

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS LINDSEY P. HORVATH
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June 10, 2025

Evolving the Office of Child Protection and Redefining the Board Priority Around Child Protection

On June, 4, 2024, the Board of Supervisors (Board) passed the [Reimagining the Office of Child Protection](#) (OCP) motion. The Board asked for the OCP to review their vision and intent after a decade of work by discussing the status of the 51 Blue Ribbon Commission recommendations, highlighting their role in child safety and well-being and their accomplishments in prevention and child welfare systems improvement efforts. The Board also asked OCP to create a new strategic plan that centered child and family wellbeing, noting the OCP's System of Care work and ongoing collaboration with various partners, including efforts related to children, youth, and families for CalAIM, the youth opioid response, youth behavioral health, and health integration efforts. It is important that the Board strengthen the work of the OCP by helping it evolve, broadening its scope of work to ensure that children, youth, and families, including those involved in the child welfare system, or who are system-impacted, are truly prioritized by the County and throughout all 38 County agencies.

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The OCP released their [report back late last year](#), which outlined their achievements in prevention, service delivery, and system improvements, with a focus on continued work to enhance child protection and family support services. The report back also included a strategic roadmap for the OCP that moves the OCP's focus to child, youth, and family wellbeing priorities through policy and systems change for Los Angeles County (County).

The priority focus areas for OCP recommended for adoption by the Board for the next 3-5 years are:

- 1) Building a sustainable Community Pathway to services for families before they touch safety net programs;
- 2) Strengthening coordination and collaboration across the child/youth/family System of Care by focusing on joint strategies and solutions for shared clients; and
- 3) Implementing behavioral health and health priorities for children and youth, especially those who are systems-impacted.

The OCP's new direction aligns with and amplifies other existing efforts in the County, including the Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee (PPSGC) and Prevention and Promotion Coordination and Implementation Team (PPCIT). Both entities have also emphasized the importance of promoting positive child and family wellbeing outcomes. It is clear that child and family wellbeing, which includes those who are system-impacted, must be elevated to better serve Angelenos throughout the County.

While the PPSGC and PPCIT continue to develop, and the federal, state and local budgetary landscape as it relates to prevention, promotion, and supportive

services remains uncertain, it is imperative that the Board strengthen the work of the OCP by helping it evolve, broadening its scope of work to ensure that children, youth, and families, including those involved in the child welfare system, or who are system-impacted, are truly prioritized by the County and throughout all 38 County agencies. The OCP must help usher the County into a new era that would make the recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Commission, and the countless recommendations before and after, finally come to fruition for the overall wellbeing for children, youth, and families within the County.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Office of Child Protection (OCP) adopt the priority areas identified in its roadmap and develop a new strategic plan, and to report back to the Board of Supervisors with the following:

- 1) To move forward with developing a new Strategic Plan and to report back on the progress to the Board of Supervisors (Board) via the Family and Social Services Cluster on a quarterly basis until the strategic plan is completed, prioritizing the following recommendations:
 - a. Building a sustainable Community Pathway to services for families before they touch safety net programs;
 - b. Strengthening coordination and collaboration across the child/youth/family System of Care by focusing on joint strategies and solutions for shared clients; and
 - c. Implementing behavioral health and health priorities for children and youth, especially those who are systems-impacted.

- 2) The Strategic Plan should also include discussion of how the OCP could be more empowered to lead child and family wellbeing work. This may include discussion of office placement, reporting structure to the Board, staffing and resource needs, and oversight functions.
- 3) Once the strategic plan is completed, to report back to the Board via Board presentation on the evolution of this work and how the System of Care work is going to be strengthened.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE, that the Board Directed Priority be redefined from Child Protection to ensure that Child, Youth and Family Wellbeing are prioritized for Los Angeles County and the Board. The OCP should work with the Chief Executive Office and the Executive Office of the Board to revise the Board directed priority of Child Protection to include Child and Family Wellbeing;

- a. OCP to provide written recommendations on this redefined priority to the Board based on community stakeholder and lived expertise feedback in a 180-day report back.

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