

Child Development and Successful Youth Transitions Committee

Work Plan Status: September 14, 2016

WORK GROUP	WORK GROUP MEMBERS	PLAN FOR NEXT STEPS – from June 1, 2016 meeting	STATUS – SEPTEMBER 14, 2016
Education Work Group	Paige Fern Chan, Ken Berrick, Marsh Lewis-Akeem, Andrea Cammann, Emily Higgs, Jill Rowland, Vanessa Hernandez, Joy Anderson, Michelle Traiman, Michelle Lustig, Molly Dunn, Lori-anne Elinsky, and Vincent Bartle.	<p>Break the effort into three parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider age of child when selecting education rights holder. 2. Work with Judicial Council on changes to current law and practice for selecting education rights holders. 3. Determine what group home administrators should and should not have in the way of education rights holders. <p>Issues identified so far that need to be addressed as a starting point for developing guidance and model policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Should there be different levels of education rights, such as access to information vs. decision-maker? ▪ What information must a caregiver have? ▪ To get the courts involved we need to raise the level of attention to the problems and work with children’s attorneys and have recommendations regarding what the law should say. ▪ Is the Child and Family Team an effective venue for selecting the education rights holder? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trish commented that the core elements of CFTs vary and need to be flexible depending on the situation, e.g., education-related mental health services; it is critical that the right people must be at the meetings. ○ Marsha commented that in Level 14 Group Homes she has had a difficult time getting the county Child Welfare Worker to the CFT meetings. ▪ How do we keep the biological parent involved, especially if he/she is reluctant to share education rights? ▪ There should be mandated training for education rights holders. ▪ Identify what education records exist and who should have access to them. <p>Develop guidance for schools, courts, and caregivers.</p>	These issues are now under consideration of the legislature, and Paige will update the Committee as progress is made.

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Over Medication	Rochelle Trochtenberg, Carol Brown, Ken Berrick, Diana Boyer, Bill Grimm, Vanessa Hernandez, Anna Johnson, Anabelle Gardner, Jessica Haspel, and Emily Higgs	Continue to monitor progress of QIP project and implementation of new legislation on use of psychotropic medications by youth in foster care. Now that the problem has been studied, and the problems identified, the work group will focus on exploring best practices for providing mental health services to youth in foster care, including counseling, therapy, and, when needed, psychotropic medications.	The work group will meet via conference call to begin studying broader issue of mental health services for youth in foster care, with or without psychotropic medications being part of the treatment plan.
Priority Employment	David Ambroz, Len Edwards, Deborah Cromer, Nisha Kashyap, Rochelle Trochtenberg	A draft model policy was developed that proposed how to increase access to workforce development and employment opportunities for former foster youth by providing public sector, entry level job opportunities that give preference to this vulnerable and economically disadvantaged population. All members of the Committee now have the opportunity to weigh in with comments and suggested edits. If you would like to participate in the review, no later than September 30, 2016.	Circulate latest draft to all CDSYT Committee members; review and provide feedback on draft by September 30 th ; finalize draft and plan presentation to full Council on March 1 st ; develop dissemination plan.
Housing and Runaway/ Homeless Youth	Paul Curtis, Rochelle Trochtenberg, Vanessa Hernandez, Joy Anderson Vincent Bartle, Addie Ellis, Emily Higgs, Jessica Haspel, Susanna Kniffen, Diana Boyer, Amy Lemley, Tricia Gonzalez, Anthony Bennett, Jennifer Bucholz, Erin Thurston, Simone Tureck (John Burton Foundation)	The Permanency Committee was invited to partner with the CDSYT Committee on this issue and offered began the discussion to identify issues and possible solutions that promote stability and permanent families for runaway and homeless youth, the ultimate goal.	Representatives of both Committees plus Law Enforcement and CCL will get together and “noodle” the elements of a model guidance to counties. Bob will coordinate Permanency Committee involvement. Paul will facilitate the meeting and identify next steps to move the project forward.

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Supporting Healthy Sexual Development of Foster Youth	David Ambroz, Wendy Durst, Haydee Cuza, Anna Gleason, Vanessa Hernandez, Cindy Cain; Cherie Schroeder, Lori King, Janine Bruce, Anna Johnson, Jamie Lee Evans, Miranda Sheffield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Our report and recommendations will be incorporated into the CDSS work plan of its work group on this same topic, which includes the CCL regulations to implement the new “Responsible and Prudent Parent Standard.” ▪ Ensure all youth and caregivers know and understand the Foster Child Bill of Rights. ▪ As requirements for the Resource Family Approval are developed as part of the Continuum of Care Reform initiative, they should address this topic as well. ▪ 	A small subgroup will meet with CDSS leadership to discuss a possible more strength-based approach to the Healthy Sexual Development draft Guide developed by CDSS with stakeholder input.

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”)