

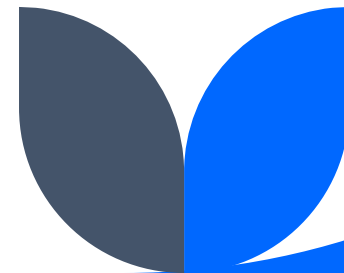
Child Welfare Services

Trish Shubert, Tarae
Wilcox
Jean Reyes



Agenda

- Suspect Child Abuse Reports (SCAR)
- Mandated Reporters
- Emergency Response (ER)
- Resource Family Approval (RFA)
- Family Reunification (FR)
- Family Maintenance (FM)
- Adoptions (AD)
- Permanency Planning (PP)
- AB12 (Extended Foster Care) and Independent Living Program (ILP)
- Community Involvement



Introduction Continued

Trish Shubert- (559) 852-2211 or Patricia.Shubert@co.kings.ca.us

Trish obtained her Bachelor's in Human Services and Master's in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. She has been employed at Kings County Human Services Agency in the Child Protective Services Department since August of 2005. Her first ten (10) years, Trish gained experience in Emergency Response, Court, Adoptions, and was promoted to Supervisor in 2014 where she supervised Emergency Response. Trish also supervised Family Reunification/Family Maintenance and was assigned to Program Development supervisor. In May of 2019, Trish was promoted to Program Manager where she oversaw Permanency Planning, AB12/ILP and Social Service Assistants. Trish currently oversees the following program areas: Emergency Response, Court/Hotline, Resource Family Approval.

Introduction

Tarae Wilcox- (559) 852-2351 or Tarae.Wilcox@co.kings.ca.us

Tarae is a former foster youth and emancipated from the foster care system. Tarae obtained her Master's in Social Work program from California State University of Fullerton. She has been employed at Kings County Human Services Agency in the Child Protective Services Department since November of 2011. Her first five (5) years, Tarae gained experience in the Emergency Response, Family Reunification/Family Maintenance programs, and developed the AB12/Independent Living Program (ILP) program for Kings. In February 2017, Tarae was promoted to Supervisor over the Adoption and AB12/ILP unit. In August 2020, Tarae was promoted to Program Manager, which is her current position. Tarae oversees the following programs: Family Reunification/Family Maintenance, Adoptions and Social Service Assistance (SSA).

Introduction Continued

Jean Reyes- (559) 852-2908 or Jean.Reyes@co.kings.ca.us

Jean began his time with Kings County HSA in 2017 as an intern in Emergency Response. Jean then continued in ER as a Practitioner and later in Adoptions. Jean served as Supervisor in Family Reunification/Family Maintenance. Presently, Jean is the Program Manager for our Permanency Planning, AB-12/ILP, Clerical, and Staff Development programs.

Jean has a B.S. degree in Psychology from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and a MSW degree from Fresno State where he graduated from the Title IV-E program. Jean's practice has always been focused on being family-centered, strength-based, and solution-focused. Jean is passionate about instilling hope in the work we do while working diligently to turn that hope into positive outcomes for the children and families in our community.

At home, Jean is an avid sports fan. Jean grew up playing competitive soccer at the Lemoore Sports Complex and was lucky enough to have played in college as well. Jean also enjoys live music, film, and mostly spending time at home with his wife and crew of fur babies.

Suspect Child Abuse? Report Child Abuse

24 Hour Response

ER Hotline: 559-852-2000

Toll Free: 866-582-8776

Mandated Reporter

BCIA 8572- Suspected Child Abuse Report Form

- Mandated child abuse reporters include all those individuals and entities listed in PC section 11165.7.
- Any mandated reporter who has knowledge of or observes a child, in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, whom he or she ***knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect*** shall report such suspected incident of abuse or neglect to a designated agency immediately or as soon as practically possible by telephone and shall prepare and send a written report thereof within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident. (PC section 11166(a).)
- Child Abuse Mandated Reporter Training

Types of Response

What happens after the call?

Immediate Response

- Meets criteria for response within 24 hours. (Kings 2-hours)

10-Day Response

- Meets criteria for response within 10-days

Evaluated Out

- Does not meet criteria for response. Referral will be evaluated out.

The child abuse reporting hotline is open 24 hours to receive suspected child abuse reports from Community members. Each report is assessed and if criteria is met an investigation response will be conducted within 24 hours or within 10 days.



Hotline Dashboard

In 2022 Kings received a total of 1035 reports of suspected child abuse.

