

REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS
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December 7, 2021

**Contingency Planning for Transition Age Youth Aging Out of Foster Care
Effective December 31, 2021**

The federal Supporting Foster Youth and Families Through the Pandemic Act (“Federal Pandemic Act” or PL 116-260) permitted young adults over 21 years of age to remain in the Extended Foster Care (EFC) program and to continue receiving federal funding and case management services from county child welfare agencies. The extended funding and services have been a critical support in helping youth maintain housing and overall stability during the pandemic. While the funding was originally scheduled to terminate as of June 30, 2021, California extended the funding deadline for eligible young people twice, and the funding will now terminate on December 31, 2021. This deadline is commonly referred to as the “EFC housing cliff,” as youth who do not have another source of funding to replace the EFC income are at risk of homelessness come January 1, 2022.

In Los Angeles County, approximately 1100 youth (the “December 31 cohort”) will no longer meet the requirements for extended foster care funding and case

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management support as of January 1, 2022. Thanks to the diligence of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and community partners, the majority of these youth have a housing plan in place. For the remaining youth, DCFS has been actively engaged to assist with transition planning support to maintain the youth's stability and avoid homelessness. This has included actively working with other County departments and agencies to ensure the December 31 cohort receive the necessary transition support needed.

Even with the diligent efforts of County Departments, it is critical that the County develop an emergency fund that can be leveraged for the youth who do not have stable housing identified come December 31, 2021. To that end, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority has been working to identify available Rapid Rehousing funds to serve these youth. Efforts to identify such funding must continue with urgency.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Department of Children & Family Services to work with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority to ensure youth in the December 31, 2021 cohort access available Rapid Rehousing funds for eligible youth.
2. Direct the Chief Executive Office to work with the Department of Children & Family Services, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, and the Department of Public Social Services to ensure that youth who do not qualify for the Rapid Rehousing funds are matched to other housing resources prior to exiting the Extended Foster Care program, including identification of emergency funds if necessary.
3. Direct the Department of Public Social Services, in collaboration with the

Department of Children & Family Services and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, to identify youth in the December 31, 2021 cohort who are currently eligible for or will be potentially eligible for Department of Public Social Services benefits upon the termination of Extended Foster Care benefits. The Department of Public Social Services is directed to assist those identified youth with their applications for Department of Public Social Services benefits.

4. Direct the Department of Children and Family Services, in collaboration with the Chief Executive Office, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, the Department of Public Social Services, the Department of Mental Health, and other relevant agencies, to report back on the above directives, lessons learned, and any relevant updates in 10 days.

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