



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2016
10:00 TO 11:15 A.M.

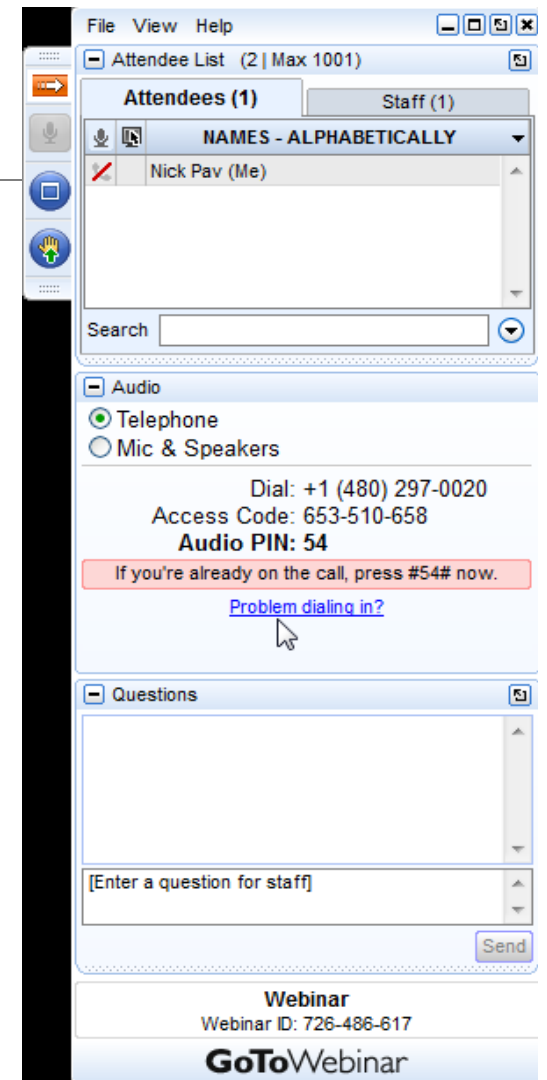
Organized by the **John Burton
Foundation**, the **Children's Law Center**,
National Center for Youth Law and
the **Children's Advocacy Institute**

Information to Participate

Call-in number is 1 (213) 929-4212 and access code is 298-189-729.

Presentation materials and audio will be posted at www.thpplus.org

To submit live questions, click on the “Questions” panel, type your question, and click “Send”



What Did We Miss?

Higher Education

- How does the foster care system help foster youth reach and succeed in college?

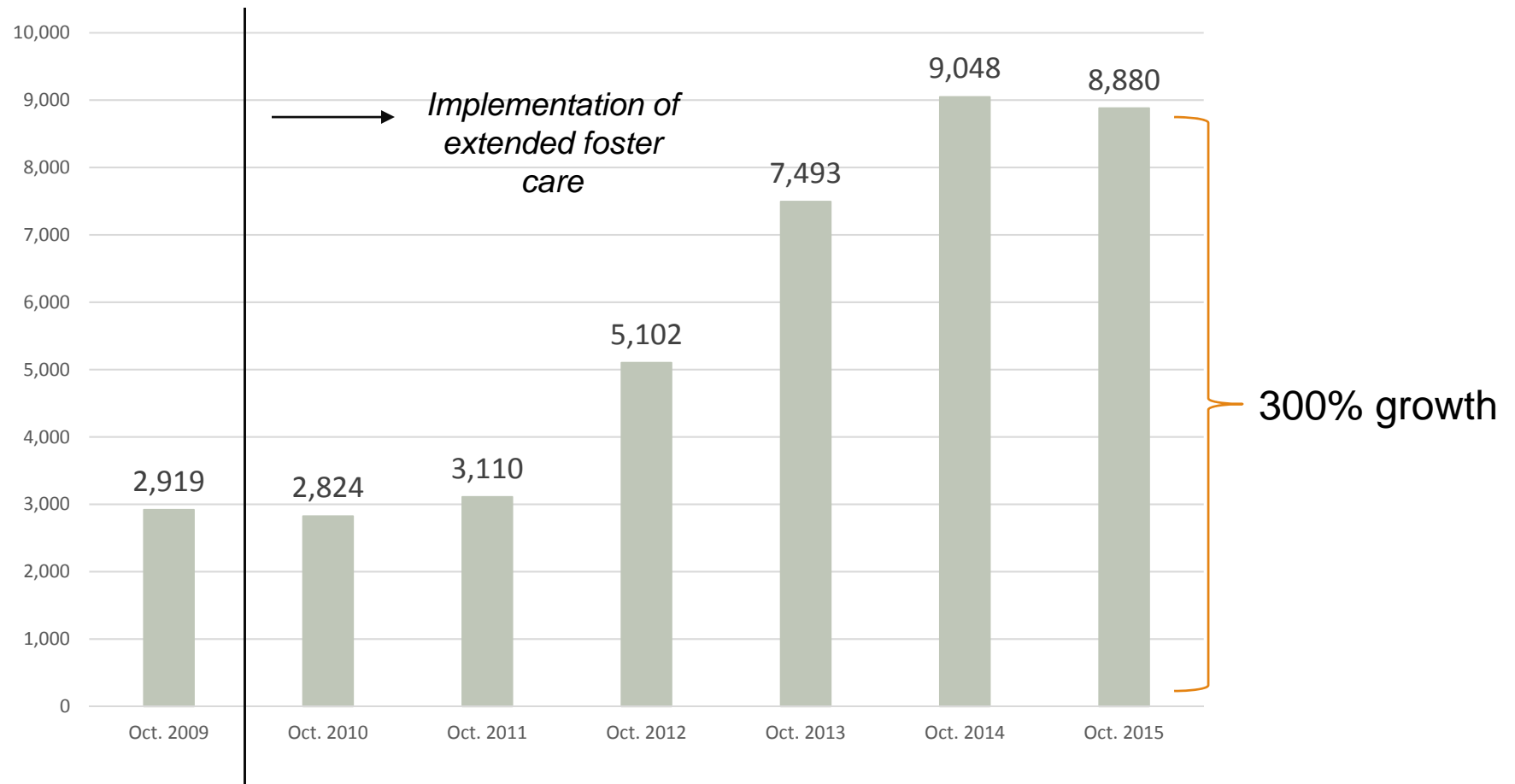
Pregnancy Prevention & Reproductive Health