Hotline Dashboard

4/18/2023

Month	January	February	March	April	May	June
10-day Referrals Entered	38	47	62	62	0	0
Immediate Referrals Entered	37	30	32	34	0	0
E/O Referrals Entered	110	115	127	130	0	0
Total Referrals Received by Hotline	185	192	221	226	0	0

Emergency Response

- If an investigation reveals a child is at risk and/or unsafe due to abuse or neglect, preventative measures will be implemented. At times prevention may involve court involvement while that child continues to remain in the home with CWS oversight. If safety can not be achieved a child may be temporarily removed from the care of the parents, care takers or legal guardians pending a Court hearing.
 - **Safety Plan-** (Patch Plan or Family Plan) Time limited prevention can be provided by: community based services, child and family team or within the agency.
- If a child is removed from their home, we must investigate if we can return to a parent or guardian, complete family finding efforts and initiated placement with family or non-related extended family members when possible and appropriate.



Resource Family Approval

The RFA Program includes assessing all families who wish to provide out-of-home care for children and adoptive or guardianship families. The RFA Program ensures standards of safety are met in each resource family home. The RFA Program includes licensed foster homes, resource care providers, adoption, guardianship, and recruitment services for care providers in Kings County. Resource families are necessary to Kings County Child Protective Services (CPS), as in the event that a child cannot permanently return home to their parents, CPS strives to place children for adoption or guardianship in safe, nurturing, permanent homes.

Qualifications to become an RFA home include (but are not limited to):

- Completion of a Resource Family Application
- Criminal background clearance
- Pre-approval and post-approval training
- Personal references
- Financial resources adequate to meet the needs of your existing household
- Combined home environment and permanency assessments

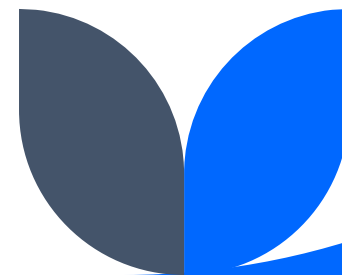
For information on the Resource Family Approval (RFA) Program, please call **(559) 852-4289** or email: [**HSA.RFA@co.kings.ca.us**](mailto:HSA.RFA@co.kings.ca.us)



SCAN ME

Primary Goals for Family Reunification

- **Court Ordered Family Reunification (FR) Services-** provide time-limited services to families whose children cannot remain safely in the home and have been placed in foster care by the Juvenile Court. The goal of the FR Services is to help the family overcome safety issues so that children can be reunited with parents or guardians
- Strategies are implemented to build on family strengths and address concerns. Such strategies may include family engagement, maintaining family and cultural connections, regular and frequent visits among family members, and connecting families to services and resources in the community.
- Kings County offers many services and resources to families to address their case plan goals. Services may include, but are not limited to, **parenting classes, substance abuse treatment, drug testing, domestic violence treatment, referrals to emergency childcare, and bringing families home and mental health services.**



Primary Goals for Family Maintenance

- **Court Ordered Family Maintenance (FM) Services-** provides time-limited services to children in their homes, aimed at preventing or mitigating neglect or abuse. A primary goal of Family Maintenance Services is to allow children to remain safely in their own homes, by providing services and supervision for the family.
- **Voluntary Family Maintenance Services-**Families whose children are at risk of neglect or abuse, and who are willing to accept voluntary services from Child Welfare Services, may also be eligible for Voluntary Family Maintenance Services if the children can safely remain in the home while services are being provided.



Primary goals for Adoption Unit



Adoption Services- The Adoption program is designed to provide a permanent family for those children who, because of neglect or abuse, cannot safely remain at home or return to the home of the parent(s). Adoption is a legal process which **permanently gives parental rights to adoptive parents**. Adoption means taking a child into your home as a permanent family member. The goal of the Adoption Unit is to ensure that each child has the most stable and loving home available in which to grow up.

Guardianship

Permanency can be obtained through adoption, but also through legal guardianship. Resource Parents/Relatives can assume legal guardianship of a child in out-of-home care **without termination of a child's parental rights**, as is required for an adoption. A guardianship is a legal relationship in which the court appoints someone other than a parent to care for the child and manage the child's affairs.

The guardian is given many of the rights and responsibilities of a parent. Legal guardianship is more durable than a simpler transfer of custody to caretakers. Some financial assistance is available to caretakers who assume legal guardianship of a child from out-of-home care.

Ongoing Caseloads

Snapshot

Month	January	February	March	April	May	June
Number of Children in FR	142	156	162	158	0	0
Number of Children in FM	69	64	69	79	0	0
Number of Children in Adoptions	87	86	89	91	0	0



Permanency Planning

The overall goal for Permanency Planning is to find permanency for children in out of home care whether this means legal guardianship, adoptions, tribal customary adoption, return home or independent living.

