
CALIFORNIA'S HOUSING PROGRAMS FOR TRANSITION-AGE CURRENT & FORMER FOSTER YOUTH

HOW YOUTH FARED IN 2018-19 & RELATED PROPOSED POLICIES



**JOHN
BURTON**
Advocates for Youth

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

TODAY'S PRESENTER

Simone Tureck Lee

Director of Housing & Health

John Burton Advocates for Youth

(415) 693-1323

simone@jbay.org

Report

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

Posted on JBAY website:

<https://www.jbaforyouth.org/2018-19-thp-annual-report/>



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

OCTOBER 2019

Providing Affordable Housing and Supportive
Services to Youth Transitioning from California's
Foster Care and Juvenile Probation Systems

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)

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT FOR NON-MINOR DEPENDENTS (THP-NMD) AT A GLANCE

- **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

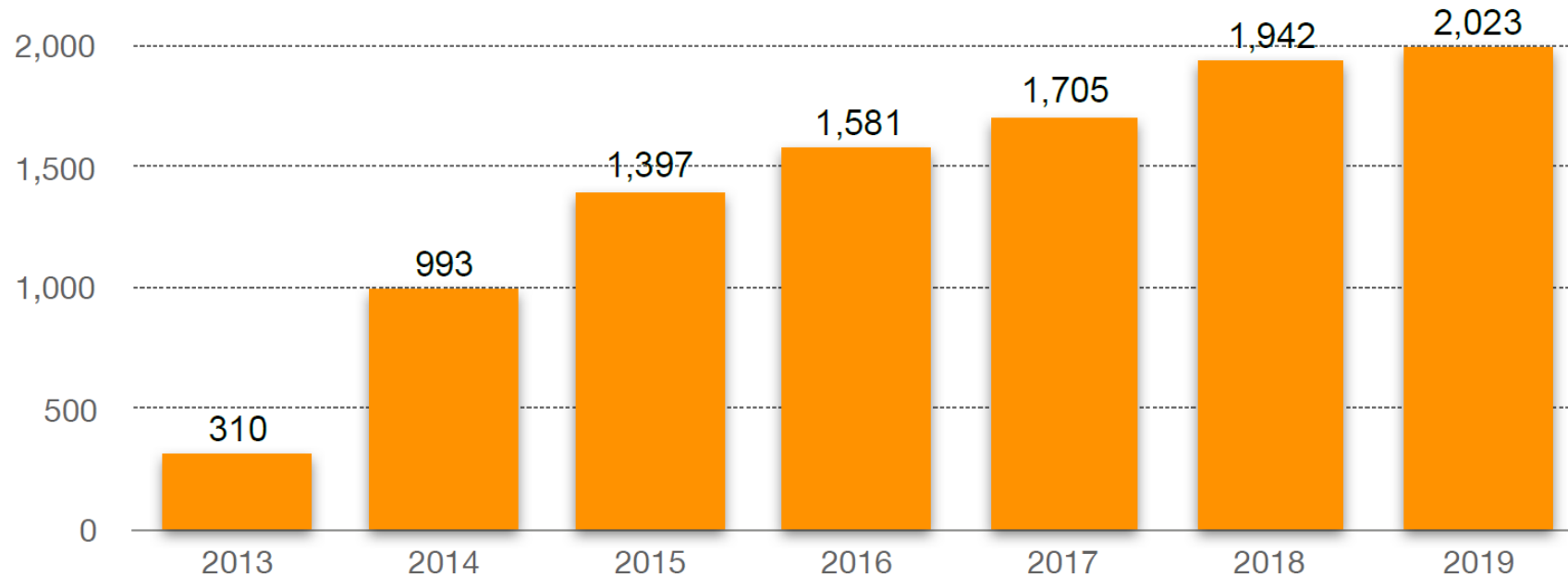


DEMOGRAPHICS & NUMBER OF YOUTH SERVED

FINDINGS

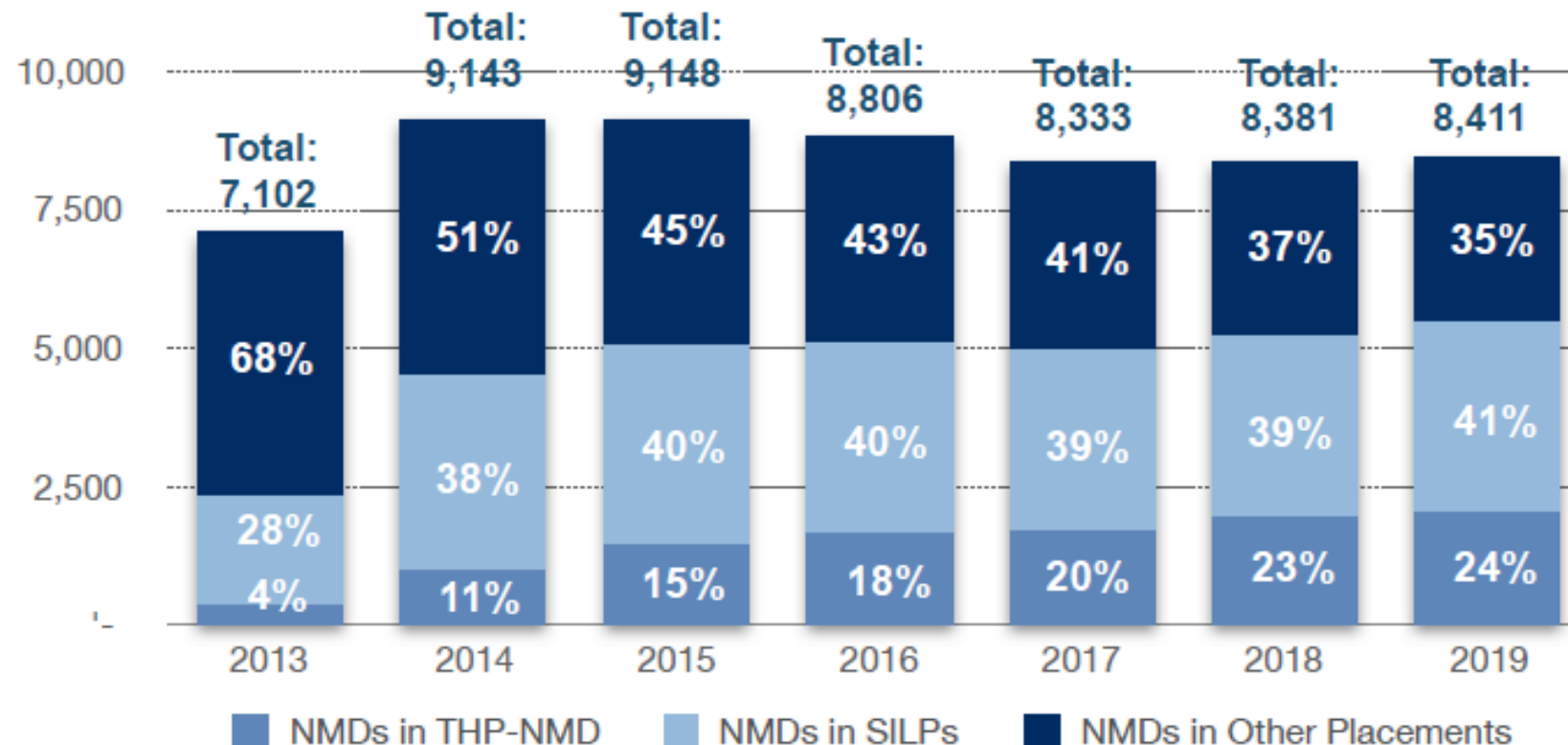
After 5 years of consistent growth, the number of youth in THP-NMD has leveled-off.

