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Child Welfare Trends

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Presentation to the CARE Network Medical ECHO Series

A little about me...

Social Worker

Trainer

**CAPTA
Administrator**

**Kempe Research
and Education**

**Child Welfare
Caseworker**

**Differential
Response Project**

**Policy Analyst and
Scholar**

The diagram is set against a background of a forest with tall trees. It features three green rounded rectangular boxes. The 'Policy' box is at the top center. The 'Practice' box is at the bottom left, and the 'Personnel' box is at the bottom right. A light gray double-headed arrow connects 'Policy' and 'Practice'. A dark green double-headed arrow connects 'Policy' and 'Personnel'. A bright green double-headed arrow connects 'Practice' and 'Personnel'.

Policy

Practice

Personnel

Family First Prevention and Services Act

Public Law (P.L.) 115–123

Division E, Title VII of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018

- Enhances support services for families to help children remain at home, reduce the unnecessary use of congregate care, and build capacity of communities to support children and families.
- Frees up Federal dollars (formerly tagged for placement services) for use in prevention services such as:
 - EBP in mental health
 - Substance Abuse prevention and treatment
 - In-home parent skill-based programs
 - Kinship Navigator programs



FFPSA in Colorado

A Child Well-Being System

Family First Secondary and Tertiary Prevention

- Nurse-Family Partnership
- SafeCare
- Parents as Teachers (PAT)
- Healthy Families America
- Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)
- Fostering Healthy Futures (FHF-Preteens and Teens)
- Multisystemic Therapy (MST)
- Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
- Anticipated: Child First, Trauma-Focused CBT, Motivational Interviewing, High Fidelity Wraparound, Colorado Community Response, and Colorado Differential Response.

In addition to:

- Investment in robust primary prevention efforts
- Building multi-sector partnerships with common vision
- Maximizing Medicaid and Title IV-E reimbursements.

Supporting children and families

- Look for ways to support kinship providers (informal and formal)
- Partner with local agencies to streamline referral processes
- Consider getting involved in local community primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention efforts.

Public Child Welfare Personnel in 2021

Navigating a New Normal


- Worker relocation during initial phases of the pandemic.
- Challenges of virtual work while responding to a community crisis
- Decreases in reporting and downtime for reflection
- Increased attention to systemic racism in U.S. institutions
- The Great Resignation
- Transformation in the midst of crisis



Supporting the child and family serving system

- Foster open and transparent communication to build trust, reduce fears, build morale, and sustain community partnerships.
 - Ask for ideas
 - Recognize heroic actions
 - Acknowledge fear, anxiety, and frustration
 - Listen, and show your own vulnerability and emotion.

Adapted from Five Key Ways to Support Health Care Workers in the Midst of Crisis
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“It is in collectivities that we find reservoirs
of hope and optimism.”
— **Angela Y. Davis**