Essential Characteristics of a Care Entity

CT DCF Family First

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Continue to identify essential characteristics of an effective care entity
3. **Activity**: Prioritize essential characteristics
4. Discuss prioritized characteristics
5. Introduce prevention plan requirements for screening and eligibility
6. Next Steps

What are the essential characteristics of a care entity?

- A focus on *characteristics* to ensure a holistic approach to recommendations moving forward.

- Characteristics are identified based on prior workgroup discussion and grouped to structure additional dialogue:

  - **Access**: Characteristics related to how accessible the entity is to families and other referral sources

  - **Experience for the families:** Characteristics about the experience and level of support that families should have when in contact with this entity

  - **Workforce Capabilities**: Characteristics related to the abilities and approaches of the workforce in contact with families

  - **Structure/organization of entity:** Characteristics about the way the entity is structured/organized in relation to other providers, communities and the families

  - **Infrastructure:** Characteristics about the organizational and resource capacities of the entity to fulfill its functions

  - Others?

What are the essential characteristics of a care entity?

Access

- Easily accessible for the families
- Website and phone line open 24/7

Experience for the families

- Provides a 'safe' and stigma free environment
- Provides a clear plan to the family for next steps
- Maintains some relationship with family throughout service delivery
- Supportive and empathetic to the families' situation

What are the essential characteristics of a care entity?

Workforce capabilities

- Social work credentials
- Paraprofessionals/peers

Structure/ organization of entity

- Local connection and knowledge about community
- Formalized partnerships and collaboration with relevant stakeholders, providers

Infrastructure

- Clear structure for referrals from/to other providers
- IT infrastructure that aligns with the documentation needs

What are the essential characteristics of a care entity?