Number of Non-Minor Dependents Placed in THP-NMD as of July 1st



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



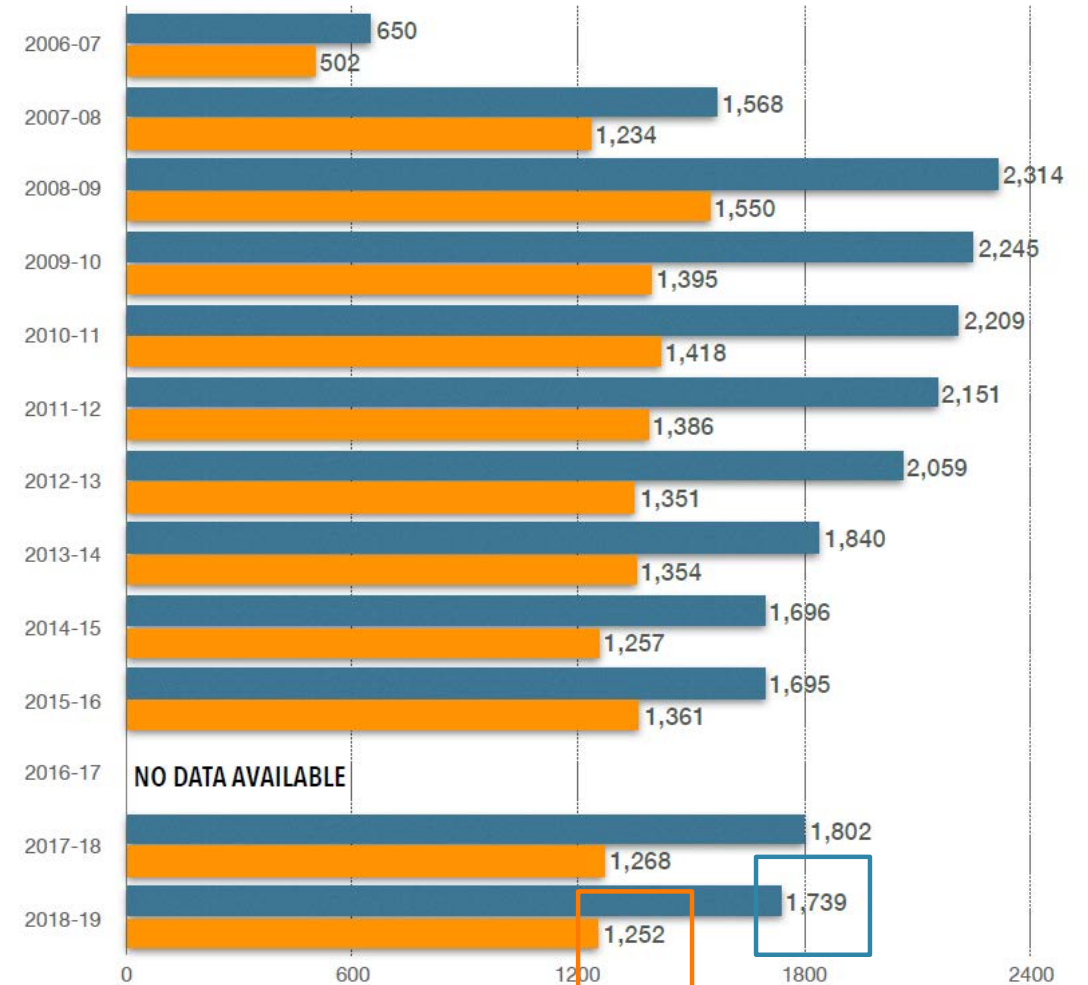
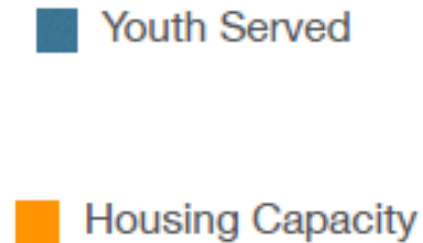
THP-NMD participants continue to be more likely to be female and increasingly Latino, with 1 in 6 youth supervised by Juvenile Probation.

THP-NMD Participant Characteristics as of July 1st

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
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

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Male	42%	42%	44%	44%	40%	44%	36%	39%
Female	58%	58%	56%	56%	60%	56%	64%	59%
Other								1%
Age 18-20	67%	52%	35%	18%	15%	13%	7%	2%
Age 21-24	33%	48%	65%	82%	85%	87%	93%	98%
LGBTQ	7%	8%	9%	11%	9%	10%	9%	12%

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Black	33%	34%	32%	38%	32%	32%	33%	35%
White	29%	27%	24%	28%	28%	22%	27%	25%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	2%	3%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Asian, Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Multi-Racial or Other	35%	34%	41%	32%	36%	44%	37%	37%
Hispanic Ethnicity	39%	38%	42%	40%	42%	46%	45%	42%
Formerly Juvenile Probation-Supervised	15%	15%	11%	11%	9%	6%	6%	7%

Other trends:

- Consistently more female participants than male
- Gradual decrease in participation among formerly probation-supervised youth

