

Welcome - After 18! (AB12)

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Today's agenda

- ❑ Context for AB 12/212
- ❑ "From Place to Place"
www.fromplacetoplacemovie.com
- ❑ AB 12 Eligibility – California Department of Social Services
- ❑ Legal Process – Administrative Office of the Courts
- ❑ Implementation – Shared Vision Consultants

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AB 12 Guiding Principles

- ❑ Value permanency
- ❑ Help youth transition with lifelong connections to caring adults.
- ❑ Create a collaborative youth-centered process
- ❑ Work proactively with youth in developing and reaching their independent living goals
- ❑ Allow youth to gain real life experience with independence and allow them to learn from their mistakes
- ❑ Provide a safety net for the most vulnerable youth so they can be successful as independent adults

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AB12: Eligibility

Version 1.0, January 25, 2012

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Goals for the Training

In this training we will cover:

- ▣ Eligibility requirements for AB12
- ▣ The primary benefits associated with AB12



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Values

- ▣ Voice of Young Adults
- ▣ Assistance and Partnering
- ▣ Love and Belonging
- ▣ Unique Needs
- ▣ Eligibility is Maintained
- ▣ Development is Supported

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Eligibility Basics

- ❑ Open court case with out-of-home placement at age 18
- ❑ Satisfy at least 1 of 5 participation requirements
- ❑ Meet with Social Worker and update TILCP
- ❑ Attend court or administrative review every 6 months
- ❑ Live in a licensed/approved setting

Kin-GAP, AAP and Guardianship

- ❑ Extended benefits also available to:
 - Youth who entered Kin-GAP or AAP at age 16 or older
 - Youth with disabilities who entered Kin-GAP or AAP at any age



Who is eligible in 2012?

- ❑ Youth under age 19 as of January 1, 2012 who have an open case and are in placement. This includes:
 - Youth who turn 18 on or after January 1, 2012
 - Youth who turned 18 during 2011 can be eligible in some cases

Age Limits

- ❑ Beginning January 1, 2012 - up to age 19
- ❑ Beginning January 1, 2013 - up to age 20
- ❑ Final extension to age 21 subject to legislative approval and cannot happen before January 1, 2014

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Participation Conditions

- ❑ Be enrolled in high school
- ❑ Be enrolled in college/vocational school
- ❑ Work at least 80 hours/month
- ❑ Participate in a program/activity that removes barriers to employment
- ❑ Be unable to do one of the above

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Licensed/Approved Placement

- ❑ Traditional placement options still available
- ❑ Limitations on group home placement
- ❑ 2 NEW Placement Options:
 - THP-Plus Foster Care
 - Supervised Independent Living (SILP)

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High School Completion Rule

- ❑ No more high school completion rule for youth in extended foster care
- ❑ No more high school completion rule for youth in group homes
- ❑ High school completion rule still exists for certain groups that do not have access to extended benefits

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Extended Foster Care Benefits

- ❑ The same benefit rates apply
- ❑ New rates established for THP-Plus FC
- ❑ SILP is limited to basic AFDC-FC rate
- ❑ Wraparound services available



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Pregnant & Parenting Youth

- ❑ Pregnant and parenting youth are eligible
- ❑ Benefit Payment
 - In a SILP
 - In other settings



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Youth who want to opt-out

- ❑ Hearing (WIC 391) must be held prior to terminating jurisdiction (and assistance)
- ❑ Eligibility for assistance does not end until the youth turns 20 (or 21), but aid is suspended at youth's request

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Re-entry

- ❑ Youth can re-enter unlimited times prior to turning 20/ 21 yrs old.
- ❑ Youth must be informed of right to reentry at termination hearing
- ❑ Re-entry process is intended to be as accessible and easy as possible
- ❑ Beginning date of aid is date NMD signs re-entry agreement

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Resolving Disputes

- ❑ Fair hearing process regarding
 - Amount of the benefit
 - Termination of benefits
 - Denial of federal eligibility (ie: for youth placed with relatives)
- ❑ The court will resolve disputes about the youth's sufficient participation

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Documenting Eligibility

- ❑ Document efforts to assist youth to maintain eligibility
- ❑ Include services in TILP to ensure participation in eligibility requirements, including a back-up plan
- ❑ Engage youth in collaborative case planning

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Mutual Agreement



- ❑ Must be signed within 6 months of youth turning 18
- ❑ Documents youth's willingness participate
- ❑ Documents agency's responsibility to the youth

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Documenting Eligibility

- ❑ A copy of the Certification Form kept in the EW's file
- ❑ A copy of the participation documentation kept in the EW's file



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Specialized Care Increment

- ❑ County supplement to the basic rate
- ❑ County creates its own policy on eligibility and amount
- ❑ Most counties provide specialized care increment
- ❑ Specialized Care Increments are not available to youth in a SILP or group home

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Dual Agency Rate

- ❑ Non-minor dependent youth who receive AFDC-FC benefits and who are also regional center clients are eligible for Dual Agency rate



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Eligibility for CalWORKs Benefits

Must meet requirements:

- ❑ Income guidelines
- ❑ Living in the home of a "caretaker relative"
- ❑ Age requirements
- ❑ Immigration status
- ❑ Deprivation

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CalWORKs: Who Gets It?

