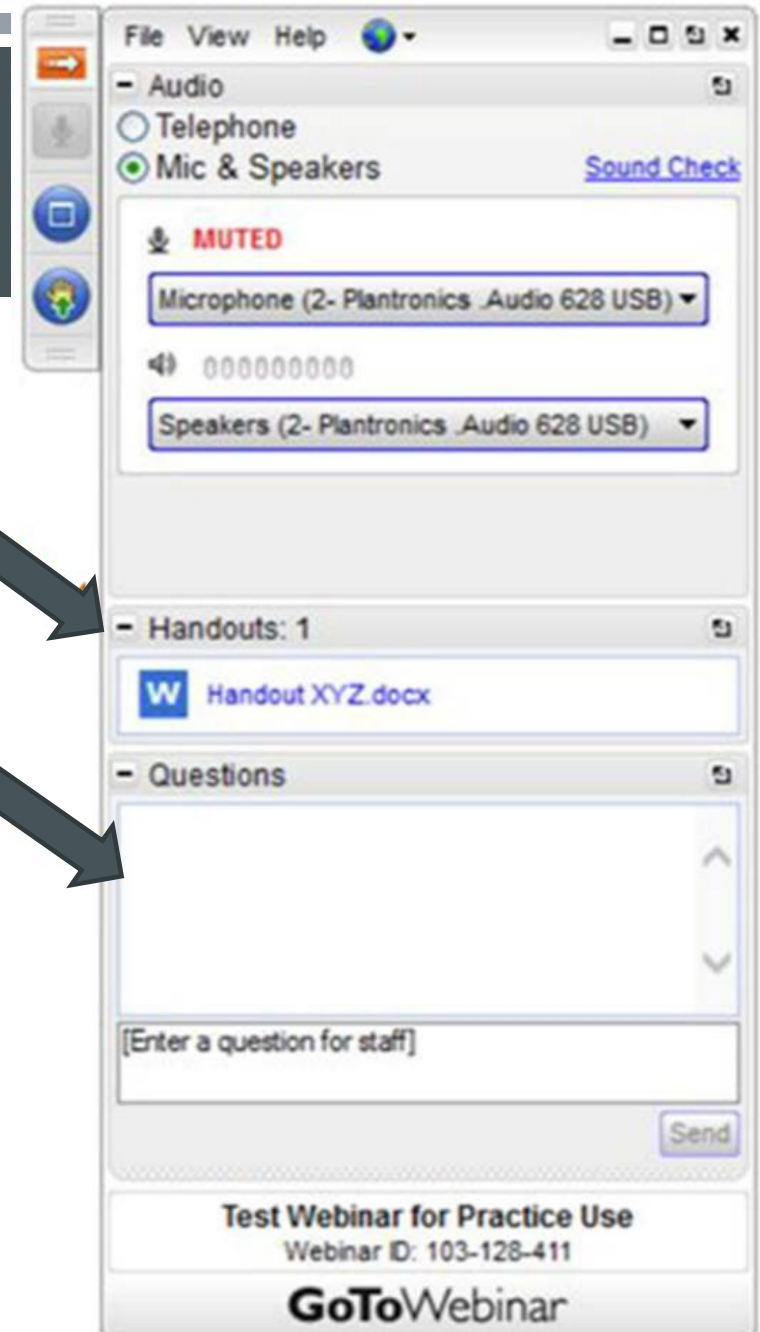

TURNING DREAMS INTO DEGREES: A NEW TOOL FOR COUNTIES TO EMPOWER CAREGIVERS IN SUPPORTING FOSTER YOUTH WITH COLLEGE

JUNE 5, 2019



INFORMATION TO PARTICIPATE

- Today's PowerPoint can be downloaded from the “handouts” section of your control panel
- To submit live questions, click on the “questions” panel, type your question, and click “send.”
- Presentation materials and audio will be sent to all registrants and posted at www.jbay.org under “Training Archive.”



