

POLICY WEBINAR | OCTOBER 2022

2022 Budget Allocations and New Laws

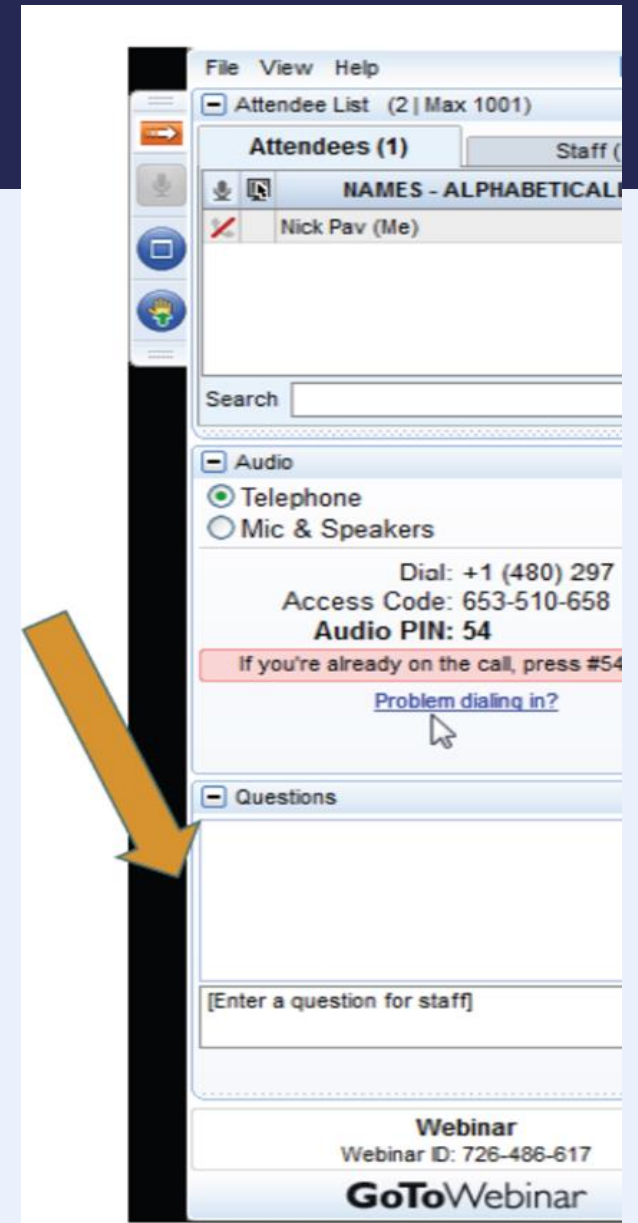
Supporting Children and Youth
in Foster Care

ALLIANCE
for CHILDREN'S
RIGHTS



Logistics

- Webinar resources, including recording and supplemental materials, will be posted at <https://allianceforchildrensrights.org/resources/>
- All attendees are muted during webinar
- Please submit questions using the “Questions” function on your GoToWebinar dashboard



A photograph of a family of four sitting at a dining table. In the foreground, a young boy with a wide, joyful smile is looking towards the camera. Behind him, a man and a woman are also smiling warmly. The woman is wearing a black top with yellow floral patterns. On the table in front of them is a large roasted turkey, a plate of green salad, and a knife. The background is softly blurred, showing a window and indoor plants.

2022 BUDGET ALLOCATIONS & NEW LAWS

CALIFORNIA TRIBAL FAMILIES COALITION

Blair Kreuzer



*Support for
Recruitment and
Approval of
Tribally
Approved Homes*

- **\$8.2 million General Fund in FY 2022-23 and ongoing, for the Tribally Approved Homes Compensation Program established through AB 207**
- **WIC 10553.13 establishes the Tribally Approved Homes Compensation Program to provide funding to eligible tribes and tribal organizations in California to assist in funding the costs associated with recruiting and approving homes for the purpose of foster or adoptive placement of an Indian child pursuant to ICWA**
- **requires CDSS to provide annual allocations of \$75,000 to eligible tribes and tribal organizations in each fiscal year, subject to appropriation**
- **requires a tribe or tribal organization that receives funding to submit an annual progress report** that includes details about how many homes were approved, recruitment efforts, and challenges experienced

