

Parenting Youth Speak: How we are experiencing COVID-19 and ways to support us

*Part 3 of the LA RHEP Summer Learning Series
Courageous Conversations: Perspectives, lived experiences, and advice about supporting Youth's health and relationship needs in the time of coronavirus*

August 5th 2020

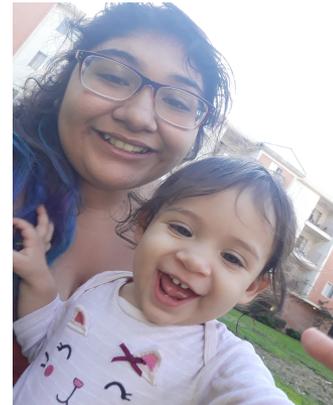
Community-Keeping

- All participants have been muted.
- To ask a question during the webinar, push the Q&A button at the bottom of your screen, type your question, and hit "send."
 - You can also use the Q&A function to alert presenters of any technical difficulties or other flags.
- The last few minutes of the webinar will be reserved for answering questions.

Presenters



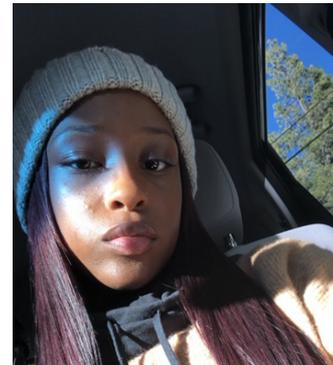
Felicia L. Reyes
Program Associate
LA Reproductive
Health Equity
Project for Foster
Youth
She/Her/Hers



**Diamond
Echevarria**
Yolo County
Transitional Age
Youth, Non-Minor
Dependent
She/Her/Hers



Cindy Evans
LA RHEP Youth
Advisory
Board Member
She/Her/Hers



Lexus Epps
Youth Advocate,
New loving mommy,
CSDH transfer to
Cerritos College
She/Her/Hers

Presenters



Mara Ziegler
Senior Social Worker
Children's Rights
Project
Public Counsel
Pronouns:
she/her/hers



Barbara Facher
Senior Social
Worker
Alliance for
Children's Rights
Pronouns:
she/her/hers

