Preventing Child Welfare System Involvement

Adoption Competent Mental Health · https://bridges4mentalhealth.org/hub/adoption-competence/preventing-child-welfare-system-involvement/

This report highlights how primary care providers, especially pediatricians, play a critical role in preventing unnecessary child welfare system involvement by supporting family health, identifying needs early, and reducing biased reporting. Medicaid, which covers more than 40% of U.S. children, is positioned to help practices build capacity, expand preventive services, and address health-related social needs that contribute to child welfare involvement.

The resource provides recommendations for Medicaid and primary care systems to strengthen prevention efforts through delivery system reforms, improved access to screenings and services, and cross-sector coordination, ultimately helping families receive support without entering the child welfare system.

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