CALIFORNIA’S HOUSING PROGRAMS FOR TRANSITION-AGE CURRENT & FORMER FOSTER YOUTH
HOW YOUTH FARED IN 2018-19 & RELATED PROPOSED POLICIES

February 27, 2020
TODAY’S AGENDA

- Report Methodology
- Findings
  - Demographics & Number of Youth Served
  - THP-NMD & THP-Plus Rates
  - Housing Entrance & Exit
  - Education, Employment & Income
  - Health & Well-Being
- Policy & Practice Implications
- How to Support 2020 Legislation
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Report

2018-19 THP-NMD & THP-Plus Annual Report

Posted on JBAY website:
REPORT METHODOLOGY

- Extensive survey of THP-NMD & THP-Plus providers
- THP-NMD & THP-Plus Participant Tracking Systems data
- California Child Welfare Indicators Project
- New! Short survey of THP-M providers
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT FOR NON-MINOR DEPENDENTS (THP-NMD) AT A GLANCE

- **Current foster youth age 18-21 (“non-minor dependents”)**
- **Title IV-E-reimbursable foster care placement**
- **Modeled after THP-Plus program**
- **Implemented in 2012 with Extended Foster Care (AB 12)**
 • 2,023 youth placed in THP-NMD as of July 1, 2019
 • 70 licensed providers
 • 59 providers operating in 49 counties over FY 2018-19
 • 46 counties placed youth in THP-NMD as of July 1, 2019
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT PLUS (THP-PLUS) PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Former foster & out-of-home probation youth age 18-24*

Can access for up to 24 months*

Est. 2001 by AB 427 (Hertzberg)

CWS Realignment funds, formerly state funded program

$34.9 M annual budget; additional $8 M in annual state funding made available starting FY 2019-20

* 27 counties offer the THP-Plus extension: youth in school can participate for up to 36 months and/or up to age 25.
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT PLUS (THP-PLUS) PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

- 1,739 youth served over FY 2018-19
- Moment-in-time housing capacity was 1,252 for FY 2018-19
- 55 THP-Plus providers
- Operating 77 programs in 47 counties
DEMOGRAPHICS & NUMBER OF YOUTH SERVED
FINDINGS
After 5 years of consistent growth, the number of youth in THP-NMD has leveled-off.
Nearly 1 in 4 non-minor dependents (NMDs) are placed in THP-NMD.

Proportion of NMDs Placed in THP-NMD, SILPs & Other Placements as of July 1st
THP-NMD participants continue to be more likely to be female and increasingly Latino, with 1 in 6 youth supervised by Juvenile Probation.

| THP-NMD Participant Characteristics as of July 1\textsuperscript{st} |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Male            | 43%    | 42%    | 42%    | 42%    | 43%    | 44%    | 43%    |
| Female          | 57%    | 58%    | 58%    | 58%    | 57%    | 56%    | 57%    |
| Black           | 33%    | 37%    | 37%    | 35%    | 35%    | 35%    | 35%    |
| White           | 31%    | 27%    | 23%    | 25%    | 24%    | 22%    | 20%    |
| Latino          | 29%    | 33%    | 35%    | 37%    | 38%    | 39%    | 42%    |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 3%  | 3%    | 3%    | 3%    | 2%    | 2%    | 3%    |
| Native American | 3%     | 1%     | 1%     | 1%     | 0%    | 1%    | 1%    |
| Supervised by Juvenile Probation | 12%    | 17%    | 18%    | 19%    | 18%    | 17%    | 14%    |
The total number of youth served by THP-Plus and the statewide housing capacity remained relatively consistent with the previous fiscal year.

THP-Plus is close to being at full service capacity: 96% occupied with 1,196 of the 1,252 housing slots filled as of June 30, 2019.
Almost all youth participating in THP-Plus are 21 to 24, a significant change from before the implementation of extended foster care.

### THP-Plus Participant Characteristics at Entrance to the Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Male (%)</th>
<th>Female (%)</th>
<th>Other (%)</th>
<th>Age 18-20 (%)</th>
<th>Age 21-24 (%)</th>
<th>LGBTQ (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other trends:**

- Consistently more female participants than male
- Gradual decrease in participation among formerly probation-supervised youth
THP-NMD & THP-PLUS RATES

FINDINGS
The statewide THP-NMD rate increased by 4% as required by statute.
The average monthly rate paid per youth by counties to THP-Plus providers for the single site housing model has increased, for scattered site has remained relatively unchanged, and for host family has decreased.
THP-Plus rates continue to vary considerably across the state.

