

What is a Child & Family Team?

Child or young adult, family members, trusted adults, and caring professionals who work together in achieving goals for positive change and improving child safety, permanency, and well-being.

Child and Family Teams

- Your strengths and your family's strengths are the focus in finding solutions
- Your family culture is respected
- You and your family are recognized as the experts in your lives
- Your voice and choice, as well as your family's, are central to the CFT process
- Develop plans to meet your goals and your family's goals



What should I expect at a meeting?

- A strengths-based approach to find out how to help your family
- Your Team establishes "ground rules" to make sure there is safe, honest, and confidential communication within the CFT process
 - » A facilitator will lead the group discussion
 - » Certain members may take confidential notes
- Your Team has a clearly stated goal for every meeting
- Your Team brainstorms options and action steps, with all Team members (which includes you) having a voice
- All Team members agree to complete specific tasks and responsibilities

For more information visit:

<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Continuum-of-Care-Reform>

Questions I may have:

How is a CFT meeting scheduled?

Your child or young adult and your family are the most important members of a CFT!

All CFT members make a commitment to attend meetings. Meeting times and locations are scheduled so that they are convenient for you and your family. Your Team will also work with you to communicate meeting information most conveniently: with a phone call, a text, or an email.

Will I need to pay for this?

No. All children and young adults in foster care and juvenile probation will be provided a CFT at no cost.

Who can come to the meetings?

Parents, caregivers, friends, and other people you identify as important may attend.

The child welfare social worker or deputy probation officer may need to obtain court approval for parents who have had parental rights terminated before inviting them to attend CFT meetings.

When will the CFT service end?

The CFT will be an active part of your child or young adult's plan as long as he/she is in the child welfare system and/or the juvenile probation system.

How often does the CFT meet?

You, your child or young adult, and the Team will decide how frequently the group will meet depending on your child or young adult's needs and the needs of your family.

How will I know what services are available for me as a parent?

Your Team will work with you to identify each family member's strengths and needs to develop a case plan that is centered around your child or young adult and family. The case plan has specific strategies for achieving your child or young adult's and/or family's goals based on identified needs.

A Team member, such as the social worker, deputy probation officer, and CFT facilitator will help coordinate services that are needed.

What happens if I am not getting along with members of my Team or if I feel uncomfortable with a Team Member?

CFT meetings are facilitated by professionals trained and skilled in dealing with different situations that might arise.

The Team will work with you and everyone involved to resolve issues.

Who attends the meetings?

The CFT composition always includes the child or young adult, family members, the current caregiver, a representative from the placing agency, and other individuals identified by the family as being important.

Required:

- Your Child or Young Adult
- Your Family Members
- Your Child or Young Adult's Current Caregiver(s)/Resource Parent(s)
- Your CFT Facilitator
- Your Child or Young Adult's Social Worker and/or Deputy Probation Officer

Required as Applicable:

- Behavioral Health Staff
- Community Service Providers
- FFA Social Worker or STRTP Representative
- Regional Center Staff
- School Staff
- Child or Young Adult's Educational Rights Holder
- Tribe or Indian Custodian

Suggested Team Members:

- Your Friends/Neighbors
- Your Child or Young Adult's Youth Partners
- Your Parent Partners
- Your Faith Based/Spiritual Supports
- Your Child or Young Adult's Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs)
- Your Child or Young Adult's Coaches
- Your Child's Daycare Providers
- Your Community Members
- Your Other Natural Supports

What is my role as a member?

- Your family is at the center of this process and the most important part of the team.
- Attending every meeting is part of the plan so the Team can hear from you and your child or young adult directly.
- The Team needs and wants to hear what you say! Share your opinions, thoughts, and concerns.

Who do you count on as a support person? A friend? A neighbor? Invite them to be part of the Team, too!



Team Members

OUR TEAM MEMBERS	
Name	
Phone	
Name	
Phone	
Name	
Phone	
Name	
Phone	
Name	
Phone	
Name	
Phone	
Name	
Phone	
Name	
Phone	
Name	
Phone	

OUR NEXT MEETING	
Date	
Time	
Location	

Child and Family Team (CFT)



Parent(s)

