



*IN PARTNERSHIP WITH*

*CALIFORNIA YOUTH  
CONNECTION*

*HUMBOLDT COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES*

*CALIFORNIA  
ASSOCIATION OF CHILD  
AND FAMILY SERVICES*

*SENECA FAMILY OF  
AGENCIES*

*CENTER FOR THE STUDY  
OF SOCIAL POLICY*

Child Development and Successful Youth Transitions Committee

presents

# SUPPORTING HEALTHY SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015

# THE BIG QUESTIONS

- How does the child welfare system currently support the healthy sexual development of youth in foster care?
- What actions, policies, and practices do we need to create, clarify, or make visible to support sexual safety and well-being of youth in foster care?
- What are the strengths and needs of youth in the child welfare system that will impact their healthy sexual development?
- What practices or policies act as barriers? What might be our solutions and opportunities for breaking through these barriers?
- How do race, class, sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression affect healthy sexual development outcomes for youth?

# THEMES AND FINDINGS



# RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop and incorporate best practice guidelines and incorporate into existing policies and practices
2. Create robust guidance and training on how the intent of the “Prudent Parent” statute can be used in support of healthy sexual development
3. Explore youth mentors as a resource for youth in foster care
4. Further develop existing curricula and increase access to training
5. When developing best practice guidelines and training opportunities for foster youth and relevant stakeholders, consider an array of specific suggestions, topic areas, and perspectives that may be incorporated

# IMPLEMENTATION AND DISSEMINATION STRATEGY

## GOAL

Incorporate recommendations into existing policies and practices in order to:

- maximize feasibility
- increase impact
- minimize barriers to implementation

## MECHANISMS TO IMPLEMENT PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

