



July 2025 | Volume 2, Issue 4

The CARES Compass

An executive summary for navigating the future of CWS-CARES together.



CWS-CARES Pilot Counties Announced!

The CWS-CARES Project is excited to announce the selection of five counties to participate in the CWS-CARES Pilot: **Butte, Fresno, San Mateo, Tuolumne, and San Diego**. To ensure comprehensive feedback and preparation for the statewide go-live, workgroups are being formed for Pilot and non-Pilot counties. This collaborative effort will help in planning CARES Version 1 for all users.



Don't Miss these Recurring Meetings:

External Systems Monthly Meetings

The new External Systems Monthly Meeting Series kicks off on July 10th and will continue on **the second Thursday of each month starting at 10 AM**. This meeting series was created in response to your feedback to strengthen coordination on CWS-CARES and External Systems. It offers a consistent space for organizations to connect with the Project team, share updates, ask questions, and stay aligned on current and upcoming activities. All meetings will be recorded and posted to the CWDS website.

CWS-CARES Stakeholder Briefings

Stakeholder Briefings are live webinars with Project updates and system demonstrations for all stakeholders. **Stakeholder Briefing #3** was conducted on June 25th, with 482 participants representing 50 counties, and 5 partner organizations in attendance. The session recording and materials will be available on the [CWDS website](#) in July, log-in required.

Join us for our next session, **Stakeholder Briefing #4**, scheduled for **October 22nd, 2025**.

The CWS-CARES Pop-Up Shop Launches September 2025

We are excited to announce the new online **CWS-CARES Pop-Up Shop** that will be available to all 58 California counties, Tribes, State Partners and public agencies! This pop-up will open **Monday, September 9th to Friday, September 26th, 2025** for stakeholders to optionally purchase items using their own funds. During these three weeks, we invite you to browse our selection of CWS-CARES branded items including apparel, stationary, bags, mugs, and more. More information will be released early August.

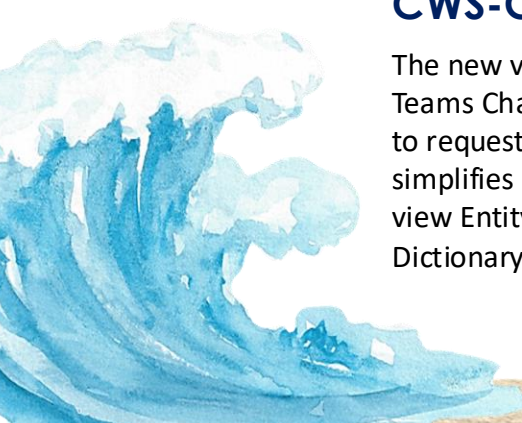
Now Playing! Intake: Screening & Investigations

We are excited to share the next video in the **CWS-CARES 101 Video Series – Intake: Screening and Investigations!** All of the Project videos are available on the [CWDS website](#).



CWS-CARES Data Dictionary: Update Available

The new version of the **CWS-CARES Data Dictionary** is now available in the Microsoft Teams Channel, *CWS-CARES Data Dictionary*. Contact CWDSDataManagement@osi.ca.gov to request access. The Project is also excited to introduce **SqlDBM** - an online tool that simplifies databases and data warehouse design and management. It enables users to view Entity Relationship Diagrams (ERDs), which act as a visual aid to the CWS-CARES Data Dictionary. For more information, join **the Introduction to SqlDBM session on July 22nd**.





Upcoming Communications and Activities in the Next 90 Days

July Activities

CWS-CARES Progress & Engagement Summary: The July 2025 update will be posted to the CWDS website

CWS-CARES Pop-Up Shop Communication (In Preparation for the September 2025 store): Building awareness and sharing information about the CWS-CARES Merchandise Pop-Up Shop

Monthly Readiness Emails: County-specific email highlighting any readiness tasks that are behind schedule

County Training Logistics Meetings: Email about scheduling County Training Logistics Meetings and developing individual training plans with each organization

Training Engagement & Preference Survey: Email and survey to request input on training preferences

Regional Super User Orientation Sessions: Super User Orientation Presentation

Process Information Sessions for Placement and Eligibility: Reminder emails and summary emails with materials

External Systems Monthly Meeting: Monthly Meeting Series begins with kickoff and introduction

CWS-CARES Sandbox Environment Launch: The Sandbox Environment will be available the week of 7/21/25

August Activities

Monthly Readiness Emails: County-specific email highlighting any readiness tasks that are behind schedule

Process Information Sessions - Placement and Eligibility; Participate in Ongoing Case Work and Finish a Case : Six Communications to five regions plus LA County (two separate sessions)

Video: Preparing for CWS-CARES Go-Live Launch

CWS-CARES Progress & Engagement Summary: The August 2025 update will be posted to the CWDS website

Core Constituent Survey #5: Quarterly survey to CWS-CARES core constituents to evaluate the feedback process

External Systems Monthly Meeting

September Activities

Monthly Readiness Emails: County-specific email highlighting any readiness tasks that are behind schedule

CWS-CARES Pop-Up Shop Communications: Grand Opening of September Store

CWS-CARES Progress & Engagement Summary: The September 2025 update will be posted to the CWDS website

External Systems Monthly Meeting

CARES Compass - Executive Summary: A 2-page summary for executives to build awareness of upcoming communications, reinforce delivery and messaging with staff

Contact your County Liaison or [Customer Relations](#) if you have questions about any of these materials.

Project Resources:

[Progress and Engagement Summary](#)

[CWDS Bulletins](#)

[Project Newsletters](#)

[CWDS Glossary](#)

[CWS-CARES Public Library](#)

[CWDS FAQs](#)



We'd love to hear from you!

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