

# THP-Plus:

## Housing California's Former Foster Youth



*Beyond the Bench Conference*  
*December 15, 2006*

# Purpose of Presentation

- Overview of emancipated foster youth in California
- Review Nuts & Bolts of THP-Plus
- Key Elements of Implementation Process
- Case Study: Alameda County
- Review of Allocation & Finance Issues

*Most importantly: answer your questions!*



# THP-Plus Statewide Implementation Project

**CDSS**



**John Burton  
Foundation**

**Corporation  
for Supportive  
Housing**

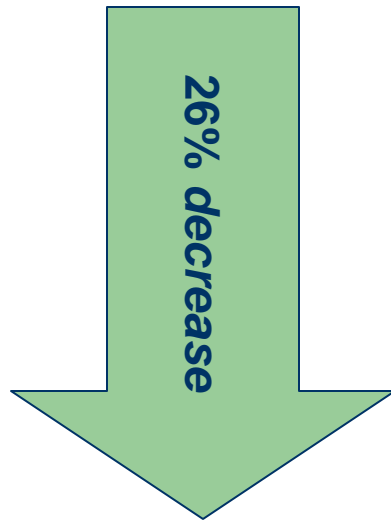
# How can the THP-Plus Statewide Implementation Project help?

- ☑ Development of county THP-Plus plan
- ☑ Completion of the certification process
- ☑ Creation of the provider plan
- ☑ Creation of an implementation timeline
- ☑ Selection of alternative housing models, with a comparison of their relative strengths and weaknesses
- ☑ Development of program policies and practices that build on lessons learned from existing, successful THP-Plus providers
- ☑ Evaluation framework to measure program effectiveness
- ☑ Creation of accountability and oversight framework



# Between 1998 to 2005...

**Foster Care  
Caseload**



**108,283 to 80,115**

**# of Youth  
Emancipating**

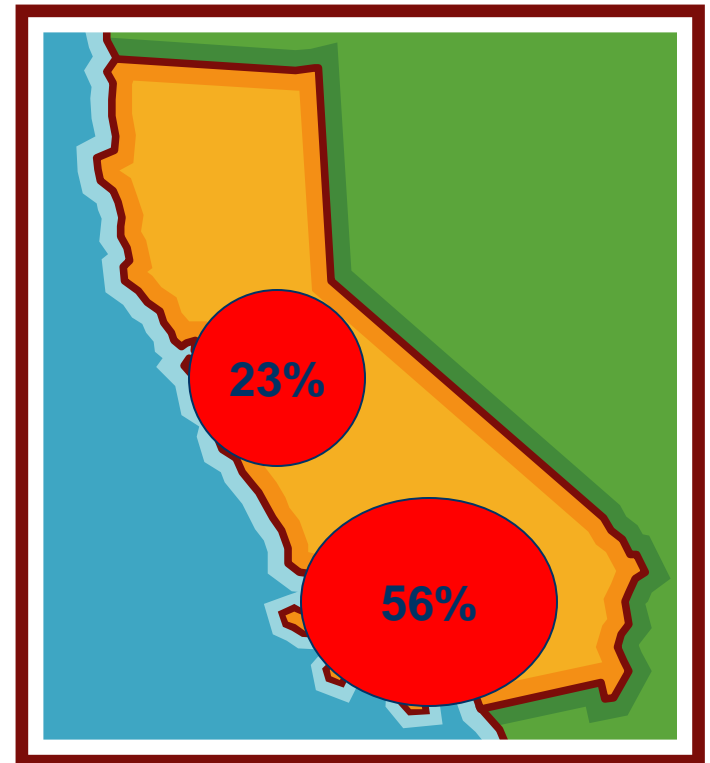
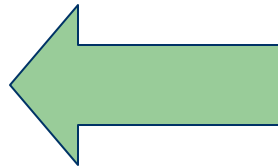


**3,076 to 4,249**

# Where are Emancipated Foster Youth?

*1/1/05 to 12/31/05*

Los Angeles:	1,358
<b>San Diego:</b>	<b>270</b>
Sacramento:	251
<b>Alameda:</b>	<b>246</b>
San Bernardino:	243
Orange:	215
Riverside:	183
Fresno:	127
<b>San Francisco:</b>	<b>119</b>
Santa Clara:	114
<b>Contra Costa:</b>	<b>108</b>
Kern:	95



