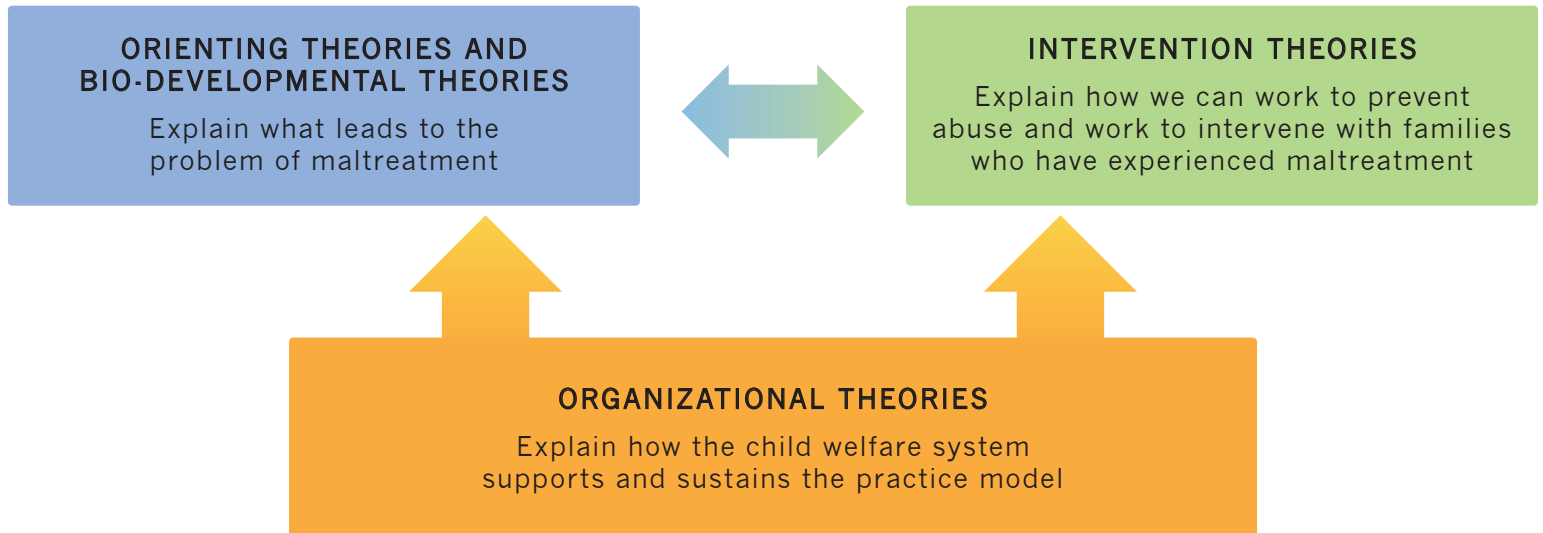


CALIFORNIA CHILD WELFARE CORE PRACTICE MODEL

Theoretical Framework



The Theoretical Framework is comprised of several theoretical approaches that work together to inform and support the implementation of the Child Welfare Core Practice Model.



ORIENTING THEORIES AND BIO-DEVELOPMENTAL THEORIES

These theories help us understand:

- How and why key factors such as current and historical trauma and other stressors lead to maltreatment and hamper intervention efforts.
- The importance of protecting and promoting attachment bonds, family connections, and the cultural group as we work with families.
- That parenting is challenging and all parents need help with discipline, transitions and milestones.

Using these theories leads to:

- Greater empathy and a shift in emotional reactions to families that enter the system.
- Develop and use strategies for building on strengths and working to enhance motivation for change.

INTERVENTION THEORIES

Intervention theories help us:

- Work with families to find and use services that will address the key factors to interrupt unsafe patterns: life situations, thinking patterns, emotions and triggers that contribute to maltreatment.
- Understand the sequence of events so we can help individual adults and entire families understand what needs to change and how to change it in order for children to be safe and remain in the immediate or extended family.
- Understand the needs of children and youth in foster care and adoption and help them keep ties to family and community and develop new attachments.
- Understand how to help families, children, and youth through transitions and delayed reactions to prevent placement disruptions.

ORGANIZATIONAL THEORIES

These theories help us understand how our system will support and sustain the practice model.