BI-MONTHLY THP-PLUS & THP+FC CONFERENCE CALL

July 14, 2016
Information to Participate

• Call-in information
  • Phone number: (702) 489-0008
  • Access code: 928-441-384

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

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

• Findings on THP-Plus, THP+FC and Post-Secondary Education
• Announcing the THP-Plus & THP+FC Post-Secondary Education Training Series
• JBF Policy Update
• THP-Plus “Out-of-County” Youth Policies
The THP-Plus Statewide Implementation Project has something new to offer...

**The THP-Plus/THP+FC Post-Secondary Education Training Series**

A 9-month cohort-based learning community consisting of monthly training, technical assistance and access to financial assistance for youth participants

**GOAL:** To re-tool THP-Plus and THP+FC programs to become college and career programs
Why is JBF Shifting Focus to Post-Secondary Education?

Powerful role of housing

Better, more receptive post-secondary education sector

New research has identified the problem

Funders are asking to go beyond safety net

Long-term well being of youth!
What does the data tell us?

- Survey of 71 THP-Plus and THP+FC providers
- Interviews with 9 providers and 6 county child welfare agencies
- Data from the THP-Plus and THP+FC Participant Tracking Systems
- Findings from Chapin Hall’s CalYOUTH Study
Community college is the next step for most THP-Plus and THP+FC participants.

Most youth enter THP-Plus and THP+FC with a high school degree:

• Of over 1,500 participants who entered THP-Plus since January 2013, 72% had graduated from high school or had earned their General Equivalency Degree (GED) prior to entering the program.

• Of 201 participants who entered THP+FC over the past fiscal year, 69% had graduated from high school or had earned their GED prior to entering the program.
Participants make limited progress in post-secondary education in both THP-Plus and THP+FC.

- **Youth are finishing high school**: Between entry and exit, the percentage of youth without a high school diploma or GED decreased by 24%, from 27% to 21%.

- **College attendance remains stagnant**: The percentage of participants who were attending a 2- or 4-year college remained unchanged (22% at entrance, 21% at exit).

- **Dropping out of college is a significant problem**: At entry into the program, 9% of youth indicate they were enrolled in post-secondary education and had dis-enrolled. At exit this figure doubles to 18%.
Providers are interested in making programmatic improvements to promote college attendance.

• 75% providers stated they were either somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the approach that the organization takes to promote post-secondary education.

• Interviews uncovered that significant challenges exist with promoting educational attainment in a climate that is often focused on more near-term, urgent issues (i.e. drug and alcohol use, domestic violence, the effects of untreated trauma).

• Interviews uncovered that a lack of staff training exists to promote retention and degree attainment.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Level of Interest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How to integrate <strong>academic coaching</strong> into your case management practice</td>
<td>79%</td>
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<td>How to create an <strong>organizational culture</strong> of college attendance</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<td>How to set <strong>organizational goals</strong> that make education a priority</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<td>How to use <strong>program data</strong> to improve rates of college attendance</td>
<td>33%</td>
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<td>Understanding the <strong>implications</strong> of withdrawing, failing and other academic pitfalls</td>
<td>33%</td>
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<tr>
<td>How to help youth <strong>maximize financial aid</strong></td>
<td>29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>What career and technical education programs are available and how to enroll in them</td>
<td>29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>An overview of <strong>policies</strong> that impact foster youth college participation</td>
<td>29%</td>
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<td>Entrance <strong>assessment tests</strong>: what they are and how to prepare youth?</td>
<td>21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>What <strong>specialized services</strong> are available on campus, such as DSPS, EOPS and summer bridge programs?</td>
<td>13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understanding the community college <strong>matriculation process</strong></td>
<td>13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>What local community college have foster youth <strong>campus support programs</strong></td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisting youth to prepare to <strong>transfer</strong> to 4-year university</td>
<td>8%</td>
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</table>
Findings on Foster Youth and Financial Aid

Foster youth are not accessing the full financial aid for which they are eligible:

A 2012 study found that just 12% of foster youth in California access the two key forms of financial aid: the Pell Grant and the Cal Grant.