- ❑ Relatives caring for a non-minor dependent youth who is in foster care who does not qualify for Title IV-E foster care benefits

NOTE: The non-minor dependent could live with the relative in a SILP and receive state-only AFDC-FC

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CalWORKs: What Do they Get?

- ❑ Cash benefit
- ❑ Medi-Cal



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Eligibility for Extended Kin-GAP

- ❑ Youth who entered Kin-GAP at 16 or older and meet participation conditions are eligible
- ❑ Youth with disabilities are eligible until age 21 no matter what age they entered guardianship

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Kin-GAP Changes

- ❑ Guardianship Study Requirements
- ❑ Youth only has to be residing with the relative for 6 months prior to entering guardianship
- ❑ Kin-GAP benefits are determined and adjusted based on changed needs pursuant to a negotiated agreement
- ❑ Kin-GAP can be paid out of state

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Kin-GAP – What do they get?



- ❑ Rate is negotiated between the relative guardian and the county or Indian tribe
- ❑ The infant supplement or “whole family home” rates apply if the youth is parenting
- ❑ If the youth is a regional center consumer, the dual agency rates apply

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Other Benefits Related to Kin-GAP

- ❑ Clothing Allowance
- ❑ Medi-Cal
- ❑ ILP services
- ❑ Education and training vouchers
- ❑ Reimbursement of non-recurring costs associated with guardianship – up to \$2,000

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Eligibility for AAP Benefits

- ❑ Youth who were adopted at 16 or older and meet participation conditions are eligible
- ❑ Continues if the family moves to another state
- ❑ Can continue if child is adopted after death of adoptive parents
- ❑ Youth with disabilities are eligible until age 21 no matter what age they were adopted

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AAP – What Do They Get?



- ❑ Rate is negotiated in a written adoption assistance agreement
- ❑ Can include specialized care increment
- ❑ Can include residential care or Wrap Around services

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Eligibility for SSI/SSP Benefits

- ❑ Little or no income (parental income is not counted for youth in out-of-home care)
- ❑ Few or no resources
- ❑ Citizen or qualified non-citizen
- ❑ Disabled (must be reviewed 1 month prior to 18th birthday)

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SSI/SSP – What Do They Get?

- ❑ Monthly cash benefit
- ❑ Medi-Cal
- ❑ Offset rules for concurrent receipt of SSI and other assistance (AFDC-FC, AAP, Kin-GAP)



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County Management of SSI Benefits

- ❑ Maintain accounts
- ❑ Help youth in become payee or find a new payee before emancipation
- ❑ Inform youth of eligibility and how to maintain eligibility as an adult
- ❑ Maintain SSI eligibility for youth in extended care who are eligible for a higher foster care rate that offsets the SSI

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SSI and Transition Age Youth

- ❑ Higher monthly cash assistance rate
- ❑ May qualify youth for permanent affordable housing and education assistance
- ❑ Can work part-time and still get SSI
- ❑ Programs to help work without losing eligibility
- ❑ Can get scholarships and SSI

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SSI and Non-Minor Dependent Youth

- ❑ Goal is to have SSI eligibility established at around the time the youth turns 18
- ❑ Ensuring SSI is in place provides youth maximum flexibility and choice among benefits and supports
- ❑ Maintain SSI eligibility if youth receives federal foster care in excess of SSI

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Non-Minor Dependent Youth and SSI

- ❑ Assist with applications for permanent affordable housing
- ❑ Explore SSI programs designed to help individuals work or pursue their education
 - Ticket to Work
 - Plan to Achieve Self Sufficiency
 - Student Earned Income Exclusion

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Additional Benefits

- ❑ FCIA Chafee
 - Independent Living Plans and Services
 - Resource limit: \$10,000
 - Transitional Medical
 - Education and Training Vouchers



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Weighing the Benefit

- ❑ Level of need
- ❑ Youth willingness
- ❑ Need for flexibility
- ❑ Permanency plan
- ❑ Special needs
- ❑ Family situation
- ❑ Services available in addition to benefit
- ❑ Portability



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Questions and Answer time!



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