

JOHN BURTON Advocates for Youth

2024 FOSTER YOUTH TAX CREDIT CHALLENGE

Help youth claim their money! Will you join us?

BACKGROUND & OPPORTUNITY

In 2023, California implemented the **Foster Youth Tax Credit** (FYTC), which provides up to ~$1,000 to current and former foster youth age 18-25 who file their taxes. In 2023, more than 4,700 current and former foster youth filed their taxes and received the credit. When combined with other credits they were eligible for, these youth each received an average of $1,906 , and $5,343 for those youth who were custodial parents!

To help boost rates of tax filing and FYTC receipt, John Burton Advocates for Youth (JBAY) launched the California Foster Youth Tax Credit Challenge. The three counties with the highest rates of FYTC receipt by June 30, 2024 will win the Challenge. *Let's reach at least 10,000 youth by 2025!*

WHAT WE'LL ASK OF YOU

- Commit to the goal of increasing the number of current and former foster youth who file taxes.
- Develop a referral process to direct all eligible youth to free tax filing services or resources to self-file, and engage local stakeholders in outreach. (Attend a November 1st webinar to learn how)
- Review monthly county-level claiming data on the FYTC, provided by the Franchise Tax Board (FTB).

HOW WE'LL HELP YOU MEET THE CHALLENGE

JBAY will offer the following to county child welfare agencies that opt into the Challenge and their partners:

- Provide outreach and tax preparation materials.
- Provide your county its monthly FYTC claiming data provided by the FTB.
- Offer a November 2023 webinar training on how to help prepare youth for filing.
- Connect your agency with local IRS-certified Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site(s).

HOW TO SIGN UP

To opt into the Challenge, the county child welfare agency should submit this participation letter to Carla Macias, project consultant, at FYtaxcredit@jbay.org by October 25th, and attend a November 1st webinar.