

# CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

MOVING THE AGENCY IN A POSITIVE DIRECTION WITH REGARDS  
TO HELPING FAMILIES BECOME STRONGER SO THEY CAN CARE  
FOR THEIR CHILDREN, HELPING FAMILY BE ABLE TO CARE FOR  
CHILDREN WHEN THEIR PARENTS CANNOT, AND TO CREATE  
AND MAINTAIN A WORKFORCE COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE.



2014/2015  
PROGRAM REPORT  
FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

October 12, 2015

# The Forward Movement of Children & Family Services

## Service Delivery to strengthen families in the community

- Prioritizing Staffing
- Ombudsman specific for CFS & Adult Protective Services Work
- Caregiver Liaison
- Safety Organized Practice (SOP)
- Children's Leadership Team (CLT)
- The Court Unit Workgroup
- The County Culture Workgroup
- Intensive Family Services (IFS)
- Structured Decision Making (SDM)
- Resource Family Approval (RFA)
- Approve Relative Caregiver Funding Option (ARCFO)
- Continuum of Care Reform (CCR)
- Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)



# WHAT IS ILSP?



- Programming to support foster youth age 16 to 21 years old to become self-sufficient through skill building, supportive services and positive youth development.
- Funding and services expanded to State and Federal government via the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Act in 1999.
- Assembly Bill 12, the California Fostering Connections to Success Act allows young adults to be provided transitional support to age 21 to ensure the necessary skills to survive on their own.



# The Independent Living Skills Program

“Our vision is to move every youth  
from stagnation to motivation,  
from limitations to possibilities;  
from dependency to self-sufficiency;  
from the past to the FUTURE.”



# WHO ARE THE FOSTER YOUTH SERVED BY ILSP?

- Children who have been removed from their family's custody due to neglect and abuse.
- Children who have not reunified with their family nor have they found a permanent home (i.e. adoption)
- Children who may have grown up in foster care or just entered as adolescents.
- Youth who have a Placement Order through the Juvenile Probation Department at the age of 16.



# WHAT IS THE NEED?

Children who emancipate from the foster care system face higher rates of:

- Unemployment
- Lower Educational Attainment
- Incarceration
- Dependence on public assistance
- Substance abuse
- Early parenting
- Homelessness
- Increased Health and Mental Health problems
- Other high-risk behaviors



# ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- Staff consists of an ILSP Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator and 4 Program Specialists
- Serve all foster youth from Contra Costa County including youth from other counties placed in Contra Costa County
- ILSP Youth Center opened in 2001
- Collaborative Partners include:

CCC Office of Education

CCC Community College District

Wellness City Challenge

Job Corps – Treasure Island

Suzy Todd Photography

The Assistance League of Diablo Valley

The Orinda Woman's Club

Foster A Dream

The Secret Elves

Friends of ILSP Organization

The Los Medanos Community Healthcare District

Honorable Judge Lois Haight Foster Youth Foundation

CCC Workforce Development Board Youth Council – WIOA

Volunteer Emergency Services Team In Action (VESTIA)



# PROGRAMMING AND SERVICES

- ILSP spotlights four core areas called “The Four Pillars” when providing hands-on, experiential learning experiences for participants. The Four Pillars consist of Education, Employment, Housing and Well-Being. Workshops are offered in all three regions of the county (East, Central & West) to increase participation.
- Aftercare program for emancipated youth/AB12 youth
- Leadership Development through California Youth Connection (CYC)



## 2014/2015 SUMMARY

- This past fiscal year, 604 total youth were served both individually and in group settings (i.e. workshops, classes, etc.)
- 160 of these youth were Non-Minor Dependents
- THP+ has capacity for 12 emancipated youth and THPP has capacity for 24 in care youth
- THP+FC is expanding as new providers are becoming certified to offer housing services to our Non Minor Dependent Population. We currently work with six licensed agencies.
- 86 out of 115 senior youth graduated High School in 2015





## A GLIMPSE OF ILSP...





# “DAY AT THE PARK” HOLIDAY HIGHLANDS PARK - MARTINEZ



# Summer Network Event - Waterworld







# SIERRA COLLEGE TOURS





## COOKING AND NUTRITION WORKSHOPS





# CALIFORNIA YOUTH CONNECTION SUMMER LEADERSHIP & POLICY CONFERENCE







# Life Skills Workshops



# MUIR WOODS/STINSON BEACH



## Wellness City Challenge & California Youth Connection Iron Chef Challenge Event





# INDEPENDENT CITIES WORKSHOP



# MONEY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP







SACRAMENTO STATE  
Redefine the Possible

UCLA



San Francisco State University

ILSP  
COLLEGE LUNCHEON  
EVENT

Contra Costa  
Community  
College District  
pathways to success



Berkeley  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



UC DAVIS  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



# LOS MEDANOS COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT'S SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM





# HOLIDAY NETWORK EVENT







## “WRAP IT UP” WORKSHOP





# ANNUAL RECOGNITION EVENT



## SUMMARY

- In the current economic climate, ILSP plays an even greater role in the lives of foster youth.
- For some emancipated youth, ILSP is the only support they have in times of crisis.
- For youth opting to remain in foster care under AB12, ILSP will continue to provide support, direct services and resources.
- ILSP addresses the social and well-being aspects of foster youth.

