

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES – COMPONENT TYPES

Voluntary Family Maintenance (VFM) Services target children at elevated risk for child abuse and/or neglect, and their families without removal from the home. Services at this level are intended to prevent child maltreatment and the incidence of children entering the dependency system. This intervention is intended to prevent Court involvement and out of home care. Interventions are often home-based. Vendors will be expected to address any documented or apparent risk factors, enhance protective factors, and promote safety and child wellbeing by providing mental health services as appropriate to parents and their children when necessary to prevent out of home placement.

Court Supervised Family Maintenance Services target children who have experienced one or more incidents of child maltreatment, are at elevated risk for subsequent maltreatment, and are being monitored by the court to support their families and to prevent any further incidences of maltreatment. Children are at home with their parents; however, services are Court ordered and monitored to ensure safety. This intervention is meant to avoid out of home care and support families in increasing safety for their children. Vendors at this level will be expected to address documented or apparent risk factors, enhance protective factors and promote child safety and well-being by providing mental health services as appropriate to both parents and their children when necessary to prevent out of home placement.

Court Supervised Family Reunification Services target children who have been removed from their homes as a consequence of maltreatment, are under court supervision, and have plans to be reunified with their parent(s). Services at this level are intended to support successful reunification, whenever possible, prevent placement disruption, and assist parents and children to remediate behavioral health concerns that contribute to the risk of further maltreatment. Children in out of home care have to cope with some very complex family dynamics. The adjustment to having foster parents and their role in their care, in addition to their parents can be very challenging for children. Vendors at this level will be expected to address documented or apparent risk factors, enhance protective factors and promote child safety and well-being by providing mental health services as appropriate to both parents and their children when necessary to facilitate successful reunification.

Court Supervised Permanency Planning targets children who have been removed from their homes as a consequence of maltreatment, are under court supervision, and have plans for permanent placement rather than a return to their parent(s). The placement plan may include a relative, foster parent, adoptive parent, or independent living situation. Services at this level are intended to support placement stability and assist children and youth to develop the social and emotional resources necessary to support their eventual transition to independent living. Work toward permanency never stops. This intervention is meant to meet the well-being needs of children and youth while we work toward permanence. Vendors at this level will be expected to address documented or apparent risk factors, enhance protective factors and promote child safety and well-being by providing mental health services as appropriate to children and youth and their caregivers with the specific focus of increasing placement stability.