

Department of Child Support Services

Alliance WorkNet

Community Services Agency



- 2014-2015 IV-A/IV-D Policy Symposium
- 2011-2016 Child Support Non-Custodial Parent Employment Demonstration Grant

Policy Symposium

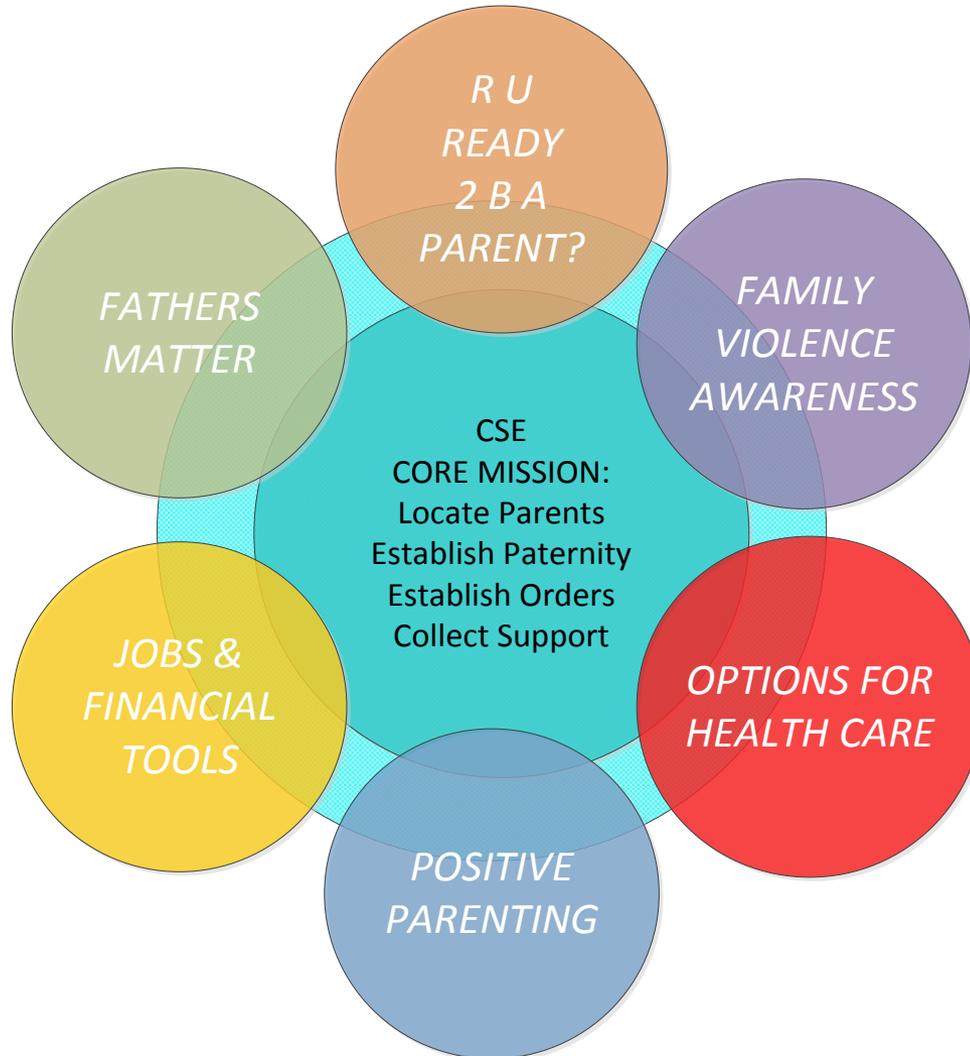


- The California Children & Families Policy Symposium
 - Family and child development research
 - Policy implementation discussion between IV-A and IV-D
 - Brought elected leaders together
 - Showcased partnership and collaboration across departments, agencies, and communities
 - Effort to strengthening the safety net for children and families
- Breaking down silos and bureaucratic hindrances to deliver more meaningful programs and services.



CWDA

California - Family Centered Approach



Stanislaus County Areas of Concern

- High Unemployment in Stanislaus County
- Significant number of parents not meeting their financial obligations
- Child support agencies lack resources and expertise to address barriers that prevent parents from paying support

Why Employment Programming?

