

# **KATIE A. STRATEGIC PLAN**

## **EXIT CONDITIONS**

Board Deputy Briefing  
September 21, 2011

# BACKGROUND: 2002

- **CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST THE STATE AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY ALLEGING:**
  1. Failure to assess mental health needs.
  2. Inadequate mental health services.
  3. Placement disruptions.
  4. Over-reliance on congregate care.
  5. Institutionalization—MacLaren Children's Center.

# BACKGROUND: JULY 2003

- Los Angeles County entered into a Settlement Agreement resolving the County-portion of the lawsuit.
- The Settlement Agreement required the County to make systemic improvements to better serve members of the class.

# SETTLEMENT OBJECTIVES

1. Promptly receive necessary individualized mental health services in their own home, a family setting, or the most homelike setting appropriate to their needs;
2. Receive care and services needed to prevent removal from their families or dependency or, when removal cannot be avoided, to facilitate reunification, and to meet their needs for safety, permanence, and stability;

# SETTLEMENT OBJECTIVES

3. Be afforded stability in their placements, whenever possible; and
4. Receive care and services consistent with good child welfare and mental health practice and the requirements of law.

# EXIT REQUIREMENTS

1

- Successful completion of meaningful Strategic Plan.

2

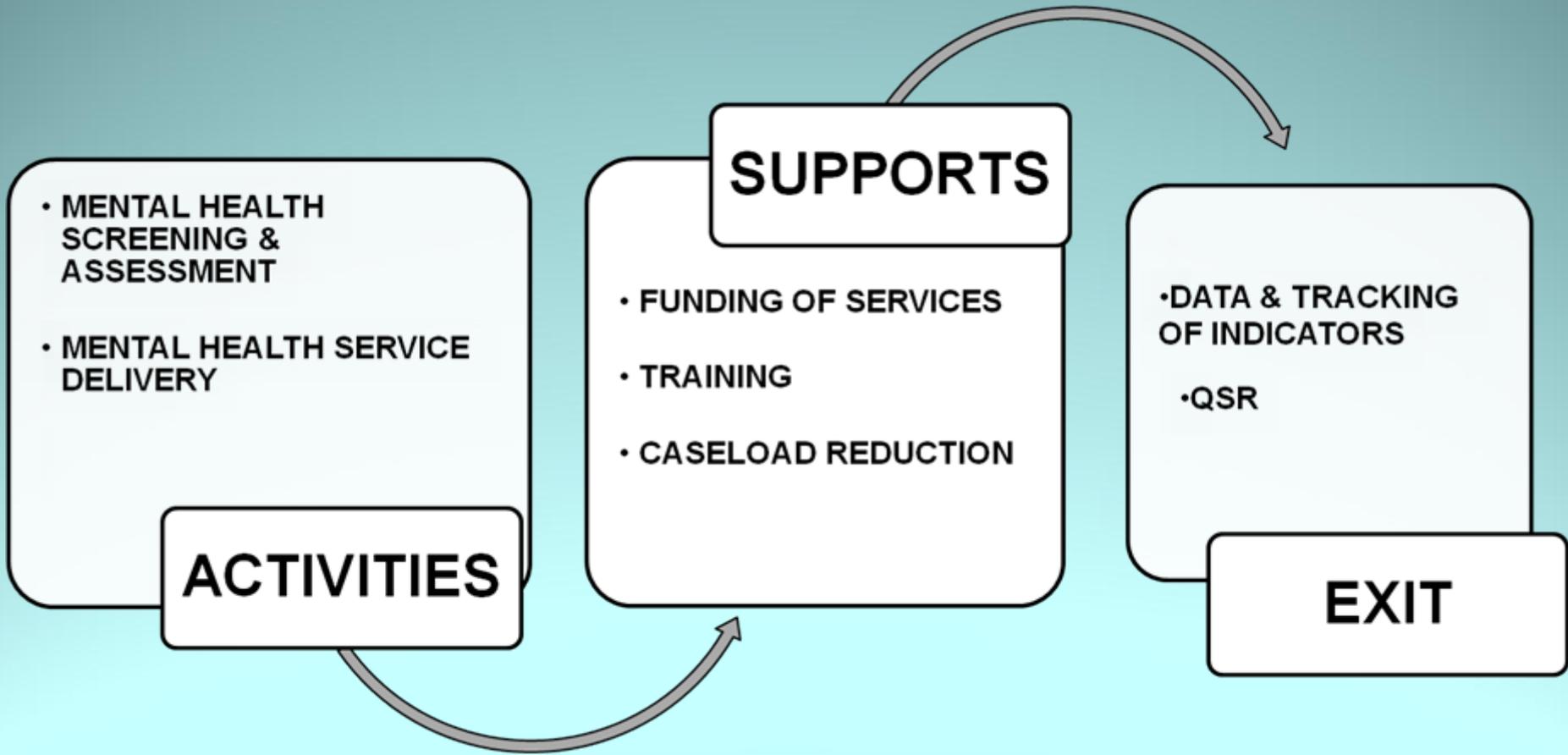
- Acceptable progress on data indicators.