- **Single Site**: $1,819 - $4,005
- **Scattered Site**: $1,045 - $3,841
- **Host Family**: $500 - $3,146

Santa Clara County offers a parenting rate:
- Single Site: $2,400
- Scattered Site: $2,800
Over the last 6 years, the THP-NMD rate has increased by 19% and the average THP-Plus rate has increased by 12% for the remote/scattered site model.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Statewide THP-NMD Rate</th>
<th>Average THP-Plus Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>$2,797</td>
<td>$2,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>$3,336</td>
<td>$2,498</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey respondents expressed concern that the cost of housing has outpaced the growth in the rate for both programs.
THP-NMD providers utilize various strategies to operate the program despite the rate not covering the cost of providing the program in certain areas.

### Strategies Utilized by THP-NMD Providers to Manage Cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategies to Manage or Offset Cost</th>
<th>% of Providers that Report Utilizing these Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Privately fundraise</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offset cost using other contractual resources</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce the level of supportive services</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limit the number of higher-needs youth</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent housing in areas that are lower-cost</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least one of the above strategies</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HOUSING ENTRANCE & EXIT

FINDINGS
The number of youth waiting for THP-NMD increased 64% and the number waiting for THP-Plus increased 53% since the previous year.
The remote/scattered site model is the most prevalent housing model in both THP-NMD and THP-Plus.
LIVING SETTINGS AT ENTRANCE AND EXIT
Youth who Exited During FY 2018-19

- In THP-NMD, youth were most likely to exit to a living setting where they are not paying rent. In THP-Plus, youth were most likely to exit to a living setting where they are paying rent.

- THP-NMD did not have the effect of reducing youth homelessness, however THP-Plus did.
In both programs, the average length of stay is far shorter than the amount of time youth may access the programs.

Average Length of Stay vs. Full Program Duration, Youth Who Exited Over FY 2018-19
More than 1 in 3 youth in THP-NMD and more than 1 in 4 youth in THP-Plus exited the program on an involuntary basis.

Voluntary & Involuntary Exits from THP-NMD & THP-Plus During FY 2018-19

- **THP-NMD**
  - Voluntary Exit: 65%
  - Involuntary Exit: 35%

- **THP-Plus**
  - Voluntary Exit: 73%
  - Involuntary Exit: 27%
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT & INCOME

FINDINGS
The vast majority of youth in both programs entered having already completed high school.

The percentage of youth who have completed high school increases between entrance to and exit from the program, particularly for youth in THP-NMD.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Status</th>
<th>THP-NMD</th>
<th>THP-Plus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entrance</td>
<td>Exit</td>
<td>Entrance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth has not earned their high school diploma, GED or high school equivalent or higher</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth has earned their high school diploma, GED or high school equivalent or higher</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In both THP-NMD and THP-Plus, youth did not make collective progress in post-secondary education during their time in the program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Status</th>
<th>THP-NMD</th>
<th></th>
<th>THP-Plus</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Entrance</td>
<td>Exit</td>
<td>Entrance</td>
<td>Exit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attending two-year community college</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received AA/AS, certificate or license from two-year community college</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attending four-year college/university</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received BA/BS</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In both THP-NMD and THP-Plus, employment continues to be an area where youth make progress during their time in the program.

Employment Rates at Entrance & Exit
Youth Who Exited Over FY 2018-19

Custodial parents don’t lag far behind their non-parenting peers.

THP-NMD: 39% custodial parents employed at exit

THP-Plus: 56% custodial parents employed at exit
Employed youth experienced a 9% increase in hourly wage during their time in the program, however are still earning just above the state’s minimum wage at exit.

### Number of Hours Worked Per Week & Average Gross Annual Earnings of Employed Youth at Exit from THP-NMD & THP-Plus Over FY2018-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>THP-NMD</th>
<th>THP-Plus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of Employed Youth</td>
<td>Average Annual</td>
<td>% of Employed Youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working these Hours</td>
<td>Earnings</td>
<td>Working these Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working full-time</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(35-40 hours/week)</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>$23,397-$26,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working part-time</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10-34 hours/week)</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>$6,685-$22,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working part-time</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1-9 hours/week)</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>$668-$6,016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Youths’ monthly income from all sources grew by at least one quarter in both programs between entrance and exit.

Increase in Total Monthly Income from All Sources between Entrance & Exit
Youth Who Exited Over FY 2018-19
FILING TAXES & THE CALIFORNIA Earned Income Tax Credit

Less than 4 in 10 youth (39%) are estimated to have filed 2018 taxes across both programs.

