



CalSWEC Research & Development Committee-Sponsored Projects Mapped to Priorities from Research Agenda

Project Title	Principal Investigator(s) Affiliation	Project Goal
Safety		
<p>Priority questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the relationship between the use of assessment tools and outcomes for children? 2. What organizational factors influence the decision to remove children? 3. What is the impact of Differential Response implementation on safety outcomes? <p>Other Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Is frequency/intensity/timing of services related to positive safety outcomes? 5. What is the impact of parental substance abuse on safety? (Consider studying harm reduction models.) 6. What is the impact of Domestic Violence on safety? 7. What characteristics of workers have an impact on decisions to remove children? 8. What are the effects of trauma of neglect vs. trauma of removal for children? 9. How do case management services provided by the CWS agency affect child safety outcomes? 		
Structured Decision Making (SDM) and Child Welfare Service Delivery Project (2005) Safety 1	Devon Brooks University of Southern California	To examine the implementation and impact of the Structured Decision Making (SDM) model on child welfare service delivery and outcomes in the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services.
Factors Leading to Premature Terminations of Kinship Care Placements (2005) Safety 2 or Well-Being 1	Janet Chang, Ray E. Liles, & Trang Hoang CSU San Bernardino	To investigate the reasons for premature termination of kinship care placements in two California counties, San Bernardino and Riverside.
The Effects of Computerization on Public Child Welfare Practice (1998) Safety 2	Dale Weaver, David Cherin, and Duncan Lindsey CSU, Long Beach; USC; UCLA	To study the impact of the implementation of CWS/CMS.
Evaluation of Contra Costa County's Differential Response System (2008) Safety 3	Neil Gilbert and John Krall National Abandoned Infants Assistance Resource Center, UC Berkeley	To assess the innovative Differential Response system developed by Contra Costa County Children and Family Service to address the needs of families with children under four who are referred to the Child Welfare System and are in need of services and support, but do not warrant an open child welfare case.
An Assessment of Differential Response: Implications for Social Work Practice in Diverse Communities (2008) Safety 3	Jill Duerr Berrick and Amy Conley UC Berkeley	This research-based project will examine agency processes and client experiences associated with Differential Response in Alameda County, along with preliminary outcomes and neighborhood factors.
Pathways to Collaboration: Understanding the Role of Values and System-Related Factors that Contribute to the Adoption of Promising Practices Between Child Welfare and Alcohol and Drug Systems (2005) Safety 5 or Well-Being 5	Laurie Drabble San Jose State University	To investigate the role of values and other system-level factors in facilitating or impeding the development of collaborative models for improved intervention and shared case planning with substance abusing families.

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PHASE 2: Pathways to Collaboration: Understanding the Role of Values and System-Related Factors that Contribute to the Adoption of Promising Practices between Child Welfare and Alcohol and Drug Systems (2006) Safety 5 or Well-Being 5	Laurie Drabble San Jose State University	To examine specific factors that help, or hinder evolving collaborative efforts between the fields of child welfare and the alcohol & drug system.
Substance Abuse Aides in the Child Welfare System: An Evaluation of an Intervention Program (2000) Safety 5 or Well-Being 5	Melinda Hohman San Diego State University	To provide supportive services for social workers who work in the area of voluntary services with substance abusing families.
Substance Abuse in a Public Assistance Population: Impact for Welfare Reform and Child Welfare (1999) Safety 5 or Well-Being 5	Melinda M. Hohman, Audrey Shillington, and Loring Jones San Diego State University	To identify possible policy and practice implications of welfare reform on the child welfare system.
Understanding Families in CalWORKS and the Child Welfare System: Case Management for Public Child Welfare Workers (1999) Safety 9	Richard P. Barth and Jill Duerr Berrick UC Berkeley	To provide information about families' experiences of participating in CalWORKS at the same time they are involved with the child welfare system.
<p>Priorities/questions not covered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. What organizational factors influence the decision to remove children? 4. Is frequency/intensity/timing of services related to positive safety outcomes? 6. What is the impact of Domestic Violence on safety? 7. What characteristics of workers have an impact on decisions to remove children?* 8. What are the effects of trauma of neglect vs. trauma of removal for children? 		
Permanence		
<p>Priority questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are permanency outcomes influenced by the number of social workers assigned to the case over time? 2. What constellation of services and interventions is most effective in attaining reunification? Adoption? Guardianship?* <p>Other Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. How do socio/economic and cultural and ethnic factors affect permanency? 4. What effect does the legal nature of the system have on permanency? 5. What factors contribute to achieving permanence? 		
The Effects of Different Types and Patterns of Services on Successful Reunification (2008) Permanence 2	Amy D'Andrade San Jose State University	The purpose of the study is to describe the types and patterns of services delivered to parent clients of the child welfare system; determine whether services ordered or utilized differ by parental characteristics; and assess the effectiveness of services in increasing the likelihood of successful reunification
Asian American Children and Families in Foster Care Systems: Factors Leading to Different Types of Out-of-Home Placement, Adjustments of Children to Foster Care, and Experiences of Immigrant Asian Families in the U.S. Public Child Welfare System. (2002) Permanence 3	Siyon Rhee and Janet Chang CSU, Los Angeles	To identify policy, practice, and service delivery implications for the use of out-of-home care for Asian American children and to evaluate service needs, cross-cultural experience, and barriers faced by immigrant Asian parents in Los Angeles.
Enhancing Positive Outcomes in Transracial Adoptive Families Following Implementation of the Multi-ethnic (2002) Permanence 3	Devon Brooks University of Southern California	To improve the child welfare system's knowledge of and ability to provide services and supports that can enhance positive development and permanency in transracial adoptive families.

