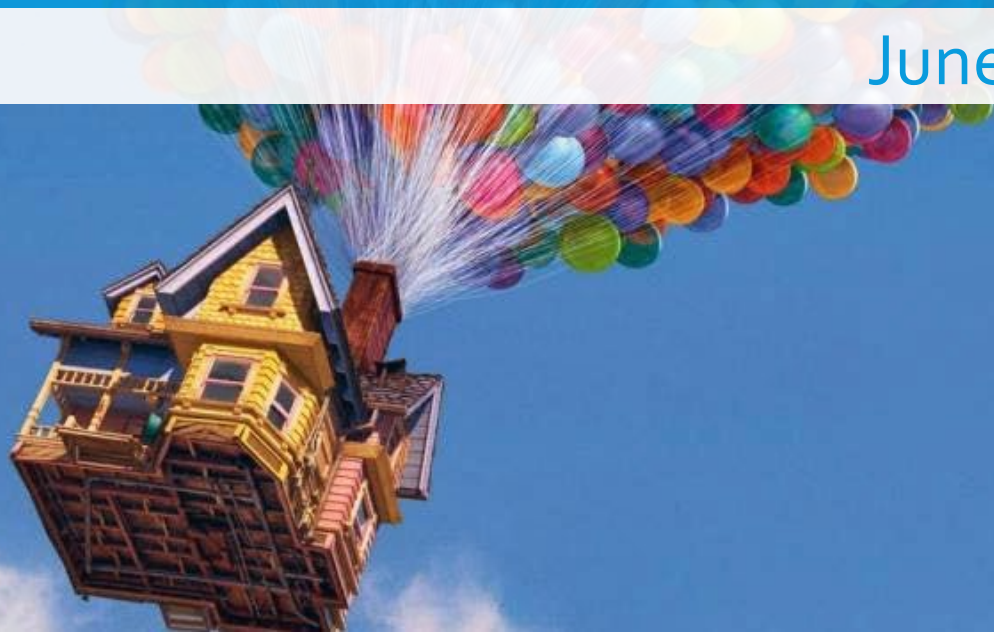




CARES OVERVIEW

June 3, 2026 FCSOC



OVERVIEW ITEMS

- What is **CARES**
- Why the change
- CWS/CMS and CARES comparison
- FCED Bulletin
- Preparation and Resources
- CARES Implementation Team
- Important dates



WHAT IS CARES?

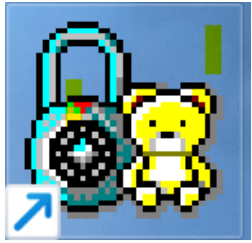
CARES is the statewide
Child Welfare information system
being developed by CDSS to
replace CWS-CMS effective
October 26, 2026.

California Automated Response and Engagement System



WHY THE CHANGE?

- The current CWS/CMS system utilized by counties is unable to meet the CCWIS federal fiscal and data reporting requirements.
- CWS/CMS cannot be updated to align with these standards.
- CARES will be able to provide the level of case specific details that are federally required.
- Federal CCWIS regulations require automated eligibility determination which is the FCED interface between CalSAWS and CARES.



CWS/CMS



CWS- CARES

Client Services - [Case ██████████]

File Edit Search Action Associated Attach/Detach Window Help Tools

ID Sys Comp Assignment Trans Req ICPC-100A ICPC-100B Doc Tracking Spec Pkg Closure Summary

Identification

Case Info
Case Name: ██████████
Case Number: ██████████
Start Date: ████████ End Date: ████████ Projected End Date: ████████
County: Fresno State: California
Country: United States

Case Status

Status	Effective Date	End Date
1 Court Involvement		

Status: ☒ Court Involvement ☐ Voluntary
Effective Date: ████████ End Date: ████████

Associated Referral Information
Referral Name: ██████████
Referral ID: ██████████
Received Date: ████████

Intervention

Reason
1 General Neglect - Basic Necessities

Primary Agency Responsible: County Welfare Department

Case Alerts

██████████
██████████
██████████
██████████
██████████

Ready Case ██████████

CARES Portal - Home | My Apps Dashboard | CWS-CARES | CAS-000000635614 | Case | Sal ██████████

cacwds--v1readines.sandbox.lightning.force.com/lightning/r/Case/500cn00000C9EMdAAN/view

Sandbox: V1Readines | Log out

CARES

Home | CAS-000000635614

Case: **chile verde** [Generate Document] [Find a Worker] [New Task]

Case ID: CAS-000000635614 | Case Type: Child Welfare Voluntary | Service Component: Family Reunification | Primary Worker: Maria M. Vallejo | Case Open Date: 1/14/2026 | Status: Open

Quick Find

Tasks
Overview of upcoming meetings and Missed & Overdue overall for all assigned cases
Due Today: 0 | Upcoming: 0 | Overdue: 1

Contact Notes
Overview of incomplete Contact Notes across your assigned work items.
Incomplete: 1

Action Launcher & Quick Links
CANS Ratings
Case Plan Goal Progress
SDM Ratings, Safety Plans, and Harm & Danger Statement History

Alerts (1)

Subject	Description	Severity
No Successful Contact for Family Finding	There has not been a successful contact recorded for Family Finding. Please continue search efforts.	0

Item/Service Requests
Overview of Item/Service Requests that are either still pending or are currently in progress
Pending: 0 | In Progress: 0

Focus Child Information

Preferred Name	Preferred Spoken Language	English	
Birthdate	1/1/2016	Approximate Age	10

Case Plan Information

Case Plan Status	Draft	Effective Date	
Permanency Goal	Remain Home	Review and Update Date	7/14/2026
Concurrent Plan Goal		Last Court Approved Date	

Welcome to CWS-CARES

FCED Bulletin

May 2026



Reminder: Foster Care Eligibility Determination (FCED), is an interface that will electronically transmit data between CWS-CARES and CalSAWS. Version 1 is scheduled to go live in October 2026.

What's Changing?

Current Process

CalSAWS users receive information from Child Welfare via PDF or printed forms and enter the case data into CalSAWS.

CalSAWS users manually scan paper documents received by Child Welfare and store them in CalSAWS Imaging (Hyland) system.

Data discrepancies are identified by chance and conversations between CalSAWS and CWS staff.



Future Process

FCED will transmit key case and placement data from CWS-CARES in near real-time. FCED will also transmit determination results information back to CWS-CARES.

CalSAWS users and Child Welfare staff can share documents, forms, and notices with each other from a shared repository, so scanning and storing documents in duplicate systems is not needed.

CalSAWS users can review data discrepancies between CalSAWS and data sent from CWS-CARES to ensure data accuracy.

PREPARATION AND RESOURCES

- Sandbox enablements
- EUST₃ testing cycle
- Data conversion mock cycle
- Production simulation
- Training
- CARES Unit meeting presentations
- CARES portal
- Podcast- monthly
- Engagement activities- monthly
- Terminology changes- word of the Week
- On sight command support center- during go-live



CARES IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

- CARES Support team
- ER Training team
- Staff Development
- DSS IT team





Training

June- Prod Sim for Supervisors (8 hours)

July- Web based training (up to 40 hours)

August- October- ILT training (up to 40 hours)



Blackout Period

October 23, 2026- CWS/CMS will become read-only for a period of about six months. Weekend blackout period begins where neither CWS/CMS or CWS-CARES will be available.



Go-Live

October 26, 2026- CARES available to 25,000 Child Welfare staff and partners.

IMPORTANT DATES





THANK YOU!

Adventure is out there... and **CWS-CARES** is here to lift us UP!

