

*Exploring What Supporting Families Looks Like:
Moving Away from Mandated Reporting Towards
Policy and Practice Change
BPNN Quarterly Call
February 29, 2024*



WELCOME

Please share your name, state,
and role in the chat box



Welcome



Churmell Mitchell
BPNN Member
Alabama



Jody Rodgers
BPNN Member
California



Kara Georgi
Parent Partnership Associate
Children's Trust Fund Alliance



Agenda

- Welcome
- Policy Updates
- Questions and Answers
- Discussion for Issue Brief
- National Parent Leadership Month
- Announcements
- Evaluation



Public Policy Update



Vanessa H. Spagnoli,
Director Public Policy
Casey Family Programs
California



Roger DeLeon
Parent Leader
Birth Parent National Network
California



SAFE STRONG SUPPORTIVE

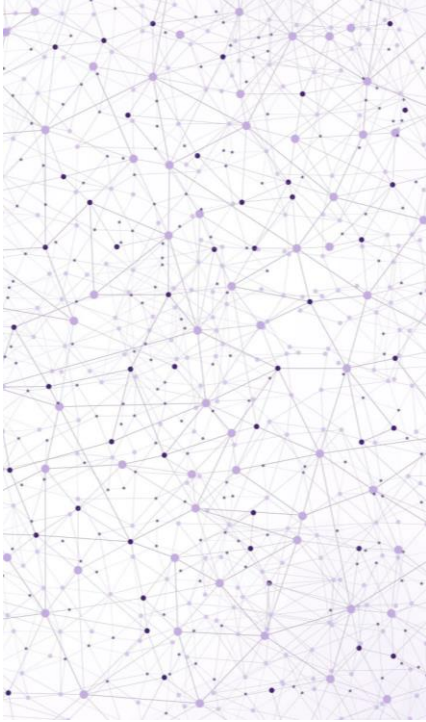
casey family programs

Shifting from Mandatory Reporting to Community Supporting

Vanessa Spagnoli, Casey Family Programs &
Roger De Leon Jr. Co-Chair, Mandatory Reporting to Community Supporting Task Force

SAFE CHILDREN STRONG FAMILIES SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES SAFE CHILDREN STRONG FAMILIES SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES SAFE CHILDREN STRONG FAMILIES SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES SAFE CHILDREN STRONG FAMILIES SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES SAFE CHILDREN STRONG FAMILIES SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES SAFE CHILDREN STRONG FAMILIES SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES

safe children | strong families | supportive communities



Federal Policy Frame

- The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) defines neglect as a form of maltreatment but provides little guidance as to how it should be defined. As a result, states have vastly different standards for determining what constitutes neglect and when to intervene. Cultural differences around parenting expectations can further complicate how definitions are interpreted and applied.
- Please visit [Casey.org](https://www.casey.org) for more resources.

state definitions of child neglect

- In 2021, Casey Family Programs conducted a 50-state review.
- The purpose of the review was to identify definitions and explore whether they may contribute to an overly wide “front door” to Child Protective Services (CPS)

**SAFE
STRONG
SUPPORTIVE**

STATUS OF MANDATED REPORTING TO COMMUNITY SUPPORTING TASK FORCE

Presented by Roger De Leon



MRCS Task Force: Building the Momentum

- **MRCS Task Force has 35 members**
[Member list](#)
 - Including members from CAPCs: Jenny Pearlman...
- **MRCS Task Force Subcommittees have 66 members**
[Member list](#)
 - Including members from CAPCs...
- **Received 215 applications**
Nearly 25% from individuals with lived expertise



MRCS Task Force: Building the Momentum



MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: REGISTRATION ON CWC WEBSITE, OR EMAIL INFO@MRCSTASKFORCE.ORG



Subcommittees



Mandated Reporting to Community Supporting Task Force
Communities Keeping Children Safe and Families Together