- How does foster care support this new, older population in their sexual health and family decision-making?

Young Families

- How does foster care serve young families differently than it serves non-parents?
- 

Growth in the Number of NMDs



Source: California Child Welfare Indicators Project

Agenda

❖ Topic 1: Higher Education

❖ Chafee Education and Training Voucher

- ❖ Jackie Wong, National Center for Youth Law
- ❖ Karen Micalizio, Butte College
- ❖ Melanie Delgado, Children's Advocacy Institute

❖ Priority Registration

- ❖ Debbie Raucher, John Burton Foundation

❖ Topic 2: Pregnancy Prevention and Reproductive Health

- ❖ Amy Lemley, John Burton Foundation

❖ Topic 3: Young Families in Foster Care

- ❖ Jessica Rodriguez, First Place for Youth
- 

Topic 1:

Higher Education



We Know Foster Youth Want to Go to College

80 percent of the youth reported wanting to earn a college degree or higher



73% expected that they would earn a college degree or higher.



Reality Doesn't Match These Aspirations

In California, foster youth are less likely than same-age peers to:

- Enroll within 12 months of high school
 - 56% vs. 64% of the same-age non-foster youth
- Attend full-time
 - 34% vs. 46% of the same-age non-foster youth.
- Earn a 2.0 or higher
 - 49% vs. 71% of the same-age non-foster youth.
- Earn an AA or higher by age 26:
 - 8.2% vs. 46.1% of the same-age non-foster youth.

College Affordability is a Key Factor

9-Month Budget (Full-time for Two Semesters)

| | CCC | CSU |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Enrollment Fees/Tuition | \$1,174 | \$6,476 |
| Books/Supp | \$1,764 | \$1,860 |
| Room/Board Off Campus | \$11,970 | \$13,434 |
| Trans | \$1,270 | \$1,486 |
| Misc. Personal | \$2,898 | \$1,392 |
| TOTAL | \$19,076 | \$24,648 |

History of the Chafee Education and Training Voucher (ETV)

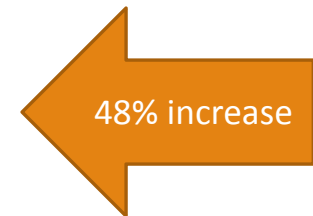
- ❖ Established in 2002 through the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program
- ❖ 50% federally-funded-50% State General Fund
- ❖ Funding has remained flat since 2002
- ❖ A program of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
- ❖ Administered by the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) as a financial aid program

