



Funding Stream Fact Sheet: State and County Children's Trust Funds (CTF)

Source of CTF Funds: The State Children's Trust Fund (State CTF) was created as a separate fund in the state treasury in 1983 by Assembly Bill 2994 in order to fund child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs. State CTF dollars are generated from birth certificate fees, specialty license plate revenue, and voluntary private donations. The law also authorized the creation of County Children's Trust Funds (County CTF) in any county in which the Board of Supervisors establishes a commission, board, or council (a Children's Network, Child Abuse Prevention Council [CAPC], or Human Services Commission, for example) to coordinate child abuse and neglect prevention activities. County CTF moneys are used to support local efforts and are coordinated and/or allocated through these locally designated bodies.

How much County CTF funding is available: In accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Sections 18966.1 and 18967, each County CTF shall have a minimum of \$20,000 to support child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs. If a county's collection of local birth certificate fees amount to less than \$20,000 per year, it is granted the amount of Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) funds necessary to bring total birth certificate fees to \$20,000 per year.

Intended Use of State CTF Funds: State funds are intended to be used to support dissemination of information that will raise public awareness; Research and demonstration projects to explore successful program models; Funding of innovative, child-centered approaches to prevent child abuse and neglect; Ongoing public awareness through activities that will promote the charitable tax deduction for the trust fund and seek continued contributions.

Intended Use of County CTF Funds: The purpose of the County CTF is to fund child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs operated by private nonprofit organizations or public institutions of higher education with recognized expertise in fields related to child welfare. At the local level, each county has established criteria for uses of the Trust Fund in accordance with the WIC and California regulations in order to meet local needs. WIC Section 18969 limits administrative costs to no more than five percent of the annual allocation.

Target Population:

- Children who have experienced or are at risk of abuse or neglect, and their families (services)
- Providers of services for children (training opportunities)
- The public at large (media campaigns)

Types of Services Funded by State CTF include:

- The California Evidenced Based Clearinghouse
- Free online mandated reporter training
- Public awareness campaigns such as Shaken Baby Syndrome
- Training programs for family resource specialists
- Training conferences

Types of Services Funded Locally by County CTF Funds include:

- Mandatory reporter training
- Financial, educational, and emergency assistance to existing foster children and former foster youth up to age 21

- Family support services to families who have previous experience with the child welfare system or have a history of domestic abuse
- Parenting classes

Examples of How FRCs/FSOs Use County CTF Funds:

- Supports the coordinator for the FRC network (systems level work for FRCs)
- Creates linkages for advanced funding through the network
- Mandated reporter training
- Parental stress line (phone information and referral, and case management) for Asian Pacific Islanders
- Partner with local child abuse prevention council on child abuse prevention efforts

Considerations for FRC/FSOs wanting to access/use County CTF Funds:

Benefits	Potential Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds are flexible and used to meet local needs as identified by the designated County CTF committee appointed by the Board of Supervisors. • Participation in County CTF planning and funding processes can help assure that community needs/strengths identified by FRCs are considered in fund allocation. • Participation in County CTF planning processes may help position FRCs to access this and other local funding streams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in planning processes leading to funding may be time consuming. • Long-term funding strategies and allocations may already be in place. • Funds are targeted for services to children and families at risk of child abuse, or already involved in child welfare services and may not be able to be used to serve other families depending on local allocation priorities.

How County CTF Funding is Allocated: The designated child abuse prevention council, commission, or committee makes funding recommendations to the county board of supervisors. The board of supervisors makes the final funding decisions.

Stakeholder Participation (in County CTF): Since 2011 Realignment legislation took effect, counties are no longer required by law to facilitate a specific stakeholder process. However, in most counties, stakeholder engagement opportunities are available through the local commission. At a minimum, stakeholders can always participate by providing input directly to the county board of supervisors.

Oversight and Accountability: The State Department of Social Services (DSS) Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) is responsible for administering programs and projects with the State CTF’s annual allocation. County funds are overseen by local county commissions or councils. The county commissions must provide OCAP with annual reports accounting for all local Trust Fund revenues and expenditures.

How Can My Program Access County CTF Funding?

- Learn about and/or participate in the planning process used to determine how funds will be allocated.
- Understand local County CTF funding priorities.
- Identify programs/services/activities your organization provides that align with funding priorities.

Find out more about the use of this funding stream in your county:

In many counties, the child abuse prevention council is the group responsible for County CTF funds. Links to county CAPCs can be found on CFRA’s website: CaliforniaFamilyResource.org/pages/43

Contact your county’s child welfare director for more information on your County CTF.