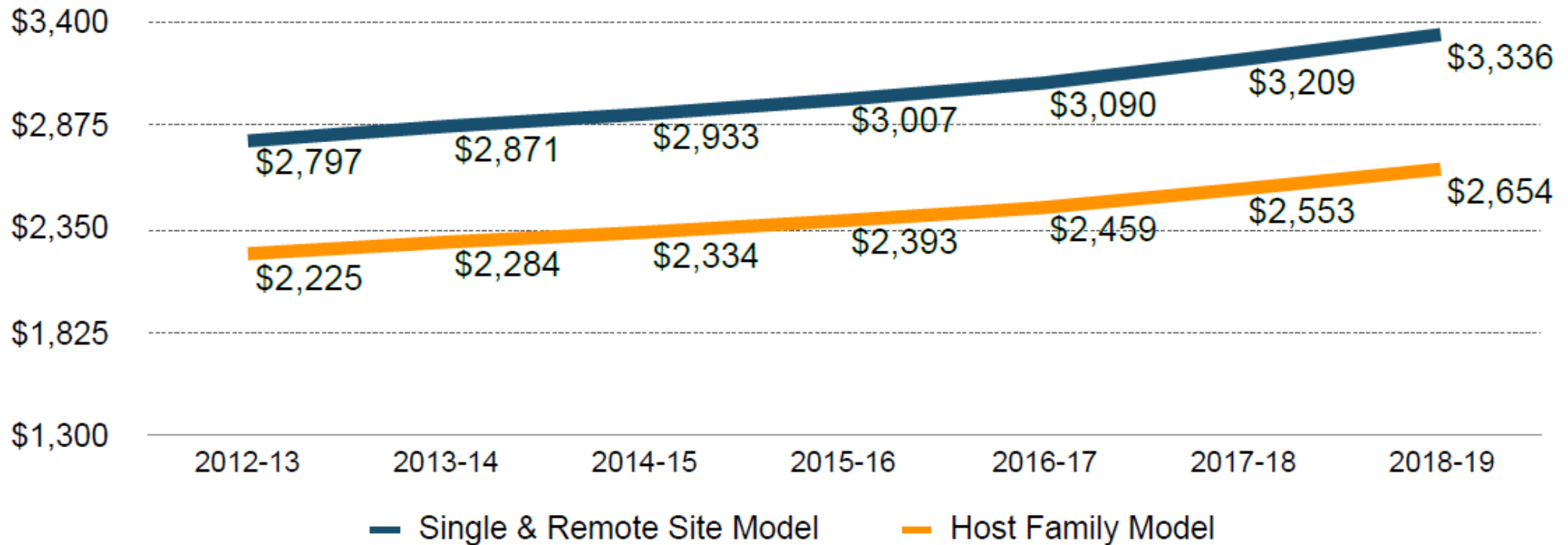


THP-NMD & THP-PLUS RATES

FINDINGS

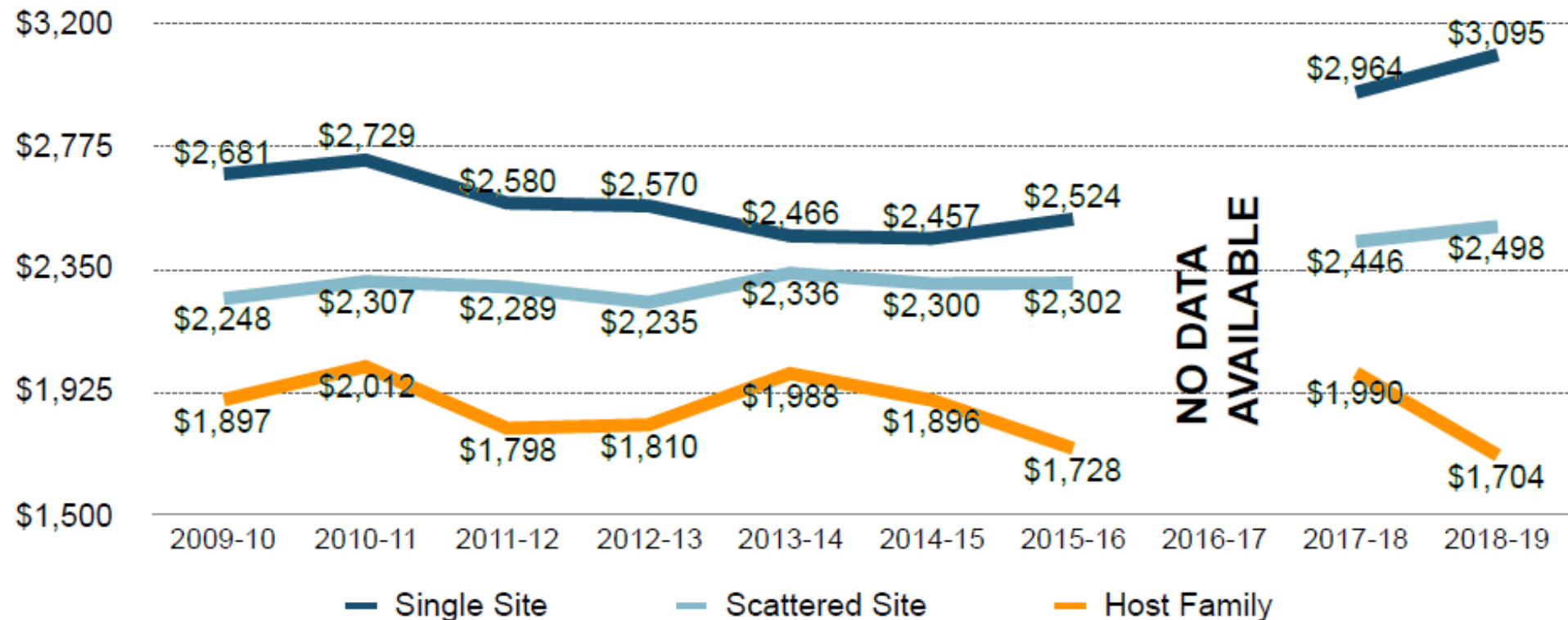
The statewide THP-NMD rate increased by 4% as required by statute.