More about the Chafee ETV

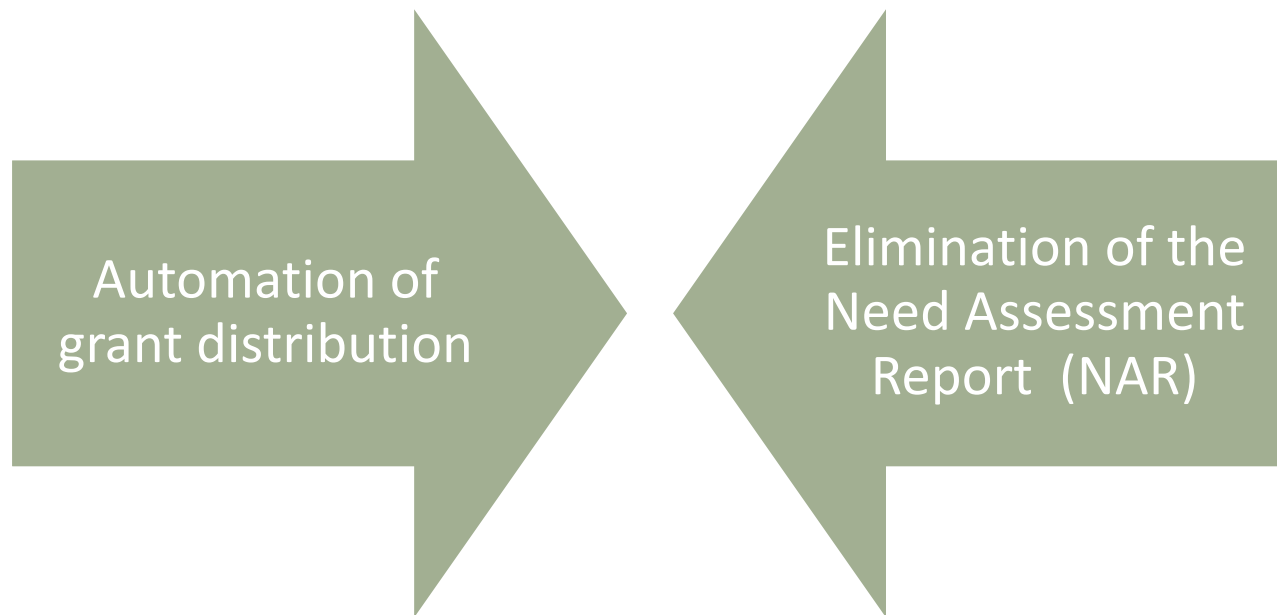
- ❖ Eligible if you were in foster care on or after age 16 and are under age 24.
- ❖ Maximum grant: \$5,000/average award amount \$3,200
- ❖ May be used for college or vocational education
- ❖ Not pro-rated based on enrollment
- ❖ Only dedicated source of financial aid for foster youth

Receipt of Chafee Improves Academic Outcomes

| 2012-13 Academic Year | Students who Receive Chafee | Students who <u>do not</u> Receive Chafee |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Above 2.0 GPA | 54.23% | 48.36% |
| Persistence | 50.48% | 34.06% |
| Pass Rate | 54.40% | 51.83% |



CSAC Has Made Recent Improvements to Chafee



Both will result in more timely distribution of funds



While Highly Effective, Limited Funding Prevents Eligible Students from Receiving It

| | FY 2014 | FY 2013 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Total students eligible | 4,609 | 4,916 |
| Total Awards | 3,494 | 3,455 |
| Total eligible, not awarded | 1,115 | 1,461 |
| Percent eligible, not awarded | 24% | 30% |

Campus Perspective

- ❖ There are approximately 350 current and former foster youth enrolled at Butte College each semester. Over 150 of them receive some type of service or benefit from the program.
- ❖ Program space
 - ❖ Designated space for studying and social interaction
 - ❖ Two private offices for staff
- ❖ The Chafee is a promise that students can understand; it has a profound impact before students even finish high school. Once in college, it provides a sense of security they have never known.



Assembly Bill 2506- Thurmond

- ❖ Entitle all students to receive a Chafee grant who apply by specific date
 - ❖ Why a set date?
 - ❖ What does “entitle” mean?
- ❖ Applicants who apply after this date would be eligible for remaining funds

Assembly Bill 2506- Thurmond

- ❖ Would require campuses where 40% or more of the students receive financial aid to meet minimum requirements:
 - ❖ No higher than a 15.5% cohort loan default rate
 - ❖ 30% graduation rate
- ❖ Policy has been in place with Cal Grant since 2013

Once they Arrive on Campus, Foster Youth Don't Persist

In California, foster youth are less likely than same-age peers to:

- 85% less likely to complete 30 more units any time during college
- 65% less likely to enroll in three consecutive terms

Priority Registration is an Important Tool for Persistence

- ❖ Established in 2011, through passage of AB 194 (Beall)
- ❖ Enables students to register for courses before the larger student population
 - ❖ Secure required courses
 - ❖ Shorten the time to degree completion
 - ❖ Reduce financial aid utilization
 - ❖ Better course selection
- ❖ 7,879 foster youth utilized priority registration in the 2014-15 academic year

Priority Registration: Senate Bill 906 (Beall)

1. Removes January 1, 2017 sunset in AB 194

- ❖ Foster youth, EOPS and DSPS

2. Changes the eligibility criteria for priority registration for foster youth to align with existing programs serving foster youth in community college.