*Legal Counsel
for Tribes*

- **\$2.1 million General Fund in FY 2022-23 and ongoing for the Tribal Dependency Program established through AB 207**
- requires CDSS to provide **annual allocations of \$15,000 to eligible tribes and tribal organizations in each fiscal year**, subject to appropriation



COUNTY WELFARE
DIRECTORS
ASSOCIATION OF
CALIFORNIA

Amanda Kirchner

*FAMILY-BASED
CARE
PROPOSALS*

- Funds mandated **RFA** process
- \$50 million ongoing
- Reinvigorates **FPRRS** to support caregivers and for foster youth.
- \$50 million one-time funding for FY 22-23 and 23-24
- **AB 2259** (Berman) – Establishes a \$5m CDSS grant program to serve youth who have substance use needs

COMPLEX CARE

(\$37 Million)

- **Reduces administrative barriers to the use of child-specific complex care needs funds by making funding available immediately to youth and families**, and require counties to report thereafter on the use of the funds. Add allowable uses for these funds to address a wider range of child-specific needs.
- **Modifies allowable uses of 2021-22 State Budget \$43 million one-time over five years funds to counties for capacity building to serve foster youth with complex needs** to enable counties to increase capacity of care options locally.
- **\$1.4 million over 5 years for specialized case management activities for complex needs youth.**

*EXPANDED
CAPACITY FOR
MSW STUDENTS
IN CALIFORNIA
SCHOOLS*

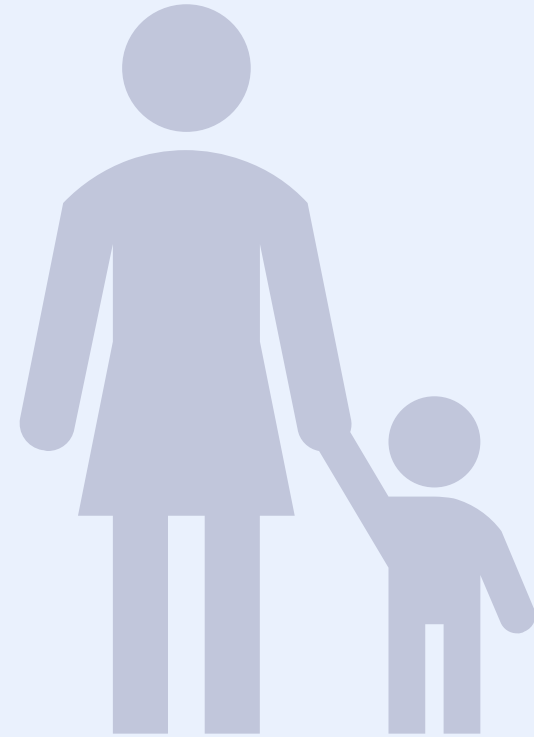
- Requires CalHHS Secretary and representatives of the UC and CSU Chancellors to convene a taskforce to develop and implement recommendations for expanding MSW capacity in California's CSU and UC systems.
- Establishes a grant program of \$118 million State General Fund beginning FY 2022-23, available through June 30, 2026, administered through the Taskforce, to support:
 - *\$30 million per year to be used as seed funding to provide grants to schools of social work to immediately expand the number of MSW students in public schools of social work.*

*Los Angeles
County Child
Welfare
Stabilization*

**\$200 million General Fund in FY 2022-23
and \$100 million GF in FY 2023-24 (for a
combined one-time investment of \$300
million over two years)**

Addressing RFA Backlog

\$4.4 million to
address
pending/probationary
RFA applications



SB 384

(Cortese):

Family Finding

requires each county welfare and probation department to notify CDSS whether it has adopted one of the suggested practices for family finding, and how the practice has been implemented

requires a county who has not adopted one of the suggested practices to provide a copy of its existing family finding policies and practices to CDSS



CHILDREN NOW

Susanna Kniffen

SB 1090 (HURTADO) FAMILY URGENT RESPONSE SYSTEM

- Makes technical fixes so all children and youth currently or formerly in foster care receive FURS' supports and access is expanded to include children and youth being served by a child welfare agency through a voluntary placement agreement without court involvement and to children and youth in foster care in another state who are placed in California pursuant to ICPC



CDSS
CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

24/7 SUPPORT

Are you a current or former foster youth? Having problems at home? Frustrated? Need someone to talk to? The 24/7 FURS hotline is here to help.

