

Wraparound Services Program

Wraparound services are strength-based mental health services delivered to youth in the community with the goal of avoiding a more restrictive setting. Gaining in popularity in the United States in the 1980s, Wraparound became a formal program in California in 1997 through enactment of SB 163, which allowed counties to develop Wraparound programs using state and county [AFDC-FC](#) funding for [youth in foster care](#). Wraparound is funded through the Child Welfare Services Realignment Local Revenue Fund and [Adoption Assistance Program \(AAP\)](#) dollars.¹

Wraparound services are available to foster youth in the delinquency or dependency system, or to children receiving AAP payments, who are at risk of or are currently in out-of-home care.² These services are required to be family-centered, strength-based, culturally relevant, and individualized to the youth's needs. Services are trauma-informed and delivered through team-based decision making designed to place and maintain children in the least restrictive environment. Services are also intended to be flexible to meet the changing needs of youth and their families.

Wraparound can be used as an alternative to residential care for justice-involved youth who have complex needs by redirecting funds to provide intervention services instead of sending a youth to a STRTP placement. The Wraparound reimbursement rate is tied to the rate that would have been paid if a youth had been placed into STRTP care. As the Continuum of Care Reform rolled out in January 2017, the rate for Wraparound services was updated to \$8,573 with cost of living increases scheduled to be applied in 2018.³ Wraparound services are meant to be cost neutral, and their costs cannot exceed the STRTP reimbursement rate. Any cost savings are intended to be reinvested to provide expanded services to youth and families.

More Information

CDSS – Family Centered Services: Wraparound

<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Foster-Care/Family-Centered-Services>

¹ California Department of Social Services, All-County Information Notice No. I-52-15: Updated Standards for California Wraparound Services (July 29, 2015), at 3, *available at* http://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/acin/2015/I-52_15.pdf.

² Welf. & Inst. Code § 18251(c)(1)-(3).

³ Welf. & Inst. Code § 18254; California Department of Social Services, All-County Letter No. 16-79: Information About the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) Home-Based Family Care (HBFC) and Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) Rates Structure and Conversion Process from the Old Rate Structure to the New Rate Structure (September 22, 2016), at 7, *available at* <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/acl/2016/16-79.pdf>.