Today’s Presenters

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Agenda

Today’s Webinar will Cover:

• Background information on foster youth and postsecondary education
• SB 12 requirements and Learning Community
• Best practices for SB 12 implementation
• Administrative and statutory recommendations
Teaming for College Success Publication

The publication and corresponding resources can be found here:
https://jbay.org/resources/sb12-toolkit/
Senate Bill (SB 12):
Identifying a postsecondary education support person
Education Pays Off

- Increased earnings and lower unemployment rates
- Improved health outcomes
- Increased civic participation (e.g., higher voting and lower incarceration rates)
- Greater likelihood of one’s children attending college
- Increased career satisfaction
- Decreased risk of certain traumatic experiences and adversities
FOSTER YOUTH COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS VS. COLLEGE REALITIES

- Want to go to college: 86%
- Enroll: 55%
- Complete 2 or 4 year degree: 11%
### Factors that Impact Foster Youth Postsecondary Success

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program selection</th>
<th>The estimated odds of completing a college degree were about <strong>four times higher</strong> for youth who first enrolled in a 4-year college than for youth who first enrolled in a 2-year college.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>Youth who received the Chafee ETV were almost <strong>2.4 times more likely</strong> to complete a degree.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Youth who reported receiving “<strong>a lot</strong>” of <strong>encouragement</strong> to continue their education beyond high school had a <strong>greater likelihood</strong> of completing college.</td>
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SB 12 requires social workers and probation officers to identify a postsecondary support person(s) to assist youth ages 16 or older with their college, including career and technical education, and financial aid applications.

- This person(s) must be documented in the case plan (see ACL No. 18-104).
- As of 1/1/2022 (per AB 153), the court must determine if this has been completed. By 1/1/2023 Judicial Council shall adopt rules of court and develop appropriate forms to ensure implementation.
- Revisit this conversation often!
Helpful Tip

Leverage the CFT and TILP process to identify an appropriate person and make a plan
Meet Elizabeth!

1. What was your experience like in high school? What type of support did you receive to prepare for college?
2. What was it like transitioning to college?
3. How would a designated postsecondary educational support person have made the transition to college easier?
4. When did you decide to go back to college? What challenges did you face and what resources helped?
Challenges with Implementation

- No designated field within CWS/CMS preventing counties from generating reports to track compliance.
- One large county reviewed 100 randomly selected case plans to review zero percent compliance with SB 12 requirements.
Senate Bill (SB 12):
Learning Community overview
SB 12 Learning Community Overview

• Convened from March 2020–December 2021
• Peer learning
• Technical assistance using the College Transitions Framework
• Best practices and recommendations
College Transitions Framework

1. Ensure consistent implementation of Senate Bill 12 requirements.
2. Implement protocols to ensure social workers and probation officers are trained on college planning and postsecondary matriculation processes.
3. Ensure the postsecondary educational support person(s) have the necessary support and resources.
4. Develop training, compliance, and review processes with dependency judges and attorneys.
5. Strengthen Independent Living Program (ILP) referral processes and partnerships.

6. Provide caregiver training on college and career planning, financial aid, and college matriculation processes.

7. Engage in long-term college and career planning with youth.

8. Engage Local Education Agencies and college programs to support college planning and college matriculation processes.
Best Practice:

Update Case Planning Policies and Templates to Reflect SB 12 Requirements
Spotlight: Los Angeles County

- Embed language within existing policies or create a new policy to help institutionalize postsecondary matriculation and achievement as an organizational priority.

- Reinforce new policies with ongoing communication and reminders to bridge policy into practice.

- Include sample case plan templates with prompts and reminders when training or a reference tools

Example of Case Plan Education Services:

Youth A will work with Counselor/Collateral X on applications for postsecondary education, including financial aid, etc. [WIC 16501.1(g)(22)]. (Only if age 16+ or NMD).
Best Practice:
Leverage Child and Family Teams (CFTs)
Child and Family Team (CFT)

The CFT can be used to:
- Make a plan to support foster youth in reaching their college and career goals;
- Identify supports and services needed; and
- Assign who will support the youth with achieving tasks in the plan.
Benefits of an Education-Focused CFT

- Creates a culture that values that youth’s overall well-being and communicates to the student that they have the potential to reach their college and career goals.
- Ensures shared education goals amongst all stakeholders.
- Helps the education system to be better prepared and informed to meet the needs of their foster youth students.
- Ensures that students succeed not just in the home, but in the community and in their school.
- Increases awareness for students about the resources available at a college campus.
- Helps youth stay on track to a college and career pathway.
Why an Education CFT?