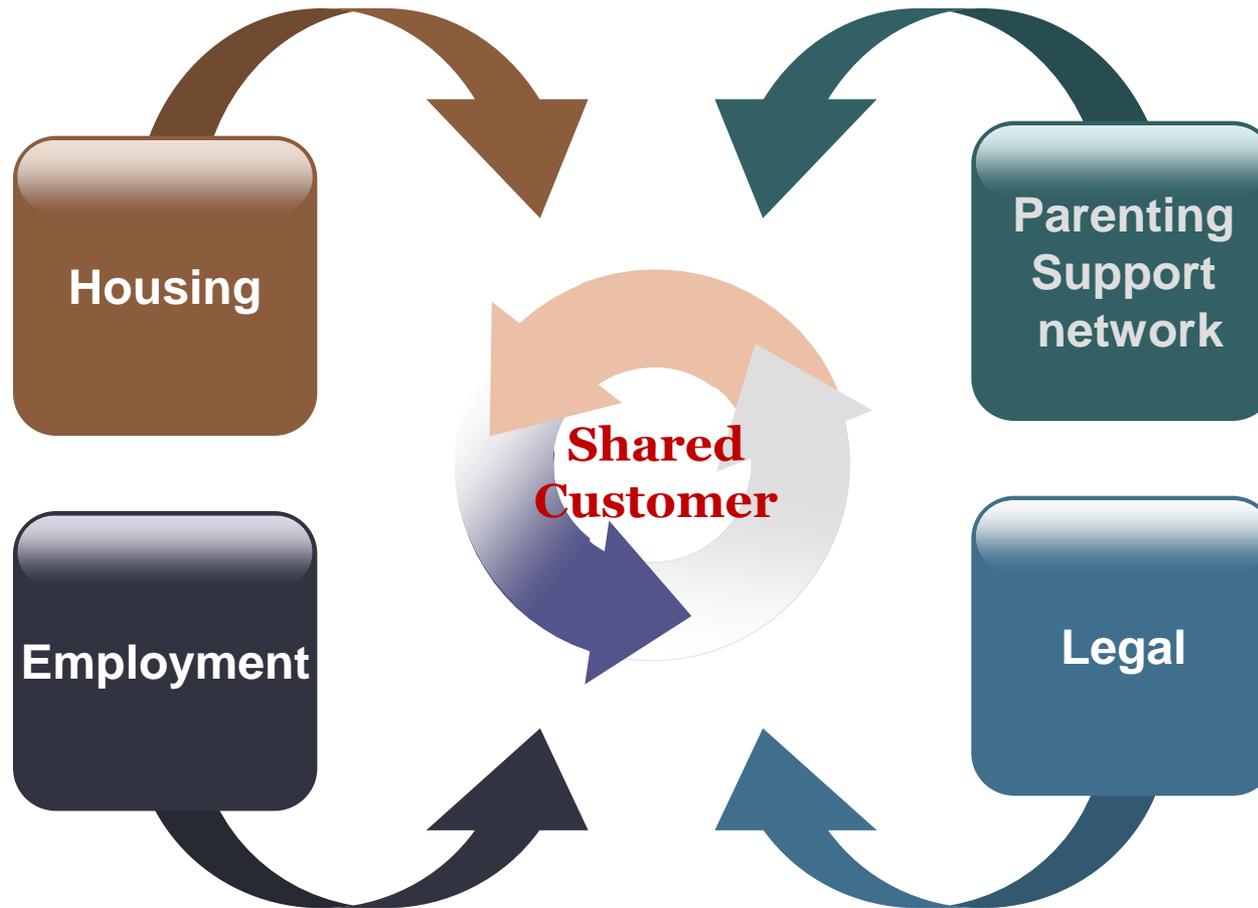
- 2011 Office of Child Support Enforcement 1115 Grant Opportunity
- Child Support Parent Employment Demonstration Grant
- Pathways to Self Sufficiency (PASS)
- Child Support Led
 - **Partner in Employment**
 - Partner in Parenting
 - Partner in Domestic Violence

Partnership Goal



Increase reliable child support payments among unemployed or underemployed noncustodial parents, thereby improving child well-being, strengthening families, and avoiding public costs.

Barriers for Our Customers



Community Impact

Child Support

Alliance WorkNet

Center for Human Services

Casework

- Identify & Recruit
- DV Screen
- Enhanced CS Services

Employ

- Training
- Job search
- Placement
- Retention

Guide

- Parenting Sessions
- On My Shoulders

Community

Program to help parents find work

County aims to increase child support payments

By KEN CARLSON
ken.carlson@modbee.com

The county's Department of Child Support Services will work with the Alliance Worknet on the five-year demonstration project supported by \$2.32 million in federal funds. Officials hope that 70 percent of the parents who participate will find a job in the next six months.

WORK

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staff time and other administrative costs. Stanislaus ranked sixth among the state's 58 counties in cost effectiveness. The county's "Stopping Domestic Violence" program, which provides support services to victims of domestic violence, was ranked first in the state. The county's "Stopping Domestic Violence" program, which provides support services to victims of domestic violence, was ranked first in the state.