3

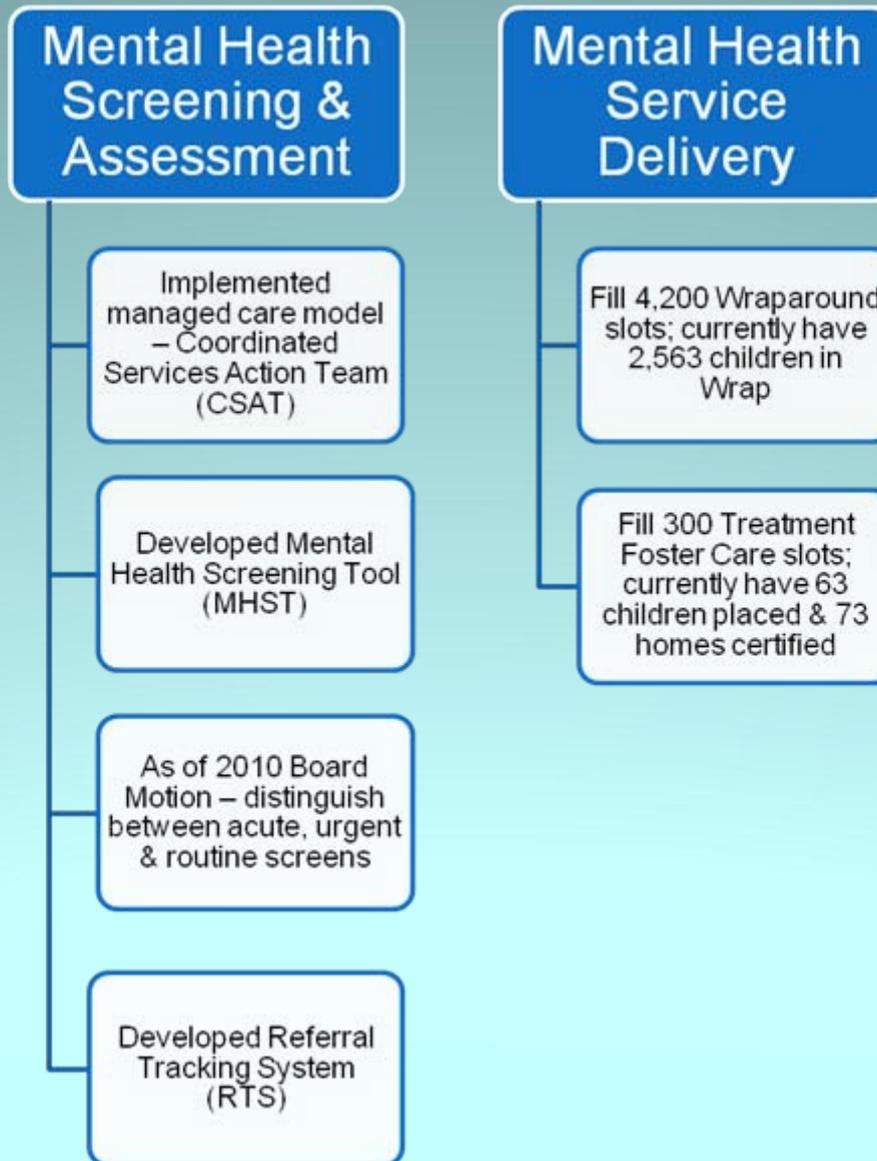
- Passing score on a Quality Service Review (QSR).

