



Amador Child Abuse Prevention Council

Strategic Operations Plan 2023-2025



Introduction

The Council – History and Context

The Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council Act, passed by the California Legislature in the 1980's, requires each county to facilitate the formation and funding of a child abuse prevention council (CAPC) to support child abuse intervention and prevention activities.

The Welfare and Institutions code, Section 18967, further stipulates that each county is authorized to establish a County Children's Trust Fund for the purpose of funding local child abuse prevention activities. A child abuse prevention coordinating council is a community council whose primary purpose is to coordinate the community's efforts to prevent and respond to child abuse.

Child Abuse Prevention Councils are mandated by State legislation to exist in every county for the primary purpose of coordinating the community's efforts to prevent and respond to child abuse. All counties are now required to have a Child Abuse Prevention Council that acts independent of any other agency or organization.

Prevention and treatment services communities and community representative, including the following: Medical and mental health services; Community-based social services; Public and private schools; Community volunteers; Civic organizations; and the religious community.

The Amador County Child Abuse Prevention Council was originally established by the County Board of Supervisor's in 1983 under the auspices of The Amador-Tuolumne Community Action Agency's (A-TCAA) Project Aware (now called Family Resource Services).

The Council is currently has First 5 Amador acting as its fiscal agent, while keeping all budgetary operations and program activities separate and independent of First 5 Amador's operations and fiscal budget.

Current Trends and Conditions Influencing CAPC work

In June 2020, The Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) asked the Strategies 2.0 partnership to develop a Best Practice Guidelines manuscript to bring clarity to Child Abuse Prevention Councils (CAPCs) as the catalyst, convener, and coordinator of prevention efforts at the county level. The work aligned with the renewed energy in child abuse prevention nationally and statewide.

The intention of working with Strategies 2.0 was to ensure the county CAPCs prioritize child well-being in their child abuse prevention planning efforts. The work with Strategies 2.0 started with a Prevention Summit in January 2019 that convened teams from twenty-two (22) counties to engage in prevention action planning. Participating teams received tools, including the OCAP Prevention Framework and county-specific Data Dashboards focused on

the social determinants of health. Additionally, participants received a Prevention Planning Template to guide the development of their local prevention plans.

Following the 2019 Summit, counties asked for guidance on roles, tools to accelerate the work, and opportunities to continue to talk to and learn from each other. The Best Practice Guide for CAPCs was developed and issued to clarify and support the CAPC's vital role. The Best Practices document expanded definitions of the roles of CAPCs, the foundational capacity required to fulfill each role, and the tools and resources to meet each role effectively.

The Amador CAPC participated in the Amador Prevention Planning Team, a county-wide initiative driven by CAPC and the Child Welfare department. The CAPC and the Prevention Planning Team's work goal was to reach individuals throughout the county to create a county-wide prevention approach. The State Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) and Strategies TA provided a facilitator to guide Amador County through this three-year process. In late 2022 this team was wrapped into a larger state-wide initiative driven by the state Department of Social Services and the Office of Child Abuse Prevention with a new identity the Comprehensive Planning Plan team, spearheaded by the Amador County Department of Social Services in partnership with contracted consultants at Social Change Partners.

Planning Approach – Updating the CAPC Strategic Plan

The Amador Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) last conducted a full review and update of its strategic plan in July 2017. They created a three-year plan to cover 2017 through 2020. In 2020, the CAPC developed a one-year extension of the 2017-20 plan. While the new county-wide prevention approach, once finished and adopted, will inform the work and processes of Amador's CAPC, the organization needs a strategic, operational plan update. The update will focus on and guide the Coordinator's work activities and those of the Council and partners over the next two to three years.

The Best Practices Guide and the one-page Best Practices Guidelines documents (Strategies 2.0) provide a framework for the Amador CAPC as it works with the Amador Prevention Team. Additionally, work completed and approved through the Prevention Team processes will be considered during strategic and operational planning.

Objectives

1. Create a two-year strategic operation plan (update) to provide direction and focused action.
2. Craft the CAPC Strategic Plan with an operational (day-to-day focus) that the CAPC Coordinator can use to guide actions and involve other CAPC members.
3. Consider implications and align the CAPC Strategic Plan with the work underway by the Comprehensive Prevention Plan team up to this point.

4. The CAPC planning project/update should be streamlined and simplified to accomplish the objectives while working within the budget parameters of the CAPC.

Action Steps

STEP 1: REVIEW, ASSESS, AND PROPOSE MODIFICATIONS

STEP 2: PREPARE AND CONDUCT A PLANNING SESSION

STEP 3: PRODUCE AND ISSUE A STRATEGIC OPERATIONAL PLAN

As outlined above, the Amador CAPC's strategic and operational planning project is streamlined to provide direction and guidance for the Council.

Critical aspects of the project are:

- Review and validate mission, vision, and values - noting any areas to refine now.
- Discuss current CAPC activities, the Coordinator, and CAPC capacity, noting growth areas and considerations.
- Establish clear two-year objectives (what to focus on now and the desired results from its work)
- Revisit and refine current strategies and tactics; what should continue, what is no longer needed, or what
- should be put on hold for now (and benefits of any of these changes)
- Compile all decisions into a two-year strategic, operational plan document with a work plan/action plan
- that the Amador CAPC can use for managing workflow and progress.

Implementation of the Plan

The updated Strategic Plan will be in effect from 2023-2025. It is recommended that the plan goals and strategies are reviewed quarterly to ensure continued alignment with local and statewide CAPC trends and priorities.

VISION

Our vision is:

All children and caregivers are valued, safe, healthy, and thriving.

MISSION

Our mission is to:

Prevent and reduce all forms of child abuse and neglect in Amador County.