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Culturally Sensitive Risk Assessment: An Ethnographic Approach (1996) Permanence 3	James Kelly CSU, Long Beach	To combine systematic risk assessment with ethnographic interviewing techniques. Child welfare workers will be trained in application of this method.
The Effectiveness of Court Mandated Intervention versus Voluntary Services in Child Protective Services (1998) Permanence 4	Loring Jones and Irene Becker San Diego State University	To compare the relative effectiveness of court mandated services versus voluntary services planning in child sexual abuse cases.
<p>Priorities not covered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are permanency outcomes influenced by the number of social workers assigned to the case over time? 5. What factors contribute to achieving permanence? 		
Well-Being		
<p>Priority questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the impact of long-term foster care placement (vs. guardianship and adoption) on child well-being? (Includes analysis of kin vs. non-kin placement on outcomes.) 2. Are there differences in child well-being based on level of training of service providers (BSW, MSW, MFT etc.)? 3. What is the impact on child well-being when foster parents work with biological parents?* <p>Other Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. What is the relationship between children's physical health and their well-being? 5. What are the most effective mental health and substance abuse services within the ASFA time frames? 6. Which CWS services are effective in reducing child abuse and neglect? 		
Children's Experiences of Out-of-Home Care: Elements of a Successful Foster Care System (1998) Well-Being 1	Jill Duerr Berrick and Barbara Needell UC Berkeley	Cross-sectional survey design using in-person interviews of children residing in foster homes and kinship homes in three California counties.
Assessing the Quality of Kin and Non-Kin Foster Care (1997) Well-Being 1	Jill Duerr Berrick UC Berkeley	To compare the efficacy of kinship and non-kinship foster care. Will aid child welfare decisions to use kinship or non- kinship care placement.
Kinship and Guardianship (1995) Well-Being 1	Jill Duerr Berrick UC Berkeley	To understand the best practices and policies regarding kinship care.
Factors Leading to Premature Terminations of Kinship Care Placements (2005) Well-Being 1 or Safety 2	Janet Chang, Ray E. Liles, & Trang Hoang CSU San Bernardino	To investigate the reasons for premature termination of kinship care placements in two California counties, San Bernardino and Riverside.
Mental Health Service Utilization for Transition Age Youth in the Child Welfare System: Tracking the Early Implementation of Proposition 63 in Santa Clara County (2007) Well-Being 5	Alice Hines, Peter Allen Lee, & Kathy Lemon San Jose State University	To Examine mental health service utilization by transition-age youth in the child welfare system; to assess the impact of mental health service utilization on child welfare placement and youth functional status; and to identify factors that impede or enhance collaboration between the child welfare and mental health systems prior to and during early implementation of Proposition 63.
Mental Health Service Utilization and Outcomes for Children and Youth in the Child Welfare System (2006) Well-Being 5	Alice Hines, Peter Allen Lee, & Kathy Lemon San Jose State University	To examine mental health service utilization by children and youth in the child welfare system; to assess the impact of mental health service utilization on system-related and child functional outcomes; and to identify factors that impede or enhance collaboration between the child welfare and mental health systems.
Pathways to Collaboration: Understanding the Role of Values and System-Related Factors that Contribute to the Adoption of Promising Practices Between Child Welfare and Alcohol and Drug Systems (2005) Well-Being 5 or Safety 5	Laurie Drabble San Jose State University	To investigate the role of values and other system-level factors in facilitating or impeding the development of collaborative models for improved intervention and shared case planning with substance abusing families.

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Substance Abuse Aides in the Child Welfare System: An Evaluation of an Intervention Program (2000) Well-Being 5 or Safety 5	Melinda Hohman San Diego State University	To provide supportive services for social workers who work in the area of voluntary services with substance abusing families.
Substance Abuse in a Public Assistance Population: Impact for Welfare Reform and Child Welfare (1999) Well-Being 5 or Safety 5	Melinda M. Hohman, Audrey Shillington, and Loring Jones San Diego State University	To identify possible policy and practice implications of welfare reform on the child welfare system.
Improving Educational Services for Foster Youth Living in Group Homes: An Analysis of Interagency Collaboration (2004) Well-Being 6	Jill Duerr Berrick, & Robert H. Ayasse UC Berkeley	To examine specific factors that help, or hinder evolving collaborative efforts between the fields of child welfare and the alcohol & drug system.
<p>Priorities not covered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Are there differences in child well-being based on level of training of service providers (BSW, MSW, MFT etc.)? 3. What is the impact on child well-being when foster parents work with biological parents?* 4. What is the relationship between children's physical health and their well-being? 		