



Stabilization Supports for Foster Youth

September 17, 2024



Stabilization Supports for Foster Youth Motion



1st Directive focuses on exploring housing for Transition Age Youth (TAY), housing navigators, and prioritizing pregnant/parenting youth.

2nd Directive focuses on trauma-informed training, career pathways, and community crisis.

3rd Directive focuses on opposing proposed State reductions on funding for the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children (Bridge Program).

4th Directive focuses on strengthening the coordination of services for parenting foster youth in the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program.



Directive 1



Housing Navigators:

Collaboration: DCFS & Department of Health Services

Goal: Expand housing navigation services with new state funding

Impact: Number of TAY served depends on funding

Prioritizing Housing for Parenting Youth:

THP+: Each provider allocated 25% of beds to pregnant & parenting youth

TAY Housing Pilot: Capacity for a couple of expectant and parenting youth

PHAs & FYI Vouchers:

Applied	In MOU Process	Decision Phase
LACDA	Pasadena	South Gate
HACLA	Culver City	Baldwin Park
Pomona	Inglewood	
	Redondo Beach	
	Glendale	
	Santa Monica	

Partnerships:

Stepping Stones Program:

Partners: Safe Place for Youth (SPY)/Center for Strategic Partnerships (CSP)

Service: Bridge housing for NMDs exiting care

Support: Case Manager for housing navigation

Expectant and Parenting Youth (EPY) Service:

Partner: St. Anne's Family Services (SAFS)/CSP

Service: Financial assistance for ages 18-26

Support: Housing navigator

TAY Housing Pilot:

Partner: LACDA/CRCD/CSP

Launch: Q4

Service: 24 months of rapid rehousing & support

SHD Staff Involvement:

Action: Join TAY exit meetings with Social Workers

Purpose: Promote housing options & answer questions



Directive 2

1) DMH Trauma-Informed Trainings

- DMH offers mental health trauma related trainings (both in-person and virtually) to all mental health providers through the DMH's online catalog Training offerings are also available to DCFS, Probation, and to the public
- 536 independent trainings were offered on trauma informed care between calendar year 2022-2023
- **Managing the Effects of Trauma** (launched in May 2024)
 - DMH partnered with DCFS to launch a tailored training curriculum specifically to address the needs of youth who have experienced trauma residing at the Temporary Shelter Care Facilities (TSCFs)

*By **October 1, 2024**, all TSCF residential staff across the County will have completed this training*



Directive 2

DMH Maternal Mental Health Supports

- **Services**

- Referrals, individual therapy, and support groups
- Young Mothers and Babies, and “Mommy & Me”
- Maternal Mental Health Champions
- **PROMISE (“Perinatal Resources to Optimize Mental Health Interventions & Substance Use Treatment Excellence)**
 - Serves as a coordinated effort between DMH and DHS for linkage and consultation. PROMISE is a provider-to-provider consultation line

- **Training**

- Perinatal Mental Health 101
- Perinatal Mental Health 201: How to Help



Directive 2

2) Expanding Existing Pathways

- **Internship Opportunities for College Students:** Collaboration with Department of Human Resources (DHR)
- **Peer Specialist Demonstration Project**
 - A collaborative project aimed at supporting Peer Mental Health training for LA County youth
- **Youth Facilitator/Child Family Team Pilot Program**
 - Collaboration with DCFS and Office of Child Protection (OCP)
 - Training for youth with lived experience in the child welfare/probation system on the Integrated Core Practice Model (ICPM), Child and Family Team (CFT) and facilitation of CFT meetings
 - Program aims to train, engage, and support youth as facilitators at various levels of care while providing professional development opportunities

Promoting the “Who to Call” Campaign



July 2024, DMH launched the newly integrated LA County Help Line for Mental Health and Substance Use services for easier access to mental health and substance use services.

All residents, including youth reaching the call center, will experience streamlined menu options to better access mental health and substance use services across the County. Previously, residents were required to call two separate helplines [DMH Help Line and DPH’s Substance Abuse Services Helpline (SASH)]. This 24/7 help line is often the first point of contact for residents seeking wellbeing resources.



On July 23, 2024, DCFS posted the *Who Do I Call For Help?* campaign infographics (English and Spanish) on their (intra-net) LAKids website, which reaches all department personnel.

In addition, the network of Resource Parents through the DCFS Binti system also received the information along with specialized TAY-serving units.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
**DEPARTMENT OF
MENTAL HEALTH**
hope. recovery. wellbeing.

Directive 3

Directive: The Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Office - Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (CEO-LAIR) branch to oppose the Governor's May Revision proposal to reduce the funding for the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children (ECCBP) by \$34.8 million in FY 2024-25 and ongoing.

Background: The Governor's May Revision proposed a \$34.8 million decrease in FY 2024-25 and ongoing for the ECCBP, a time-limited program designed to increase the number of foster children successfully placed in homebased family care settings, increase capacity of childcare programs to meet the needs of foster children in their care, and maximize funding to support the childcare needs of eligible families.

Final Outcome: CEO-LAIR successfully opposed this funding reduction. The 2024 State Budget Act adopted budget bill language to reappropriate a total of \$47 million from FY 2023-24 into FY 2024-25, generating SGF savings for FY 2024-25 only for this program. Total State General Fund levels for the ECCBP remain at \$83.4 million ongoing.



Directive 4



Bridge Emergency Child Care Program

- Established in 2018
- \$32 million annually
 - Funding provided through the California Department of Social Services
- Provides immediate child care placement for families, including parenting foster youth:
 - Provides time-limited childcare vouchers, as well as a navigator to support families in accessing childcare services
 - 1,003 families served in FY 23-24
 - 58 were parenting foster youth.

Directive 4



Strategies to Strengthen Bridge Emergency Child Care

- Strategy 1: Expand ages served to children birth through 12
- Strategy 2: Strengthen DCFS staff knowledge about the child care system
- Strategy 3: Enhance partnerships between DCFS staff and Bridge Program navigators
- Strategy 4: Targeted outreach to parenting teens/non-minor dependents
- Strategy 5: Trauma informed care training enhancement for parenting foster youth

Questions