Other?
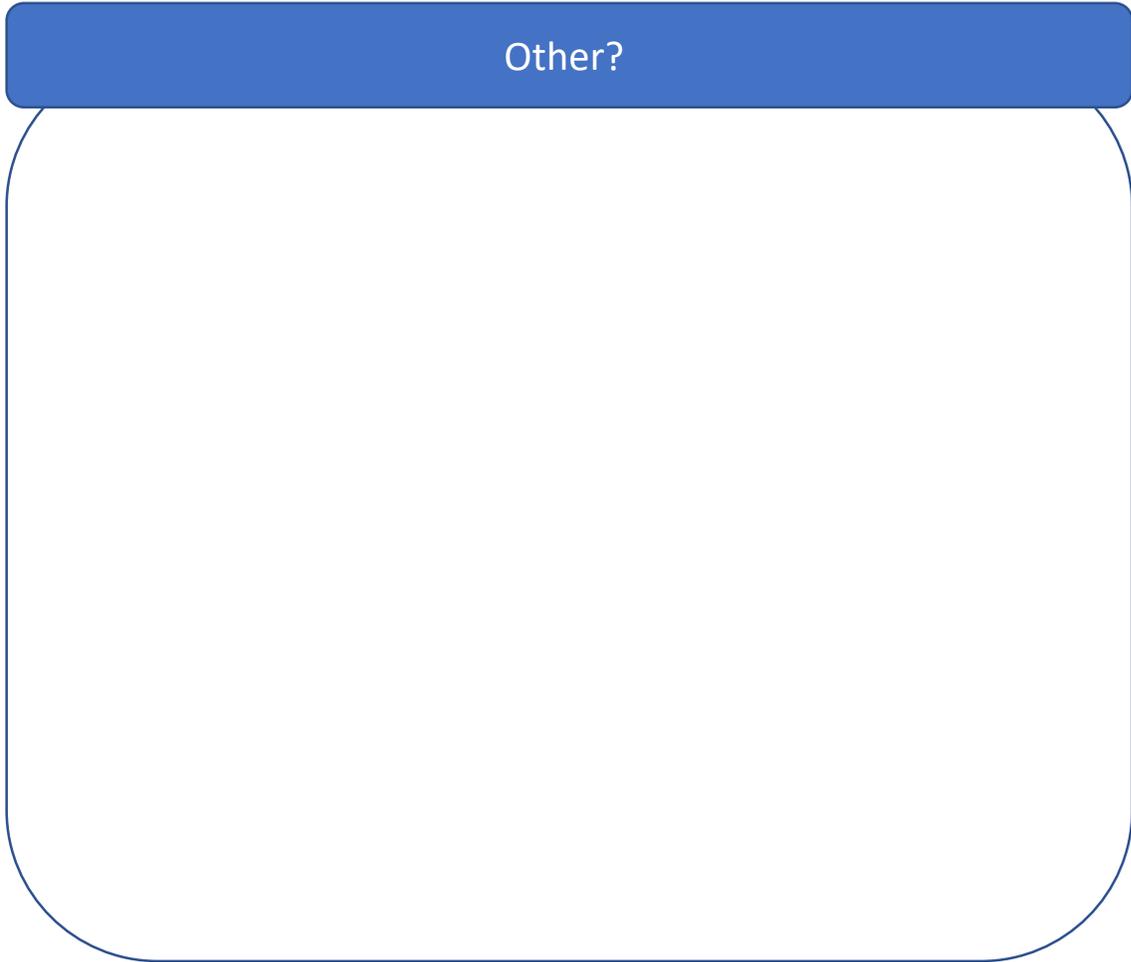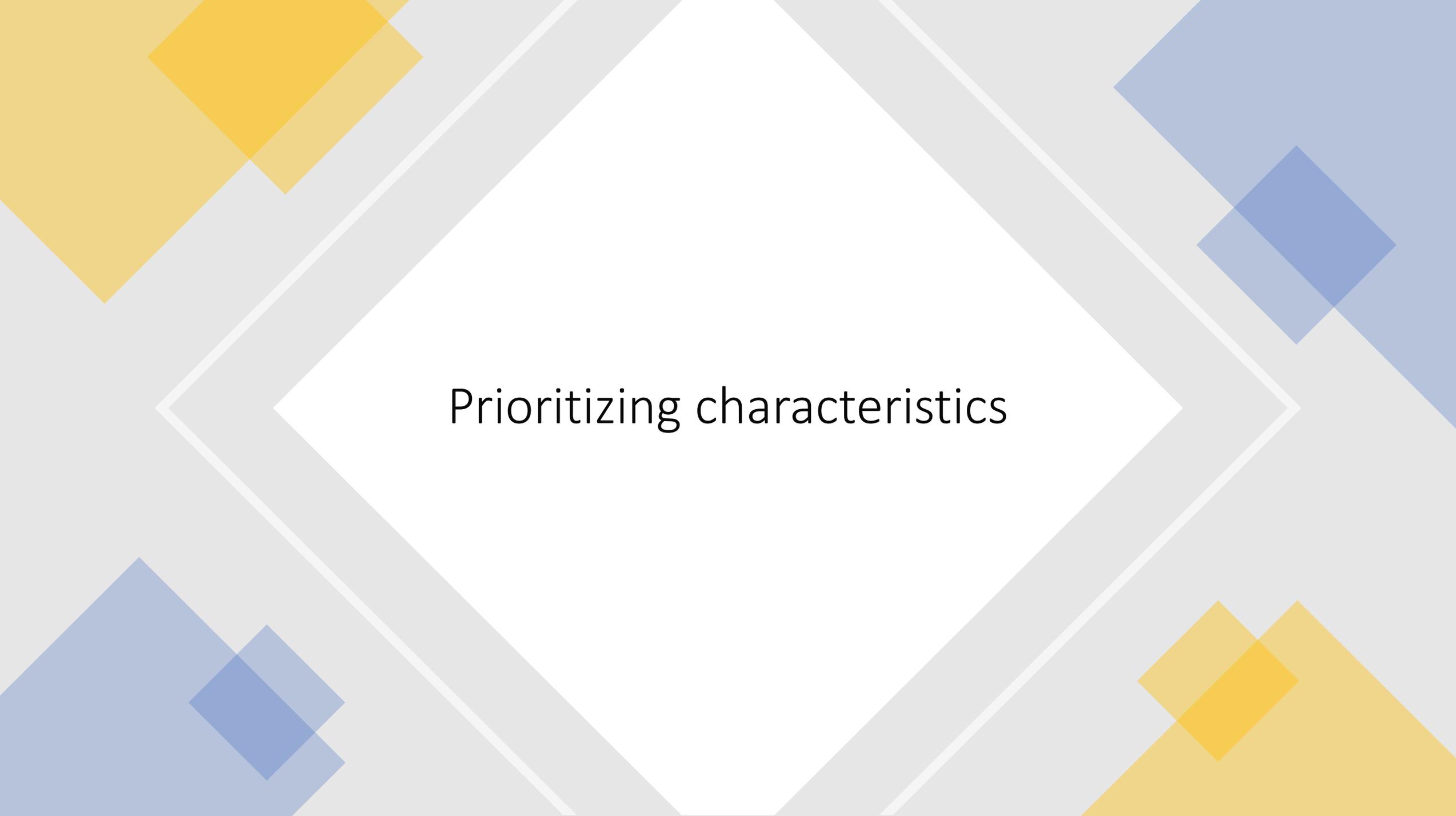
Prioritizing characteristics

Prioritize care entity characteristics

When considering Connecticut's transformation towards a prevention-oriented system, which characteristics are most important for an effective care entity?

- Instructions: Join poll: **PollEv.com/oliviawilks908**. Rank most important characteristics first and least important last, tap on a characteristic you'd like to move, once all characteristics are in your desired order, submit your response.

Discussion of priorities

The result of the poll:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

Looking at the characteristics and their ranking:

- Do you agree with the ranking? If not, how would you rearrange and why?

- How significant are the benefits for the families – for each characteristic?

- How intensive are the efforts required – for each characteristic?