# KATIE A. STRATEGIC PLAN

## High Level Summary



# KATIE A. STRATEGIC PLAN ACTIVITIES



# KATIE A. STRATEGIC PLAN SUPPORTS

## Funding

- Blend funding: EPSDT; Title IV-E; MHSA/FSP; NCC
- Provider training & DMH monitoring to increase EPSDT utilization
- State settlement should result in MediCal documentation manual to clarify billing, as well as some financial assistance

## Training

- Developed Core Practice Model
- Use QSR terms/constructs to prepare for QSR

## Caseload Reduction

- Safely reduce front-end referrals/case openings
- Increase permanency practices
- Implement innovative programs – RBS
- Improve human resource practices/rates
- Established caseload reduction targets: 14 for ER & 15 for Generic

# EXIT: QUALITY SERVICE REVIEW

## CHILD & FAMILY STATUS INDICATORS

1. Safety
2. Stability
3. Permanency
4. Living Arrangements
5. Health/Physical Well-Being
6. Emotional Well-Being
7. Learning & Development
8. Family Functioning & Resourcefulness
9. Caregiver Functioning
10. Family Connections

## SYSTEM PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

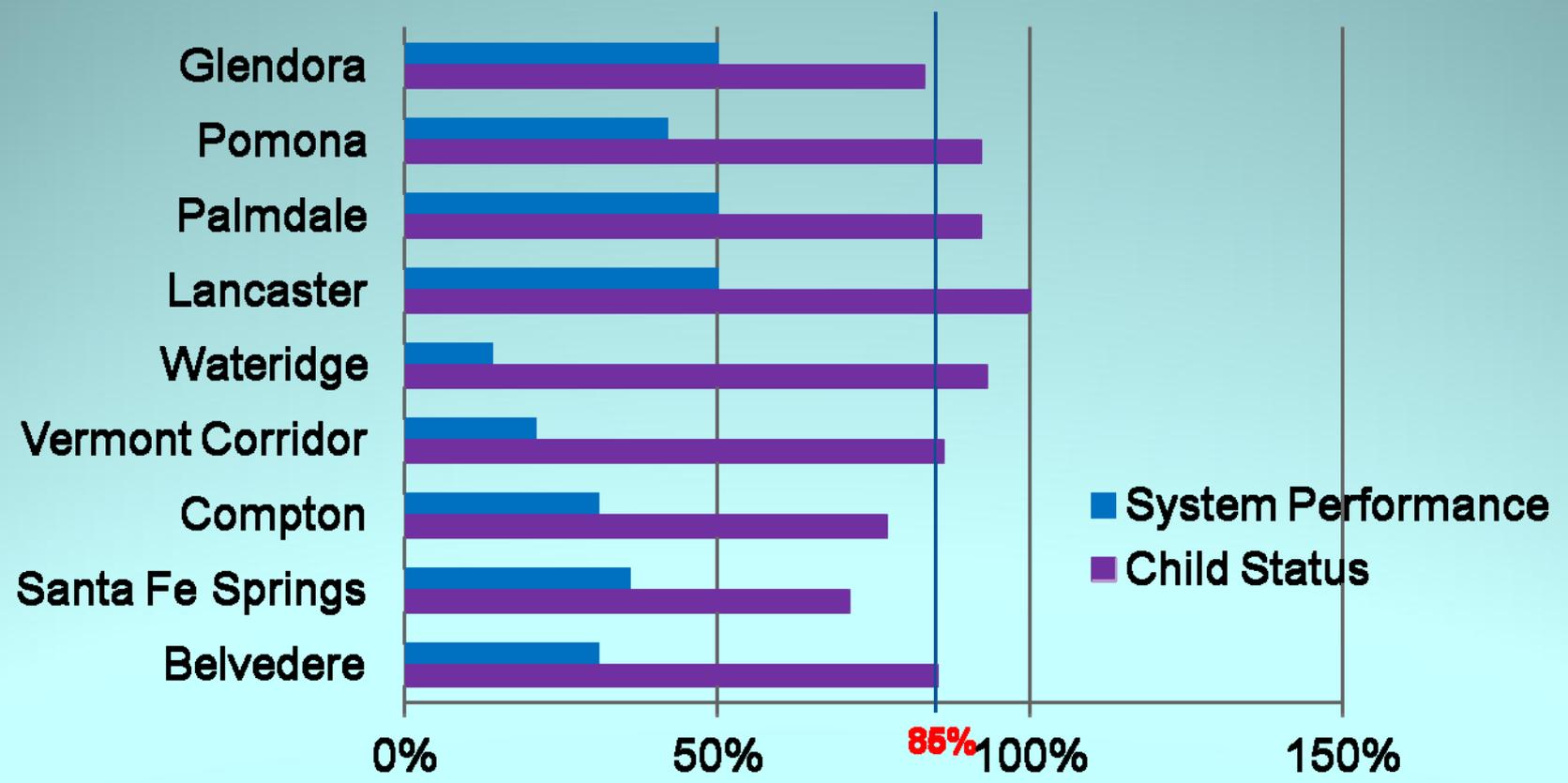
1. Engagement
2. Voice & Choice
3. Teamwork
4. Assessment
5. Long-Term View
6. Planning
7. Supports & Services
8. Intervention Adequacy
9. Tracking & Adjustment