- ❖ *Current eligibility*: in foster care on or after their 18th birthday and up to 24

- ❖ *New eligibility* : in foster care on or after their 16th birthday and up to age 26

Topic 2:

Pregnancy Prevention & Reproductive Health



Foster Youth Experience High Rates of Pregnancy

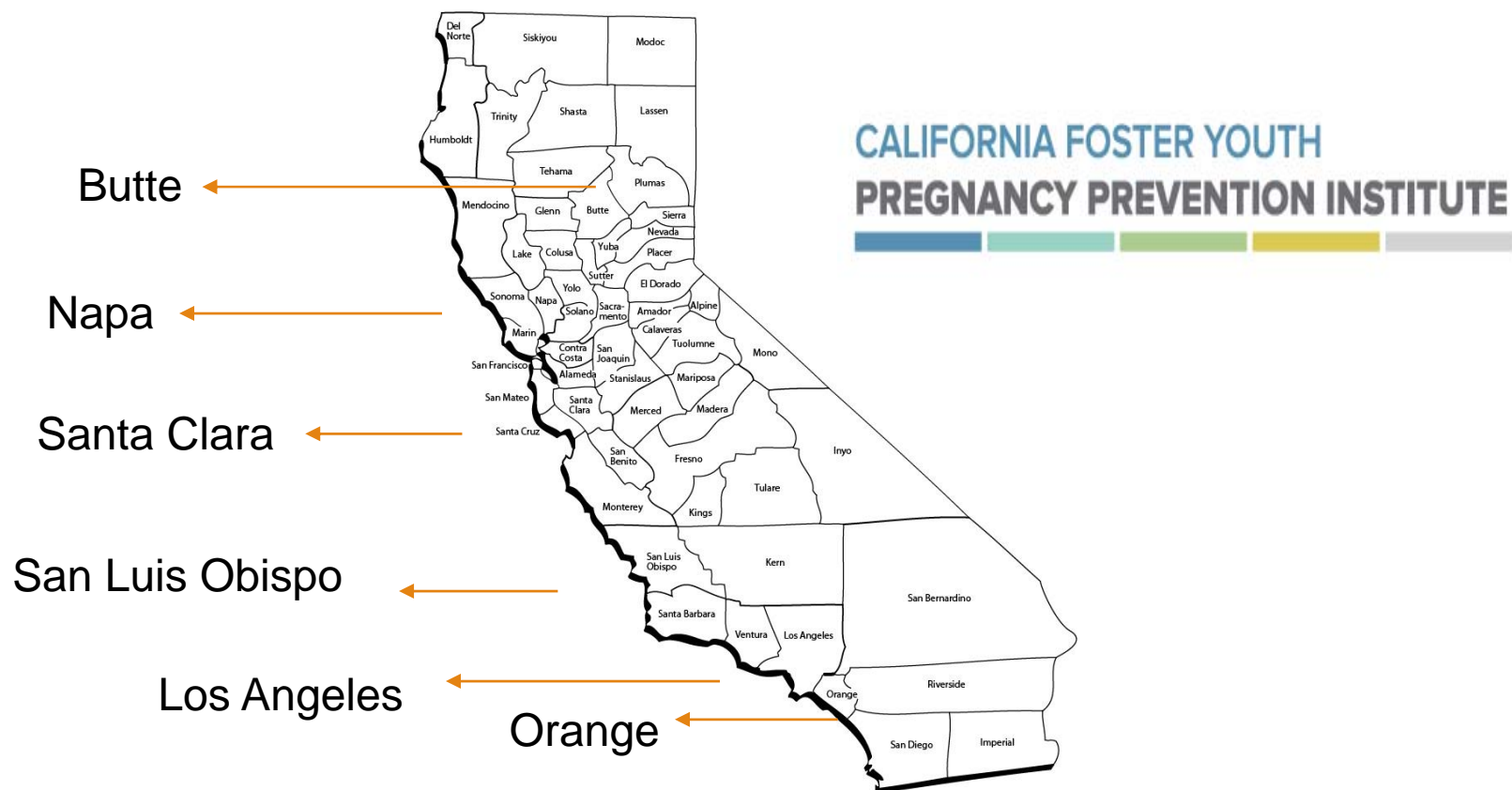
At age 17, 26% of girls in foster care had been pregnant

- 69.7% once
- 16.8% twice
- 3.1% three times
- 2.1% four plus times
- 8.3% unreported



As compared with 2.1% of girls aged 15 to 19 in California

Counties Have Been Piloting Solutions...