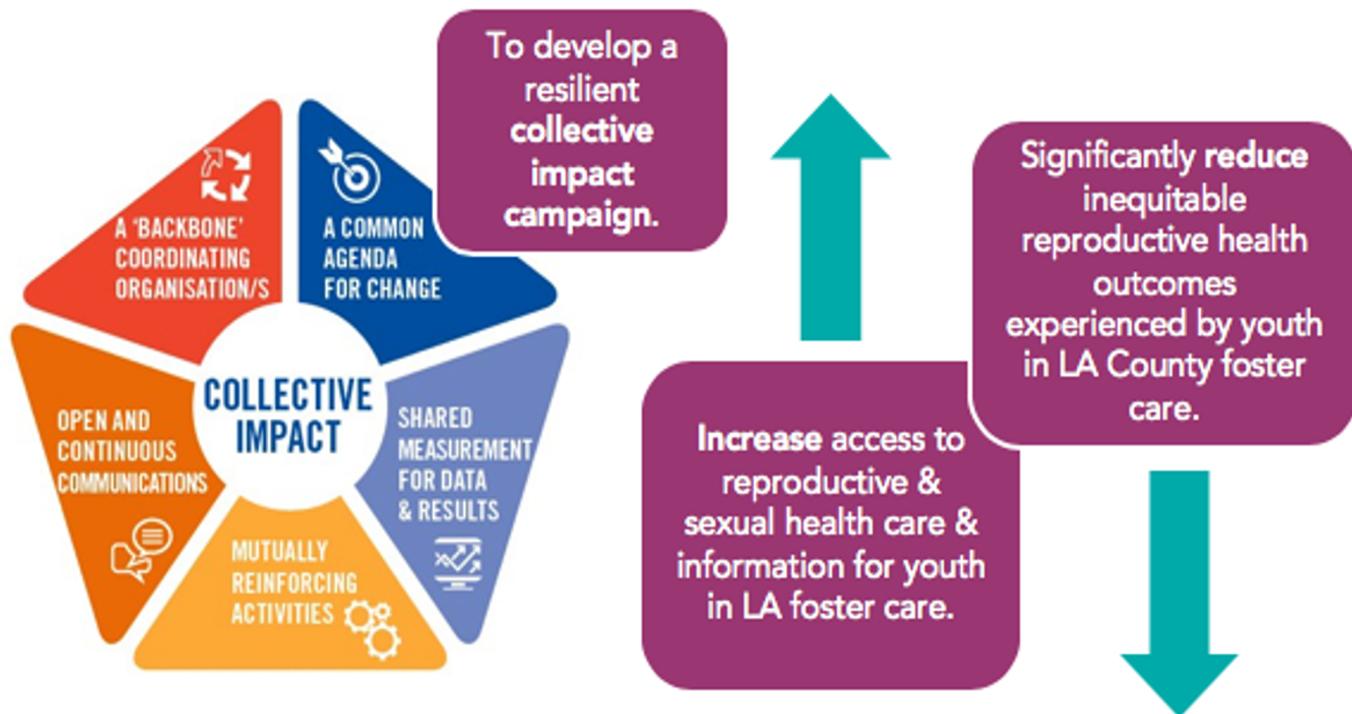


Karla Estrada
Youth
Advocate,
Loving mommy
to her baby
boy
She/Her/Hers



Janelly Reyes
Graduate Student
at Pepperdine
University
LA RHEP Youth
Advisory Board
member
She/Her/Hers

Los Angeles Reproductive Health Equity Project for Foster Youth



LA RHEP is generously funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation.

California Changes Law and Policy to Ensure Access to Education and Care



2015

- **No state policy, training, or guidance** on sexual and reproductive wellness for youth in foster care

2016

- CDSS issues state plan to address unplanned pregnancy (All-County Letter 16-88)
- CDSS issues All-County Letter 16-82 - youth rights to sexual and reproductive health education and services

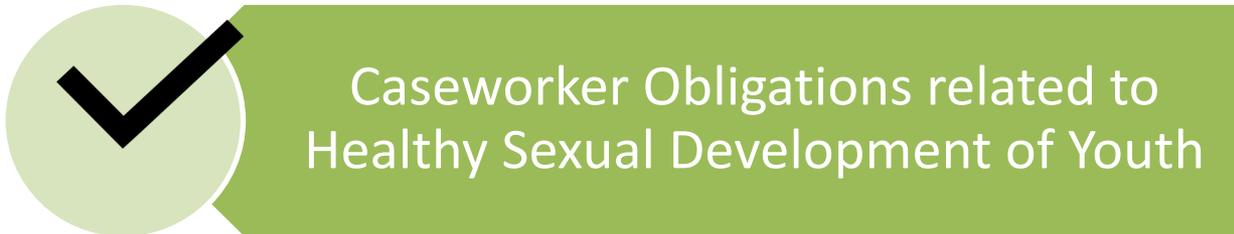
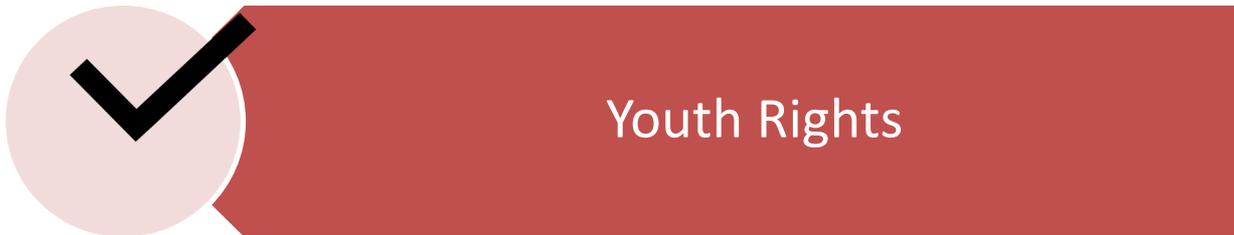
2017