Reducing court costs

The agency has reduced court-related costs by offering people an alternative to court proceedings. The program will provide support services to victims of domestic violence, which will help them avoid court proceedings.

A third-party review of the project results will show if the program is a cost-effective way to assist one-parent households. Stanislaus County Director of Child Support Services, Tamara Thomas, said the program could help stimulate the economy, help create a healthy environment in Stanislaus County, and help parents find work.

County Child Support Services has made strides in stabilizing the county's child support payments. The agency works to get parents to make payments in the first year of an order because it often means that the collection rate is 60 percent, compared to 30 percent in previous years.

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Thomas said the program will help parents find work and increase child support payments. The program will provide support services to victims of domestic violence, which will help them avoid court proceedings.

support orders from absent fathers and mothers in recent years—and received awards for doing so in the past year. It established a child support order in 94 percent of cases, earning the agency an award from the California Department of Child Support Services for most improved performance.

The agency collected more than \$4 million for children in 2012, or \$5.64 for every tax dollar spent on the county's child support services.

Her department knows parents who are behind on child support. The federal Office of Child Support Enforcement offers a program for children and stabilize the county's child support payments.

Stanislaus County Alliance Worknet will help with lead jobs. The program will provide support services to victims of domestic violence, which will help them avoid court proceedings.

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75 CENTS

Program helps parents behind in child support

TEST PROJECT AIMS TO RAISE FAMILIES' PROSPECTS

By KEN CARLSON
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Donyal Horton of Modesto went to a county office last year to talk about his child support case and, to his surprise, found that help was available for finding a job so he can make those monthly payments.

A program offered in Stanislaus County and only seven other locations in the United States helped the 47-year-old father arrange two interviews for a job at an AT&T store. Horton is taking classes to strengthen his interview skills and bolster his confidence.

After he took an initial survey with the county Department of Child Support Services, the county restored which were suspended when he was fired from a grocery store. Horton said "It's going to be a great job for me. For me, it was all about the opportunity to find work."

Horton is one of 100 parents in Parkway to Self-Sufficiency or PASS, part of a federal demonstration project to offer support for noncustodial parents who are unemployed or not earning enough to make child support payments. In a society that deals a psychological beatdown to deadbeat

It took some luck for Horton and others to be chosen for the program. After the initial interview, applicants are randomly selected to receive special job services and the others are put in the control group. Residents restoring their driver's licenses, participants are given gift cards for fuel or bus fare to attend parenting classes. The Alliance Worknet identifies their strengths and identifies their strengths and help them secure a job and stay employed.

The Alliance has funding to reimburse employers for up to 90 percent of costs for on-the-job training. The highest reimbursement rates are for businesses that have a backlog of workers. Most of the initial clients referred have a background in construction, warehousing or manufacturing, said Bruce Merchant, employment services supervisor for Alliance Worknet. Some clients have worked in four or five years.

"Getting a job is difficult at this time for most job seekers," Merchant said. "But we are seeing positive feedback from employers. When we have motivated customers, and they are working with us, it helps them to be successful."

Thomas said clients finding jobs through the program will have monthly support payments back in the work force, the program aims to brighten the future for these children and successful families could lead to a child support policy for improving national support collections. Since October, about 20 local participants have started work or job training, staff said. Thomas hopes at least 75 percent of clients will find work or increase earnings.

County child support services asks that anyone who needs help with paying child support because of unemployment or low earnings call (209) 558-1467 to inquire about the program.

Bee staff writer Ken Carlson can be reached at (209) 558-2521.

