Efforts to Address the Behavioral Health Needs of Children in Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Care

Network Expansion

- Parent engagement models at four co-located sites, including coordinated care, parent support initiatives, family assessment and engaging parents in adult services
- Co-located crisis providers at the DCS AHIT and Placement Centers
- Daily behavioral health services/support at the DCS AHIT and Placement Center to address immediate behavioral health needs and ensure timely enrollment in behavioral health services
- Increasing funding for DCS TIP programming at JFCS and SWN due to increased capacity needs for transition-age youth
- Development of specialized groups at Canyon State Academy on Anger Management and Transition and Life Skills
- Increased funding to Rapid Response Program
- Added specialty DCS-specific Mobile Crisis Teams
- Increased funding and capacity for all providers to address complex trauma-informed care and trauma treatment
- Expanded services for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers
- Developed a Substance Exposed Newborn Services Program in collaboration with the adult SMI system and Southwest Human Development
- Increased trauma-focused CBT with DCS co-located providers

Training

- Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Caregiver Training Series (June-December)
  - Part 1- Trauma Informed Care: Overview
  - Part 2- Trauma informed Care: Birth to Five
  - Part 3- Trauma informed Care: Strategies and Techniques
- Monthly Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Navigation Forums
- Infant-Toddler Mental Health Training Series with DCS specialists and providers
- On-site community trainings for Group Home and Foster Care providers
- Sex Trafficking 101 for group homes, DCS staff and providers
- Scheduling presentations and discussions at each DCS office on navigating the behavioral health system and overview of behavioral health (in partnership with co-located providers)
  - Planning joint training of DCS YAP and BH providers
  - Working with DCS YAP leadership to provide joint DCS/Behavioral Health training to DCS/BH staff this summer

Communications and Collaboration

- Developed and implemented a comprehensive communication plan to target Kinship/Foster/Group Homes placements and DCS
- Developed and distributed communication/marketing materials for caregivers of youth in DCS care, online and in print, including: Foster and Adoptive Care Guide; 1-page infographic; webpage dedicated to foster/adoptive/kinship care; Training and Navigation Forum flyers; 12 Principles poster for provider offices

www.mercymaricopa.org
Distributed provider notices reminding service providers and stakeholders about policies and laws regarding services for children enrolled with CMDP

Social media campaign on Twitter and Facebook about requirements for children’s behavioral health, prohibition of waiting lists, forum announcements

Collaboration with DCS, providers and other stakeholders on Casey Safe Reduction Workgroup and Title IV-E Waiver Implementation Team Meetings

Initiating focus group with DCS to discuss needs for Transition-Age Youth

Participation in Group Home Coalition meetings and Foster Care Licensing provider meetings

Internal work group to ensure smooth implementation, coordination of House Bill 2442 requirements

Clinical Improvement

Mercy Maricopa Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Care Oversight Workgroup (meets monthly)

DCS stabilization and Rapid Response referrals taken directly from DCS foster caregivers

Tracking and reconciling DCS children’s enrollment and service engagement through DCS Rapid Response Assessments; follow-up intake/service initiation with ongoing provider

Continued weekly monitoring of system capacity of direct support and specialty providers

Initiated one-year minimum BH enrollment for children in Department Child Safety (DCS) custody, with minimum requirement of one assessment contact per month