There is limited awareness about the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) and TAY eligibility among providers & youth.

45% THP-NMD survey respondents and 43% THP-Plus survey respondents unfamiliar with CalEITC.

7% of youth across both programs were estimated to have received the CalEITC.
Almost all youth (99%) in THP-Plus were enrolled in health insurance upon exit from the program.

More than 1 in 5 youth (23%) in THP-NMD and nearly 1 in 5 youth (19%) in THP-Plus were receiving services for mental, physical, learning or developmental disabilities at exit from the program.
CUSTODIAL PARENTS & THEIR CHILDREN

Percentage of Female Participants Who Were Custodial Mothers
Youth Who Exited Over FY 2018-19

- The proportion of young women who are custodial parents more than tripled between entrance and exit in THP-NMD and increased 38% in THP-Plus.

- In THP-NMD and THP-Plus, a total of 681 children lived with a parent participating in the program.
Nearly 1 in 4 youth experienced homelessness while in foster care, prior to entering THP-NMD.

Experience of Homelessness
Youth Who Entered THP-NMD During Fiscal Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>% Experienced Homelessness Prior to THP-NMD</th>
<th>% Entered THP-NMD Directly from an Emergency Shelter, Homelessness, or Other Unstable Housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More than 1 in 3 youth experienced homelessness prior to entering THP-Plus. This has decreased over the last 5 years but remains significant.

Experience of Homelessness
Youth Who Entered THP-Plus During Fiscal Year

- 2013-14: 55%
- 2014-15: 47%
- 2015-16: 44%
- 2016-17: 37%
- 2017-2018: 36%
- 2018-19: 35%

- % experienced homelessness between foster care and THP-Plus
- % entered THP-Plus directly from an emergency shelter, homelessness, or other unstable housing
At least 1 in 4 youth were accessing some form of public benefits at exit from THP-NMD and THP-Plus.

- Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Income (SSI/SSDI)
- General Assistance
- CalFresh
- California Work Opportunities and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs)
- Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants & Children (WIC) and/or
- Subsidized childcare

25% of youth in THP-NMD 29% of youth in THP-Plus
were accessing some form of public benefits at exit from the program over FY 2018-19
The majority of youth in both programs are eligible for CalFresh benefits, however few receive them.

CalFresh Eligibility at Entrance & Exit
Youth Who Exited Over FY 2018-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>THP-NMD</th>
<th>THP-Plus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eligible at Entrance</td>
<td>Eligible at Exit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth without custodial children</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth with custodial children</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At exit from the program, less than 1 in 5 youth were receiving CalFresh benefits in THP-NMD and less than 1 in 4 youth in THP-Plus.
HOW TO SUPPORT NEW PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR TAY

PRACTICE & POLICY IMPLICATIONS
AB 2880 (Ting)
The THP-NMD Housing Supplement

- Would establish a THP-NMD Housing Supplement to provide sufficient funding to providers (based on HUD Fair Market Rent) to improve access and retain supportive services.

- Learn more / support here: https://www.jbaforyouth.org/ab-2880/
Youth Set-Aside funding for Youth Homelessness Prevention and Reduction

- Budget proposals: call for large investments in youth homelessness prevention and reduction services (10-20% youth set-aside funding from larger homelessness proposals)

- Learn more / support here: https://www.jbaforyouth.org/budget-proposal/
AB 2305 (Rubio)  
Healthy Futures for Foster Youth

- Would expand upon SB 89, adding ongoing training for Resource Families, include information about whether a youth has received sexual health education in court reports and require state reporting on sexual health training.

- Learn more / support here: [https://www.jbaforyouth.org/ab2035/](https://www.jbaforyouth.org/ab2035/)
SB 860 (Beall) & SB 958 (Leyva): Bills to Support Foster Youth College Access and Success

- **SB 860 (Beall):** Would clarify the role of FYSCPs to include coordination of efforts to support FAFSA completion among foster youth who are high school seniors and add FAFSA completion rates to FYSCP bi-annual reporting requirement.

- **SB 958 (Leyva):** Would expand access to the NextUp program and priority registration to youth who exited foster care after age 13, and make other changes to the program rules to better meet needs.

TAKE THE CASH BACK FOR TAY PLEDGE!

Join the movement: https://form.jotform.com/193445644250155

- Commit to supporting TAY with filing taxes
- Receive free reliable information, support, and materials from JBAY and other partners throughout the tax season
- Watch the webinar and download the guide here: https://www.jbaforyouth.org/1-30-20-caleitc/