

Meeting Date: Thursday, June 4, 2026

Meeting Time: 1:30 -2:30 pm

Location: Hybrid: Teams/HSA COB3

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, August 6, 2026

Present: Meron Asfaw (cfs), Donovan Fones, (CFS MH Clinician); Melissa Guariglia, (Family Connections), Geeta Devjani, (Program Specialist Partners Pre-to-Three); Anand Chabra, Medical Director Family Health Svcs., SMC Health); John Fong, (CFS Director); Dr. Melissa Egge, (Medical Director Keller Ctr.); Elizabeth Cauley-Henao, (Program Director at RTS); Lauren, (whistle blower/advocacy); Ilhaam Hussian, (Aide to BOS Jackie Spiere); Dr. Elizabeth Grady, (San Mateo Health, retired), and Rosa Diaz (CFS)

Agenda Items	Discussion
Welcome & Public Comment	No public comment
CFS Updates	This summer's San Mateo County Children & Family Services new worker training unit will consist of 16 Social Worker trainees. CWS CMS Case Mgmt. System, CFS Director John Fong The new State-wide case management system, CWS Cares is scheduled to go live in October 2026 across the State in all child welfare agencies. CWS Cares is replacing the now antiquated system CWS CMS. The new system is a web-based designed system with new functionality to build efficiencies across the State. CWS Cares will streamline processes across counties but there are restrictions on the type of access to other jurisdictions. It will communicate directly with the ESS CalSaws system and build efficiency. The system will integrate prevention services with CARES so it can directly refer clients to CBOs. Peer Parent Partner (PPP) Program, in collaboration with YMCA, CFS MH Clinician Donvan Fones The program was piloted with new removal cases and then expanded to any open child-welfare case with children/youth placed out of home. A YMCA brochure was disseminated to all staff to give to their families and to encourage them to sign up for support. This program is not to be viewed as a service that San Mateo County Children & Family Services is



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	providing but for families wanting help with navigating the system, (i.e. court hearings, CFT family meetings), to be proactive and seek-out assistance for themselves. It is not to be a referral process initiated by the worker. 1st contact at Removal (ER): the first encounter with the family, where the worker will provide the family with information about the PPP program and encourage enrollment. The peer parent support connects immediately with the family 2nd contact at Investigations Phase: the peer parent support team will follow-up with the families who have yet to opt into the program, to orient them to their services and to encourage enrollment into the program. 3rd contact at Jurisdiction/Disposition: the worker continues to encourage enrollment into the PPP program at various times throughout this phase of the case. The parents are given multiple opportunities to access services. The next step will be to expand to Family Maintenance cases where kids have returned home and non-voluntary court cases where risk-factors and children remain at home. Families can register for services by scanning a QR code available on the flyer. To date, one family has registered. Consistency will be necessary to build awareness for the program to flourish. If outreach efforts do not yield more referrals to the system, additional methods will need to be explored to generate buy-in from families. One peer parent partner has been hired and working on recruiting to fulfill the second position. The current peer parent partner is Spanish speaking with lived experience. Donovan will meet with the LCSW spearheading the program and will provide an update at the August 2026 CAPC meeting.
CAPC Members Announcements	Assistant to Board of Supervisor Jackie Spiere Ilhaam Husain Ms. Husain will be leaving the County of San Mateo. Her final date of employment is Fri., June 12, 2026. Program Specialist Partners Pre-to-Three Geeta Devjani Ms. Devjani will be on leave for approximately 1.5 months beginning Thurs., June 11, 2026; returning in time for the August meeting. Medical Director Family Health Services Anand Chabra



	The FA Electronic Health Record, the family health program, specifically the home visiting program is migrating to EPIC over the next year with a go live date of April 2027. Work began two weeks ago to prepare for the go-live date. Organizations utilizing EPIC should have the ability to see the type of visitation services their clients, or patients, receive such as healthy families, promoting first relationships, and advance care management program for CCS.
Guest Speaker	N/A
Reporting & Discussion Agenda	CAPC Strategic Plan Review A brief introduction to the strategic plan was provided in the May 2026 CAPC Meeting. The plan began in 2024 and will end in 2026. Today's discussion is to show what phase CAPC is at in the implementation of the plan. CAPC members will be given time to review the plan for themselves in preparation to provide suggestions for revisions at a future discussion. <u>Vision, Mission, and Background</u> The Vision and Mission are currently under revision by the outreach committee which are also a part of the strategic plan. The strategic plan consists of 3 goals, each with 3 strategies to achieve the respective goal. <u>Goal 1: Catalyst for Prevention</u> Strategy 1.1: Build a clear vision and mission to guide CAPCs collective work Status: work has begun on strategy 1.1 Strategy 1.2: Build CAPC Membership to include representatives from diverse backgrounds and capacities. Status: This strategy has been achieved. CAPC Committee consists of a diverse membership that represents the communities served. Strategy 1.3: Establish a strategic plan that addresses the community's needs and aligns with the direction of SMC Children and Family Services, and other public and private agencies, focused on child and family wellbeing which includes the comprehensive prevention plan and systemic improvement plan. Measured by: the strategic plan guides the work of CAPC with progress documented and reported back to the community. Status: this strategy has yet to be met, little work has been done.

