



Bringing Together Juvenile Court Stakeholders to Attain Permanency for Youth With Complex Needs

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DATA QUIZ



Total Number of Youth in Care in California on October 1, 2019 under age 18



A. 78,419

B. 63,882

C. 54,988

D. 51,913

E. 49,171

Average number of days in care:



A. 778

B. 602

C. 582

D. 323

E. 197

Median number of days in Congregate Care:



- A. 15.4 mos
- B. 12.1 mos
- C. 10.5 mos
- D. 8.9 mos
- E. 6.0 mos

Number of youth who emancipated:



- 3403
- 2777
- 2502
- 2319
- 1846

Number of youth receiving **AB12** services



A.7,030

B.6,412

C.5,950

D.5,288

E.4,309

What does this mean for the kids who emancipate without a family?

- planned homelessness
- lack of high school diploma
- unemployment
- risk of victimization
- poor health/diet

- risk of survival behaviors
- no supportive relationships
- single parenthood
- declining self esteem
- NO FUTURE!



Family vs Placement

- We MUST change our perspectives
- APPLA is NOT really permanency

- ALL our youth need families...even beyond age 18
- Parallel planning: seeking families WHILE setting up supports/resources/services



**Why there MUST to be a cross systems
collaboration aka
*Integrated Core Practice Model***

**Connection between Child Abuse/Neglect and
Delinquency/Adult Offending**

Dual Status Youth

Youth and their families touch many other systems

**Use same resources and providers—risk of duplication of
services when there are too few services/slots available**

Need collaboration with many partners to be successful

Strategies to Achieve a “Family Life”



- **Everyone needs to challenge the Status Quo of a youth’s situation**
- **Family Finding must be thorough, conscientious, persistent and throughout the life of the case:**
 - At every CFTM, court hearing, IEP, meeting, etc.
 - Involve and engage youth to share
 - printing out lists from the internet is insufficient and fails the youth
 - must engage identified people personally—not a form letter!
 - revisit people who couldn’t help in the past
 - reconsider birth parents—what about the fathers??
 - even if individuals can’t be THE family, they ALL have something to offer

Judges must ask youth about their preferred place to live

A few phrases that can help:

>“Your parents are still working on their case plan, is there somewhere else you could stay that’s safe and comfortable?”

>“Do you know what a backup plan is? Who is your backup plan?”

>“I know you want to go home but you’re parents aren’t ready. Do you have someone who is close to you where you could live?”

>“I know you’re probably mad/sad/upset/angry/confused about not living at home. I am sorry that you can’t be at home right now. Where else would you like to live?”



More Strategies!

- **Partners at the table should also have the conversations—everyone!**
- **Social Workers need to drill down on the TILP**
 - realistic goals/objectives
 - concrete steps
 - identify and engage connections (relatives/fictive kin/etc.) to support
 - use it as a roadmap for our youth and FOLLOW THRU!!!
- **CASAs, Attorneys and Judges need to assure that plans are appropriate and implemented**
- **Recognize that even if the youth has a TILP, *we still must continue to seek a family for them***



The EXPERTS Speak!!





***You can have the nine greatest individual ball players
in the world, but if they don't play together the club
won't be worth a dime.***

Babe Ruth, professional baseball player

Coming together is a beginning,
Keeping together is progress
Working together is **SUCCESS!!**

Henry Ford

Our youth deserve nothing less from us...