AGENDA

- The impact and importance of engaging caregivers
- LA County DCFS' new training policy on higher education
- Overview of the higher education training curriculum
- Next steps
- LA OYC Foster Youth College Advancement Project
- Questions & Answers

TODAY'S PRESENTERS

- **Akin Abioye**

- LA Compact Foster Youth Manager, UNITE-LA

- **Barry Ginsberg**

- Assistant Regional Administrator Resource Family Support and Permanency Division, LA County Department of Children and Family Services

- **Maria Granados**

- Los Angeles Regional Coordinator for Foster and Kinship Care Education, Los Angeles Mission College

- **Jessica Petrass**

- LA OYC FYCAP Project Manager, John Burton Advocates for Youth



THE IMPACT AND ROLE OF THE CAREGIVER

AKIN ABIOYE, UNITE-LA



COLLEGE PLANNING STARTS EARLY

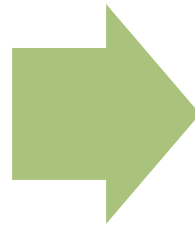


L.A. OPPORTUNITY
YOUTH COLLABORATIVE

Foster Youth College Advancement Project (FYCAP)

A collective impact initiative working to improve the rates of college enrollment, retention and degree completion among transition-aged foster youth in L.A. County

California is home
to 17,927 foster
youth ages 12-19



6,109 of those are
in Los Angeles
County

THE ROLE OF CAREGIVERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION PLANNING

Cognitive Socialization

- how caregivers influence intellectual development

Academic Socialization

- how caregivers affect the development of attitudes and motives necessary for learning

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO POOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT



Caregivers who gave little encouragement or support for educational achievement

Changes in placement (especially when a change in school also occurs)

Low expectations or lack of interest by social workers

Lack of informed advice about routes to further education

Promotion of early financial independence over investment in education

IMPACT OF CAREGIVER TRAINING PROGRAMS

Informs parenting practices associated with educational engagement

Helps caregivers to foster the socioemotional skills in youth that lead to high educational attainment and school engagement

Improved educational outcomes for youth and increased resource parent retention

AB 507 (RUBIO)- RESOURCE FAMILY TRAINING TOPICS

- Sponsored by the California Youth Connection (CYC)
- Requires a portion of the annual training hours required for a Resource Parent to maintain their approval be training to support the case plans, goals, and needs of children in the resource family home.
- This can include age-specific topics relevant to transition age youth (TAY), such a college planning and matriculation.





LA COUNTY DCFS' NEW TRAINING POLICY ON HIGHER EDUCATION

BARRY GINSBERG, LA COUNTY DCFS



WHY THIS MATTERS TO DCFS

Higher education leads to a greater likelihood of achieving a meaningful career and self-sufficiency.



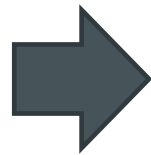
Resource Parents play a critical role, but often lack the necessary tools and training.



Training Resource Parents will improve the educational outcomes of youth in their care.

HIGHER EDUCATION TRAINING MANDATE

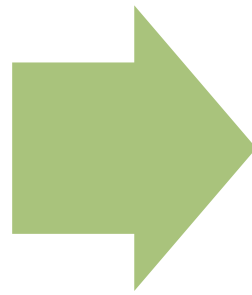
Resource Families are required to complete 8 hours of annual training, but previously had the discretion to select any topics of their choosing



- DCFS Resource Parents who have at least one court dependent youth in their care between 12 and 19 years of age will be required to complete one of two courses, which will satisfy 3 of their required 8 hours of annual training.
- Each course is approximately 3 hours in length.
- These hours must be completed through a DCFS approved training provider upon completion of the first annual update and before completion of the 2nd annual update.

HIGHER EDUCATION TRAINING MANDATE

Education Course 1
is for caregivers
who have youth in
grades 6-10 in their
care



Education Course 2
is for caregivers
who have youth in
grades 11-12 in
their care, or recent
high school
graduates

ROLLING OUT THE MANDATE

Initial memo sent to
CMS CSWs

Memo sent to
DCFS Regional Staff

Caregivers notified
via mail

CMS CSW's provided a list of their eligible resource families bi-annually

TRACKING AND COMPLIANCE



- When training is completed, caregivers will receive a certificate and provide a copy to CMS CSW at the annual recertification process to verify completion
- Completion is tracked within the Binti system which is the current RFA tracking system used by DCFS
- If the Resource Parent does not complete the required training, a corrective action plan will be implemented by the CMS CSW
- The trainer also tracks attendance if the caregiver loses their certificate



TRAINING SPECIFICS

MARIA GRANADOS, FKCE



FOSTER AND KINSHIP CARE EDUCATION (FKCE) OVERVIEW

A Statewide Program Providing Caregiver Education to:

- Foster Parents
- Relative/Kinship Caregivers
- Non-Relative Extended Family Members

Training topics align with Resource Parent approval topic codes



THE FOSTER AND KINSHIP CARE EDUCATION (FKCE) PROGRAMS

MOTTO:

The More We Know, The More They Grow

MISSION:

The Foster and Kinship Care Education Program provides quality education and support opportunities for caregivers of children and youth in out-of-home care so that these providers may meet the educational, emotional, behavioral and developmental needs of children and youth.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The development of FKCE is guided by the belief that children and youth will achieve their fullest potential when:

- Children/youth feel they belong to families that are strong, safe, and nurturing.
- There is consistency in care.
- Care providers are qualified, caring and knowledgeable.
- Care providers are retained.
- Care providers are linked to and collaborate with community support services.
- There is permanency that is in the best interests of the child.