- California Foster Youth Education Act (SB 89)

2016-2019

- CDSS issues series of guidance to clarify obligations for case workers and caregivers and best practices

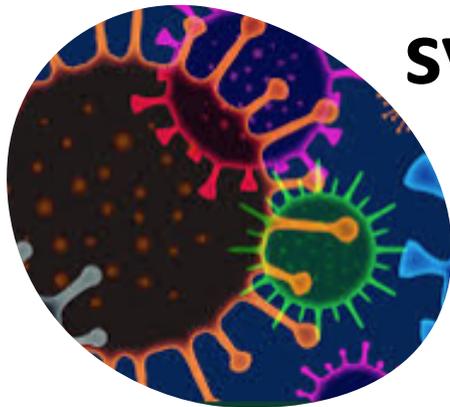
Sexual and Reproductive Wellness



COVID-19 and shelter-in-place



How have parenting youth with  lived experience in the foster care system been impacted?



Speaker Panel



Facilitated by
Janelly Reyes



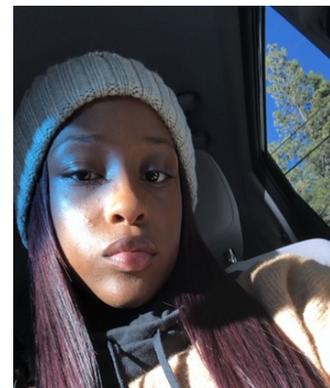
Karla Estrada



Diamond Echevarria



Cindy Evans

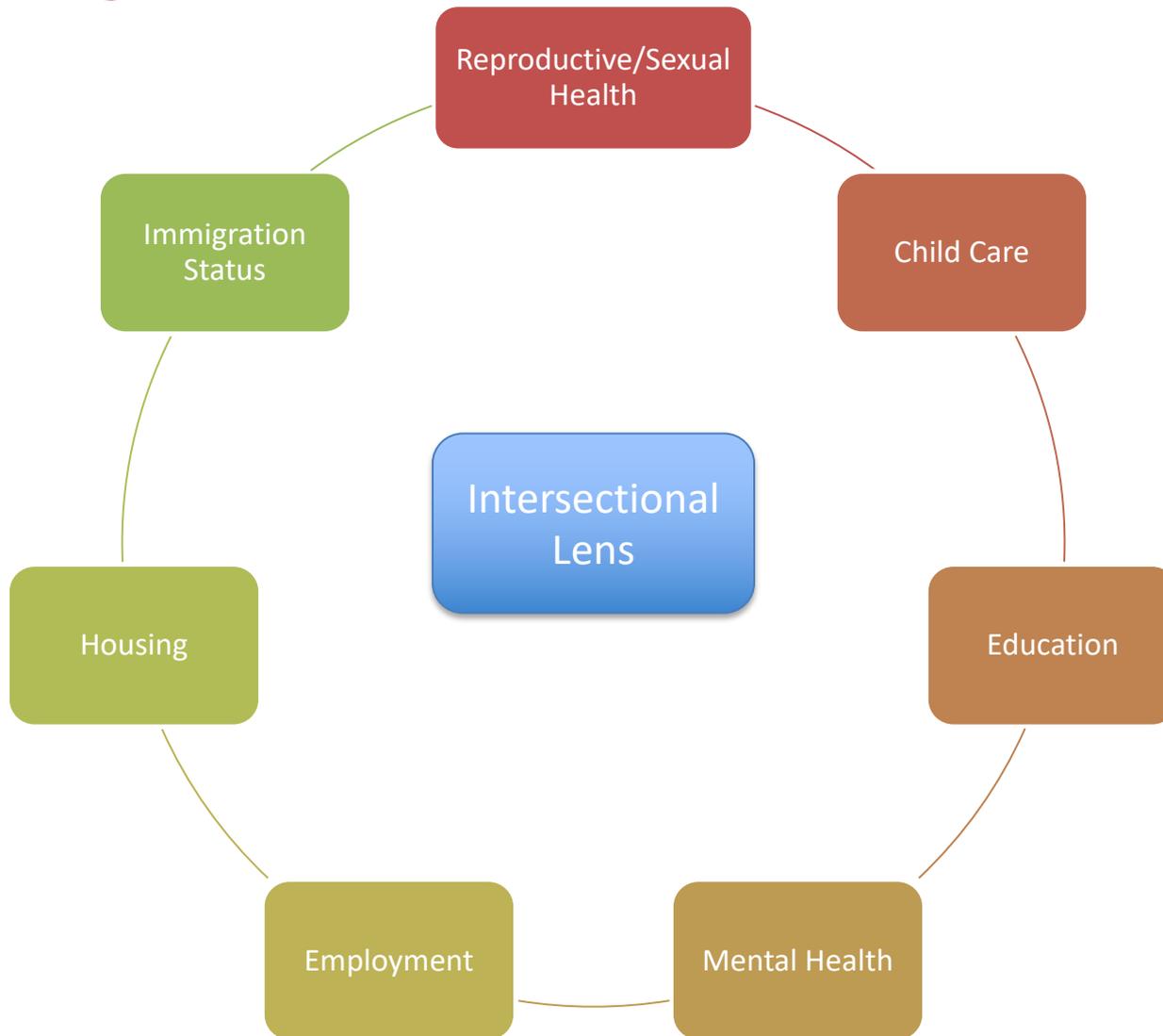


Lexus Epps

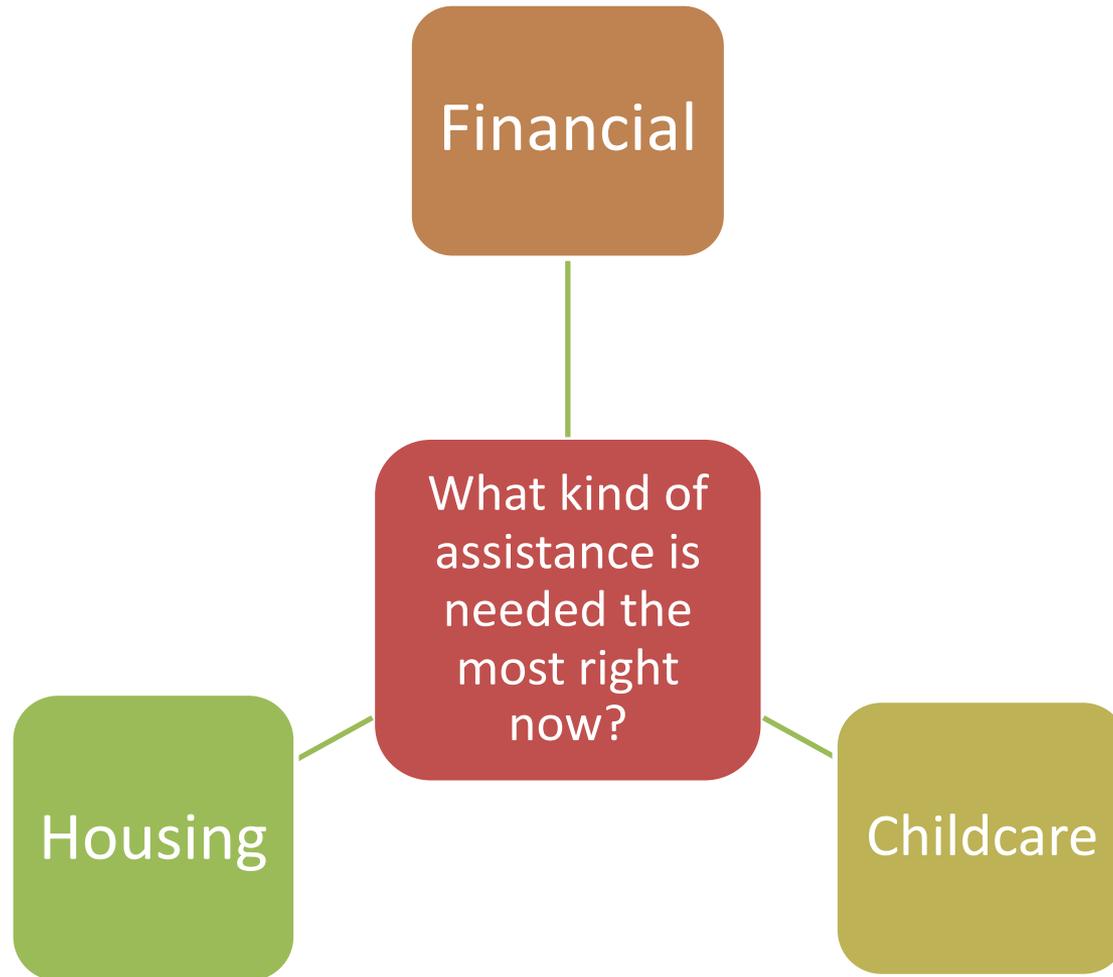
Important Takeaways

For supporting parenting youth

Takeaways



Takeaways



Takeaways



Takeaways



Services/programs should include and support the fathers and/or partners who are involved in raising the child

Takeaways

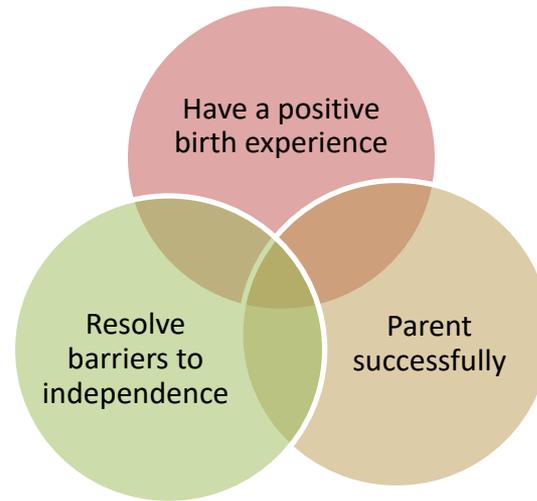


For new parents

Importance of programs that help new parents care for their children