We achieve our mission through inclusive and innovative programs, removing barriers to services, analyzing, and implementing systems change to promote comprehensive services and responsive manner embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Roles

The Council identified three roles to guide its work over the next two years.

Initiate Social Connection opportunities

Amplify Communications and Awareness

Convene Investigate and Analyze

We can have impact by initiating social connection opportunities throughout the County; amplifying messaging and communications related to prevention, information, and resources; and convening groups to investigate and analyze trends and needs in the County related to preventing and reducing all forms of abuse and neglect.



GOALS

The Council identified three goals and a series of strategies to accomplish results.

GOAL 1

Increase awareness of child abuse and neglect and promote resources for prevention, intervention, and building resilience.

Strategies that support this goal include identifying needed educational resources and locating, curating, and sourcing existing resources through our partners.

GOAL 2

Reduce isolation and increase social connections for families.

Strategies that support this goal involve identifying and promoting opportunities for social connections for families and promoting and growing opportunities for building resilience.

Goal 3

Convene community partners to analyze and implement community-wide prevention.

Strategies that support this goal build upon working with CAPC partners who know touchpoints and can connect families to health and wellness resources and opportunities.



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STRATEGIES

The Council updated and refined a number of interrelated strategies to achieve the goals. The table below lists the strategies and the goals each supports.



STRATEGIES	1	2	3
<p>1. OUTREACH AND AWARENESS. All outreach materials and related educational information are to be shared with partnering agencies as appropriate and to be incorporated into CAPC events, presentations, newsletters, and social media to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness of what constitutes child abuse and neglect. • Increase awareness of resources available to families to both prevent and address child abuse and neglect when it occurs; and • Increase awareness of CAPC’s presence in the county as a resource itself. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Educational materials and rack cards (e.g., Are we Up to the Task? Dangers of Marijuana edibles) ii. Continue e-newsletter and social media efforts focused on prevention and prevention-level systems change. iii. Print and oversee the distribution of Amador County Community Resources wallet-sized cards to agencies and organizations in the county. 	x	x	x
<p>2. PARTNER WITH LOCAL AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND GROUPS. Participation in the Program Committee, the Domestic Violence Council, other committees and groups, the school district, and for-profit businesses as appropriate.</p>	x		x
<p>3. COMMUNITY EVENTS. Participate in events aligned with systems alongside our community partners who provide direct services to share resources and information with families, caregivers, and providers.</p>	x		
<p>4. PRESENTATIONS TO LOCAL GROUPS. Outreach to community groups and organizations offering presentations covering Trauma-Informed practices and resilience as it applies to child abuse and neglect prevention and reduction. Use local media and social media as a way to bring these resources to the community as an alternative.</p>	x		

STRATEGIES

	1	2	3
5. PERIOD OF PURPLE CRYING. Work alongside Welcome Baby to educate new parents, families, caregivers, and other partners, about the period of purple crying.	x	x	
6. PREVENTION OF ACCESS TO AND MISUSE OF LEGAL AND ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES. This strategy addresses the most frequent risk factor driving children into the county's child welfare system, substance use. The Council's two-prong plan is to	x		x
a. Manage and coordinate drug bins and disposal options.			
b. Coordinating county-wide efforts to address the correlation between traumatic experiences, substance use, and child abuse and neglect. Provide education opportunities, training, and outreach materials that address the opiate crisis; prevention of access to legal and illegal substances from children; establish secure and consistent drop-off locations for discarded prescription drugs; work with local agencies and doctors to help them inform their patients regarding their availability; educate families about the importance of safely discarding prescription drugs.	x		
7. MANDATED REPORTER TRAINING FOR PREVENTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.			x
a. Continue outreach and promotion of Mandated Reporter training and the availability of virtual training. Research and host appropriate online webinars for organizations and community members; check for online training, offering incentives for providers to take them; partner with ACUSD and their mandated reporter training to ensure consistency in content and approaches.			
8. RESILIENT AMADOR. Work with/through Resilient Amador Coordinator to facilitate the county-wide Trauma Informed Care and Resilience Coalition to raise awareness of the effects of childhood trauma on individuals and the community, provide training and educational materials for families, caregivers, and service providers, and create systems change to result in a "Trauma-Informed Community."		x	x
9. MATERNAL WELLNESS POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION PROJECT. Partner with the Amador/Calaveras Perinatal Wellness Coalitions to provide prevention information and education through rack cards and presentations on risk factors of postpartum depression.			x

IMPLEMENTATION

Amador CAPC is undergoing a change in coordinator as this plan is being drafted. Responsible persons, timing, and strategy leads may shift as the CAPC takes advantage of collaboration and partnership opportunities.

This section provides additional details for implementing the strategies listed in the previous section. It is intended to assist the Council and its leadership in implementing the Strategic Operations Plan.

Strategy	Notes
1. Outreach and Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newsletters issued monthly.• Wallet/resource cards annually or as needed for reprinting/distribution.• Other activities are ongoing• Child Abuse Prevention Month (April)
2. Partner with Local Agencies, Organizations, and Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Variable timing• Meetings are as needed, ad hoc, and monthly/bi-monthly.• Suggest creating a chart or plan to focus/combine presentations with First 5 activities for increased robustness.
3. Community Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebrate Our Children (April)• Other events TBD
4. Presentations to Local Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Variable timing• Meetings are as needed, ad hoc, and monthly/bi-monthly.• Suggest creating a chart or plan to focus/combine presentations with First 5 activities for increased robustness.
5. Period of Purple Crying	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing; partnering with First 5's Welcome Baby program
6. Prevention of Access to/Misuse of Legal and Illegal Substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bins and countywide efforts are both ongoing
7. Mandated Reporter Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly and as requested by local orgs
8. Resilient Amador	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly meetings• Ongoing work