# QUALITY SERVICE REVIEW SCORING

- Passing score:
  - Aggregate scoring of 85% respectively on Child & Family Status & System Performance Indicators
    - Subset of System Performance Indicators: Engagement, Teaming & Child Assessment 70% respectively
  - At follow-up review, no less than 75% respectively on Child & Family Status & System Performance Indicators
    - At follow-up, no less than 65% respectively on the subset of System Performance Indicators
  - County will continue QSR process for at least one year following exit & will post scores on a dedicated website

# QUALITY SERVICE REVIEW SCORES

## QSR SCORES BY OFFICE



# EXIT: DATA INDICATORS

SAFETY

PERMANENCY

Indicators	Minimum Performance	Targets to Aspire to	Status
<b>Indicator 1:</b> Percent of cases where children remained home and did not experience any new incident of substantiated referral during the case open period, up to 12 months.	82.8%	83.3%	
<b>Indicator 2:</b> Of all children served in foster care in the fiscal year, how many did not experience maltreatment by their foster care providers?	98.4%	98.6%	
<b>Indicator 3:</b> No recurrence of maltreatment within 6 months.	92.3%	92.8%	
<b>Indicator 1:</b> Median length of stay for children in foster care.	409	383	
<b>Indicator 2:</b> Reunification within 12 months.	36.4%	45.6%	
<b>Indicator 3:</b> Adoption within 24 months.	2.0%	2.9%	
<b>Indicator 4:</b> Reentry into foster care during the fiscal year and reentry within 12 months of the date of reunification.	13.9%	12.9%	
<b>Indicator 5a:</b> Children in foster care less than 12 months with 2 or less placements.	82.5%	84.1%	
<b>Indicator 5b:</b> Children in foster care 12 months but less than 24 months, without a move to a third or greater placement(s) in the second year.	89.2%	89.7%	
<b>Indicator 5c:</b> Children in foster care on the first day of the fiscal year who have been in foster care for 24 months or more, and have not experienced a move to a third or greater placement(s) during the fiscal year.	58.8%	61.7%	

# EXIT: DATA INDICATOR STANDARDS

- County will meet or exceed minimum performance levels for the safety & permanency data indicators
- The County will strive to meet the “aspirational” target for each respective indicator
- At the time of QSR exit, as long as the County continues to maintain minimum performance levels, the data indicator exit condition is satisfied
- County will continue to post data indicators on a dedicated website for one year following exit

# EXIT CONDITION COMPARISONS

## Utah

- Comprehensive child welfare reform class action case covering nearly every aspect of the system
- Developed Milestone Performance Plan covering operational issues
- 16 trend indicators
- Case process review with 46 indicators
- Similar QSR process
- Average number of years in lawsuit – 14 – exited in 2008

## Mississippi

- Class action lawsuit against the state's foster care system for failing to protect children in custody & provide necessary services
- Complete overhaul of child welfare system: administration & management to foster care service standards
- 17 broad administrative objectives; 42 extensive foster care service objectives
- Average number of years in lawsuit - 4

## New Jersey

- Class action against the state's Division of Youth & Family Services re constitutional rights
- Broad requirements consisting of: training; services; placements; caseloads; health/mental health; permanency planning/adoption; resource families; investigations; data
- 86 expansive performance objectives
- Average number of years in lawsuit – 8

# KATIE A. STRATEGIC PLAN

1.  
Mental  
Health  
Screening  
&  
Assessment

2.  
Mental  
Health  
Service  
Delivery

3.  
Funding  
of  
Services

4.  
Training

5.  
Caseload  
Reduction

6.  
Data/  
Tracking of  
Indicators

7.  
Exit Criteria  
& Formal  
Monitoring  
Plan

**EQUAL**

**Katie A. Exit Conditions**

**Child Welfare/Mental Health System Reform**

**Self-Sufficiency**