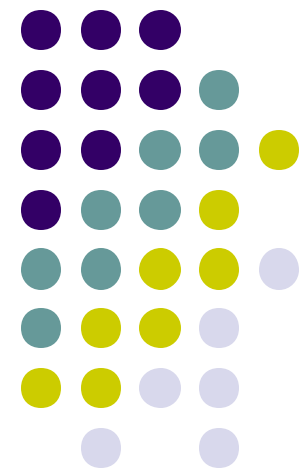

California Family Resource Association

An Emerging Vision of Family
Strengthening Policy in California





Possible CFRA Policy Role

- ✍ Lead policy development
- ✍ Build the capacity of CFRA members to be advocates at the state and local level
- ✍ Partner with similar organizations
- ✍ Play a supportive role with other organizations

Draft CFRA Policy Criteria



- ✍ Supports prevention
 - ✍ Promotes integration across systems
 - ✍ Helps families transition to self-sufficiency
 - ✍ Advances parent engagement
 - ✍ Maintains and enhances the strengths of families and communities
-
- ✍ **Operates at the state policy level**
 - ✍ **Appeals broadly to CFRA's constituency**
 - ✍ **Strong potential for CFRA to impact the issue**

Family Economic Success



- ✍ Adopt the self-sufficiency standard to determine eligibility for benefits (for example qualifying for state subsidized child care, eligibility for Medi-Cal)
- ✍ Support a state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- ✍ Support a progressive increase in the minimum wage
- ✍ Strengthen predatory lending laws
- ✍ Expand CalWorks to cover post-secondary education without time limits

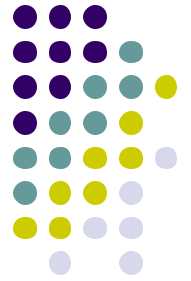
School Readiness



- ✍ **Incorporate parent engagement into Preschool for All programs**
- ✍ **Increase access to quality child care for families who earn too much for subsidized care but not enough to pay for quality programs**

Possible Examples

- ✍ **Update child care eligibility – stop practices that freeze state median income**
- ✍ **Expand financial support for subsidized child care:**
 - ✍ **Higher income ceilings**
 - ✍ **Higher reimbursement rates for Title 5 programs**
 - ✍ **Full funding for everyone eligible**
- ✍ **Make child care affordable for all relative caregivers of foster children**



Child Welfare Reform

- ✍ Incentivize additional counties to engage in differential response
- ✍ Develop a uniform statewide confidentiality policy and process
- ✍ Invest in standardized data collection
- ✍ Provide assistance to CBOs to collect data
- ✍ Encourage cross-training between mental health, child welfare etc.



Mental Health

- ✍ Assure access to comprehensive and prevention-oriented mental health services to the entire family
- ✍ Imbed mental health in all systems related to family services (including universal preschool proposals)
- ✍ Assure that mental health services are culturally and linguistically relevant

Other Issues



 Invest in standardized data collection



Next Steps

- ✍ The preliminary policy priorities will inform the policy platform
- ✍ The CFRA Board will develop the policy platform
- ✍ The policy platform process will include feedback from membership and potential allies
- ✍ The policy platform will be finalized by December