“I stopped being parented at the age of 8. I didn’t know how to parent so this program where they sent a nurse to teach me how to care for my first born was invaluable.” -YAB member

Expectant and Parenting Youth (EPY) in foster care can...



Expectant and Parenting Youth Conference



A conference designed to proactively identify and address the needs of any pregnant or parenting teen under the supervision of the Department of Children and Family Services (inclusive of teen fathers)

A PPT Conference brings the teen and her village together to look at:

- Her strengths**
- Her resources**

Helps her fill in the gaps where she has needs, even ones she doesn't know she has.

Potential EPY Conference Participants



DCFS/Community Supports:

- Educational Consultant
- Independent Living Program (ILP) Coordinator
- Public Health Nurse (PHN)
- Wraparound
- Department of Mental Health
- Therapist
- CASA

Family Support Systems:

- Baby's other parent
- Youth Father/Mother
- Family members
- Non –related extended family members
- Caregiver/Legal Guardian
- Significant friend (maternal and paternal)

What issues are addressed at the EPY Conference?



Prenatal Care/Reproductive Health

Placement instability

Education

Mental Health

Child Care

Parenting Classes

Early Intervention for babies

Counseling

Legal Issues: Family Law, tickets, immigration etc

Public Benefits

Transition Issues and Services

HOME VISITATIONS PROGRAMS



Having a healthy baby

Prenatal care

Nutrition

Avoiding drugs

Understanding what to expect during labor and delivery

Some help with breast feeding

Teaching the teens the importance of bonding with their baby and how to do it.

Understanding child development

Non-violent discipline

Reproductive Health

<http://homevisitingla.org/>

Home Visitation Programs (cont.)