The CalYOUTH Study found that fewer than 1 in 3 CalYOUTH participants with a secondary credential had received a Chafee ETV. Over 1/3 reported they did not know about the Chafee, and another quarter said they applied but never received one.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foster youth who access financial aid have better post-secondary educational outcomes:</th>
<th>A 2014 study found that students who receive grants and scholarships are more likely to earn a bachelor’s degree than otherwise similar students.</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Students who receive the Chafee ETV are 52% more likely to complete 3 or more semesters of community college.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Receipt of the Chafee ETV also increases the rate of course completion and the likelihood that the student has a 2.0 GPA or higher.</td>
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Introducing the THP-Plus & THP+FC Post-Secondary Education (PSE) Training Series

Goal

- Improve the capacity of THP-Plus and THP+FC providers to support youth pursuing post-secondary education
- Increase the number of youth in college and on track to achieve their goals, and receiving financial aid

9-month learning community consisting of monthly training, intersession guidance, and access to financial assistance for youth participants

Participation is free
PSE Training Series – What do Cohort Participants Receive?

- Retention Grants
- Timeline-based training
- Individualized intersession guidance
1. Access to Retention Grants

- Administered by JBF to THP-Plus and THP+FC youth participants at risk of dropping classes or dropping out of school due to financial hardship/crisis

Foster youth have no financial safety net (i.e. the role of the parent)

Foster youth often need emergency “gap” funding (i.e. timing of financial aid and when rent is due may not match up)

A way to avoid accruing major debt for a small expense (i.e. retention grant in lieu of a costly loan or payroll advance with interest)

- Georgia State University has proven results:
  - Since 2011, GSU has brought more than 7,300 students back into their classes via retention grants
  - 88% of students who received retention grants graduated or are still enrolled 12 months later
2. Timeline-Based Training and Resources

- 1 in-person kick-off session of capacity assessment and goal setting
- 7 web-based trainings on the need-to-know topics in post-secondary education targeted for THP-Plus and THP+FC providers
- Resources and information to assist prospective and current students
Training Curriculum

9 month series, September 2016 to May 2017

• In-person kick-off: Baseline assessment and goal setting

• Web-based training:
  • Building interest in college and selecting schools
  • Financial aid; beyond the basics
  • Matriculation and assessment tests
  • Identifying on-campus support and resources
  • Exploring Career Technical Education
  • Incorporating academic coaching into case management
  • Group culmination and report out
3. Individualized Intersession Guidance

- JBF staff will assist participants between monthly trainings to provide additional or specialized information as needed to achieve participants’ individualized goals.

Making it work in your program
PSE Trainings Series – 2 Tiers of Participation

**TIER 1 – for THP-Plus and/or THP+FC providers that meet certain criteria**

- Participate in all monthly webinar trainings
- Receive intersession guidance with reaching goals for improving program capacity to serve youth pursuing post-secondary education
- Use the THP-Plus and/or THP+FC Participant Tracking System to enter demographic and outcome data on participants, or agree to become user
- Have access to retention grants for youth in college experiencing a financial hardship or crisis

**TIER 2 – for everyone**

- Participate in any monthly webinar trainings you would like – all are welcome!
## Tier 1 Eligibility

### Eligible Providers:

- Operate a THP-Plus or THP+FC program
- Are users of the THP-Plus and/or THP+FC Participant Tracking Systems or agree to become users
- Agree to participate in the 9-month series and commit one point-person to the effort
- Have an interest in improving the post-secondary educational outcomes of their youth
Clarification:

• For organizations that provide services in more than one county, participation is by program, not organization.

• A program is defined as sharing a staff team.
  • Organizations may have 1, some, or all of their programs participate, however for each participating program, 1 staff member will need to commit to the Series.
  • For many organizations, this means participation is by program location, however for some organizations (particularly in smaller counties) this may mean regional participation.

*JBF is open to exceptions – the goal is to ensure maximum impact.*
PSE Training Series Timeline

- **July 14, 2016:** Application launched
- **August 10, 2016:** Applications due
- **August 17, 2016:** Participants notified
- **September 2016:** In-person kick-off
- **October 2017–May 2017:** Web-based training and technical assistance
PSE Training Series – Applying for Participation

• Interested in participating in the cohort? Submit an application - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PSETRAININGSERIES

• Interested in just attending the web-based trainings? Register for JBF’s monthly webinars (if not already registered) - https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3737738464756136706

Applications due August 10, 2016 at 5pm.