Goal 2: Convener of Cross Sector Partnerships

Strategy 2.1: Establish regularly scheduled and accessible CAPC meetings to develop and prioritize prevention activities in San Mateo County.

Status: the needs of the community still need to be identified. A needs assessment would be one method to obtain community feedback regarding their perceived needs. Community input is needed to drive the work.

Mr. Anand Chabra shared that data is available from community and provider surveys as well as community needs assessments. In addition to community health assessments conducted by the health department, every 5 years the journal of child and adolescence health needs assessment is completed. This assessment addresses prevention and societal drivers of health issues relevant to prevention work and cross sector partnerships. Mr. Chabra can share this data with the committee, eliminating the need for duplicate efforts, leveraging existing resources. Existing community needs assessments can be utilized in future conversations about the new strategic plan.

Strategy 2.2: Invite participants with a broad range of stakeholders; orientation and onboarding of new members, bylaws that align responsibility to expectations

Status: work has yet to begin but this is on the radar for the outreach subcommittee.

Strategy 2.3: Engage parents and community to inform strategies and practices by holding listening sessions and invite to volunteer in community education campaigns or at CAPC events.

Status: work may have been done by past subcommittees but not substantial

Goal 3: Coordinate Countywide Prevention Activities

Strategy 3.1: Promote public awareness and build a shared understanding of how to prevent child abuse and neglect (i.e., community education campaign, blue ribbon, and protective factors)

Status: Effort has begun with the car seat campaign, but additional work is needed to achieve this goal. Specifics on how to achieve this strategy will be discussed in planning sessions so that progress becomes measurable.

Strategy 3.2: Partner with San Mateo County Children & Family Services department to implement San Mateo County's comprehensive prevention plan

Status: there was a lot of collaboration with the committee on the development of the comprehensive prevention Plan, and the initial action step for the implementation phase, but more work is needed. Effort is ongoing and is tied to the implementation of family first prevention services

Strategy 3.3: Provide professional development and training to key stakeholders on preventing child maltreatment.

Status: work has yet to begin on this strategy

Meron will send the strategic plan to CAPC members to review over the next month in preparation to return with feedback to develop a new 2- or 3-year strategic plan that will begin in 2027 and potentially end in 2029.

Community Partner Spotlight

Family Connections (FC), Melissa Guariglia

Family Connections began in 1993 in a 1-bedroom apartment, offering early learning services and a continuum of support lasting up to 12 months with the goal of building connections between caregivers. For the first 5 years, FC staff noticed a lot of isolation and the need to build community.

Early Learning Services

- **Preschool**

Structured using a Coop model where the caregiver's participation is necessary. The classes teach how to appropriately interact with children. Predominately utilize parent/teacher models.

- **Nurturing families**

Families meet two days a week to learn how to build confidence in their children. This uses a partial drop-off model allowing children to build confidence and independence. As families work through transitions, staff work with families on a plan.

All early learning services are free and offered in English and Spanish

Family Community Services

- **Home Visiting**

Home visiting may be the first contact before families enter into other aspects of the program

- **Caregiver education**

The Triple P program is offered to all families. Families are evaluated when they enter the program to determine where the needs lie. Common areas where families need support are feeding, sleeping, and managing challenging behaviors.

- **Playgroups and workshops** - Parent Cafes, Cafecito's, Lil Explorers

The purpose of these groups is to build connections in the community. These are co-op child caregiver groups. Developmental screenings are offered.



- **Mental Health Services**

Services are offered at Family Connections main sight and at headstart sites. Services are prevention based to support the network of caregivers supporting kids, including teachers, and grandparents. Staff strategize with caregivers on how to build strengths in working with children

Family connections has 8 clinicians, half are CPR certified. They are also partnered with Pre-To-Three and RTS.

- **DYADIC and Family Therapy - Group Support and Psychoeducation**

The mental health team came up with different groups called caregiver circle groups. On certain thematic topics, closed groups meet for 3 – 5 weeks.

How to get connected

- No exclusion criteria
- No income requirements
- Medical insurance is not required
- Parents participating in the early childhood development class must be vaccinated.

An enrollment specialist will reach out to the family and will provide guidance on which services are best suited to the family's needs. It is a collaborative approach.

Intake

The best way to refer families for services is through the registration email: registration@familyconnections.org
Services are currently free.

Class Locations:

Daly city, Redwood City, and East Palo Alto

Family Connections recently partnered with Coast Side Hope and is beginning to offer services with an onsite clinician and staff available for resource connection

Participant capacity for programs:

Early learning: 75 to 100

Home Visiting: 100

Consultation: high capacity

With clinical team: case load of 10 - 12



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	July CAPC Meeting Schedule The next meeting occurs prior to the July 4th holiday weekend. The group was consulted to determine interest in meeting in July. The final Decision is to regroup in 08/26. Members were asked to come prepared with achievable goals for next year
Adjournment	Future meeting: Thurs., Aug. 6, 2026. This will be in-person meeting Time: 1:30-3:30 pm Location: COB3, Redwood City