The California Alliance of Child and Family Services is the “must-belong-to” state association for chief executives of organizations serving the state’s most vulnerable populations. Here’s why:

“The Alliance is the ‘must-belong-to’ association in California…”

 Joe Costa

 CEO, Hillsides,

 Pasadena

* Alliance **advocacy** assures member’s voices are heard in Sacramento. Each voice is more powerful because it is joined with the voices of all Alliance member agencies.
* The Alliance provides members with timely, vital **information** they need to make critical decisions affecting their agencies’ futures.
* Alliance staff with specific policy area **expertise** and real world experience across multiple service sectors are available to members by phone or email.
* Members gain access to the collected wisdom of over 120 other chief executives who are their **colleagues**.

When an agency joins the Alliance:

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| **advocacy** | **Its voice** is heard in Sacramento. Alliance lobbyists, staff and consultants advocate with the Governor’s office; the Legislature; state departments of education, health, social services, and the division of juvenile justice; with county government associations; and with other child advocacy groups. The Alliance works proactively to impact policy, budget, legislation and regulation. Our history of integrity, effectiveness and expertise has made the Alliance one of the most respected voices in Sacramento. Each member’s voice becomes more powerful when it joins the voices of all Alliance member agencies. |
| **information** | Members receive the critical information they need to make decisions for their agencies and it is delivered quickly, clearly, and accurately. Bi-weekly *Someday Morning* updates provide members with the best summation of state legislation, budget and policy available in California, all with a dash of good humor. Emails from Alliance policy experts make sure members get critical information – **often available only to Alliance agencies** – that they can use in real time. Alliance conferences bring the experts to members. Ask the tough questions, get the real answers. |
| **expertise** | Members gain access to Alliance staff, with specific policy area expertise and real world experience. Need help with understanding an EPSDT audit extrapolation? Challenged by a licensing problem? Trying to understand the impact of the federal budget action on local school districts? Staff responds quickly with data, insights and knowledge members can use today. Unlike other associations, moreover, Alliance staff expertise–and advocacy–spans multiple child and family serving systems including **child welfare, mental health, juvenile justice and education**. |
| **colleagues** | Member agency executives join a select group of the most dedicated, entrepreneurial, supportive, principled nonprofit executives in California. They are available for encouragement, know-how, and collaboration. Members have reciprocal access to that **collective** **wisdom**. |

These may be the most challenging times our field has ever faced. Alliance member agencies are mission-driven, they survive and thrive because of their single-minded dedication to the best interests of the vulnerable children, youth and families they serve. The Alliance exists to help members assure their agencies achieve their missions. **www.cacfs.org**