....To Prevent First and Repeat Pregnancies

Training for Caregivers and Social Workers

Communicating with Youth about Sexual Health and HIV Education and Prevention (Illinois)

Sexual Health Conversations (LA)

Contraception and sexual health training with Planned Parenthood

Training for Youth

Making Proud Choices*

Teen Outreach Program* (TOP)

STRIVE*

¡Cúídate!*

Be Proud! Be Responsible! Be Protective!*

It's Your Game: Keep it Real (IYG)*

Policies & Procedures Development

Instructions that specify the role of social workers and others in ensuring all youth age 12 and over have access to reproductive health services, including pregnancy prevention.

Budget Proposal Would Provide Public Support

Strategies Proven to Reduce Unwanted Pregnancy in Foster Youth

- Training for social workers, probation officers and caregivers
- Training for youth
- Ensuring youth have access to age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health services
- Ensuring reproductive rights of youth in foster care, including relevant minor consent and confidentiality laws

Policies and Procedures to Ensure Consistency, Quality and Safety

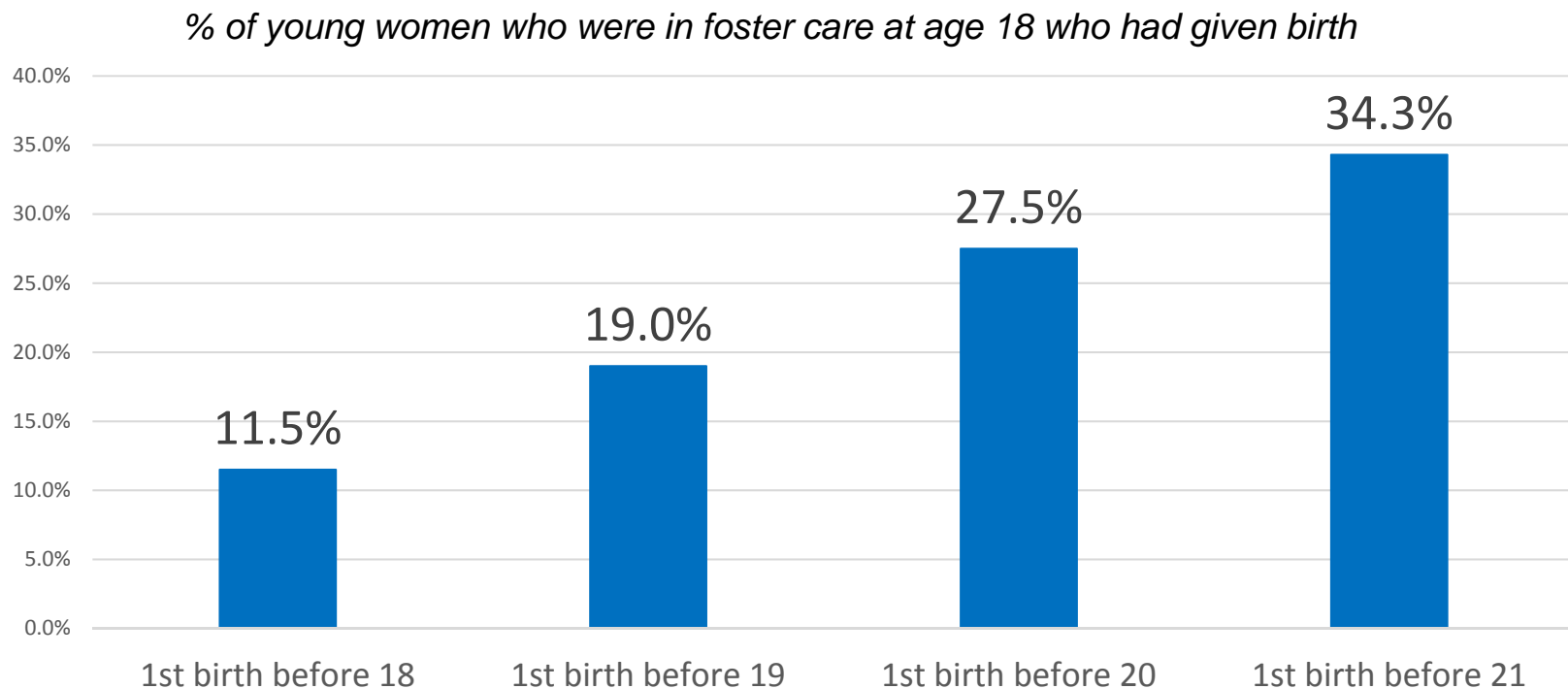


Topic 3:

