

Changes to Managed Care for the Child Welfare Population

Child Welfare Policy Roundtable

Managed Care Plan Model Change

Children and youth in foster care will be enrolled in managed care if they live in a county with a County Operated Health System (COHS) or Single Plan.

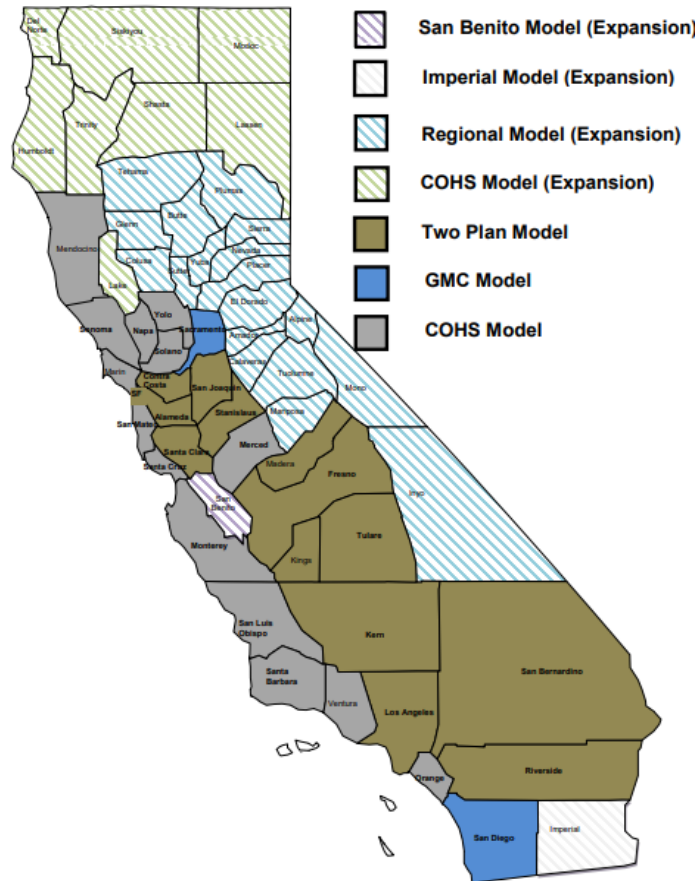
- » DHCS has conditionally approved Medi-Cal managed care model changes in 17 counties, including 12 transitioning to a COHS model and 3 implementing a new county-led Single Plan model.
- » As the COHS model expands to new counties in 2024, and the COHS-like Single Plan model is implemented in three counties, **foster children and youth living in COHS / Single Plan counties will be moved into mandatory managed care** (see map on next slide).
- » Relative to this policy, the Department is considering:
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Noticing timeline and approach
 - State and federal authorization updates needed to implement the policy

Currently, in counties where Medi-Cal managed care is operated by a single County Operated Health System (COHS), children and youth in foster care are mandatorily enrolled in managed care. Enrollment in managed care is voluntary in all other counties (*see map on next slide*).

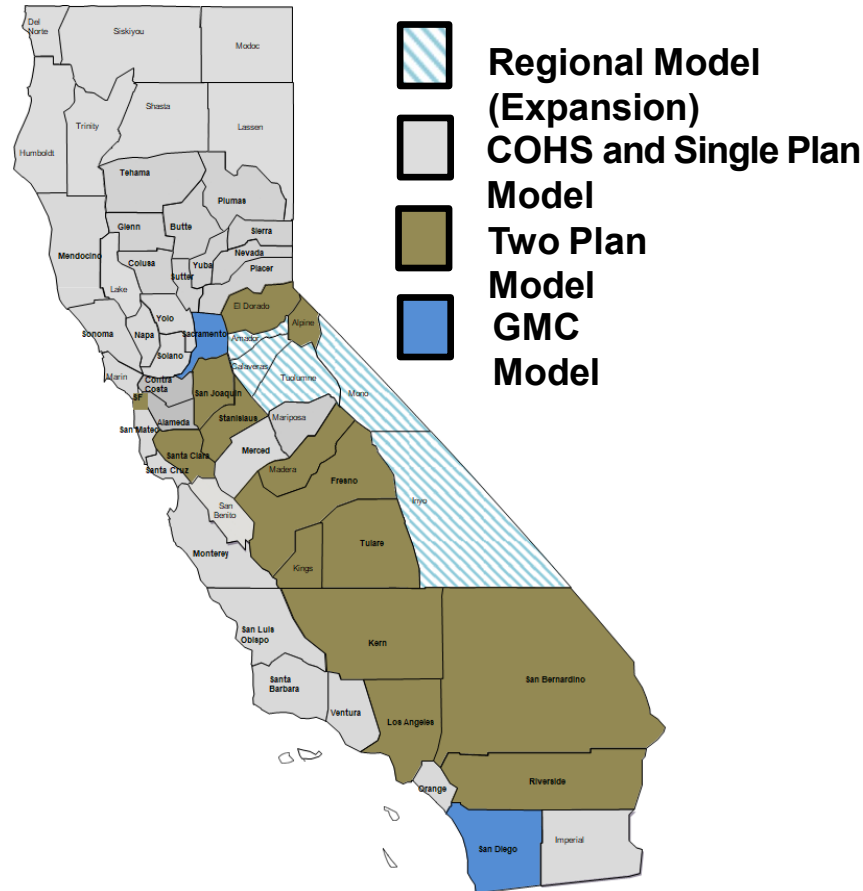
Managed Care Plan Model Change

With MCP model change, approximately 13,300 children and youth in foster care in counties transitioning to COHS and Single Plan models will be moved to mandatory managed care.

Current Models:



Conditionally Approved 2024 Models:*



New COHS Expansion Counties in 2024: Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Mariposa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, San Benito, Sierra, Sutter, Tehama, Yuba
(approximately **5,000** children and youth living in foster care)

New Single Plan Counties in 2024: Alameda, Contra Costa, Imperial
(approximately **8,300** children and youth living in foster care)

Proposed Approach: Foster Care Liaison Role

DHCS will require each managed care plan to assign a Foster Care Liaison to serve as the single point of contact for coordinating and managing issues related foster youth

- » The Foster Care Liaison will have expertise in child welfare services, county behavioral health services, and other sectors, to ensure covered health care services are closely coordinated with other services.
- » The Foster Care Liaison will be responsible for ensuring MCPs adhere with the MOU between the MCP and County social services / child welfare departments.
- » The Foster Care Liaison will be a management level position with responsibility to oversee the ECM providers in their case load, provide technical assistance to MCP staff as needed, and serve as point of escalation for care managers if they face operational obstacles when working with county and community partners.
- » DHCS will develop standards and expectations via contract changes for this role to ensure consistency for all MCPs. DHCS intends to develop guidance for this new position in coordination with key stakeholders.

The 2024 MCP Contract requires managed care plans to have an MOU with local governmental entities including social services and child welfare departments. The MOUs will address how MCPs and counties will interact including in the areas of care coordination and data sharing.

Discussion

