CA Alliance
State Budget Updates
Child Welfare Roundtable
July 7, 2023
Sponsored Budget Proposals

Foster Family Agency Bridge Funding – Championed by Asm. Rubio
The Alliance co-sponsored a budget request of bridge funding for FFAs until CCR permanent rates are finalized. Partnership with National Association of Social Workers-CA.

44% of FFAs were at risk of downsizing, 27% face the risk of closure, and 32% experienced social worker turnover in 2022 without extra funding.

Status: Final budget included $8 million of FFA one-time Bridge Funding.
Sponsored Budget Proposals

Resources to Address the Guardian System Caregiver Background Check – Championed by Asm. Gallagher and Sen. Dodd

The Alliance co-sponsored a budget request with a coalition of CCLD licensees for Guardian to hire additional staff to expedite Guardian background checks.

As of January, there were 25,000 backlogged cases.

Status: Final budget included $4 million over four years to hire six additional staff.
Supported Proposals

Presumptive Transfer Changes Delay
Delaying changes to presumptive transfer, pursuant to AB 1051 (Bennett) by one year to go live July 1, 2024 to allow additional time for IT system changes and discussions between providers and counties on payment methods for speciality mental health services for foster youth placed out of county in STRTPs. Status: Was included in the final budget agreement and pending signature in AB 120.

Prohibition of Adoption Facilitators
The Administration's original proposal was to increase enforcement on facilitators. The Alliance pushed the Legislature to ban the practice of adoption facilitators. Status: Prohibition included in the final budget and pending signature in AB 120. Prohibition to take effect January 1, 2024.
Supported Proposals

Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Interdisciplinary Team Trailer Bill – Championed by Asm. Ramos

The Alliance sponsored AB 2317 in 2022 to establish PRTFs as children's crisis residential programs to address gaps in the continuum. DHCS put forward trailer bill language to establish strict language on the interdisciplinary team.

Status: Discussions with DHCS continue to balance need to meet federal Medicaid requirements and fit California's staffing/professional licensure.
Proposals Not Included

Support for Family Resource Centers – Championed by Asm. Reyes and Sen. Alvarado-Gil

The Alliance co-sponsored a budget request, in collaboration with the CA Family Resource Center Association and Child Abuse Prevention Council, to support core operations work of Family Resource Centers across the State. $75 million GF, one time.

Status: Was not included in the final budget agreement.

Addressing Complex Care Needs of Youth in Residential Settings. – Championed by Asm. Ramos

The Alliance sponsored a budget request for bridge funding for staffing for STRTPs until CCR final rates are completed. The current rate structure does not fully cover costs to provide high quality care and pay livable salaries, and we have lost over 1,000 STRTP beds in the last year. $43 million GF, one time.

Status: Was not included in the final budget agreement.