FOSTER & KINSHIP CARE EDUCATION LOS ANGELES COUNTY

- Antelope Valley College
- Cerritos College
- Citrus College
- College of Canyons
- Compton Center
- East LA College
- El Camino College
- Long Beach City College
- Los Angeles City College

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- Los Angeles Harbor College
- Los Angeles Mission College
- Los Angeles Pierce College
- Los Angeles Southwest College
- Los Angeles Trade Tech College
- Pasadena City College
- Rio Hondo College
- West Los Angeles College

WHY THIS HIGHER EDUCATION TRAINING MATTERS?

By 2020, 65% of all jobs will require some form of higher education

Achieving a higher education improves outcomes for foster youth

Increases the capacity of Resource Parents to assist the youth in their care with college planning and will improve educational outcomes for youth

Aligns with the mission of FKCE

EDUCATION COURSE I: SUPPORTING FOSTER YOUTH THROUGH EARLY COLLEGE AWARENESS AND PREPARATION

- **Audience:** Caregivers with students in grades 6-10.
- **Learning Objectives:**
 - Explain the benefits of postsecondary education
 - Recognize the unique barriers foster youth face in education and the impact of trauma
 - Identify strategies to create a college-going culture in the home
 - Describe the resources and supports that are available to help foster youth achieve their postsecondary educational goals
 - Identify resources to help students explore their career interests and college pathways
 - Describe key educational planning milestones between 6th-10th grade
- Offered in English and Spanish

EDUCATION COURSE 2: SUPPORTING SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE

- **Audience:** Caregivers with students in grades 11-12, or recent high school graduates.
- **Learning Objectives:**
 - Explain the benefits of postsecondary education
 - Identify resources to help students explore their career interests and college pathways
 - Describe key educational planning milestones between 11th-12th grade
 - Describe the specific resources, benefits and supports available to help foster youth achieve their postsecondary educational goals
- Offered in English and Spanish

CRITERIA FOR TRAINERS:



- Instructional Specialist from FKCE
- Baseline knowledge of the college application process, financial aid, resources to support foster youth in college, and familiarity with the different types of higher education institution in California
- Preferable for trainers to have, at minimum, a Bachelor's degree or demonstrated experience in assisting students and families with college planning and application processes

COURSE OFFERINGS

FKCE Regional Coordinator developed a master calendar of courses for LA County



Initial courses scheduled for Spring and Summer 2019



Next course listing will be for Fall and Winter



Course listings are sent to DCFS for distribution bi-annually to caregivers via mailers

FOSTER & KINSHIP CARE EDUCATION
Turning Dreams into Degrees: Higher Education Training Schedule
Spring 2019

COLLEGE NAME & CONTACT INFORMATION	LANGUAGE	ED. COURSE 1: DATE/TIME	ED. COURSE 2: DATE/TIME
CERRITOS COLLEGE Graciela Vasquez / Selena Cuevas 11110 E. Alondra Blvd Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 860-2451 x2496 or 2548 gvasquez@cerritos.edu scuevas@cerritos.edu	ENGLISH	Wednesday, 5/1/19 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM Register please click: http://bit.ly/linc-up	
COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS Cindy Stephens / Mimi Leach 26455 Rockwell Canyon Rd. Valencia, CA 91355 (661) 362-3512 Mimi.Leach@canyons.edu	ENGLISH	Thursday, 5/16/19 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Thursday, 5/23/19 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE Belen Gabriel 1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez. Monterey Park, CA 91754 (323) 265-8963 GabrielB@elac.edu	SPANISH	Saturday, 4/13/19 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	
	SPANISH		Thursday, 4/25/19 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
	ENGLISH		Tuesday, 5/28/19 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
EL CAMINO COLLEGE Betty L. Sedor 16007 Crenshaw Blvd. Torrance, CA 90506 (310) 660-3593 x3585 bsedor@elcamino.edu	ENGLISH	Saturday, 5/4/19 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	
	ENGLISH		Wednesday, 4/24/19 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE Claudia Garcia 1305 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. Long Beach, CA 90806 (562) 938-3114 cgarcia@lbcc.edu	ENGLISH	Saturday, 3/2/19 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Tuesday, 3/12/19 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
	ENGLISH		Saturday, 4/27/19 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
	SPANISH	Saturday, 3/2/19 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Saturday, 3/2/19 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM Saturday, 3/2/19 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

