

PROBATION FORUM – ISSUES UPDATE

CWS/CMS User Resource Services Team

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The User Resource Services Team (URST) is responsible for maintaining and making available to the counties application user training tools and documentation.



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PROBATION FORUM FOLLOW-UP: January 24, 2013

The January Probation Forum was attended by 20 counties as well as by representatives of CDSS (system support, data analysis and program staff), the Regional Center for Family-Focused Practice, and the Child Welfare Directors Association.



ISSUE UPDATES

- The CDSS CMS Support Branch shared with the Forum that a meeting was planned for February 4 at CDSS to discuss the continuing need for counties to provide the FC 23 (Probation Foster Care Placement Monthly Caseload Statistical Report) to the State. If any updates are available before the February 28th Forum, that information will be shared.
- Much of the January Forum was spent going over questions that came to the State from Probation Department CWS/CMS users. Each question was discussed until State staff understood the issues and everyone had the opportunity to describe local solutions.

On the following Wednesday, Mindy Yamasaki, the Forum facilitator, and Jerry Cox sat in on a meeting of CDSS staff and managers as they went through each of the questions and assigned research where answers were not readily at hand. We anticipate that department spokespersons will be prepared on the February 28th with new information for the user forum. (The list of the questions is included in this newsletter.)

INVITATION TO ALL PROBATION DEPARTMENTS:

STEPHEN HENSLEY, THE ASST. DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CWS/CMS OFFICE INVITED PROBATION DEPARTMENT STAFF TO PARTICIPATE IN THE REGIONAL MEETINGS FOR SYSTEM USERS HELD EACH MONTH ALL OVER THE STATE.

BAY AREA REGION – 1ST THURSDAY 10 – 1:30

MOUNTAIN – VALLEY REGION – 3RD WEDNESDAY 9:30 – NOON

SOUTHERN REGION – 3RD THURSDAY 9:30 – 2:30

CENTRAL VALLEY REGION – 3RD FRIDAY 10 – 3

NORTHERN REGION – 4TH TUESDAY 10 - NOON

DETAILS ABOUT COUNTY DISTRIBUTION AMONG REGIONS AND CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE CWS/CMS CUSTOMER RELATIONS TEAM OR THE WEBSITE.

NEXT PROBATION FORUM February 28, 2013

(877) 214-6371

Participant Code: 933687

Adobe Connect Meeting Link:

<http://cahealthosi.adobeconnect.com/probation/>



QUESTIONS UNDER RESEARCH BY THE STATE

The following questions were shared at the January 24, 2013, Probation Forum. Responses are being sought from the State.

1. When a Placement case is closed because a youth graduated placement, returned to the home of removal/parents and is not an AB12 case but has the option of Reentry at a later date, do these cases get closed under a "suspended caseload" so that it can be re-opened in the future as a Reentry?
 - When a closed case is re-opened for Reentry purposes what is the "suspension reason"?
 - Is the "suspension reason" documented at the time the case is being closed or is that something that is only addressed at time of re-opening a closed case?
 - To reopen a closed case who has ability to re-open it? Is it only the person who closed the case in the first place? Is it a County Administrator? Can a supervisor or other available staff re-open a closed case and how?
2. Probation renews the SOC 161 Six Month Certification of EFC Participation with Participation Activities and submits it to an eligibility worker every six months. Initially the Participation Codes are entered in CWS/CMS with certification dates.
 - Do the Participation Codes in CWS/CMS have to be renewed/updated every time the SOC161 form is renewed/updated?
 - Or do the Participation Codes in CWS/CMS only have to be changed in the system when the Participation Activity changes?
3. CWS has a section to enter the TILP date & 90 Day Transition Plan date. Do these sections only have to be completed prior to closing a case or does the TILP date have to be added/updated every 6 months in CWS/CMS too even though Probation does not utilize the Case Plan Documents from CWS/CMS?
 - Does Probation AB12 cases have to update the Case Plan goal section in CWS/CMS to reflect Permanent Connections? If so does this update only occur once when a case is transferred to AB12?
4. When a PO reviews/updates a Case Plan with an NMD, does that get entered in CWS as an Associated Service?
5. Do we have to enter in CWS/CMS the date the Mutual Agreement was signed for every case or Reentry cases only?
6. What information is essentially important for AB12 cases? For instance, changing the case to Supportive Transition is important... what other Special Project Codes are important to ensure compliance with CWS/CMS.
7. Although OSI updated the New User materials to change the case start date from the arrest date to the placement order (dispo) date, the arrest date is still showing in the materials as the removal date (page 26 of the Probation Placement section.) I know that there are some instances where a juvenile might be removed, and spend up to 1-12 months in juvenile hall while a case is being contested regarding placement. If the removal date is used as the placement start date, this could be a problem. Consider the 18 month FR service clock, for instance.
8. When entering a new SILP for an NMD, are counties required to complete the HEP to SCP and Siblings placed together periwinkle fields? If so, what date are they using for the HEP, which should have been given to the youth at 18?
9. For NMD's who leave EFC services, what PE closure reason should be used? I know that "Client Refused Services" is available in the PLACEMENT CHANGE REASON, but the closest thing in PE is probably "Emancipation." Even though the system does not have a specific reason that directly applies, it might be good for counties to all use the same thing.
10. The curriculum leaves out the need to enter an adjusted capacity of 1 when creating the SILP as a placement home (Page 27 of the NMD-SILP section which doesn't have its own tab and is behind Placement.) I believe this is needed for the SOC 158.
11. Is data being drawn from CWS/CMS regarding Probation staff monthly contacts with SCP's? If not, will this be coming in the near future? If so, there should be some discussion regarding how counties record contact with group home staff, as these people are not available in the system as SCP's.
12. I understand that there are some differences in how counties view NMD status. Some are continuing 602 status beyond 18 (when the youth is still finishing high school) and some insist that status must change to 450 for NMD. I recently taught a New User class to a combined group from both San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties, and this was a hot topic of discussion. I have heard this before, and the SLO SPOC informed me that he has encountered this issue among other counties, so I'm thinking this might need some clarification.