• Helps with SB 12 implementation
• Documentation of a Postsecondary Education Support Person(s) shall be identified in the youth’s case plan in CWS/CMS, unless the youth states that postsecondary education will not be pursued (ACL 18-104).
• For best practices, social workers may encourage youth to use Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings as a method to develop an appropriate plan for postsecondary education support (ACIN 1-71-18).
Partnerships Make it Happen!

Santa Clara County DFCS

SCC Office of Education

Pivotal

Independent Living Program
# Education CFT Roles and Responsibilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CFT Facilitator</th>
<th>Social Worker</th>
<th>SCCOE Education Case Manager</th>
<th>Pivotal Coach</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guide the CFT per the advising highlights on the grade specific checklist</td>
<td>Social submit referral based on COE recommendation</td>
<td>COE identify youth on caseload who would benefit from developing plan for post-secondary/vocational program</td>
<td>Assign Pivotal Coach to CFT to support foster youth in degree/certificate exploration</td>
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<td>Social Worker use TILP as a tool for college planning; Identify goals, activities, responsible party and completion date.</td>
<td>Attend CFT provide update on youth’s academic status; grades, attendance, behavior, special education, extracurricular activities</td>
<td>Support the youth in career/education planning with tasks outlined on the grade specific checklist</td>
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<td><strong>ACL 18-104</strong> provides step-by-step instructions for where to record the required information in the CWS/CMS case plan</td>
<td>Support youth with completing the coursework and testing requirements with tasks outlined on grade specific checklists</td>
<td>Provide updates on youth’s progress with activities and assessments to SW/COE ED Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Refer youth to the resources identified in the grade specific checklist</td>
<td></td>
<td>Help youth to envision their future</td>
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Education-focused CFT Guidance and Checklists

JBAY developed our publication that incorporated JBAY’s current checklist and input from our county partners..
Youth Engagement Tool: Pie Chart for Education CFT
Implementation Activities

- Development of education-focused CFT guidance and checklists
- Training to partner staff who will be involved in Education CFT
- Training to all staff and partners
- Dissemination of all staff memo
- Pilot CFT’s and gather youth feedback
- CFT Unit present at all staff meeting
Considerations

• Communicate about issues/concerns before the Education CFT
  • e.g. academic standing, IEP/testing, # of credits
• Arrive on time and stay for duration of meeting
• Be prepared with educational resources
Best Practice:
Provide Training to Social Workers, Probation Officers, and Caregivers
**Goal:** Increase social workers’ ability to support youth into postsecondary education

**Participants:** Cohort of social workers & supervisors across the LA County DCFS Lancaster and Palmdale Office with youth on their case loads in 8th grade and above

**Core Interventions:**
- 4-hour comprehensive training on postsecondary education
- Nine follow-up case consultations
- LA DCFS-specific Educational Planning Checklist
Turning Dreams Into Degrees for Social Workers and Probation Officers Learning Objectives

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the role of trauma on educational outcomes
2. Deconstruct the common misconceptions that perpetuate implicit biases
3. Describe the different postsecondary education pathways including Career and Technical Education (CTE), 2-year, and 4-year programs
4. Demonstrate how to engage and motivate young people around college and career exploration
5. Identify key educational planning milestones in middle school and high school and resources available to assist them
Turning Dreams Into Degrees for Social Workers and Probation Officers Learning Objectives (cont.)

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

6. Demonstrate a broad understanding of the financial aid process and key considerations for foster youth

7. Identify educational resources and supports across K-12 and higher education

8. Utilize teaming to successfully implement SB 12 and create a cross-system college-going culture

9. Integrate college and career planning into core social work practices, such as the CFTM, TILP and Court Report
Turning Dreams into Degrees for Social Workers and Probation Officers

- **Audience:** Adapted by JBAY for use statewide for social workers and probation officers

- **Duration:** 4.5 hours virtual or in-person

- **Materials:** Includes PowerPoint slides, presenter’s notes, accompanying handouts and Trainer’s Guide (coming soon in mid-April!)

- **Trainers:** Consider leveraging expertise across child welfare, COE FYSCP’s, and local community colleges to deliver this training.

