



Child Protective Services Housing Initiative

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How We Started

- ▶ Determined we needed a system response for child welfare involved families needing housing interventions
- ▶ Immersed ourselves in the local housing provider community
- ▶ Began collecting data to better understand our needs

Data From August 2016

Sample: 127 Families Receiving Reunification Services

Summary of Housing Challenges	
Number of Families that are facing housing challenges while receiving reunification services?	60 (47%)
Of those 60	
Actually Homeless	20 (33%)
Couch Surfing	16 (27%)
Living with one consistent relative but not stable	12 (20%)
Evicted due to loss of income from child being removed	4 (8%)
Evicted for other reasons	1 (2%)
Other	6 (10%)

Initial Efforts

- ▶ Creating partnerships with specific housing programs
 - Sacramento County Dept of Human Assistance – Housing Support Program (HSP)
 - Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency– Emergency Solution Grant
 - Pilot for CPS involved families

Initial Learning

- ▶ CPS did not understand the homeless definitions that the housing world uses
- ▶ Housing First Model
- ▶ Unique needs of child welfare involved families in obtaining housing
- ▶ CPS needs access to different types of housing interventions

CPS's Housing Approach

- ▶ Bringing Families



- ▶ Developing partnerships to housing providers
- ▶ Supporting collaboration between the CPS Social Workers and Housing Specialists/Field Staff

Where We Are Today

- ▶ Process created to identify families needing a housing intervention
- ▶ VISPDATs completed at CPS offices by housing specialist
- ▶ Direct referral process to housing programs
- ▶ Better partnerships
- ▶ Implementing the BFH Program

Housed – Since July 1st

▶ BFH

- VOA RRH: 11
 - One time housing assistance: 2
- Total: 13

▶ Outside of BFH

- HSP: 4
- P3: 1
- Relative Placement: 1
- Transitional Housing: 2

Total: 8



Some Successes

- ▶ CPS Social Workers feel supported to have system in place to identify housing need and direct connection to a housing provider
- ▶ The housing interventions we have provided and have supported timely reunification and case closure
- ▶ Social workers and Housing Specialist are beginning to work together

Why it is important for Housing and Child Welfare to work together

- ▶ There is often overlap in families being served
- ▶ Child welfare has resources
- ▶ We can do more when we work together

Contact Information

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Questions

