, dated January 19, 2018

STRTP: MOVING FORWARD

- Re-reviewing program statements for providers
 - Provider revisions and updates to meet current policies
- Tracking Mental Health Program Approvals
 - Providers have 1-year from date of licensure
- Updating program statement templates to include more thorough criteria for:
 - Trauma-informed
 - CSEC
 - SOGIE
 - Admissions Criteria/Intake Procedures
 - ...and more!