Statewide Monthly THP-NMD Rate Per Youth



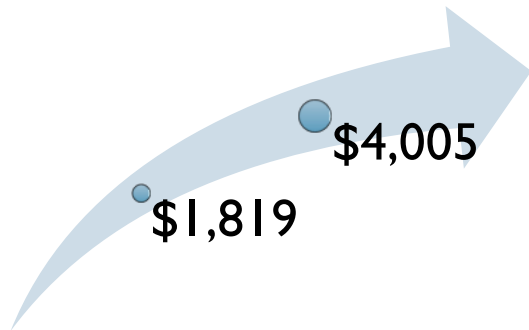
The average monthly rate paid per youth by counties to THP-Plus providers for the single site housing model has increased, for scattered site has remained relatively unchanged, and for host family has decreased.

THP-Plus Average Monthly Rates Per Youth

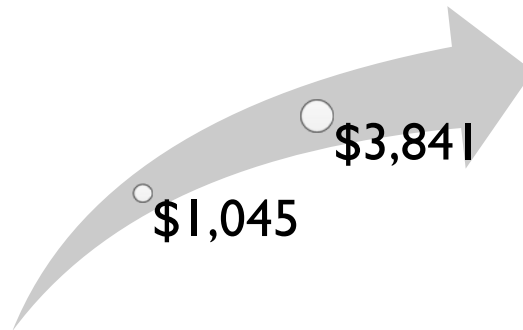


THP-Plus rates continue to vary considerably across the state.

