

## **WRAPAROUND**

### ***Background and History***

In 1997, Wraparound was established in California under Senate Bill (SB) 163 (Chapter 795, Statutes of 1997) which allows California counties to develop the Wraparound Model using State and county Aid to Families with Dependent Children -Foster Care (AFDC-FC) dollars. This legislation permits counties to use the Wraparound funding for planning and services delivery instead of use for placements of children/youth in high-end group homes (Rate Classification Level (RCL) 12-14.) The purpose of the bill is to return children and youth in group home care to their homes and communities or help children at imminent risk of placement in high-end group homes to remain in their homes. In January 2001, Assembly Bill (AB) 2706 extended the Wraparound process and service to children who were placed in lower-level group homes of a RCL 10-11 or at risk of placement at this level. Wraparound may also be used for children who are eligible for the Adoption Assistance Program or in AB 3632 placements even though the funding for services is different for these children.

The SB 163 Legislation requires Wraparound services to:

- Be family centered, individualized, culturally relevant and strength based;
- Be team and community based;
- Rely on natural community supports, develop a child and family team plan to identify service needs;
- Place child in the least restrictive environment;
- Track and evaluate outcomes;
- Be cost neutral to the State; and
- Reinvest cost saving into child welfare programs.

The Wraparound process can eliminate barriers to service delivery, strengthen and support families. In addition, Wraparound can reduce the risk of out-of-home placement and recidivism by bringing individuals, agencies and the community together as the decision-making team with the central focus being to meet the needs of the child and family.

[Senate Bill 163](#)

### ***What is WrapAround?***

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) describes Wraparound as a planning process that values the engagement of the child and his/her family in a manner that shifts from a problem focused view of issues to building on individual strengths to improve family v child well being. The process is used to engage the family as they identify their own needs and create methods and a plan to meet those needs. The goal is to provide intensive, individualized services and supports to families that will allow children to live and grow up in a safe, stable, permanent family environment. For children and families in the foster care system, the Wraparound process can:

- Enhance strengths by creating a strength-based intervention plan with a child and family team;
- Promote youth and parent involvement with family voice, choice, and preference;
- Use a community-based service delivery system;

- Create independence and stability;
- Provide services that fit a child and family's identified needs, culture, and preferences;
- Create one plan to coordinate responses in all life domains; and
- Focus on achieving normalized goals, and provide flexible funding to support the child and family team goals.