- Building and support natural connections
- Safety and wellbeing
- Family Finding

Extended Foster Care AB12/ILP

Assembly Bill 12 was signed into law on September 30, 2010 and took effect on January 1, 2012. AB 12, and the subsequent AB 212, implement provisions of the Federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (PL 110-351) to improve outcomes for youth in foster care. A provision of the Federal Fostering Connections to Success law permits states to extend **title IV-E assistance to eligible child welfare or probation youth that remain in foster care up to age 21.**

- Eligibility and Criteria
- Independent Living Program
 - Starts at age 14 years (State 16 years)
 - Transitional Independent Living Plan
 - Classes/Activities



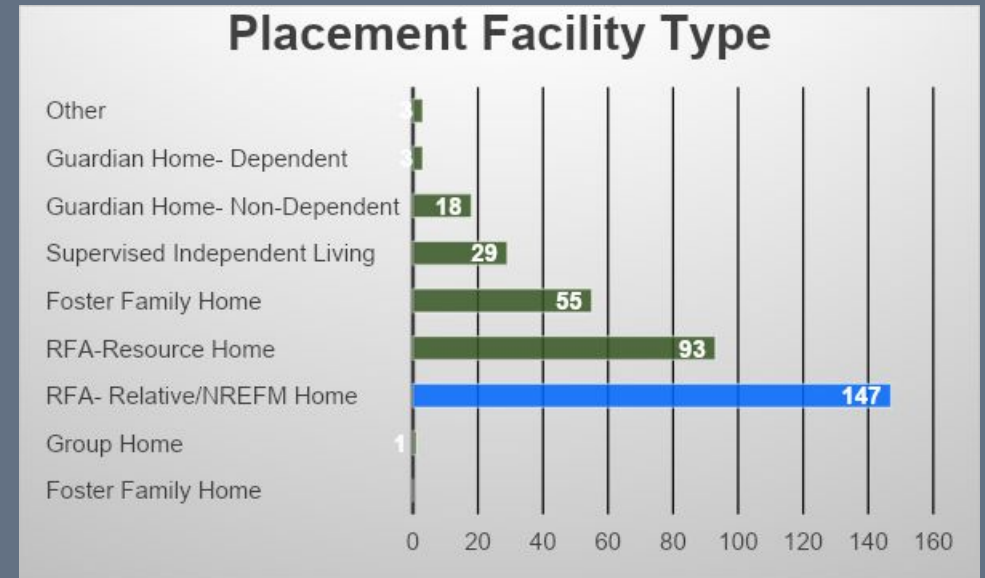
Ongoing Caseloads

Snapshot

Month	January	February	March	April	May	June
Number of Children in PP	44	43	39	40	0	0
Number of Non Minor Dependents	42	40	44	43	0	0
Number of Children eligible for ILP	101	99	101	102	0	0

Where are our children placed?

Placement Facility Type	Count	%
Group Home	1	0.3%
RFA- Relative/NREFM Home	147	42.1%
RFA- "Community" Resource Home	93	26.6%
Foster Family Home (FFA)	55	15.8%
Supervised Independent Living	29	8.3%
Guardian Home- Non-Dependent	18	5.2%
Guardian Home- Dependent	3	0.9%
Other	3	0.9%
Total	349	100.0%



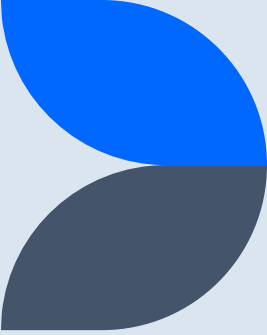
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*Alone, we can do so little,
together, we can do so much.*

-Helen Keller

”

Community Support- What can I do?



1

Become a
Resource
Parent

(559) 852-4289

HSA.RFA@co.kings.ca.us

2

Become a
CASA
(559) 587-9908

3

Help Educate

Understand
Available Resources

Become a Educational
Rights Holder

FURS HOTLINE
Telephone Number:
833-939-3877

4

Get Involved

Attend Stakeholder
feedback groups,
create or enhance
policy change,
provide training for
staff, resource
families or foster
youth

5

Recruitment

We are looking for
Social Workers!

Apply at:
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/kingscounty>

REMINDER: KIDS DAY is on 4/22/2023

Thank you,
Questions?



The poster collage features several panels: a top-left panel with three children running; a top-right panel with the text 'In honor of Child Abuse Awareness KIDS DAY' and a large white ribbon; a middle-left panel titled 'THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS' listing logos for County of Kings, Hanford Mall, Kings View, Sheriff's Office, and others; a middle-right panel with 'WHERE HANFORD MALL' and 'WHEN APRIL 22ND 9am-2pm'; a bottom-left panel titled 'FREE FAMILY EVENT' with a description of the walk; and a bottom-right panel with three children playing.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

County of Kings
Hanford Mall
Kings View
Sheriff's Office
Rotary
Kings Partnership
S
PROPTIMIST

WHERE HANFORD MALL

WHEN APRIL 22ND
9am-2pm
Kids Day walk to begin at 8am

FREE FAMILY EVENT

Join the Kid's Day Walk for Child Abuse at 8am at the Hanford Civic Center and walk to the Hanford Mall for a day of free family fun. The Kings County Kids Day celebration will have pony rides, train rides, face painting, and more.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO WEAR BLUE IN HONOR OF CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS

Interested in being a vendor? Contact events@hanfordchamber.com