CALL OR TEXT: 1-833-939-FURS | 1-833-939-3877

Family Urgent Response System (FURS) is a free 24/7/365 hotline for current or former foster youth and your caregivers to call and get **immediate** help for any big or small issues you may be having.

- You will be connected to a trained counselor or peer who will listen to you.
- FURS is a **safe, judgement-free**, and **private** space to talk about your worries and vent.
- If you want more support, a team can come directly to where you are to help you work on the problem and to create a plan to help stabilize your situation and keep you safe.
- The team will follow-up by helping connect you and your caregiver to local services and support.



CHECK OUT: CAL-FURS.ORG



PUB No. 518 (3/21)
OSP 21 151736

www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/cdss-programs/foster-care/furs



EMERGENCY CHILD CARE BRIDGE

- **\$26 million to expand the amount of funding available to counties to be able to provide additional vouchers** to children in care,
- **\$5 million to support additional navigators** who are working to find child care for foster children, and,
- **\$4 million to deliver additional trauma-informed training** for child care providers as they care for foster children in their local early childhood programs

Emergency Caregiver Funding

- **\$7 million in FY 2022-23 and ongoing to continue Emergency Caregiver Funding**
- **Good Cause Exemption to provide for emergency payments to caregivers for up to 365 days under certain circumstances outside the direct control of the county**
- processing background check clearances or exemptions or medical examinations
- delays in home or grounds improvements
- completion of specialized or individualized training required of the family beyond the basic RFA requirements
- delays related to changes in home environment resulting in the need for a new assessment
- delays related to time commitments required of caregiver as a result of child's placement into foster care
- delays as a result of applicant exercising due process rights, or delays that are based on the needs of family

CWS-CARES

Development

\$108 million one-time funding (\$57.6 million General Fund) to continue design, development, and implementation activities for the Child Welfare Services-California Automated Response and Engagement System (CWS-CARES) project



CALIFORNIA COALITION FOR YOUTH

Kimberly Lewis



***California
Youth
Empowerment
Commission***

- Allocates **\$1.5 million ongoing to fund to the activities of the California Youth Empowerment Commission**

***Golden State
Social
Opportunities
Program***

[AB 178](#) / [AB 179](#)

- Allocates **\$10 million to fund grants of up to \$25,000 annually to students who are current or former foster youth or homeless youth pursuing their Master's degree in behavioral health or social work**



YOUTH LAW CENTER

Jenny Pokempner

Programming

Expansion:

Rising Scholars Network for Juvenile Justice System Impacted Youth

- **\$15 million annually to community colleges through the Rising Scholars Network** of the California Community College Chancellor's Office.
- Funds support **implementation of model programming at up to 45 community colleges** for students impacted by the juvenile justice system. Funds also support program evaluation.
- California is the first state in the country to dedicate postsecondary funding specifically to juvenile justice impacted youth.
- Programming provides a path to and retention support for youth impacted by the justice system and is based on the Project Change model developed by the San Mateo Community College District.

Project Change Model

1. **College level and credit bearing programming is offered on campus**, as well as inside juvenile justice facilities.
2. **Comprehensive counseling, social, academic, and financial support** is provided to students to make the transition to and succeed in on-campus post-secondary programs.
3. Provision of **dedicated program staff** to support students, administer the program, and coordinate with relevant agencies and stakeholders.

AB 102

(Holden)

Dual

Enrollment

- **Clarifies that dual enrollment opportunities are available for youth in court and community schools.**
- Dual enrollment programs allow high school students to:
- take community college courses and earn college credit;
- receive college-preparatory instruction;
- build relationships with college professors and staff and
- gain exposure to the college environment.