Moving Forward:
From conceptualization to operations

Concepts related to Eligible Families for Family First

A. Children who could be at imminent risk of entering foster care

B. Children determined to be at imminent risk of entering care & pregnant/parenting youth

C. Children with identified needs that match a prevention EBP

D. Children who receive a prevention EBP

EBP selection

Imminent risk determination

Capacity estimate
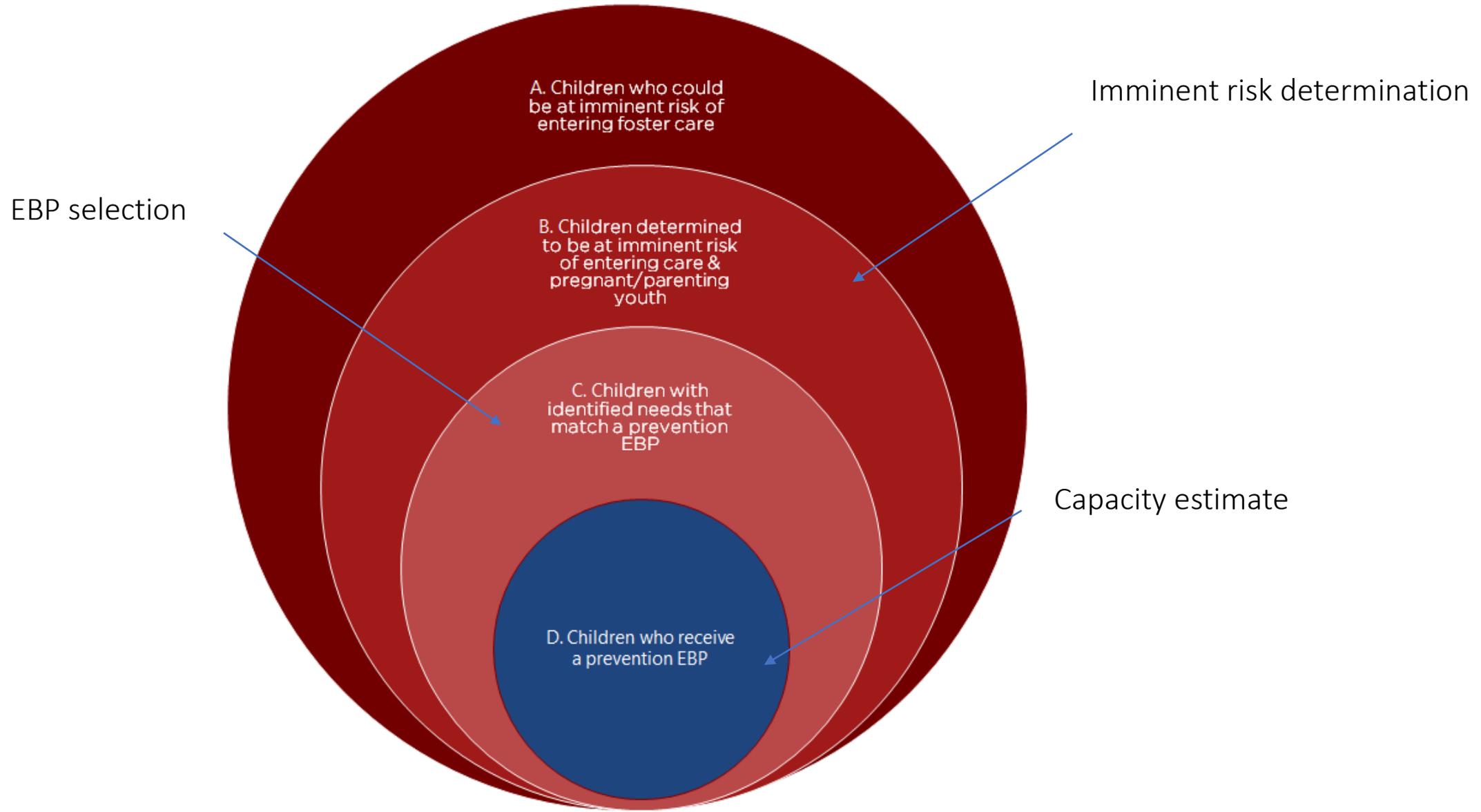
Operational Requirements related to Eligible Families for Family First

	Summary of Family First Requirements	Connecticut's Approach
Eligible Populations are Defined	"Imminent risk of entering foster care" and pregnant and parenting youth in foster care	Completed: identification of candidacy groups
Eligibility is Determined	The <u>title IV-E agency</u> must determine eligibility of the child	TBD
Service Planning	A child-specific prevention plan for candidates or case plan for pregnant and parenting youth must be in place prior to receipt of services	*Key question - How will DCF work with a care entity to operationalize these requirements so that the experience is consistent with prevention work and is seamless to the family?*
Service Receipt	Service can be received for up to 12 months initially; redeterminations of candidacy allow additional/contiguous 12-month periods	
Ongoing Monitoring	Oversee safety of children receiving services and conduct periodic risk assessments to inform the child-specific prevention plan	
Data Collection	Data reports must include demographics of the child, prevention plan dates, service start/end dates, service expenditures and foster care entry status/dates (if applicable)	