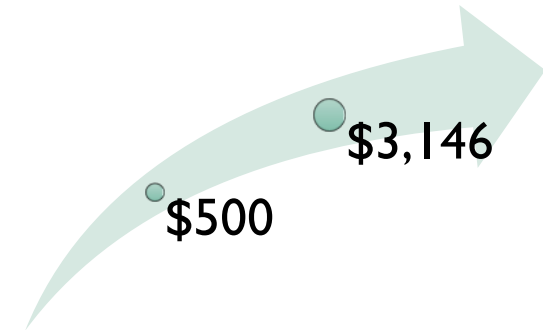
Single Site



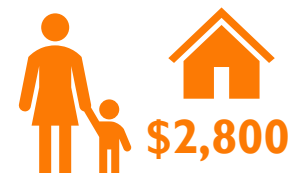
Scattered Site



Host Family

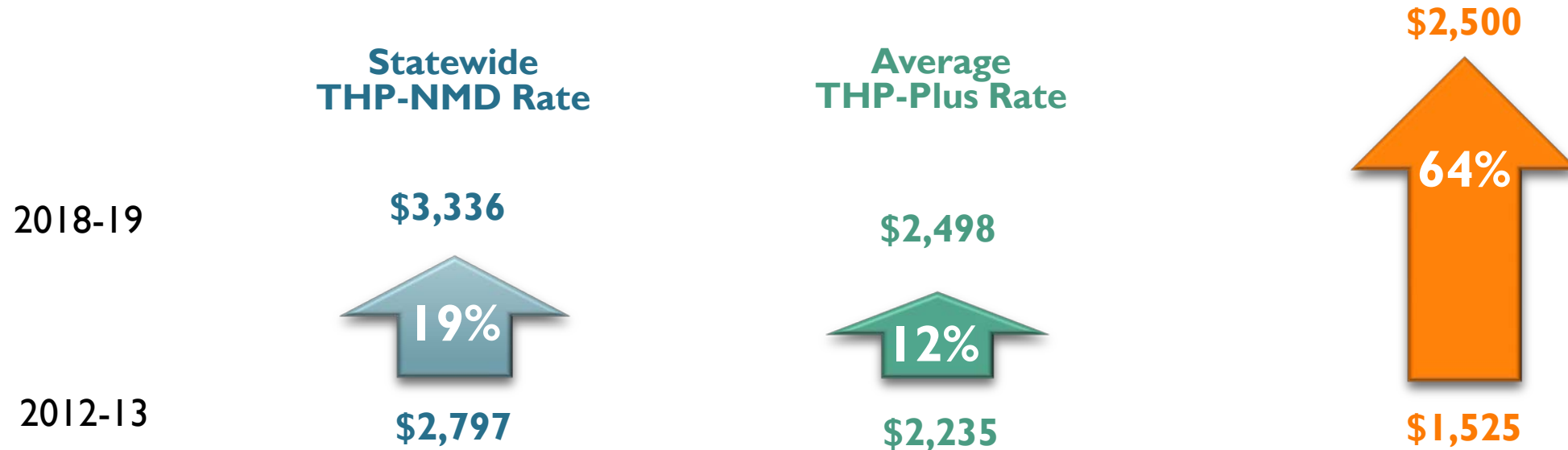


Santa Clara County offers a parenting rate



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.

Average Cost of Renting Two-Bedroom Apartment in CA



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

Strategies to Manage or Offset Cost	% of Providers that Report Utilizing these Strategies
Privately fundraise	27%
Offset cost using other contractual resources	27%
Reduce the level of supportive services	19%
Limit the number of higher-needs youth	27%
Rent housing in areas that are lower-cost	25%
At least one of the above strategies	64%