Young Families



Since AB 12, We Have Learned Many NMDs will Give Birth by Age 21



1 in 3 girls in foster care who gave birth before they turned 18 will have at least one more teen birth

Without a Higher Infant Supplement, Those Children Will be Raised in Poverty

IN POVERTY

Federal Poverty Line: \$15,930

Infant Supplement →

\$411

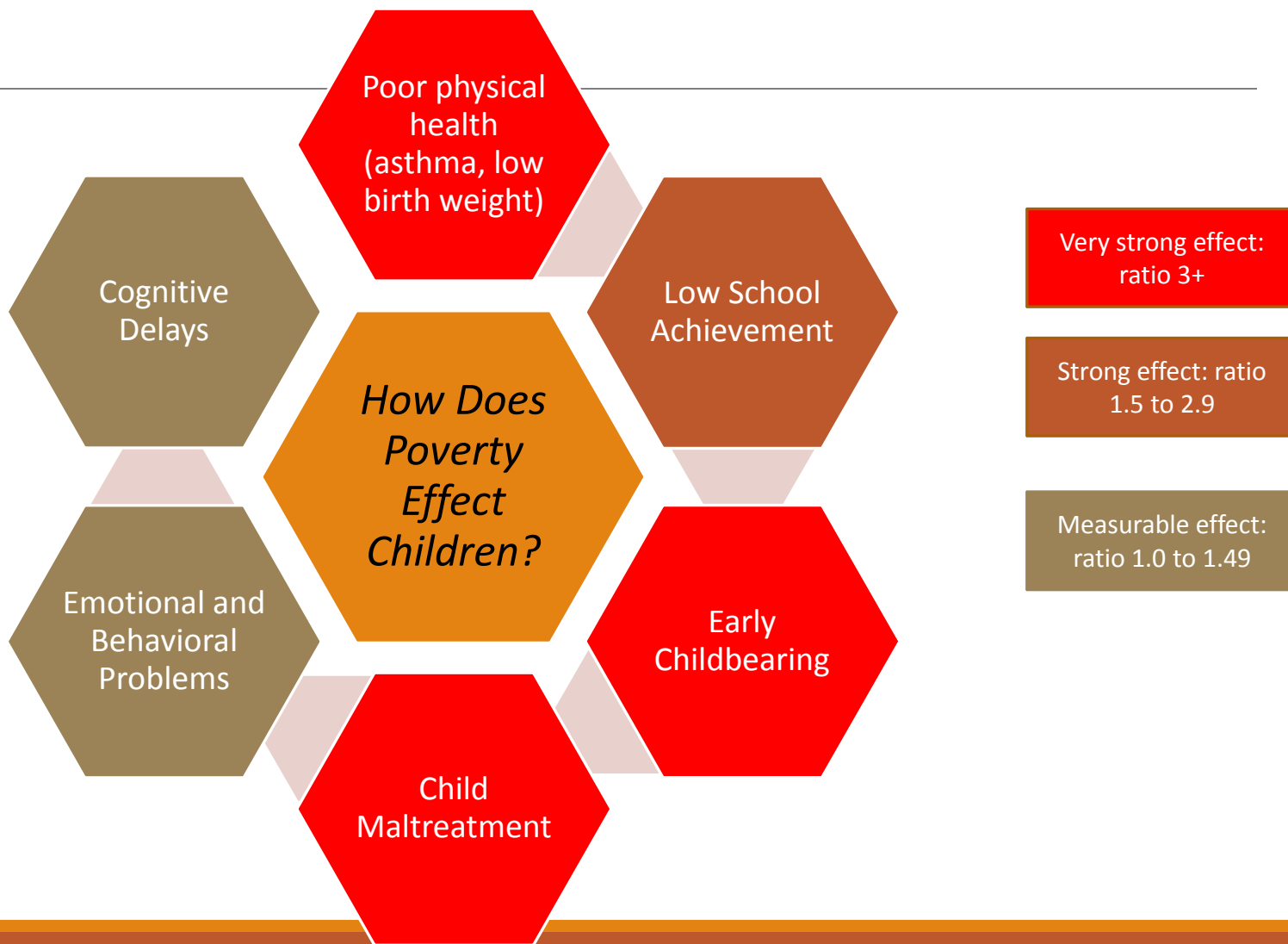
Basic Rate →

\$859

\$15,240
per year



Children Raised in Poverty Suffer Multiple Negative Outcomes





First Place for Youth

Of 309 youth served by First Place, 99 are parenting foster youth

One-Time Costs

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Crib | \$250 |
| Car seat | \$200 |
| CPR/First Aid Training | \$100 |
| Baby proofing | \$100 |
| Stroller | \$100 |
| High chair | \$100 |

