

Interagency Measurement of Child Well-being

Submitted to

California Department of Social Services (CDSS)

and State Interagency Team (SIT)

By
Center for Public Policy Research (CPPR)
University of California, Davis

CPPR STAFF FOR SIT PROJECT



Gail S. Goodman, Ph.D., UCD Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Director, CPPR

Michael Lawler, M.S.W., Ph.D., Director, UCD Center for Human Services, Co-Director of CPPR

Kate Wilson, M.P.H., Research Writer, CPPR

Contact: ggoodman@ucdavis.edu, mjlawler@ucdavis.edu

SIT/CDSS WORK REQUEST TO CPPR



- Assess possibilities and make recommendations for integration and shared management of all data from all SIT departments to better realize CDSS AB636 well-being outcome measures.
- Work with SIT member departments to investigate and propose opportunities for data integration and utilization. SIT member departments are DMH, CDE, DDS, ADP, DHS, AOC, and CDSS.
- Explore overlap of databases managed by different teams.
- Identify information available on AB636-related issues.
- Present findings and recommendations to SIT and CDSS/Child and Family Services Division.

AB636 CHILD WELL-BEING INDICATORS



Health —— CHDP exams, dental and vision care, immunizations

Mental Health → Screenings, referrals, services

Education — Stability, attendance, performance, IEPs

Support Services Services for biological and foster parents

Legal Involvement — Probation, hearings, incarceration

Emancipation Issues ____ Independent living skills, higher education

SUMMARY OF SIT STUDY



- The 15 well-being indicators were divided into 33 distinct outcome measures.
- Data are available within CDSS or other SIT member agencies to adequately address 18 of 33 AB 636 outcomes.
- Data are available within CDSS or other SIT member agencies to partially address 4 of the 33 AB 636 outcomes.

 Data are not available within any of the SIT state agencies to address 11 of the 33 AB 636 outcomes.

OVERVIEW OF ADDITIONAL FINDINGS



- Departments were universally amenable to the idea of data sharing, whether through integration or cooperative/mutual data requesting.
- Individual-level data related to child well-being are available. Strategies for integrating and/or accessing these data vary from department to department.

- Data from diverse departments can be integrated using a combination of unique identifiers and probabilistic matching.
- Issues of confidentiality were discussed with each department. Strategies for dealing with legal barriers to data sharing include internal merging and deidentification (e.g., DMH, ADP), MOUs (e.g., CDE), and working through existing "data request" channels (e.g., DHS).

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SIT REPORT



Short-term

- Revisit the AB636 well-being indicators (for data purposes).
- Consider sampling strategy to address indicators.
- Improve local data gathering, entering, and analysis in CWS/CMS systems.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SIT REPORT



Long-term

- Pursue strategies and solutions for data integration and confidentiality.
- CDSS establish MOUs with DHS, DMH, and CDE.
- Investigate possibilities of creating a centralized data warehouse (e.g., Agency level).

FUTURE STRATEGIES



