WHAT CAREGIVERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT AB 12 FOR PROBATION INVOLVED YOUTH: PLACEMENTS – OPTIONS, LIMITATIONS & REGULATIONS

February 20, 2013
Noon – 1:00 P.M.
Webinar

Caregiver Webinar Series:
AB 12 & Probation Supervised Foster Youth
What is AB 12?

How does AB 12 help youth transition to adulthood?

Where can foster youth live after 18?
- Existing- Relative, FFH, FFA, WFH, SFH, GH
- New Options- THP+ FC, SILP

How can caregivers support young adults in EFC?
WHAT IS AB 12?
California’s Fostering Connections to Success Act

- Helps foster youth transition to adulthood and independence by allowing youth to continue to receive support until age 21
- Extends these benefits to probation supervised foster youth
- Establishes new supervised independent living options for foster youth 18 & over
- Allows youth to exit and re-enter foster care
- Permits eligible probation supervised foster youth who have met rehabilitative goals and are ready to get off probation continue to receive support
GOALS OF EXTENDED FOSTER CARE

• Help youth establish lifelong connections to caring adults before transitioning to full independence
• Work proactively and collaboratively with youth in developing and reaching their independent living goals
• Allow youth to gain real life experience with independence and allow them to learn from their mistakes
• Provide a safety net for foster youth so they can be successful as independent adults
EXTENDED FOSTER CARE ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST

- Have foster care placement order on 18th birthday/meet age req.
- Meet a participation condition
- Sign a mutual agreement*
- Agree to meet with probation officer (or social worker)
- Agree to work on transitional independent living skills
- Live in a licensed or approved setting
- Have 6 month court review hearings

*Not a condition of payment
How does AB 12 help youth transition to adulthood?
CASE PLANNING & CASE MANAGEMENT

TRANSITIONAL PLANNING & SUPPORTS

- Housing
- Employment, Education & Training
- Daily Living & Money Management
- Supportive Connections (Relationships & Community Supports)
Where can foster youth live after 18?
LICENSED OR APPROVED SETTING

Existing placement options
- New licensing/approval standards for young adults
- Limitations on group home placements after 18
- Limitations on THPP after 17

New placement options after 18
(Independent living settings)
- THP-Plus Foster Care
- SILPs

NOTE: Eligible facilities may NOT include detention facilities, forestry camps, training schools, or any other facility operated primarily for the detention of youth who are determined to be delinquent.
LIVING OPTIONS

- Relative or NREFM placement
- Foster home including foster family agency placement and intensive therapeutic foster care
- Continued group care only to age 19 or high school graduation (unless medical necessity)
- Small Family Home
- Whole Family Foster Home

- THPP
- THP + FC
- SILP (Supervised Independent Living Placement)
  - College dorm
  - Rented room
  - Shared apartment or living arrangement
EXISTING FAMILY HOME OPTIONS

- Relative or NREFM placement
- Foster home including foster family agency placement and intensive therapeutic foster care
- Whole Family Foster Home
- Small Family Home
GROUP HOMES
AFTER 18 - NEW LIMITATIONS

• Youth-driven, team-based, case planning process

• High School Completion
  • Under 19
  • Best interest in order to complete high school or equivalent

• Treatment Need
  • Medical or mental health condition
  • Short-term placement;
  • Prepares for discharge to a less restrictive and more family-like setting.
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT PROGRAM (THPP)

Supervised housing for foster youth age 16 to 18*

Licensed transitional housing provider furnishes:

- Independent living placement with on-site residential supervision (host family or apartment complex/multi-unit dwelling)

- Support services to minor to help achieve self-sufficiency

*Transfer to THP+ - FC at 18.
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLUS – FOSTER CARE (THP+ - FC)

- A new placement option after age 18 modeled on THP-Plus program for former foster youth

- Licensed placement with enhanced oversight

- Offers affordable housing & supportive services in supervised yet independent setting (host family or on or remote site supervision in apartment, multi-unit or single family dwelling)
SUPERVISED INDEPENDENT LIVING PLACEMENT (SILP)

➢ A new placement option for NMDs ready for greater independence

➢ Settings may include but not limited to:
  • Apartment living
  • Renting a room (*including from relative*)
  • Shared roommate settings
  • Dorms
  • Living situations with adult siblings, appropriate extended family members, tribal members, NREFM or mentors should be explored
APPROVING A SILP

Two step process* to approve a SILP

- Assess NMD’s “readiness” to live in a SILP – taking into account the particular placement at issue

- Health and safety inspection of the physical space

*Note: not required for youth living in dorms or other college housing
ASSESSMENT FOR SILP

- Readiness assessment must be completed:
  - Knowledge of financial skills/developmentally ready for daily living

- Reasons to Deny SILP:
  - Rent and utilities exceeds income
  - Unstable income
  - No knowledge of money
  - Unable to care for self
Approval of SILP Site

- SILP may not include living with biological parent

- Sites are subject to health and safety inspection
  - Basic health and safety only
  - NMDs allowed to live in an unapproved SILP temporarily
  - County must inspect new SILP within 10 calendar days

- Ensuring privacy
  - Roommates and landlords not assessed
  - Social workers should arrange inspections and home visits in such a way that respects young adult’s privacy

- Must be re-inspected annually
SILPs AS ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENTS

- Non-IV-E eligible relative placements
- Unlicensed foster homes
- Other living arrangements
Foster Youth, Criminal Records & Placements

- Foster youth not subject to community care licensing’s criminal records clearance requirements for adults living in licensed or approved placements

- Conviction or arrest does not disqualify otherwise eligible youth from eligibility for extended foster care

- Reentry process may include a criminal records check to determine appropriateness of a proposed placement with minors, but criminal record not bar to placement
How Can Caregivers Support Young Adults?
# NEW LICENSING RULES AFTER AGE 18

## YOUNG ADULT PERSONAL RIGHTS
- Acquire, possess and maintain a vehicle
- Select, obtain and store own food
- Select, obtain or decline medical, dental, vision or mental health care
- Adequate privacy for visitors
- Acquire, possess and maintain landline or cell phone
- Leave or depart the home at any time

## CAREGIVER RESPONSIBILITIES
- To assist young adult in developing skills necessary for self-sufficiency
- Notify P.O./SW (written or verbal) & get prior approval to leave young adult home alone for more than 72 hours
**SHARED LIVING AGREEMENT (SLA)**

Written understanding between the caregiver and the young adult on expectations of both for living together.
SLAs May Include:

• Health and Safety Concerns

• Household Chores and Responsibilities

• Attendance and Performance at School and/or Work

• Visitors - times, overnight, parties

• Atmosphere - noise, swearing, name calling, cigarette smoking

• Shared items/space - food, car, television, computer

• Joint activities - meals, holidays, vacations
QUESTIONS?
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Presenters:
Anjuli Arora Dow
Attorney
Alliance for Children’s Rights

Maria F. Ramiu
Managing Director
Youth Law Center
mramiu@ylc.org

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Session 3

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