**Acknowledgements:**

*Developed by JBAY, UNITE-LA and LA County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) for LA and modified with the assistance of the Ventura County Office of Education and Santa Clara County Department of Social Services to support statewide implementation of SB 12*
College Bound Antelope Valley: Evaluation Findings & Recommendations

- Multiple sources of positive feedback document the attainment of new knowledge and practical strategies
- Social workers and supervisors report a benefit from attending trainings together as a unit.
- Deliver the content on a single day with relief from case management responsibilities. Schedule caseload coverage to support each unit to attend together
- Positive feedback was reported for the educational checklist
- Incorporate the training into monthly unit meetings to increase consistent integration into routine social work practices

Research conducted by Hope Education Research Solutions (HERS)
Turning Dreams into Degrees:
A training to empower and equip California caregivers to support youth in foster care into postsecondary education pathways

- **Education Course 1:** Supporting Foster Youth through Early College Awareness and Preparation
  
  **Target audience:** Caregivers with foster youth in their care between 6th-10th grade, or below
  
  **Duration:** 3 hours
  
  **Course Materials:** [www.jbay.org/resources/education-course-1/](http://www.jbay.org/resources/education-course-1/)

- **Education Course 2:** Supporting Successful Transitions from High School to College
  
  **Target audience:** Caregivers with foster youth in their care between 11th - 12th grade
  
  **Duration:** 3 hours
  
  **Course Materials:** [www.jbay.org/resources/education-course-2/](http://www.jbay.org/resources/education-course-2/)

*Created by JBAY with support from UNITE-LA, the Foster and Kinship Care Education Programs of LA County, LA County Department of Children and Family Services, Foster Parent College and the LA Opportunity Youth Collaborative*
Course Materials Overview

- Trainer’s Guide
- PowerPoints (English and Spanish) with detailed presenter’s notes
- Special Considerations for Facilitating in Spanish
- Pre-recorded train-the-trainer webinar
- Supplemental Handouts for Caregivers (English & Spanish)
Foster Parent College offers Education Course 1 in English: “Preparing Teens for Postsecondary Education”

91% of caregivers nationwide reported that it added to their knowledge.

www.fosterparentcollege.com

Available 24/7 and free for California caregivers
Best Practice:
Increase Cross-System Collaboration
Spotlight: Monterey County

- Launched a planning committee to host an in-person event for transition-age foster youth to learn about career and college options
- Partners included Monterey County DSS, CASA of Monterey County, Monterey County Office of Education, Hartnell College, Peacock Acres
- Provided caregivers with two hours toward annual RFA training requirements
Spotlight: Santa Clara County

- SCCOE– Education Manager Program
  ➢ ACL

- Pivotal
  ➢ MOU

- Independent Living Program

CONTRACTOR (PIVOTAL) RESPONSIBILITIES

- Complete aptitude assessments through the CACareerZone website.
- Explore degree/certificate programs.
- Identify potential post-secondary careers and technical institutions.
- Support college-bound foster youth to complete applications for financial aid, scholarships, and enrollment, and other academic tasks recommended to youth during an educational Child and Family Team (CFT).
- Support foster youth with enrichment activities to support ongoing development, including building skills that promote academic success such as organization, time management, accessing and utilizing resources, communication, and self-advocacy.
Administrative Recommendations
Administrative Recommendations

- Track SB 12 compliance in CWS/CMS through a special projects code & develop a system within CWS-CARES.

- Modify templates for state and local court reports and Judicial Council forms to enhance court oversight of SB 12 compliance.

- Update the Transitional Independent Living Plan and Agreement (TILP) form to include legal rights related to SB 12, information on the designated postsecondary education support person, and the youth’s Educational Rights Holder (ERH).
Legislative Recommendations
Legislative Recommendations

- Mandate Education-Focused Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings for all foster youth in 8th grade and above.

- Require social workers and probation officers to complete training on postsecondary planning and matriculation.

- Integrate training on postsecondary planning and matriculation into statewide annual training requirements for caregivers.

- Create sustainable public funding source dedicated to providing all foster youth in California with the support they need to pursue postsecondary pathways.
What questions do you have?
Resources


Foster youth have long endured myriad challenges reaching their postsecondary educational goals. While nearly 88 percent of foster youth indicate a desire to attend college, more than half report not receiving enough assistance with college planning. To address this concern and the low rate of college completion, the California legislature adopted Senate Bill 12 (SB 12), which went into effect on January 1, 2018.

SB 12 requires child welfare and juvenile probation agencies to indicate in the case plans of all foster youth ages 16 and older at least one designated support person who will assist them with college and financial aid applications. This publication and corresponding resources provide child welfare and probation agencies with practical strategies to implement SB 12 requirements and increase foster youth postsecondary success. Many of the strategies and resources...
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THANK YOU