

**Child Development and Successful Youth Transitions Committee Work  
Plan Status: August 23, 2015**

WORK GROUP TOPIC	WORK GROUP MEMBERS	PLAN FOR NEXT STEPS – JUNE 19, 2015	STATUS – AUGUST 23, 2015
Education Work Group	Paige Fern, Ken Berrick, Andrea Schiavoni, Vanessa Hernandez, Michelle Traiman, Molly Dunn, Lori-anne Elinsky, Michelle Lustig	<p>Determine how we can close existing gaps that continue to have a negative impact on the academic success of foster youth, including the ability to ensure foster youth have opportunities for concurrent enrolment in high school and community college with the of having goal co-enrollment as the default option so that foster youth can graduate at 18 with an AA degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gordon and Paige engaging workgroup members with expertise to address the problem.</li> <li>▪ Workgroup identifying purpose and goals</li> </ul>	Workgroup members reached out to other leaders in the area foster youth education and began the process of developing a work plan to address the issue of school stability at a meeting on July 30, 2015.
Education-related Mental Health Services	Gordon Jackson, Ken Berrick, Paige Fern Chan, Carol Brown, Cheryl Treadwell, Andrea Schiavoni, Robert Sanchez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tracking progress of the AB 114 Committee that is looking at similar issues for all special need students, through the lens of meeting foster youth’s needs. The goal is to understand the impact of new policies for serving students with special needs now that “AB 3632” has been discontinued, and a paper was prepared to capture this information.</li> <li>▪ Discussion at the December 10, 2014 Committee meeting raised concerns that trauma reactive behaviors are being labeled as ADHD; information regarding Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) could inform understanding and solutions on the topic.</li> <li>▪ Request an update from CDE at the March 4, 2014 Committee meeting.</li> <li>▪ Visit the AB114 Web page <a href="http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/ac/ab114twg.asp">http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/ac/ab114twg.asp</a> for further information.</li> </ul>	<p>Chris Drouin (CDE) and Rusty Selix (California Council of Community Mental Health Agencies) gave an update at the March 4, 2015 meeting.</p> <p>SCHEDULE PERIODIC UPDATES.</p>
Over Medication	Rochelle Trochtenberg, Carol Brown, Ken Berrick, Diana Boyer, Bill Grimm, Vanessa Hernandez, Anna Johnson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At the March 12, 2014 Committee meeting, Bill Grimm and Anna Johnson from NCYL provided a comprehensive overview of the issue.</li> <li>▪ The Work Group met with Harry Hendrix, DHCS management and QIP Co-Chairs, Pauline Chan (DHCS) and Lori Fuller (CDSS) on May 12, 2014 regarding CDSYT’s concerns about the QIP.</li> <li>▪ On June 11, 2014, Harry Hendrix and Karen Gunderson joined the Committee meeting for further discussion on the issues.</li> </ul>	<p>QIP Progress report made at full Council meeting on March 4, 2015</p> <p><u><a href="#">Psychotropic Medication Guidelines</a></u>, <u><a href="#">Questions to Ask</a></u> document and <u><a href="#">Foster Youth Rights</a></u> document issued by</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A joint QIP/CDSYT presentation was made to the full Council the September 10, 2014 meeting.</li> <li>▪ A progress report was made to the Council on December 10, 2014, with Bill presenting recommendations for how the QIP could further improve efforts to solve the problem..</li> <li>▪ Action steps outlined on the QIP timetable were completed and shared with the Council on June 3, 2015.</li> <li>▪ Anna volunteered to compile a list that compares and contrasts the goals of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) for education, Katie A settlement implementation and QIP project that could be useful in leveraging efforts on one initiative with the other two.</li> </ul>	<p>the Quality Improvement Project.</p> <p>On September 2, 2015 Anna Johnson is scheduled to share a document she prepared that compares and contrasts the provisions of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) the Katie A Settlement and the Quality Improvement Project (QIP).</p>
Santa Clara Priority Employment Policy	David Ambroz, Shahera Hyatt, Olga Nassif, Paul Curtis, Jackie Wong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Committee heard a presentation at the March 4, 2015 meeting on the work of PolicyLink and the six counties implementing practices to support employment of youth formerly in foster care.</li> </ul>	Jackie will provide periodic updates on this work.
Housing	Rochelle Trochtenberg, Vanessa Hernandez, Vincent Bartle, Theresa Thurmond, Addie Ellis, Diana Boyer,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CDSS gave an update on housing programs for transition age foster youth and former foster youth at the March 2014 meeting.</li> <li>▪ Funding sources need to be identified.</li> <li>▪ Possibility of using college dorms year-round needs to be explored.</li> <li>▪ At the March 4, 2015 meeting, the Committee discussed the need for a Problem Definition</li> <li>▪ Opportunities for housing include possible federal funds, expansion of the Guardian Scholars Program, Transitional Housing Program and Independent Living Program.</li> <li>▪ On July 29, 2015 the work group met via conference call with Amy Lemley, Executive Director of the John Burton Foundation to learn more about THP-plus/THP+ Foster Care, and mental health resources available to young people in these programs.</li> <li>▪ Work Group members signed up to be participants in the JBF monthly conference calls on THP-plus/THP+ Foster Care.</li> </ul>	<p>Amy Lemley will make a presentation on THP-plus/THP+ Foster Care to the Committee on 9/2/15.</p> <p>Work group members will continue to participate on the JBF monthly conference calls on THP-plus/THP+ Foster Care.</p>