TRAINING MATERIALS

- Two versions: LA County specific and California
- Training materials, including a Facilitator's Guide, and supporting materials can be downloaded at:
- www.jbay.org/caregiver-higher-ed-training
- www.jbay.org/la-caregiver-higher-ed-training



TURNING DREAMS INTO DEGREES:

A Training to Empower California's Caregivers to Support Foster Youth to Enroll & Succeed in College

Originally developed by John Burton Advocates for Youth and UNITE-LA, with support from LA County's Foster & Kinship Care Education Program, to train caregivers and Resource Families in Los Angeles County, this curriculum is now available statewide, to train caregivers and Resource Families to better support foster youth to enroll and succeed in college.

This curriculum is coming soon in Spanish.

Looking for the Los Angeles County version of this curriculum? [CLICK HERE](#)



DOWNLOAD FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

Together with the accompanying "Turning Dreams into Degrees" presentation slides (Education Courses 1 & 2 below), this facilitator's guide will prepare you to train caregivers on the college planning process. It will also provide you with helpful background information, general facilitation tips, and additional resources for further reference.

Education Course 1: Supporting Foster Youth through Early College Awareness and Preparation

Audience: This course is designed for caregivers with youth in 6th – 10th grade.

Description: This course will empower caregivers to discuss the value of higher education with their youth and provide ideas for how they can play an active role in supporting their youth to college. Caregivers will learn the significance of early college exploration, preparation, and key steps that they can take to help youth turn their dreams into degrees.



DOWNLOAD POWERPOINT



DOWNLOAD SUPPORTING MATERIALS:

- School Stability, Enrollment, and High School Graduation Rights of Foster and Probation Youth
- Education Course 1: Vignette #1
- Education Course 1: Vignette #2
- Foster Youth Educational Planning Guide (now also available in Spanish)

Education Course 2: Supporting Successful Transitions from High School to College

Audience: This course is designed for caregivers with youth in 11th – 12th grade, or recent high school graduates.

Description: This course will help caregivers understand how to support their youth to make a smooth transition from high school to college. Caregivers will learn about the benefits of college and the different pathways available to better support youth in making a plan. Caregivers will also learn about the key steps youth must take in the junior and senior year of college, and the supports and resources that exist to help youth along the way.



DOWNLOAD POWERPOINT



DOWNLOAD SUPPORTING MATERIALS:

- Jeopardy Game Show Handout
- Foster Youth Educational Planning Guide (now also available in Spanish)
- Financial Aid Guide for California Foster Youth and the "Visual Guide" (now available in Spanish)
- Scholarship Resources for Youth



NEXT STEPS

JESSICA PETRASS, JOHN BURTON ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH



WHAT'S AHEAD



Partnering with Foster Parent College to convert these training to an online platform accessible to caregivers throughout California



Expanding this training requirement to all Resource Parents, including those served by FFA's

- DCFS is currently exploring how to expand this training requirement to Resource Parents served by their contracted Foster Family Agencies (FFA's).



Submit a response to our survey to help JBAY determine how to support other counties in implementing this training statewide:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FXLKQX6>



GREATER CONTEXT

JESSICA PETRASS, JOHN BURTON ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH



OYC FYCAP CHILD WELFARE STRATEGIES

- DCFS and Probation are working to enhance support for youth in out-of-home care at FFA's and STRTP's through an enhanced Needs and Services Plan (NSP)
- DCFS is developing strategies to train and support social workers, so that social workers and caregivers are working in alignment to support higher educational goals
- DCFS and Probation are partnering with the LA County Office of Education Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP) to increase FAFSA completion by sharing FAFSA completion data across systems
- LA County Board of Supervisors declared October foster youth college awareness month to kick off the financial aid application period and college application period
- DCFS Director messages to shift the culture to the importance of college
- Supports SB 12 implementation by building the capacity of caregivers to support foster youth with the college matriculation process



IDEAS

Q & A

TO SUBMIT LIVE QUESTIONS, CLICK ON THE “QUESTIONS” PANEL, TYPE YOUR QUESTION, AND CLICK “SEND”

Interested in implementing this training or policy? Complete this survey to let us know how we can help!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FXLKQX6>

Contact Information:

Jessica Petrass

John Burton Advocates for Youth

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