SUPPORT

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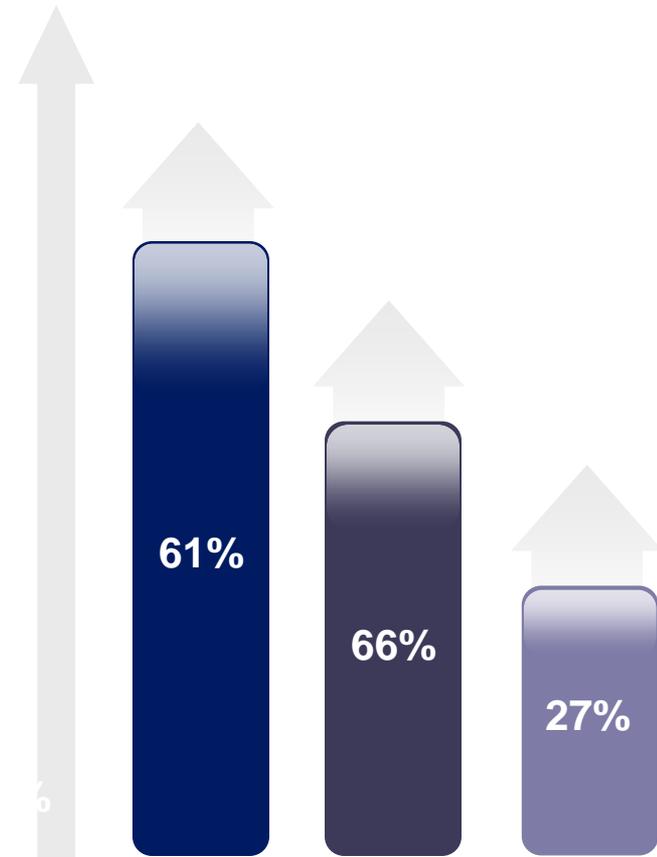
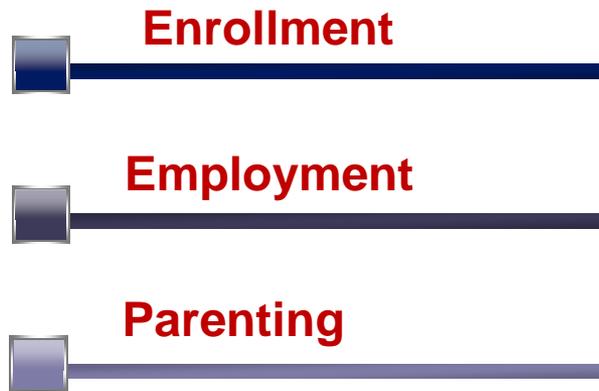
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Early Outcomes



Reduction of Debt



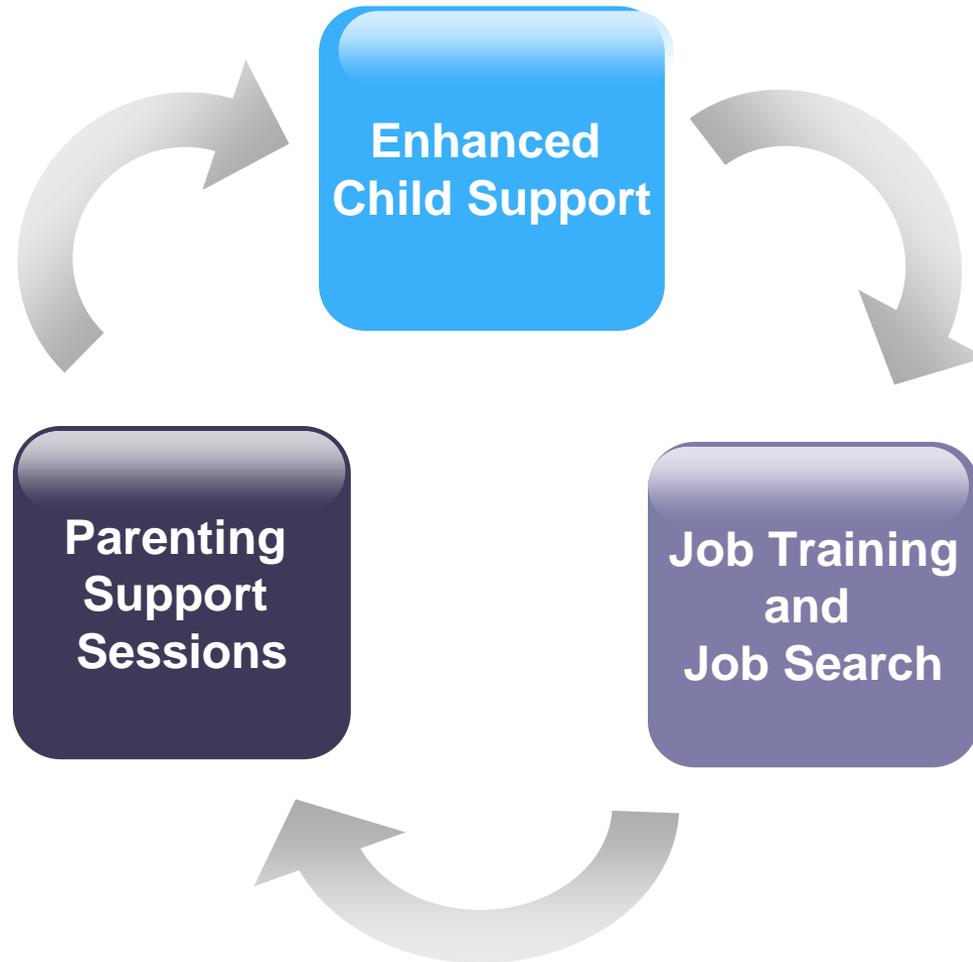
PASS Participant

Janice

PASS Participant

William

Effective Partnership



2015 State TANF Summit

Thank you!

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Questions??