***Supporting
Family Based
Care & the
Provision of
Services and
Supports to
Foster Youth &
their Caregivers***

\$50 Million for the following costs for youth in foster care and probation supervised foster youth and their caregivers:

1. Respite care;
2. Participation in enrichment activities;
3. Supports to enable connections with relative and non-relative extended family members;
4. Concrete costs to facilitate placement with relative or non-relative extended family members;
5. Other activities or direct supports and services that further the intent of this provision.

**CHILDREN'S LAW
CENTER OF
CALIFORNIA**

Luciana Svidler



AB 740
(McCarty)
Foster Youth
Suspension and
Expulsion

Ensures that **whenever disciplinary action is taken by a school against a child in foster care, the child's attorney and the appropriate representative of the county child welfare receive notice**

Co-sponsored with California Advocacy Institute (CAI) and Black Minds Matter

AB 1735 (Bryan)
*Eliminating
Language
Barriers for
Youth in Foster
Care*

Requires that **essential court documents, such as court reports, case plans, and transition to independent living plans, be translated into a youth's primary language** so they can meaningfully participate in their case

Requires that **youth be provided a copy of their rights** in their primary language.

*Co-sponsored with Legal Services for Children,
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley, and Children's
Legal Services of San Diego*

AB 2085 (Holden)
***Addressing Racial
Disparities Through
Mandated
Reporting Reform***

Addresses racial disparities and ensures families are not unnecessarily brought to the attention of the child welfare system by **revising the standards for mandated reporting**

Co-sponsors: Public Counsel and ACLU of Southern California

SB 1085(Kamlager)

Juvenile Court Jurisdiction

Prohibits a child from being found to be suffering, or at substantial risk of suffering, serious physical harm or illness for purposes of placing the child under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court due solely to the **family's homelessness, indigence, or other conditions of financial difficulty**.

Clarifies the intent of the Legislature that families should not be subjected to Juvenile Court jurisdiction or separated from their families due to conditions of **financial difficulty** alone.

Clarifies that **reasonable services to prevent juvenile court intervention or children being separated from their parents include services to alleviate a potential risk to a child based on conditions of financial difficulty**, including, but not limited to, referrals to community-based organizations.

\$25 million in one-time funding for CDSS to enter into contracts with qualified organizations to develop and implement **innovative placement pilot programs** for youth who are, or who are at risk of becoming, victims of commercial sexual exploitation

***Innovative
Placement Pilots
for Youth
Impacted by CSE***

***Dependency
Counsel
Funding***

\$30 million ongoing for court-appointed counsel for children, non-minor dependents, and parents in dependency proceedings

**JOHN BURTON
ADVOCATES FOR
YOUTH**

Anna Johnson



Former Foster Youth Housing



Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus)

- Lengthens program duration from 24 to 36 months
- Increases upper age limit from 23 to 24 (not yet 25 yrs old)

Transitional Housing Program (THP)

- Increases annual budget from \$8 million to \$33.3 million to fund the 3rd year of THP-Plus and address waiting list (approx. 800 new housing slots)
- **Factsheet:** <https://jbay.org/resources/2022-fact-sheet-thp-thpplus/>

Housing Navigation & Maintenance Program (HNMP)

To align HNMP with federal Housing Choice Vouchers:

- Increases annual budget from \$5 million to \$13.7 million
- Increases upper age limit
- Expands the priority population from foster youth to also include former foster youth
- Changes program name from Housing Navigators Program
- **Factsheet:** <https://jbay.org/resources/2022-fact-sheet-hnmp/>

Administration

- Authorizes HCD to administer THP & HNMP jointly

Next Up Program Expansion



Assembly Bill 183 - \$48M

- ❖ *\$30 million ongoing budget augmentation* (total of \$50 million)
- ❖ Trailer Bill (AB 183) removes existing minimum unit requirement to participate
- ❖ Clean up bill (AB 190) allows student to remain in program after turning 26 and disallows colleges from imposing eligibility requirement not specified in statute
- ❖ Expected to allow all colleges to offer a program (currently at 46 campuses)

