Monthly THP-Plus & THP+FC Conference Call

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10: 10:00 TO 11:00 A.M.

Technical Details

• Call-in number is 1 (702) 489-0008 and access code is 928-441-384

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

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

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. THP+FC Participant Tracking System
3. Reminder: Deadline to Submit Invoices to DSS for the Realignment Report
4. THP-Plus & THP+FC Convening at the Blueprint Conference
5. Updates on the THP-Plus and THP+FC Institute

What Was the Goal of AB 12?

Ensure young adults leave foster care with the social, emotional and practical skills to achieve their potential and succeed in life.

- High school degree
- One or more years of college or CTE
- Employment experience
- Living wage
- Connection with caring adult
- Experience paying bills and rent
- Good physical and mental health
Are We Meeting this Goal?

• We don’t know!

With existing data, we only have the most basic information about youth in extended foster care:

• Total number of youth in EFC each quarter by county
• Basic information: age, sex, county of origin, length of time in foster care

Even CalYOUTH Study will only be a snapshot of a select cohort of youth over time.

THP+FC population is rapidly growing
**What is the Participant Tracking System?**

- Free and secure online database for approved providers and county users
- Currently captures demographic and outcome data for 500+ THP-Plus participants on a quarterly basis
- Developed and managed by the John Burton Foundation
- Utilized by 40 THP-Plus providers in 38 counties and county administrators in 20 counties

**New Expansion to Include THP+FC**

- Same log-in and password for current users of the THP-Plus Participant Tracking System
- Same user agreement form
- Same security features
- Same easy-to-use interface and reporting functions
- Same data entry methods and data entry timeline

**IMPORTANT:** THP-Plus participant data should still be entered using thpplusdata.org only. THESE ARE TWO SEPARATE SITES.
What Data Is Collected?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic</th>
<th>Income and Employment</th>
<th>Housing</th>
<th>Education and Training</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Employment</td>
<td></td>
<td>Educational, vocational training, other training status (ex. Military)</td>
<td>Bank Account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBTQ Status</td>
<td>Hourly wage</td>
<td>Previous &amp; current housing</td>
<td></td>
<td>Permanent Connection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race and ethnicity</td>
<td>Public benefits</td>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td></td>
<td>Treatment Services at Exit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parenting status</td>
<td>Other support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Length of time in program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THP+FC PTS: Modifications to the questions have been made to account for age eligibility and current foster youth status

Reporting Functions:

- **Administrative Reports**
  - Overdue & due report
  - Overdue form counts
  - Caseload report
  - Caseload counts
  - Invoice report/enrollment list

- **Participant Reports**
  - Entrance snapshot
  - Quarterly snapshot
  - Quarterly statewide comparison
  - Progress report
    - Entrance to exit, exit to 6 months
  - Export full participant data
Data Access Permissions:

**County**
- Read-only access to data
- Able to view data for all THP-Plus programs in county
- Able to compare program(s) data with statewide data

**Provider**
- Able to input and edit participant data
- Can only view data for their program
- Able compare program data with statewide data

Data Entry Timeline

**Entrance**
- Quarterly
- Exit
- Six Month Follow-up
- 12 Month Follow-up

**End of Quarter Dates:**
- September 30
- December 31
- March 31
- June 30

Data to be entered by the 15th of the month after each quarter ends and 15 days after entrance, exit, 6 month and 12 month mark.
Why do we need a Participant Tracking System for THP+FC?

Getting the Answers We Need

- How many youth entering are parents? How many leave as parents?
- What are the educational and employment gains from entry to exit?
- How many youth are exiting into stable housing and remaining in stable housing?
- How many youth are exiting with permanent adult connections?
- How many have mental health needs or substance abuse issues?
What can we do with that knowledge?

I. Improve Program Quality:

- THP+FC PTS Utilization
- Retain, enhance, or modify programs
- Analyze data
- Assess programs

- Changes in demographics
- Changes in needs
- Measure short term and long term participant outcomes
What if my program already collects data?

Individualized program data still presents an incomplete picture:

- PTS allows county representatives to access this data for all of the programs in their county.
- PTS allows you to compare your program outcomes and demographics with statewide outcomes and demographics.

County questions:
“How many of the participants in my county are custodial parents? Are all providers meeting outcome goals for youth employment and education?”

Provider questions:
“Compared to other providers in the state, are our youth leaving our program prematurely? How many of these exits are involuntary?”

II. Advocate for Improvements

What we may learn:
- Youth with disabilities less successful
- High rates of pregnancy
- Low educational attainment

What changes this could lead to:
- Tiered-rate
- Resources for pregnancy prevention
- Education support programs
The Power of Collective Data

Strengthen advocacy tools by being able to point to statewide program data:

- THP-Plus and THP+FC Annual Report
- Capitol Briefings
- Lobbying on bills to benefit THP+FC providers and participants
- Guide THP+FC State Workgroup agenda and decisions

III. Make Your Case with Individual Donors and Philanthropy

- THP-Plus Participant Tracking System users have been able to successfully incorporate participants’ entry to exit progress into funder materials and reports.
- Examples of how this has been done:
  - Incorporate PTS data into grant proposals and grant reports
  - Reference successes in promotional materials and websites
  - Highlight successes at fundraising events
IV. Bolster Staff Morale

- Highlight milestones and successes
- Quantify impact as a team
- Combat direct service burn-out
- Acknowledge individual successes

Next Steps:

Current THP-Plus PTS User
- No new agreement needed
- Same username log-in and password

New User
- Must sign agreement
- Return signed agreement to receive log-in/password
Next Steps:

1. Email Cecilia at Cecilia@johnburtonfoundation.org to let us know:
   A. If you are a current THP-Plus PTS user or a new user.
   B. Seeking county user access or provider user access.
2. Receive username and password (if needed).
3. Request an over-the-phone tutorial if needed
4. Begin using the system and entering participant data

*We will be scheduling in-person regional trainings and also presenting a training at the THP-Plus and THP+FC Institute on December 17th. Registration information for those opportunities pending.*

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Training and Technical Assistance

**Tools and Online Resources:**
- thpplus.org → Resources → Participant Tracking System
- Online user manual
- Online PTS Data Codebook
- Archived training webinar

*We will be working to update these materials.*

**Live Assistance:**
Cecilia@johnburtonfoundation.org
(415) 693-1323

**Training sessions:**
- THP-Plus and THP+FC Institute
  December 17th in Los Angeles
- In-person sessions and over-the-phone tutorials can be arranged by contacting Cecilia
Submit Invoices to County ASAP!

CDSS stated that September 30th is deadline by which all THP-Plus invoices will be counted towards 2014-15 expenditures.

What can you do:

◦ If you are a county: ask your providers to submit all 2014-15 invoices
◦ If you are a provider: check with fiscal people to ensure all 2014-15 invoices have been submitted

Attend the Blue Print Conference: October 27th

• One-day conference on helping foster youth achieve postsecondary education success hosted by the John Burton Foundation’s CA College Pathways program
• Early bird rate ($90) is good until September 18.
• After that it goes up to $125.
• The program website: http://www.cacollegepathways.org/blueprint2015/
• Respond to email for special discount code.
THP-Plus and THP+FC Institute

- Thank you for submitting your workshop proposals!
- Conference website and registration information will be up the first week of October.
- Respond to email if you would like to be on steering committee to help shape workshops and finalize speakers.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Slides and recording available on www.thpplus.org
Next Call: November 12

Note: Effective this call, we will have program web seminars every other month