

## 2011 REALIGNMENT

This section provides high-level summaries of the realigned programs, estimated caseloads for programs or services, histories of rate changes, links to other related information in this binder and links to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) website.

### SUMMARY OF 2011 REALIGNMENT:

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-12, state funding for the following programs was realigned to the counties: Adoptions Assistance Program (AAP); Agency Adoptions Program; Foster Care (FC); Child Welfare Services (CWS); Child Abuse Prevention, Intervention and Treatment (CAPIT) Program and Adult Protective Services (APS).

Authorizing legislation included Assembly Bill (AB) 118 (Chapter 40, Statutes of 2011) and ABX1 16 (Chapter 13, First Extraordinary Session, Statutes of 2011), which also established the Local Revenue Fund 2011 (LRF). Senate Bill (SB) 1020 (Chapter 40, Statutes of 2012) established the Support Services Account by revising the provisions of AB 118 and ABX1 16. Specified tax revenues are now redirected to the counties' LRF Protective Services Subaccount of the Support Services Account on an ongoing basis.

### EXPENDITURE DATA AND DESCRIPTIONS FOR REALIGNED PROGRAMS:

SB 1013 (Chapter 35, Statutes of 2012) required CDSS to annually report to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature, and publicly post on the CDSS Internet website, a summary of outcome and expenditure data that allows for monitoring of changes over time that may have occurred as a result of the 2011 Realignment of the child welfare system. The report can be found on the CDSS website: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/PG2800.htm>

The ESTIMATE METHODOLOGIES section in this binder under "Realigned Programs" pages 121-125 provide the details of FY 2011-12 base year costs for the 2011 Realignment funding and also reflect updated assumptions for the federal, county and reimbursement funding.

Descriptions for each of the realigned premises from the 2011 May Revision are available at: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/pdf/2011MayRevisionRealignedPremises.pdf>. These premises provide full descriptions, methodologies and funding for the FY 2011-12 realigned programs.

### SUMMARY OF REALIGNED PROGRAMS:

#### ADOPTIONS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND FOSTER CARE PROGRAM

The following two tables provide a history of AAP and FC rates over a select number of years and the projected caseload by program type for the 2011 May Revision base year, FY 2012-13, and FY 2013-14. Summary program descriptions follow the tables.

**FOSTER CARE BUDGETED AVERAGE GRANT BY PLACEMENT TYPE**

The Foster Family Home (FFH), Foster Family Agency (FFA), Group Home (GH) and AAP grants reflect the combined average federal and nonfederal amounts

	<b>Fiscal Years</b>						
	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11*</b>	<b>2011-12**</b>	<b>2012-13***</b>	<b>2013-14</b>
FFH	\$689.37	\$688.33	\$729.59	\$753.96	\$905.40	\$932.03	\$956.72
FFA	1,668.78	1,792.70	1,778.74	1,789.32	1,642.66	2,002.94	2,056.02
GH	4,896.21	5,174.68	5,380.43	7,103.14	7,259.46	7,737.22	7,933.64
AAP	769.07	777.85	780.14	834.31	847.89	902.02	925.92

\* The GH rate increased overall by 32 percent beginning December 14, 2009, with CNI increases every July thereafter.

\*\* The basic rate component of the FFH rate increased by 31 percent beginning May 1, 2011, with CNI increases every July thereafter.

\*\* The basic rate component for prospective AAP cases increased by 31 percent beginning May 1, 2011, with CNI increases every July thereafter for prospective and current AAP cases.

\*\*\* The basic rate component of the FFA rate increased by 31 percent beginning July 1, 2012, with CNI increases every July thereafter.

**FOSTER CARE CASELOAD FORECAST**

	<b>Base Year</b>	<b>2013 May Forecast</b>			
	<b>FY 2011-12</b>	<b>FY 2012-13</b>	<b>FY 2013-14</b>	<b>Change (BY – CY)</b>	
		<b>Current Year (CY)</b>	<b>Budget Year (BY)</b>	<b>Caseload</b>	<b>%</b>
Total FC Caseload	45,857	43,930	41,534	-2,396	-5.5%
FFH	23,446	24,437	23,849	-588	-2.4%
FFA	15,378	13,037	11,761	-1,276	-9.8%
GH	7,033	6,456	5,924	-532	-8.2%
AAP	86,393	85,339	86,411	1,072	1.3%

Caseload trends for AAP and FC are shown under the caseload tabs on pages 33-34 and pages 23-30 respectively.