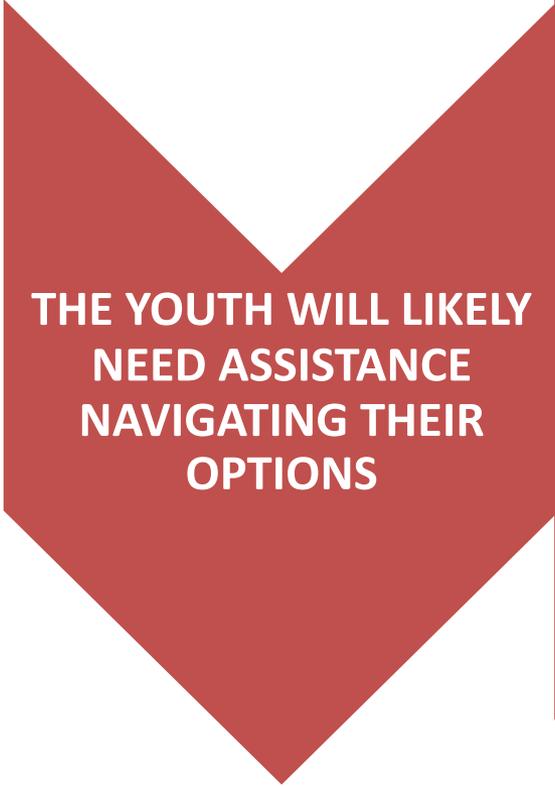
Nurse-Family Partnership Program (NFP)

The NFP is a free, voluntary program that partners first-time moms with nurses who provide intensive home visitation services. Referrals to the NFP must be submitted by the 28th week of pregnancy. For more information: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/mch/nfp/nfp.htm>

Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP)

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CFH/DMCAH/AFLP/Pages/default.aspx>

Childcare

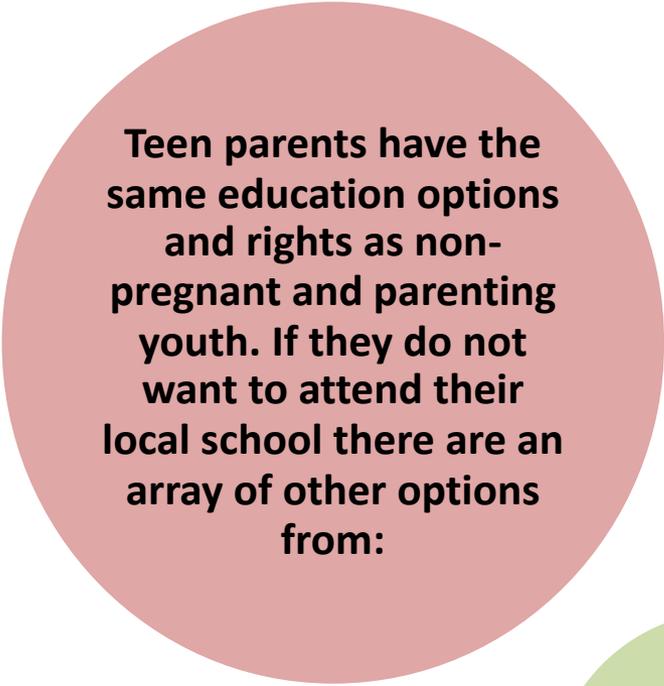
A large red arrow pointing downwards is positioned on the left side of the slide. Inside the arrow, the text 'THE YOUTH WILL LIKELY NEED ASSISTANCE NAVIGATING THEIR OPTIONS' is written in white, all-caps, sans-serif font.

THE YOUTH WILL LIKELY
NEED ASSISTANCE
NAVIGATING THEIR
OPTIONS

- DCFS provides childcare funding for up to one year of childcare if parenting youth has an open case; Social Workers refer to the Emergency Bridge Child Care Program which connects parenting youth to a navigator from the Child Care Resource Referral Agency (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/larr.asp>)
- CalWORKs recipients are eligible for subsidized childcare
- The Early Head Start Program in their neighborhood may also have funding for childcare
- A few schools and colleges provide childcare

EDUCATION

Enrollment

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Teen parents have the same education options and rights as non-pregnant and parenting youth. If they do not want to attend their local school there are an array of other options from:

A light brown circle containing the text.

