Take Action Today to Include $4 M in the FY 2020-21 State Budget to Prevent Foster Youth Homelessness

On June 3rd, the California State Assembly and Senate released their joint budget for FY 2020-21. Great news! It includes $4 million to prevent foster youth homelessness, a proposal championed by Assemblymember Phil Ting. While this $4 million was included by the Legislature, it was not included in the Governor’s proposed budget.

The budget will be finalized early next week before going to the Legislature for a vote, then to the Governor’s desk. You can do two things to prevent foster youth homelessness:

1) Call or e-mail the Governor to request his support for the Preventing Foster Youth Homelessness Proposal.

Phone Number: (916) 445-2841

URL to Submit E-mail: https://govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail/

Call or E-mail Script:

- Thank you for your leadership during this crisis, and all you have done to protect foster youth. I am calling as part of a statewide coalition of over 100 organizations to ask for your support of the $4 million Preventing Foster Youth Homelessness Proposal which establishes a THP-NMD Housing Supplement, DSS item # 5180.

- Foster youth need your help during COVID-19: Foster youth across the state are becoming homeless due to COVID-19. While young adults across the state turn to their family for help, older youth in foster care rely on California’s foster care system.

- California has a solution, but it needs a fix: California provides safe, affordable housing for over 2,000 foster youth annually through its Transitional Housing Placement (THP-NMD). This program has been one of California’s most effective programs, but it needs a fix! This proposal establishes the THP-NMD Housing Supplement to prevent homelessness by ensuring THP-NMD is available in higher-cost parts of the state.

- Please include $4 million for the Preventing Foster Youth Homelessness Proposal.

2) Use social media to garner support and communicate with the Governor.

Below are several sample Tweets. Please post these today and through Wednesday, June 10th.

- @CAgovernor CA’s housing costs increased 64% since 2012. #FosterYouth experience wait lists, homelessness, loss of services, and displacement #PreventFosterYouthHomelessness w/ @PhilTing #CALeg #CABudget

- @CAgovernor THP-NMD $ is diverted away from services to pay for housing in high-cost areas leaving youth less prepared to transition out of #fostercare and at-risk of #homelessness. #CALeg #CABudget

- @CAgovernor will you help @PhilTing prevent California’s #fostercare system from contributing to the growing #homelessness crisis by establishing a THP-NMD Housing Supplement? tinyurl.com/y733zl66 #CALeg #CABudget

Learn more about the $4 million Preventing Foster Youth Homelessness Proposal by visiting https://www.jbaforyouth.org/prevent-fy-homelessness/

Questions? Contact Anna Johnson at anna@jbay.org or (920) 471-8177