Update on the California Children’s Trust

At the first meeting of the Funder Network on Trauma and Resilience on March 14, 2018, Alex Briscoe presented a fledgling model for reimagining California’s behavioral health system for children. Since then, the California Children’s Trust (the Trust) was formed as a fiscally sponsored project of New Venture Fund with initial funding from the Zellerbach Family Foundation, Genentech, McKenzie Foundation and Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. The Trust is intended as a three-year initiative to build a broad-based coalition that advances a fundamentally different approach to defining, serving and investing in the social, emotional, developmental and behavioral health of California’s children and their families. Mr. Briscoe is leading the Trust, with support from a lean team of consultants and guidance from a diverse steering committee and an emerging group of advisors. This brief overview of the Trust highlights the imperative, the opportunity and the theory of change, which is also summarized in a recent article in the Chronicle of Social Change. For more information, or to get involved, please contact Alex Briscoe at alex@cachildrenstrust.org.