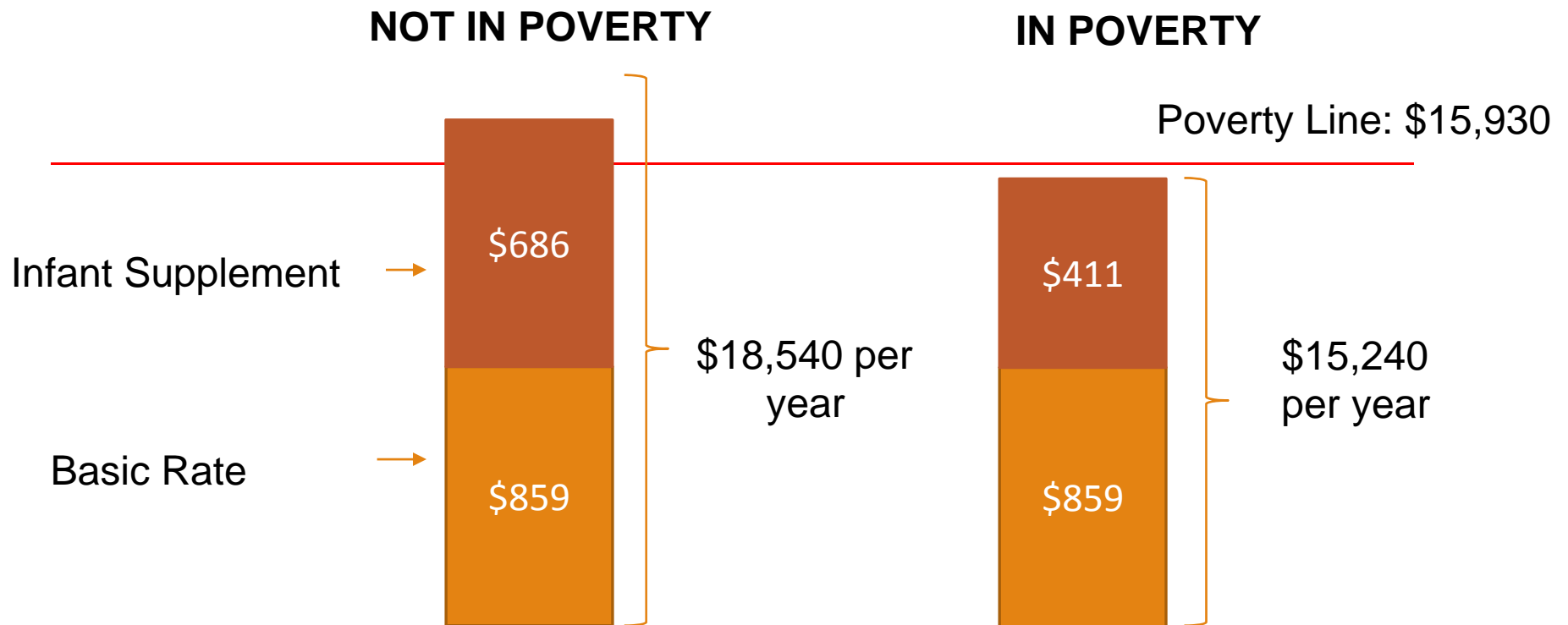
Total: \$850

Ongoing Costs

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Diapers | \$864 |
| Baby wipes | \$240 |
| Baby clothes | \$720 |
| Baby toys | \$150 |
| Bibs/burp cloths | \$30 |
| Bottles | \$40 |
| Food | \$600 |
| Other toiletries | \$50 |
| Child care | \$7,832 |
| Incremental Rent | \$5,400 |

Annual Total: \$16,776

SB 1838 Would Move Young Families in Foster Care Above the Poverty Line



Federal Poverty Line: \$15,930

History of the Infant Supplement

- First established in federal law in 1989 (Social Security Action Section 475 (4)(B))
 - Is federally-reimbursable at 50%
- Established in California in 1989 through Senate Bill 510
- Originally set at \$326 per month and is currently \$411
- For group homes, it was set is \$708 and is not \$890 per month
- Has been raised periodically, but not kept pace with inflation