Championed by Senator Laird and Co-sponsored with CYC, Student Senate for CA Community Colleges



Cal State and UC Foster Youth Programs

Assembly Bill 183 - \$48M

- ❖ First ever ongoing Budget Investment
 - Cal State University - *\$12 million*
 - University of California - *\$6 million*
- ❖ Funding must be used for existing foster youth programs
- ❖ Each campus must offer a full-time designated program director or coordinator with experience relevant to working with foster youth and former foster youth
- ❖ *Other investments* - \$6,000 Foster Youth CalGrant access award extended to private non-profit institutions



Foster Youth Tax Credit

Senate Bill 201 - \$21 M

California's New Foster Youth Tax Credit

Establishes a **\$1,000** refundable tax credit for transition-age foster youth between ages 18 through 25 who were in care on or after age 13.

The proposal is Championed by Governor Newsom and supported by:

- State Controller Betty T. Yee
- Senator Anna Caballero
- John Burton Advocates for Youth
- CalEITC+ Coalition



HOPE Accounts

Assembly Bill 156 - \$100 million one-time and \$15 million ongoing

The HOPE for Children Act

Establishes a **trust account for**

- Children who lost a parent to Covid-19
- Children and youth ages 0-17 in long-term foster care
 - 18+ months in care or
 - Entered on or after age 16

Establishes a board, fund, and the Treasurer will convene a workgroup.

The proposal is Championed by Senator Skinner and supported by:

- End Poverty in California
- Liberation in a Generation
- End Child Poverty in California
- GRACE
- John Burton Advocates for Youth

Expansion

Funding:

FYI Vouchers

**\$1 million for Foster Youth to
Independence Voucher
Program**



*Homeless
Housing,
Assistance &
Prevention
(HHAP) Program*

Senate Bill 154 – \$1 billion

- State budget provides \$1 billion in both 2022-23 and 2023-24
- HHAP requires local jurisdictions to **dedicate at least 10% of funds to addressing youth homelessness** (\$100 million in 2022-23 and 2023-24)
- **Factsheet:**
<https://jbay.org/resources/2022-implementation-fact-sheet-investment-in-youth-homelessness/>



Homekey

Senate Bill 154 – \$150 million

- State budget provides an additional \$150 million for a total of \$1.45 billion appropriated in 2022-23.
- Homekey requires HCD to **make 8% of funds available for projects serving youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness** (\$116 million in 2022-23)
- Some of the 2022-23 funding was used to backfill 2021-22 (round 2) funding; approx. \$750 million remains for round 3 (\$60 million for projects serving youth).
- **Factsheet:** <https://jbay.org/resources/2022-implementation-fact-sheet-investment-in-youth-homelessness/>

CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE
OF CHILDREN &
FAMILY SERVICES

Adrienne Shilton



AB 2317
(Ramos)
Children's
Crisis
Residential
Programs

Requires DHCS to **implement a new licensing category for children's crisis residential services: the Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF.)**

California will now have the opportunity to help children recover from crisis situations with appropriate services in home-like settings, rather than long stays in emergency rooms that aren't designed to meet their needs.

CDSS CCR Rates Update

CDSS has launched four workgroups:

- resource family homes,
- intensive services foster care,
- short-term residential therapeutic programs, and
- foster family agencies to discuss adequacy and goals of rates.

CDSS needs to move to “final” rates by December 31, 2024.

Family-Based Services: *Family Finding & Engagement*

\$150 million for counties with option to contract with community-based organizations for **specialized permanency work**, including:

- culturally responsive,
- family centered, and
- trauma-informed family finding and engagement services.

Requires CDSS to establish the Center for Excellence in Family Finding, Engagement, and Support.

Residential Capacity & Support

AB 1051: Prohibit presumptive transfer from applying to foster youth placed in a group home or STRTP outside the county of original jurisdiction, unless a specified exception is invoked. In addition, this bill establishes contracting options and notification requirements for county mental health plans and providers.

IMD Transition Support for STRTPs: Provides \$10.3 million to ensure adequate time for programming to shift in a culturally competent and trauma-informed manner that can support all youth in need of care and continue to serve foster youth.

