## **MEET THE PLACEMENT PERMANENCY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE UNIT** PROUDLY SERVING PROBATION FOSTER CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Placement Permanency and Quality Assurance (PPQA) was established in 2001 as the result of the passing of AB 636. The Outcomes and Accountability Act implemented mandates to achieve accountability in child welfare systems statewide and improve outcomes for children, youth, and their families through safety, permanency, and well-being. PPQA serves Probation foster children and their families, Residential Program Providers, and Probation Child Welfare, also known as the Placement Services Bureau. The primary objective of PPQA is to monitor, correct, enhance, and strengthen the systems, operations, policies, and procedures of the Bureau and all out-of-home care settings where Probation foster children and youth reside. AB 403 Continuum of Care Reform, Adoption of Safe Families Act (ASFA), Division 31, AB575, and Title 22 Regulations are a few of the legislative structures for the work completed by PPQA. Therefore, PPQA provides quality assurance to all activities directly affecting probation foster children and youth and those at risk of entering the Probation Child Welfare system to meet or exceed Federal and State mandates.

There are three (3) aspects to the PPQA operation: 1) ensuring the safety and stability of the child/youth while in Out-of-Home care, which includes assessing the suitability of placements and monitoring the quality of treatment and services provided, 2) case compliance reviews based on the Federal Case Review Case process, 3) permanency planning to ensure placement stability, family finding, Family Reunification, Adoptions, and Legal Guardianships, and securing Life-Long Connections.

The PPQA operation consists of one Director, three Supervisors, twenty-seven DPO IIs, four Program Analysts, and one Secretary. Functions under PPQA include:

- 1.) Federal Case Reviewers & Case Compliance (FCR)
- 2.) Permanency Planning & Family Finding (PPQA)
- 3.) Resource Family Approval (RFA)
- 4.) Contract Compliance & Investigations (CCI)



Back Row: Program Analyst Spencer, Director Campbell-Motton, DPO II Nations, DPO II Aguillard, DPO II Caesar; Front: SDPO Hamilton, DPO II Soto, DPO II Rubacher

## PPQA & FCR

## **MEET THE PLACEMENT PERMANENCY AND QUALITY** ASSURANCE UNIT (CONT) PROUDLY SERVING PROBATION FOSTER CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

PPQA completed the first adoption in 2006 in delinquency court and since that time has completed four more, which are five of only nine completed statewide. The Permanency Team also completed 15 Legal Guardianships, recruited 11 families as placement options for Probation foster children and youth, and oversees 95 approved Forever Friends, who are available to be lifelong connections to children/youth with no family. The Resource Family Approval Team has approved approximately 160 families since 2017 and continues to approve families recruited through targeted media campaigns. In April 2022, PPQA worked closely with the Placement DPO of Record to place the second Probation foster youth with an Intensive Services Foster Care Resource Family, which is very rare as these homes are traditionally reserved for younger children and teens through DCFS. Due to the safety measures implemented by both the FCR and CCI teams, youth have a safe place to live until they are connected with families, whether biological or recruited.





DPO II Aranda DPO II Gregory **DPO II Thompson** DPO II Tannous. Not pictured: SDPO James, DPO II Fields, DPO II Romero, DPO II Marrero

Permanency Team

## Meet the team!



DPO II O'Quinn



SDPO Juarez, DPO II Ninofranco, DPO II Lim



**Program Analyst** Gonzales



PPOA

**Program Analyst** League



Secretary Palmerin



DPO Smith, DPO Ro, DPO Frelix-Bracken



DPO II Tchakerian

RFA



DPO II Linares, DPO II Navarro, DPO II Orgaz, DPO II Valdivia-Chavez Not pictured: DPO II Sullivan, Program Analyst Johnson

Thank you, Placement Permanency and Quality Assurance Unit, for your commitment and dedication to securing safe and healthy homes, guardians and resource and permanent families for probation youth. The Los Angeles County Probation Department salutes you! **Probation News**