Provisions of AB 1838 (Ting)

1. Increase infant supplement from current level to the basic rate

- Birth to 4: \$686
- Aged 5 to 8: \$744

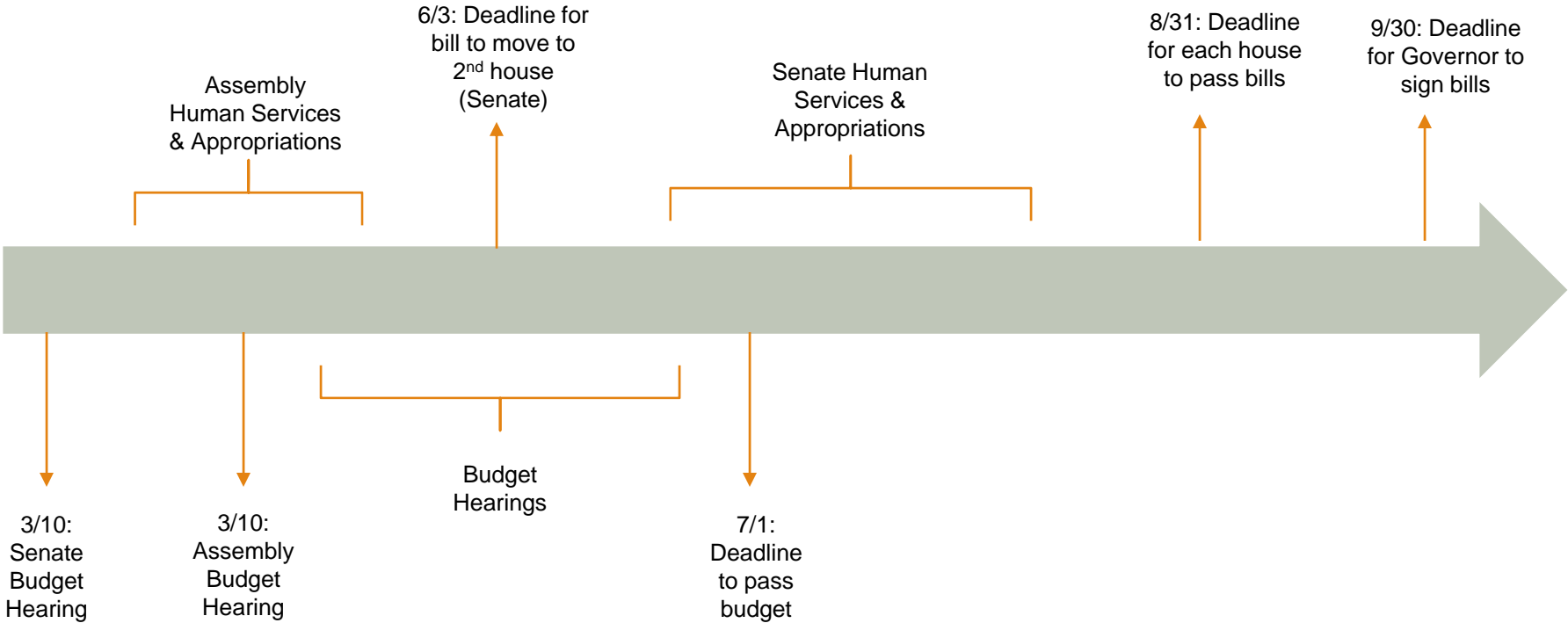
2. Receipt of infant supplement six months prior to the due date

- promote earlier receipt of prenatal care and other services
- Provide financial assistance to prepare for the birth of the child

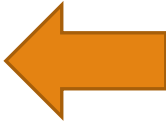
3. Develop new infant supplement for Group Homes and THP+FC



Legislative and Budget Process



How You Can Help

- ❖ Submit support letters
 - ❖ AB 2506 (Thurmond)- Chafee ETV
 - ❖ AB 1838 (Ting)- Infant Supplement
 - ❖ SB 906 (Beall)- Priority Registration  *Due TODAY!*
- ❖ Give public testimony at upcoming hearing
 - ❖ Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1: April 6th
 - ❖ Assembly Human Services: April 12th
- ❖ Contact your Senator and Assembly Member and ask them to support

Sample support letters available at www.johnburtonfoundation.org under Resources

Questions and Comments



To submit live questions, click on the “Questions” panel, type your question, and click “Send”