Narrowing the Legal Definition of Neglect	Provide recommendations to limit reportable General Neglect, including but not limited to removing poverty-based neglect from the purview of what mandated reporters are required to report. The committee will also recommend steps for communicating updates to mandated reporting legislation to ensure its actionability.
Mandated Reporter Curriculum & Training	Provide recommendations on revising mandated reporting curriculum and training to help ensure referrals focus on child safety and providing support to families where there is not an imminent risk of safety as well as reducing racial and socioeconomic bias in reporting
Potential Legal / Liability Issues for Mandated Reporters	Provide recommendations on legislative reform to mandated reporting laws in order to shift the current fear-based system to one that focuses on building a community of support for families. For example, this could include setting limits on liability for mandated reporters failing to report, revising the "reasonable suspicion" standard for the mandate to report, and/or narrowing California's reporting statute which currently includes very broad categories of who is a mandated reporter.
Policy & Practice Reforms	Provide state policy recommendations, such as the expansion of, and access to, concrete services and supports necessary to implement and sustain community support for families as well as organizational policy and practice reforms to help ensure that families are connected to the supports they need when there is no imminent risk of safety to a child.
Research & Data	Support and advise the MRCS Task Force and its subcommittees in identifying the "big data picture," surface and address national research & data questions, as well as provide research and data that will be needed to advance this work.

Child Neglect Definition



California Penal Code § 270:

when a parent or legal guardian willfully (and without lawful excuse) fails to provide necessities such as clothing, food, shelter or medical attendance, or other remedial care...

Points to consider:

- **AB 2085 and SB 1085 changed the definition of general neglect** to not include parent economic disadvantage when investigating or going through court proceedings
- “...preventing or alleviating harm due to neglect requires a detailed understanding of both how and why a child’s needs were unmet.” (p.7)
- Parental substance use, mental illness, domestic violence, and co-reported abuse were present in more than three quarters of all investigations, regardless of neglect type.

Discussion Q/A





THANK YOU

What Parents Say Opportunity



Christina Romero
Birth Parent National Network
Member and BPAC Co-Facilitator
Florida





What does supporting families mean to you?

How could we narrow the front door of child welfare?



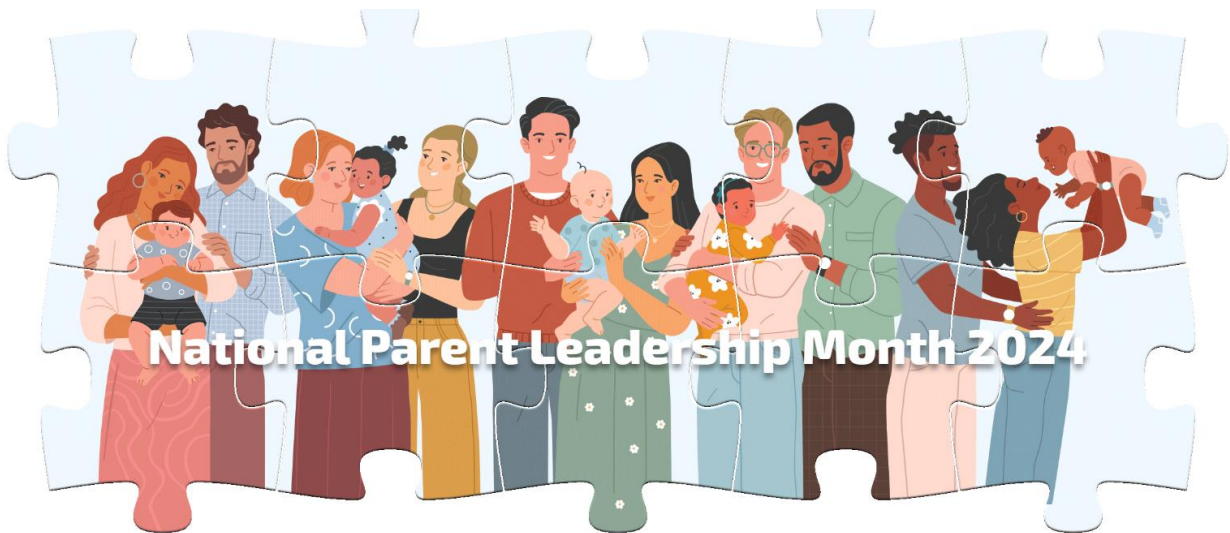
Join us on Mentimeter



Celebrating 20 years of National Parent Leadership Month



Samantha Moore Valentine
ANPPC and BPNN Member
Georgia



<https://ctfalliance.org/partnering-with-parents/national-parent-leadership-month-2024/>