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-Quality/ Accreditation -Congregate Care Reduction -Recruitment, retention and training of quality caregivers	Karen Grace-Kaho, Ken Berrick, Andrea Schiavoni, Anna Gleason, Paul Curtis, Wendy Kinnear-Rausche, Bill Grimm, Bridgette Hernandez, Carla Wills, Rochelle Trochtenberg, Cheryl Rave, Len Edwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Resource materials include the CDSS Congregate Care Report (January 2011); Los Angeles County report; and the Continuum of Care (CCR) Report from CDSS released in January 2015.</li> <li>▪ New standards under development for the Committee to monitor include Resource Family Approval for foster parents, relative caregivers and adoptive parents.</li> <li>▪ Committee will explore whether to recommend that Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) and Group Homes be accredited (Note: the CCR report recommends accreditation).</li> </ul>	Karen Gunderson, CDSS, made a presentation to this Committee and the Permanency Committee on the CCR Report, which addresses these issues. Judge Edwards materials were distributed re: the Los Angeles Juvenile Court’s group home and placement move policies as examples of ensuring appropriate use of group homes and placement moves under current system.
Role of Ombudsman	Karen Grace-Kaho, Carol Brown, Diana Boyer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Karen requested legal opinion from CDSS regarding the role of the Ombudsman and will share it when received.</li> <li>▪ Karen will recompile previous messaging on this topic and share the information with the Committee.</li> </ul>	NCYL Report from 2006 addresses this topic; many of the system-level issues were addressed by the creation of the Child Welfare Council. Legal opinion and materials from Karen pending.
Supporting Healthy Sexual Development of Foster Youth	David Ambroz, Wendy Durst, Haydee Cuza, Anna Gleason, Vanessa Hernandez, Cindy Cain; Cherie Schroeder, Janine Bruce, Anna Johnson, Jamie Lee Evans, Miranda Sheffield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This item grew out of a discussion generated from a presentation to the full Council on December 11, 2013 regarding teen births.</li> <li>▪ Per discussion at the March 13, 2014 meeting, Gordon and Rochelle worked with Sylvia to draft a position paper.</li> <li>▪ Workgroup reviewed the position paper and gave a status report to the Council and the Committee at the June 11, 2014 meeting.</li> <li>▪ An “Open Space Technology Gathering” on this topic is scheduled for February 5, 2015, with invitees including foster youth, former foster youth, foster parents, group home providers, child welfare workers, community care licensing representatives, as well as Committee members.</li> </ul>	Report and recommendations to the full Council on 6/3/15. Met with with CDSS’s Community Care Licensing and Children and Family Services Divisions re: implementation. Will be joining work groups to include topic in CCR implementation; will review foster parent training curriculum and present at foster parent conference in October.

**FUTURE TOPICS FOR THE COMMITTEE’S CONSIDERATION (brainstormed at the December 10, 2014 meeting)**

1. Sealing of Juvenile Records
2. Forum for and by psychiatrists regarding psychiatric medication and mental health treatment services for youth in foster care (“doc to doc”)