# A lack of support translates into poor outcomes for former foster youth

Upon emancipation:

- 65% face imminent housing need

Within 12 to 18 months:

- 40% will be unemployed
- 20% will have been incarcerated
- 40% will have experienced homelessness

Over time:

- Less than 5% will complete college

***Of the estimated 4,000 homeless former foster youth, 165 are served by THP-Plus.***



# What is THP-Plus?

- *THP-Plus is a program for former foster youth that provides **safe, affordable housing** and comprehensive **supportive services**.*
- *THP-Plus allows youth to have the greatest amount of **freedom** possible to prepare them for **self-sufficiency**.*





# Nuts & Bolts of THP-Plus

- **Duration:** 24 months
- **Eligibility:** Youth 18 to 24 years old who meet ILP eligibility criteria
- **Rate:** 70% of average group home rate for 16 to 18 year-olds in the county as of June 30, 2001
- **Licensing status:** certified by county, not licensed
- **Funding:** 100% state-funded; county share removed
- **Structure:** Administered by CDSS, managed by county social service agency, operated by private nonprofit provider.

# Required Supportive Services of THP-Plus Programs

## Housing Services



## Education & Employment Services



## Community & Support Services



1. Monthly rental subsidy
2. Apartment furnishing provided directly or through a stipend
3. System for payment of utilities, rent, food and other necessities
4. Emancipation fund into which \$50 is deposited monthly
5. 24-hour crisis intervention and support
6. If the housing model selected is transitional, assistance in locating housing at the completion of the program that costs no more than 30% of the youth's gross income
7. Educational advocacy and support, including linkages to Foster Youth Services
8. Assistance to pursue college or other post-high school training
9. Job readiness training and support, including linkages to WIA and one-stop centers
10. Case management services
11. Individual and group therapy provided either or through referral
12. Mentoring
13. Services to build and support relationships with family and community
14. Aftercare services including support groups and referrals to community resources
15. Coordination with ILP to meet goals outlined in the Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP)

# THP-Plus Housing Models



**Scattered-Site**



**Host Family**



**Single-site**

***THP-Plus Programs can provide permanent or transitional housing***

# Eight Steps to Implementation

1. Form the Working Group
2. Conceptualize the Program
3. Choose the Housing Model
4. Develop the County Plan
5. Design Program and Develop Provider Plan
6. Certify Provider and Execute Contract
7. Implement and Evaluate Program
8. Provide Ongoing Oversight

***Each step is described in detail in the technical assistance document***



# THE BIG FIVE:

## Items to Be Submitted to CDSS Prior to Claiming

Letter of Intent

County THP-Plus Plan

Provider Implementation Plan

Proof of certification

Contract with provider



***Provider Identification Number!***



***Start Claiming for THP-Plus!***

# #1: Letter of Intent

- Estimated number of youth served
- Projected budget
- Estimated implementation date
- Provider or process to select a provider

*Due Date for FY 07-08: December 1st*



## #2: County THP-Plus Plan

- Content: 10 sections to be completed
- Submitted by County Social Service Agency
- Is not binding or a guarantee for funding
- BOS approval based on county policy
- 17 counties have approved plans

*Due Date for FY 07-08: February 1st*



# #3: Provider Implementation Plan

- Content: 7 sections to be completed
- Submitted by County Social Service Agency

*Due Date for FY 07-08: upon completion*





## #4: Proof of Certification

- Completed by the County Social Services Agency
- Certifies that provider meets all program requirements
- Proof of certification consists of a letter from County SSA to CDSS

*Due Date for FY 07-08: upon completion*



## #5: Contract with Provider

- Executed agreement between provider and county social services agency
- Includes service goals and evaluation measures

*Due Date for FY 07-08: upon completion*



# THP-Plus Finances

- FY 06-07 Budget: \$6.9 million
  - THPP (\$2.1 million)
  - THP-Plus (\$4.8 million)
- THP-Plus allocated to counties implementing as of 05-06
  - Balance available on first-come basis
  - Unclaimed THPP funds will be redistributed to counties based on unfunded claims to THP-Plus
- FY 07-08 Budget:
  - Currently under development
  - Expectation of growth based on approved plan and letters of intent



# Alameda County Case Study

- Demand in Alameda County
- Housing models
- Services provided
- Outcome data
- Development of 3-year plan