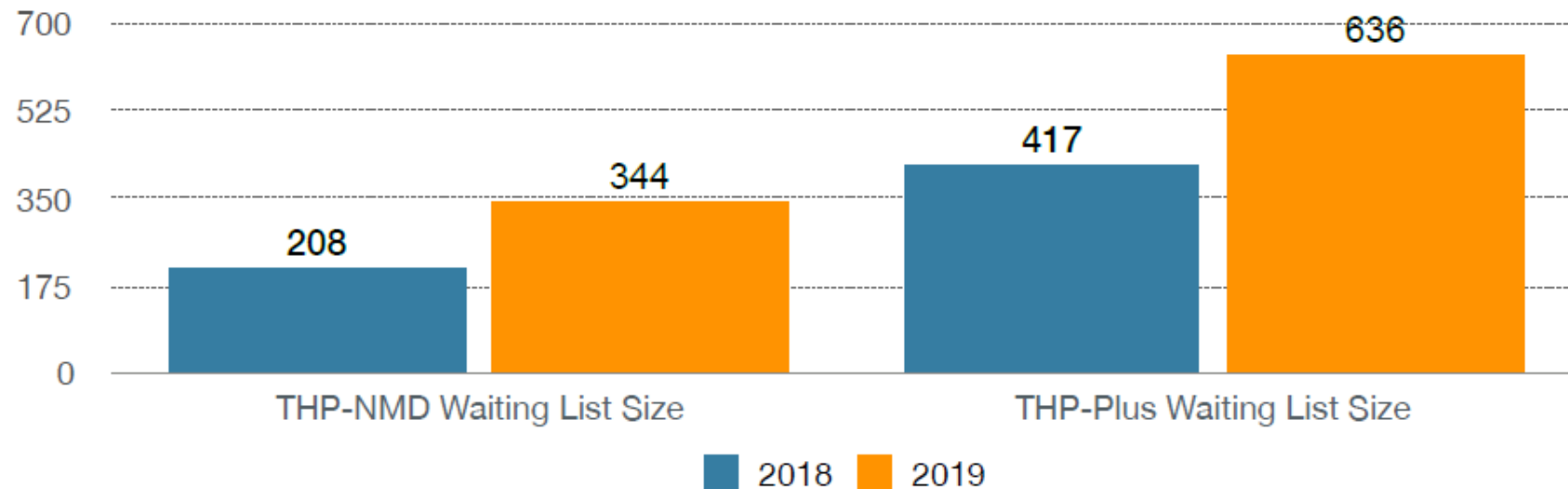


HOUSING ENTRANCE & EXIT

FINDINGS

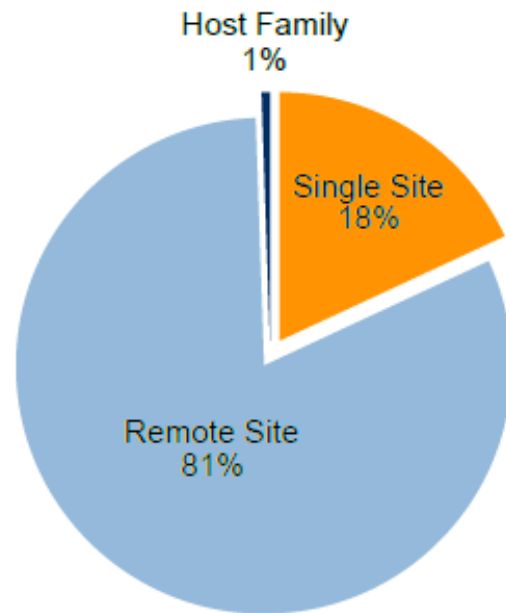
The number of youth waiting for THP-NMD increased 64% and the number waiting for THP-Plus increased 53% since the previous year.

Number of Youth on Waiting Lists for THP-NMD & THP-Plus as of June 30, 2019

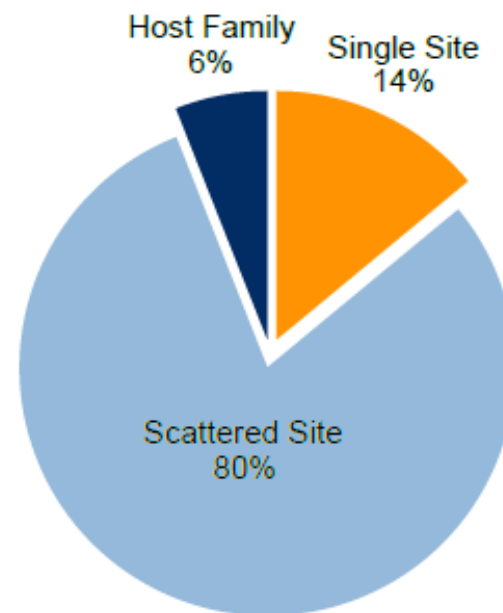


The remote/scattered site model is the most prevalent housing model in both THP-NMD and THP-Plus.