Questions? Email simone@johnburtonfoundation.org
JBF Policy Update – State Budget

$3 million to expand the Chafee Education and Training Voucher

• Will provide Chafee Grants to an additional estimated 1,000 youth in California for 2016-17 school year (and thereafter)
• Previously 1 in 4 eligible foster youth did not receive a Chafee Grant

$4 million to increase infant supplement to $900 per month

• Effective as of July 1, 2016
• Previously $411 per month
JBF Policy Update – State Budget, con’t

$127.3 million for implementation of Continuum of Care Reform

- Majority of the spending on county administrative activities associated with CCR such as Child and Family Teams; Resource Family Approval implementation; foster parent recruitment, retention and support; and an updated cost of social worker

One-time allocation of $10 million for Bringing Families Home Program

- Grant program to reduce homelessness among families that are part of the child welfare system
$1.7 million to hire additional public health nurses

- to meet requirements of recent legislation regarding psychotropic medication use among foster youth beginning in 2016-17

$5 million to provide services to youth who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation

- Brings spending on this to $19 million
JBF Policy Update – Legislation

• **Assembly Bill 2506 (Thurmond)**
  • Would entitle all students to receive a Chafee grant who apply by 9/3
  • Would prohibit use of Chafee at campuses with 30% or lower graduation rate and 15.5% or higher loan default rate
  • Being heard 8/1 in Senate Appropriations Committee

• **Assembly Bill 1838 (Ting)**
  • Would begin infant supplement 3 months prior to birth of child
  • Being heard 8/1 in Senate Appropriations Committee
JBF Policy Update – Legislation, con’t

• Senate Bill 906 (Beall)
  • Would remove sunset date for priority registration for foster youth, students with disabilities, and low-income students in EOPS and DSPS
  • Would change eligibility criteria for priority registration to align with existing programs for foster youth in community college so that they would have to be in care on or after 16th birthday instead of 18th birthday, and under age 26
  • Being heard in Assembly Appropriations Committee, date TBD
Out-of-County Youth in THP-Plus

- Sometimes youth relocate after exiting foster care (college, job, safety reasons, family/social ties, etc.)
- Youth who apply for THP-Plus in another county sometimes experiences challenges in accessing the program
- Each county with a THP-Plus program receives an annual THP-Plus Realignment Allocation that must be spent on THP-Plus services
- THP-Plus is a statewide program – counties may use this funding to serve youth in their THP-Plus programs regardless of their county of origin
- Counties have differing policies on accepting out-of-county youth in their THP-Plus programs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Accepts Out-of-County Youth in Program(s)?</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Accepts Out-of-County Youth in Program(s)?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alameda</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Mendocino</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Butte</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Merced</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calaveras</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Monterey</td>
<td>Yes. Consideration for out-of-county youth includes reviewing ties to local community (i.e. permanent connection, local college attendance, or local employment opportunities).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contra Costa</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Napa</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Del Norte</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>Yes, if youth resides in Nevada Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Dorado</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Yes, if youth has a connection to Orange Co. (i.e. family, school/job)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Placer</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenn</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Plumas</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humboldt</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>Yes, if youth resides in Riverside Co., but Riverside Co. youth get priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imperial</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>Yes, if county of origin has a THP-Plus program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inyo</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>San Bernardino</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kern</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>Yes, but San Francisco youth get priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lassen</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>San Joaquin</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Trinity</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madera</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Tulare</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marin</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tuolumne</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mariposa</td>
<td>Yes, if youth resides in Mariposa Co. and there are open slots – currently seeking referrals</td>
<td>Ventura</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yolo</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yuba</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This information is now available at: [http://thpplus.org/county-policies-on-out-of-county-youth/](http://thpplus.org/county-policies-on-out-of-county-youth/)
Questions?

CLICK ON THE “QUESTIONS” PANEL, TYPE IT AND HIT “SEND”
Next THP-Plus/THP+FC Call
October 13th

- HELD MONTHLY ON THE SECOND THURSDAY FROM 10:00-11:00 A.M.
- POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION TRAINING SERIES WEBINARS WILL RUN FROM OCTOBER 2016 TO MAY 2017