Every Child Deserves the Support of Both Parents
Welcome!

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Training Goal

Provide an overview of the Child Support Program so that we can work together more effectively to serve our shared customers and make a difference for families in need.
The Child Support Brand

Who *were* we?

Who *are* we?
Who does Child Support Serve?

- **Currently Aided Cases**: 296,903
- **Formerly Aided Cases**: 647,402
- **Non-Aided Cases**: 270,407

**FFY 2016 California Caseload Total**: 1,214,712
Money for Families

Collections given directly to families: $1,024,029,655

Collections given to formerly aided CPs: $1,116,387,266

Welfare Recoupment: $265,320,835
Child Support is defined by law as the ongoing monetary expenditures and payments necessary to cover a child’s living and medical expenses.

Both parents have a legal duty to provide financial support for their children.

The court may order either or both parents to pay child support. Child support may include:

- Monetary support
- Health insurance coverage
- Arrearages
- Interest on delinquent child support obligations
What services does Child Support provide?

**Locate**
We can locate noncustodial parents (NCPs) and assets

**Establishment**
We can help establish orders for paternity, child support and medical support

**Enforcement**
We can enforce orders for child and spousal support and health insurance

**Accounting**
We keep detailed records of child support transactions

**Modification**
We can help to modify the terms of existing support orders
What we don’t do...

Services that Child Support is unable to provide include:

- Divorce
- Custody/Visitation
- Restraining Orders
- Establish Spousal Support
Two Types of Child Support Cases

**Non-Aided Case**
- Services Requested
  - Annual fee may be charged
  - Either parent can apply

**Aided Case**
- Services Required
  - Custodial Party (CP) must assign support rights (CW 2.1)
  - CP must cooperate with Child Support
  - No annual fee
  - $50 disregard payment
  - DCSS will continue to collect child support post-public assistance
  - DCSS will continue to collect on arrears accrued during the aid period
  - CP can request in writing that DCSS stop collections on behalf of their non-aid child support and arrears.
Non-Aided Applications

This includes parents who receive Medi-CAL, CalFresh, General Assistance, WIOA, etc.

Online
- VIOLA at the state child support website

By Mail
- Request an application by telephone

In Person
- Visit any local child support office
How does child support receive referrals from the CWD?

- The IV-A system automatically transmits electronic referrals to DCSS for children receiving CalWORKs, KinGap, or Foster Care assistance.
- DCSS refers to the electronic referral as a Service Request (SR).
- SRs are processed in the IV-D CSE system to create a child support case.
**The Support Questionnaire**

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**

**SUPPORT QUESTIONNAIRE**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**
You must answer ALL questions. COMPLETE ONE FORM FOR EACH NONCUSTODIAL PARENT OR EACH UNMARRIED FATHER IN THE HOME.

Use ink. Print answer. Check Yes, No, or Unknown. Use a separate piece of paper if you need more room.

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**SECTION 1 - COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING ABOUT YOURSELF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)</th>
<th>MAIDEN NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HOME ADDRESS (STREET NUMBER AND NAME, APARTMENT NUMBER, IF ANY)</td>
<td>CITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)</td>
<td>BIRTHDATE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO CHILDREN**

- Spouse
- Ex-Spouse
- Friend
- Other

**SECTION 2 - COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING ABOUT THE NONCUSTODIAL PARENT OR UNMARRIED FATHER IN THE HOME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)</th>
<th>SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)</th>
<th>MALE</th>
<th>FEMALE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAST KNOWN ADDRESS (STREET NUMBER AND NAME, APARTMENT NUMBER, IF ANY)</td>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>STATE</td>
<td>ZIP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHEN WAS THIS ADDRESS CURRENT? | TELEPHONE NUMBER |
WHEN DID YOU LAST HEAR FROM OR GET MAIL FROM THIS PARENT? | Did this parent live with you? | Yes | No |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIRTHDATE</th>
<th>BIRTH PLACE</th>
<th>HEIGHT</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>EYE COLOR</th>
<th>HAIR COLOR</th>
<th>RACE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

SCARS, BIRTHMARKS, TATTOOS, NICKNAMES, ETC.
When a Good Cause claim is received by DCSS via the IV-A transaction, the CSE system takes the following actions based on the status of the claim:

**Status: Good Cause Claimed**

The child support case will remain open until the final determination has been made by IV-A, although all enforcement actions stop.

**Status: Good Cause Granted**

The child support case will be automatically closed by the CSE system.

**Status: Good Cause Denied**

The child support case remains open and enforcement actions resume.
## Paternity Establishment

How does DCSS determine paternity?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Presumption</th>
<th>Paternity Acknowledged</th>
<th>Paternity Adjudicated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The child was conceived within the marriage dates or born within 300 days of the date of legal separation</td>
<td>The parents completed a paternity acknowledgement from through the Paternity Opportunity Program (POP)</td>
<td>Paternity is established by court order.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is POP?

The Paternity Opportunity Program can help establish parentage without going to court.

- POP provides unmarried mothers and biological fathers the opportunity to voluntarily establish legal paternity for their child by signing a Declaration of Paternity (CS 909 form).

- A filed Declaration of Paternity has the same legal force and effect as a judgment of paternity entered by a court.
The Value of Paternity

- Simple program/form
- Public assistance
- Father’s name on birth certificate
- Benefits (health, social security)
- Child’s passport/travel
Primary Authorized Witnesses

- Hospitals
- County Registrar Offices
- Courts/Family Law Facilitators
- Local Welfare Agencies
- Local Child Support Offices
The Role of the Authorized Witnesses

- Provide POP information
- Witness signatures
- Review declarations for accuracy
- Submit completed declarations to POP
How much?

Courts and child support agencies use the State Guideline Calculator to calculate child support.

Factors that affect child support include:

- Income of the parents
- Visitation
- Other child support orders
- Other biological children in the home
- Daycare or health care expenses
- Mandatory income deductions
Enforcement

Child support employs a number of tools to collect child support:

- Income Withholding Order (IWO)
- Order to provide Medical Support/Health Insurance
- Credit Reporting
- Real Property Liens
- License Suspension/Revocation
- Passport Denial
- Unemployment & Disability Insurance Benefit Intercept
- Franchise Tax Board (FTB) and IRS Refund Intercepts
- Bank Levies
The IV-A/IV-D Handshake

- Provide DCSS with as much information as possible
- Pairing IV-A Member IDs with IV-D Participant IDs
- NCP whereabouts, earnings, assets
- Paternity information
- Foster care cases and possible reunification

Better Together

We can work together to better serve families
Child Support is Part of the Poverty Solution

- Collections - 40% of Household income for families who receive child support

- Improved child outcomes when both parents are involved, including:
  - Reduced teen pregnancy
  - Reduced interaction with criminal justice
  - Increased high school graduation rates
Every child deserves the support of both parents

We are in this together!