

July 11, 2023 DFCS Community Forum Questions & Answers

COMMUNITY FORUM

**BETTER OUTCOMES FOR
FAMILIES AND CHILDREN**



All DFCS Community Forum presentations are available at <https://socialservices.sccgov.org/about-us/department-family-and-childrens-services/caregiver-supports-and-community-information>.

NOTE: This document covers the questions raised in the Chat. All verbal questions are included in the video recordings.

Continuum of Care Services/The Welcoming Center(TWC)

- 1 Can you provide some information about the satellite homes? How do the satellite homes relate to the Welcoming Center? How is the decision made to place a youth in a satellite home instead of the Welcoming Center? How does the staffing and clinical support in satellite homes compare to that in the Welcoming Center?
 - Question is answered verbally in video recording.

Child Abuse & Neglect Center (CANC)

- 2 Who should I reach out to for information about mandated report training?
 - Please contact Byron.Myers@ssa.sccgov.org for information on mandated report training
- 3 Does the CANC utilize the SDM to determine the nature of a report?
 - Question is answered verbally in video recording.
- 4 It would be interesting to see the demographics of the children who are being called about and who is screened out or in.
 - Data is available here: <https://ccwip.berkeley.edu/>
 - Data is also available on our monthly Fact Sheets at <https://socialservices.sccgov.org/about-us/department-family-and-childrens-services/dfcs-reports>

Q&A with Directors

- 5 Why am I observing an increasing trend where CPS is seeking parental permission to interview children at school instead of obtaining a court order and meeting with the children at school without parental consent? This approach often poses challenges for mandated reporters when it comes to providing support to students after CPS reports.
- Since the *Greene v. Camreta* case in 2009, our county has adopted a practice of seeking parental consent to interview children at school or other locations, whenever it is deemed safe to do so. If seeking parental consent would endanger the child or compromise the investigation, a social worker may seek a court order. The juvenile court is always available to consider urgent requests for interview orders. In the calendar year 2022, our local juvenile dependency court issued 193 orders for DFCS social workers to interview children, and many more children were interviewed at school.