GREAT RESOURCES BASED ON

Protective Factors:

S.T.O.R.Y.

Seek | Teach | Offer | Recognize | Yield



2024 BPNN Dates

CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND Alliance
Birth Parent National Network (BPNN)

SAVE the DATES!
BPNN members – parents and organizational leaders – will guide us through interactive quarterly webinars. Save these dates and join us for juicy discussions and developments affecting children and families.

Quarterly Webinars

- Thursday, February 29, 2024
- Thursday, April 11, 2024
- Thursday, August 8, 2024
- Thursday, October 10, 2024

Questions?
Email info@ctfaalliance.org

Register Online
ctfaalliance.org/joining-with-parents/bpnn

Children's Trust Fund Alliance is partnering with Casey Family Programs to support the BPNN.

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CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND Alliance
Birth Parent National Network (BPNN)

Together We Can Make a Difference

Join us! Become part of the Alliance's Birth Parent National Network (BPNN), a national network of parents and organizational leaders working together to recognize, discuss, communicate and act on the needs of parents. Participate in quarterly webinars and an annual in-person summit. There is no charge to join ctfaalliance.org/joining-with-parents/bpnn.

KNOWLEDGE

- Gain practical and strategic knowledge
- Access to research, resources, and best practices
- Ability to connect with other parents and professionals
- Stay up-to-date on the latest in adoption law and policy

RESOURCES

- Directory of professionals and organizations
- Access to research, resources, and best practices
- Ability to connect with other parents and professionals
- Stay up-to-date on the latest in adoption law and policy

LEADERSHIP

- Gain practical and strategic knowledge
- Access to research, resources, and best practices
- Ability to connect with other parents and professionals
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CONNECTIONS

- Gain practical and strategic knowledge
- Access to research, resources, and best practices
- Ability to connect with other parents and professionals
- Stay up-to-date on the latest in adoption law and policy

SUCCESS

- Gain practical and strategic knowledge
- Access to research, resources, and best practices
- Ability to connect with other parents and professionals
- Stay up-to-date on the latest in adoption law and policy

The Children's Trust Fund Alliance is the national leadership organization for birth parents' lives. Since 2008, the Alliance has also developed and partnered with networks of family, cultural, and racial/ethnic communities.

With their in-depth knowledge and passion that best support children and families, the Alliance's Birth Parent Network (BPNN) provides and facilitates best practices as leaders and advocates in prevention and positive care.

Learn more and apply to ctfaalliance.org/joining-with-parents/bpnn or email info@ctfaalliance.org

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Save the Date

Next Caring Conversation

Monday, March 4th

4pm ET • 3pm CT • 2pm MT • 1pm PT



2024 Book Club Check Ins

Join us for our book club check-ins in 2024!

Journey to Resilience: From Trauma to Healing

March 5th 2:00 pm–3:00 Eastern
 May 21st 2:00 pm–3:00 Eastern
 August 13th 2:00 pm–3:00 Eastern
 December 3 2:00 pm–3:00 Eastern

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
 CONVERSATIONS ON TRAUMA, RESILIENCE, AND HEALING
 BRUCE D. PERRY, MD, PhD
 OPRAH WINFREY

Learn more: <https://ctfalliance.org/partnering-with-parents/book-club/>



Family First Prevention Services Act



FAMILY VOICES UNITED
familyvoicesunited.org



Evaluation

<https://forms.gle/tPWfTM2X7SC23wp79>



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