Special schools for teen parents

A light green circle containing the text.

Special programs for any youth who is having trouble in a traditional setting

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Studying independently at home.

Funding and Placement

Placement options will vary depending on the age of the youth

Group/Foster Home: 13-18

SILP: 18-21

THP+FC: 18-21

THP Plus: 18-24

LA COUNTY ONLY

Early Infant Supplement (\$415/month)

- Months 7-9 of pregnancy only

Infant Supplement (\$900/month)

- Paid to caregiver or transitional housing with exception of SILP

Parenting Support Plan (PSP)

Non- Foster Care Funding
CalWorks
CalFresh
SSI

BENEFITS: Food



These are government programs that provide assistance.

WIC is a nutrition program which provides, food, formula, nutrition and breast feeding education to pregnant women and their children up to five years old.

Cal Fresh Is the former food stamp program. It comes on a card called an EBT card that can be used at groceries, farmer's markets and other food outlets.

BENEFITS: Medi-Cal



Foster youth and their babies are all entitled.



Foster youth are eligible for extended Medi-Cal up to age 26 (regardless of their income) under CA's implementation of Affordable Care Act

- Youth must be in foster care at age of 18
- Extension of prior coverage from age 21
- Youth should automatically be enrolled and stay enrolled



Pays for medical and mental health care

Medi-Cal (cont'd)

Ensure that they have the correct type of Medi-Cal, and that it is active. The Alliance for Children's Rights can help with Medi-Cal issues for current and former foster youth.

Their baby is covered the month of their birth and the next month under their mother's Medi-Cal. The youth should inform her/his CSW of the baby's birth so the Infant Supplement and baby's Medi-Cal can be initiated.

FATHERHOOD

There are support groups specifically for Dads.



Family Law

This includes issues such as:

- Custody
- Visitation
- Divorce
- Paternity
- Child support
- DV restraining orders

Developmental Milestones

Download developmental milestones brochure, Watch My Baby Grow:

- https://kids-alliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/WatchMyBabyGrow_English_SinglePage_web.pdf

Upcoming Webinar!

A promotional graphic for a webinar. It features a dark background with a purple and white logo in the top left corner. The text "LA RHEP'S YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD PRESENTS:" is centered at the top. Below this are four circular portraits of young women, each with their name and pronouns listed underneath. The main title of the webinar is "ADVICE FROM YOUTH FOR YOUTH: SELF-LOVE, SEXUAL INTIMACY, AND HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS AMID COVID-19". Below the title is a short description of the webinar's content. At the bottom, the date and time are listed, along with a registration link. A pink banner at the very bottom contains a summary of the webinar's focus and contact information for questions.

LA RHEP
for Foster Youth

LA RHEP'S YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD PRESENTS:

ALEXIS OBINNA
SHE/HER/HERS

LIZ WOLF
SHE/HER/HERS

CRYSTAL YANEZ
SHE/HER/HERS

JENNIFER MYERS
SHE/HER/HERS

ADVICE FROM YOUTH FOR YOUTH: SELF-LOVE, SEXUAL INTIMACY, AND HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS AMID COVID-19

Part Four of Courageous Conversations: Perspectives, lived experiences, and advice about supporting Youth's health and relationship needs in the time of Coronavirus.

August 26th, 2020
12:00PM - 1:30PM

<https://bit.ly/selfloveworkshop26>

In this webinar, members of the LA RHEP Youth Advisory Board will talk about sexual intimacy in sexual relationships and best practices to love and care for yourself during these times.

For questions please contact Felicia Reyes,
freyes@youthlaw.org

Visit fosterreprohealth.org for more reproductive and sexual health resources.
This series was made possible in part through funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

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Stay informed: Sign-up for our email list

<input type="text" value="First name"/>	<input type="text" value="Last name"/>
<input type="text" value="Email"/>	<input type="text" value="Zip"/>

SUBMIT

Sign-up for our listserv on fosterreprohealth.org
Please scroll to the bottom.

Q&A with the Panelists

