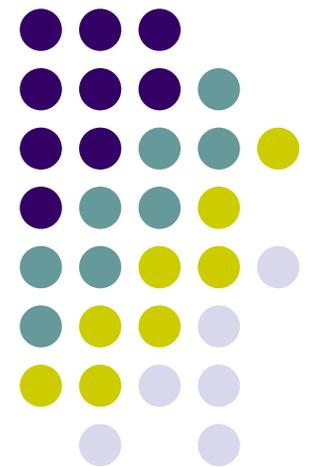


Resource Family Approvals

Stakeholder Meeting
8/21/13



Resource Family Approval Early Implementation Counties



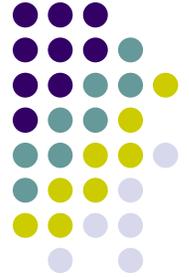
- San Luis Obispo goes “live” 10/1/13
 - All initial placements will follow new processes
 - Existing homes will NOT be required to complete the RFA process, but may opt to do so
- Kings, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, and Santa Clara counties will go “live” 1/1/14
- All other counties are projected to go “live” 1/1/17

Resource Family Approval Mandated by AB 340



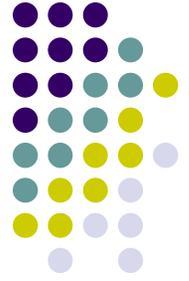
- AB 340 requires that CDSS implement a unified, family friendly, and child-centered resource family approval process that will replace the existing processes for:
 - licensing foster family homes
 - approving relatives and nonrelative extended family members (NREFMs)
 - approving adoptive families.

WIC 16519.5



‘Resource family’ means an individual *or individuals* that a participating county has approved to care for a related or unrelated child who is under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, or otherwise in the care of a county child welfare agency.”

Vision



A Resource Family approval process that:

- Is safe and protective
- Is family focused
- Results in permanent families for children with the absolute minimum number of placements and moves



Purpose

- End duplication of effort and processes
- Give NREFMs access to additional knowledge, skill building and support
- Build permanent families for children, which is very different than just licensing facilities



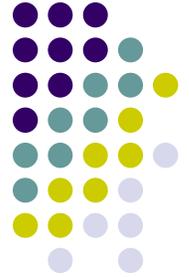
The Bottom Line

- Currently there are separate approval processes for each category
 - licensed foster homes
 - adoptive families
 - fostering families (including NREFMs)
- Under RFA, there will be one process covering all categories



Resource Families

- Adoptive, foster and kinship (related and non-related) families
- Their role is to provide stability and lifelong connections for children
- There is a clear and important distinction between simply approving homes and providing ongoing support



Existing Processes and Resources

Family Foster Homes



- Complaint process
- Annual Renewals
- Substitute Care Providers

Adoptive Homes



- Adoption Assistance Program
- Post Adoption services
- Wraparound Services
- Monitoring Services
- Post Permanency Mediation



NREFMs

- New NREFMs
 - Will become RFAs
 - Will undergo RFA Annual Renewal processes
- Existing NREFMs
 - Are not required to become RFAs
 - If not RFA, no change in current Annual Renewal process

Current NREFM Requirements



- Background Checks
- Live Scans (finger printing)
- Home Inspection
- Annual Renewal

Current Foster Home Requirements



- Background Check
- Live Scan
- Home Inspection
- PRIDE
- License Application
- Health Screening
- TB test
- References (3)
- CPR/1st Aid
- DMV Reports
- Financial Ability
- Citizenship
- Marriage/Divorce Docs
- Property
- Employment

RFA Requirements



- Background Check
- Live Scan
- Home Inspection
- PRIDE
- License Application
- Health Screening
- TB test
- References (3)
- CPR/1st Aid
- DMV Reports
- Financial Ability
- Citizenship
- Marriage/Divorce Docs
- Property
- Employment
- Home Study

County Responsibilities



- The county approves or denies and rescinds approvals.
- Appeals from denials are heard at a county grievance review.
- Appeals from rescissions and from county grievance review on denials are handled through the state administrative hearing process.

More County Responsibilities



- Pre-Placement Training
- Post Approval Training
- Monitoring of Resource Families
- Investigating Complaints against Resource Families
- Oversight of RFA Program and County Operations

Subcommittee Meetings

August 21 – September 6, 2013



- **Approval Process/ Home Study Review:**

This workgroup will review the current practice of the Home Approvals and Home Studies and put in policy the new RFA regulations needed for staff to follow.

Meeting Date: 8/30/13 10.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.

Co-Chairs: David Platt, Belinda Benassi

Responsible PRS: Sandra Jimenez

Subcommittee Meetings

August 21 – September 6, 2013



- **Renewal Process Review:**

This subcommittee will review current renewal processes, develop plans for assisting licensed foster homes in meeting RFA requirements, and determine future renewal processes for RFAs

Meeting Date: 8/30/13 9am-10am

Chair: Connie Willard

Responsible PRS: Sandra Pendell

Subcommittee Meetings

August 21 – September 6, 2013



- **Forms and Packets Review:**

This workgroup is reviewing the current foster care forms and packets and determine what changes are necessary to meet RFA requirements.

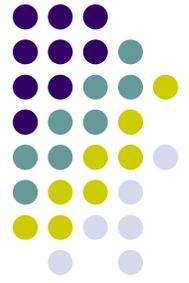
Meeting Date: August 27 and August 29, 2013

Chair: Patrick Considine

Responsible PRS: Diana Horn

Subcommittee Meetings

August 21 – September 6, 2013



- **Complaint Investigation Review**

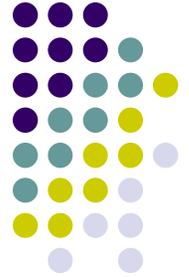
This workgroup will review the current practice of Complaint Investigations and put in policy the new RFA regulations needed for staff to follow.

Meeting date: 8/22/13 11.00 to 12.00

Co-Chairs: Shari Robertson, Anita Ruggles

Responsible PRS: Lynn Juel

Thank you!



Please be sure
to sign up for a
work group
before you leave!