**ADOPTIONS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Authority: Welfare and Institutions Code (W&IC) section 16115 through 16123.

An overview of the AAP program is provided on pages 1-2 under the PROGRAM OVERVIEWS tab and the History of Major Changes can be found on pages 1-2 under the REFERENCE DOCUMENTS tab in this binder.

The AAP funding reflects the basic cost of providing financial support to families adopting a child with special needs. The AAP benefit is limited to the age-related FFH basic rate for which the child would otherwise be eligible. Additionally, the grant cost for a child entering the AAP on or after January 1, 2010, is frozen at the level provided at entry, i.e., no increases are provided based on an increase in age.

## **AGENCY ADOPTIONS PROGRAM**

The Adoptions Program is comprised of both Agency (Relinquishment) and Independent Adoptions Programs, but only Agency Adoptions were realigned. Agency Adoptions funding is provided for adoption placements through a licensed adoption agency for children who have been relinquished by their parent(s) and/or the parental rights have been terminated by a court action due to abuse or neglect.

Authority: W&IC section 16100 through 16106.

An overview of the Agency Adoptions Program is provided on pages 3-4 under the PROGRAM OVERVIEWS tab and the History of Major Changes can be found on pages 3-4 under the REFERENCE DOCUMENTS tab in this binder.

## **FOSTER CARE PROGRAM**

An overview of the FC program is provided on pages 19-20 under the PROGRAM OVERVIEWS tab and the History of Major Changes can be found on pages 33-44 under the REFERENCE DOCUMENTS tab in this binder.

Summary descriptions of the types of FC placements are shown below.

Estimated realignment expenditures for FY 2012-13 and FY 2013-14 by funding source are shown in the premise write up, "Realigned Programs", on pages 121-125 of ESTIMATE METHODOLOGIES in this binder. Federal and nonfederal average grant computations utilize caseload and expenditure data reported by the counties on the CA 237 FC Report.

### Foster Family Home

- Authority: W&IC section 11461.
- Provide 24-hour care and supervision in a family environment for children who cannot live in their own homes.
- Capacity of six or less.
- Licensed by the state or county community care licensing agencies or are approved homes of relatives or nonrelated legal guardians.
- Reimbursement rates range from \$640 to \$799 per month based on the age of the child in placement. A specialized care increment may be paid to a family home in addition to the basic rate on behalf of a federal Aid to Families with Dependent Children – Foster Care (AFDC-FC) child requiring specialized care because of health and/or behavioral problems. A county clothing allowance may also be paid by counties in addition to the basic rate on behalf of an AFDC-FC eligible child.

### Foster Family Agency

- Authority: W&IC sections 11463 and 18358.3.
- Nonprofit agencies licensed to recruit, certify, train and support foster parents for children needing placement.
- Primarily serve children who would otherwise require Group Home (GH) care.
- The FFA treatment rates are established by using a basic rate similar to the FFH rate plus a set increment for the special needs of the child, an increment for social work activities and a percentage for administration, recruitment and training. Reimbursement rates range from \$1,697 to \$1,956 per month based on the age of the child in placement. Reimbursement rates for Intensive Treatment Foster Care Program range from \$4,034 to \$5,581 per month based on the level of services provided to the child.

### Group Homes

- Authority: W&IC section 11462.
- Private nonprofit non-detention facilities that provide services in a group setting to children in need of care and supervision.
- This is the most restrictive out-of-home placement for children in FC, providing an option for children with significant emotional or behavioral problems who would otherwise require more restrictive environments.
- Reimbursement rates range from \$2,223 to \$9,419 per month based on the rate classification level, 1-14.

## **CHILD WELFARE SERVICES PROGRAM**

### CWS CASELOAD FORECAST

The caseload components of the CWS program are: Emergency Response (ER), Emergency Response Assessment (ERA), Family Maintenance (FM), Family Reunification (FR) and Permanent Placement (PP) components of the CWS program. Caseload trends are shown on pages 15-22 of CASELOAD in this binder.