CDSS will be releasing funds 10/22.



ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Sabrina Forte

AB 1686
(Bryan)
Child Support



to reduce barriers to family reunification,
requires child welfare agencies to presume that
payment of foster care costs unnecessarily
extends children's time in foster care

AB 2309
(Friedman)
Supporting
Family-Centered
Guardianships
Out of Foster
Care

Promotes family decision-making by amending the Welfare and Institutions Code to:

- **Authorize the juvenile court to order a guardianship at any time** while the court is adjudicating an abuse or neglect petition, including prior to the court's finding of abuse or neglect;
- **Allow parents to designate an individual of their choice to serve as the guardian** as long as the child's safety is not jeopardized; and
- **Require CDSS to collect demographic and outcome data** of children living with relative caregivers in and out of the juvenile court system

SB 532

(Caballero)

Education Rights

expands and strengthens the rights for foster youth, homeless youth, former juvenile court school students, children of military families, and migratory children to be exempted from local graduation requirements;

requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to provide those students the option to remain in school for a fifth year to complete the statewide coursework requirements; and

requires LEAs to annually report to the California Department of Education on the number of students, who in the prior school year, graduated with an exemption from the LEA's local graduation requirements



SB 1071 (Umberg)

Administrative Hearings

- **authorizes specified individuals who are actively participating in certain administrative hearings to inspect a juvenile's case file**
- **requires CDSS to attach to any position statement prepared for an administrative hearing a copy of documentary evidence and a list of witnesses** the agency intends to use at the hearing and, in certain circumstances, portions of the juvenile case file that the agency used in making its decision to take the action that is being appealed

AB 2159

(Bryan)

***Reunification
Services***

prohibits a dependency court from denying family reunification services to a parent or guardian who is in custody before conviction on the same basis used for parents or guardians who have been convicted

requires the court, in determining the appropriate reunification services for the parent or guardian in custody, to consider the particular barriers to an incarcerated, institutionalized, detained, or deported parent's or guardian's access to those court-mandated services and their ability to maintain contact with the child, and document that information in the child's case plan

SSI Eligibility for NMDs

Allocates \$800,000 in FY 22-23 and \$600,000 in FY 23-24 and ongoing to **facilitate access to federal SSI benefits for foster youth with disabilities**, with a focus on transition age foster youth.

Accompanying trailer bill languages direct county placing agencies to:

- **screen certain nonminor dependents** for possible SSI eligibility,
- **submit application on behalf of any nonminor dependent** who is likely to be eligible for SSI,
- **file appeals for denied SSI applications**, and
- **provide ongoing information and assistance for youth to select an appropriate payee and maintain medical and financial eligibility.**

A group of diverse children are seated on a bus, looking out the window. The children are of various ethnicities and ages, and they appear to be engaged in a conversation or activity. The word "RESOURCES" is overlaid on the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

RESOURCES

Resources

Alliance for Children's Rights -

<https://allianceforchildrensrights.org/policy/>

California Alliance of Children and Family Services -

<https://www.cacfs.org/advocacy>

California Coalition for Youth -

<https://calyouth.org/advocacy-policy/>

California Tribal Families Coalition -

<https://caltribalfamilies.org/>

Children's Law Center of California -

<https://www.clccal.org/our-work/legislation-and-policy/>

Children Now -

<https://www.childrennow.org/childwelfare/>

County Welfare Directors Association of California -

<https://www.cwda.org/state-budget-priorities>

John Burton Advocates for Youth -

<https://jbay.org/advocate/>


Youth Law Center - <https://www.ylc.org/our-work/>

ALLIANCE
for **CHILDREN'S**
RIGHTS

 **Children's Law Center**
of California
Excellence In Advocacy

 California
Alliance
Empowering lives. Enriching futures.



 **JOHN BURTON**
Advocates
for Youth

 California
Coalition for Youth

Children
Now

 **youth law center**



CALIFORNIA
TRIBAL FAMILIES
COALITION



CWDA

Advancing Human Services
for the Welfare of *All* Californians

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