	<u>Base Year</u>	<u>2013 May Forecast</u>			
	<b>FY 2011-12</b>	<b>FY 2012-13 (CY)</b>	<b>FY 2013-14 (BY)</b>	<b>Change (BY – CY) Caseload</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Total CWS Caseload</b>	<b>136,433</b>	<b>137,325</b>	<b>136,446</b>	<b>-879</b>	<b>0.64%</b>
ER	39,896	39,828	40,233	405	1.02%
ERA	16,162	18,115	18,468	353	1.95%
FM	23,257	24,528	24,394	-134	-0.55%
FR	21,644	21,566	21,896	330	1.53%
PP	35,474	33,288	31,454	-1,834	-5.51%

Authority: W&IC section 16500 and 11461(e)(4)(B).

An overview of the CWS programs is provided on pages 15-16 under the PROGRAM OVERVIEWS tab and the History of Major Changes can be found on pages 33-44 under the REFERENCE DOCUMENTS tab in this binder.

The CWS delivered primarily through the counties are listed below.

### Emergency Response

The ER services consist of a response system that provides in-person response, when required, to reports of child abuse, neglect or exploitation for the purpose of investigation and to determine the necessity for providing initial intake services and crisis intervention to maintain the child safely in his/her home or to protect the safety of the child.

### Emergency Response Assessment

The ERA is the initial intake service provided in response to reported allegations of child abuse, neglect or exploitation that is determined, based upon an evaluation of risk, to be inappropriate for an in-person investigation.

### Family Maintenance

The FM is designed to provide time-limited protective services to prevent or remedy neglect, abuse or exploitation for the purpose of preventing separation of children from their families. The Child Welfare Departments (CWDs) are responsible for determining the specific service needs of the child and family aimed at sustaining the child from the home.

### Family Reunification

The FR is designed to provide time-limited protective services to prevent or remedy neglect, abuse or exploitation when the child cannot safely remain at home. The CWDs are responsible for determining the specific service needs of the child and/or family aimed at reunifying the child with the family.

### Permanent Placement

The PP is designed to provide an alternative permanent family structure for children who because of abuse, neglect or exploitation cannot safely remain at home and who are unlikely to ever return home. The CWDs are responsible for determining the appropriate permanent goal for the child and facilitating the implementation of that goal. These goals are defined as guardianship, adoption or long-term placement.

## **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAM**

Authority: W&IC sections 18960 through 18965.

The purpose of the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-247) and subsequent amendments was to provide funding to the states in a basic state grant that targets statewide improvements in areas such as: expanding risk and safety assessments; assessing families' needs for services; and strengthening linkages between child welfare services, public health, mental health, and developmental disabilities agencies to screen children ages 0-5 years who have come to the attention of child protective services and are in need of early intervention services. Funds are also used to enhance the capacity of family resource centers and family support programs to provide services to strengthen families, and to provide training on the assessment and developmental interventions for high-risk, medically

fragile newborns. The Act consists of two parts: Title 1, General Program and Title 2, the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Program.

The CAPIT program was originally established by AB 1733 (Chapter 1398, Statutes of 1982) to promote prevention and intervention services for children at risk of abuse and/or neglect. These funds are also used to fulfill federal CBCAP grant matching and leveraging requirements. With the passage of SB 1013 (Chapter 35, Statutes of 2012) that implemented the 2011 Realignment, counties are no longer required to contract for services and may now use the realigned CAPIT funds in-house to provide direct services (such as home visiting, counseling, etc.) to the target population as long as federal match requirements continue to be met.

## **ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

Authority: W&IC section 13004 through 13007 as related to the County Services Block Grant; commencing with W&IC section 15600 as related to the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection and APS.

The APS program provides assistance to elderly and dependent adults who are functionally impaired, unable to meet their own needs, and who are victims of abuse, neglect or exploitation. SB 2199 (Chapter 946, Statutes of 1998), established a statewide mandated APS program and provided funds for expanded APS activities. It required the reporting of elder dependent adult abuse on a 24-hour emergency response basis, completing investigation and needs assessments and providing case management services. SB 2199 also required the provision of necessary tangible resources such as food, emergency shelter care, in-home protection, transportation and the use of multidisciplinary teams.