Capacity by Housing Model, FY 2018-19



THP-NMD



THP-Plus

LIVING SETTINGS AT ENTRANCE AND EXIT

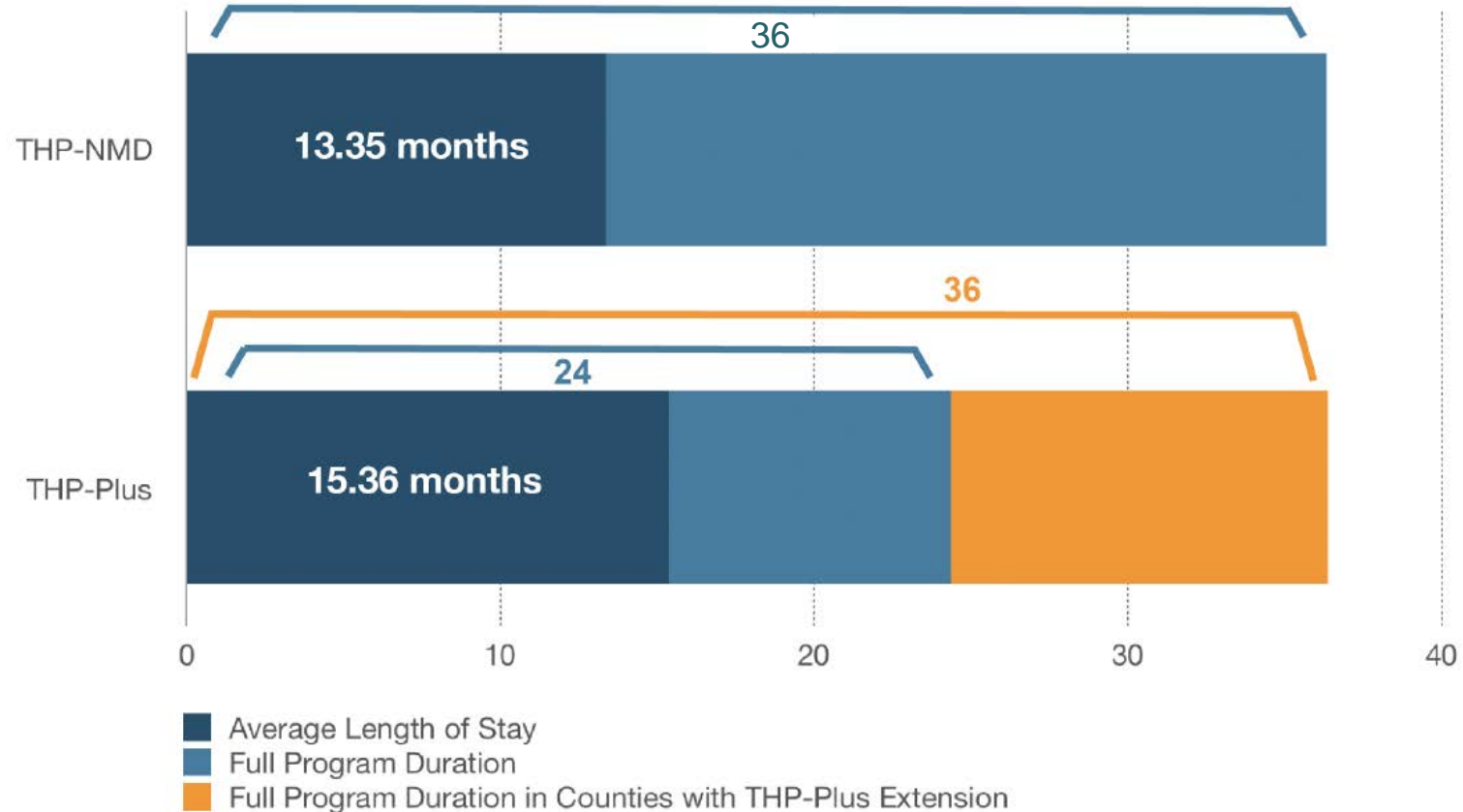
Youth who Exited During FY 2018-19

- 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.

Housing Type	THP-NMD		THP-Plus	
	Youth Entered from this Living Setting	Youth Exited to this Living Setting	Youth Entered from this Living Setting	Youth Exited to this Living Setting
A THP-Plus Program	1%	16%	4%	2%
A THP-NMD Program	5%	8%	14%	1%
Supervised Independent Living Placement	11%	9%	0%	0%
Foster care placement other than THP-NMD or SILP	45%	2%	4%	0%
Other supportive transitional housing program	1%	4%	6%	5%
Renting own / shared housing (paying rent)	3%	17%	32%	52%
Living with relative / other person in stable housing (free rent)	20%	26%	18%	24%
Emergency shelter, homeless, or other unstable housing (street, car, couch-surfing, etc.)	8%	9%	15%	6%
Incarcerated	1%	3%	1%	2%
College dorm	1%	0%	1%	1%
Other	2%	6%	5%	7%

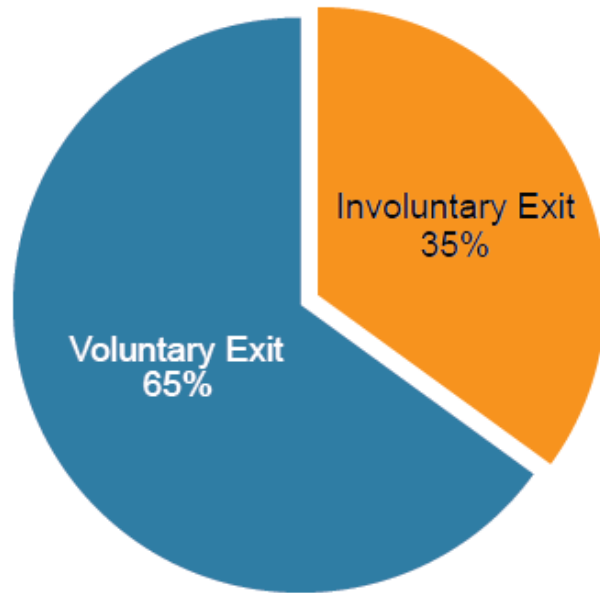
In both programs, the average length of stay is far shorter than the amount of time youth may access the programs.

Average Length of Stay vs. Full Program Duration, Youth Who Exited Over FY 2018-19

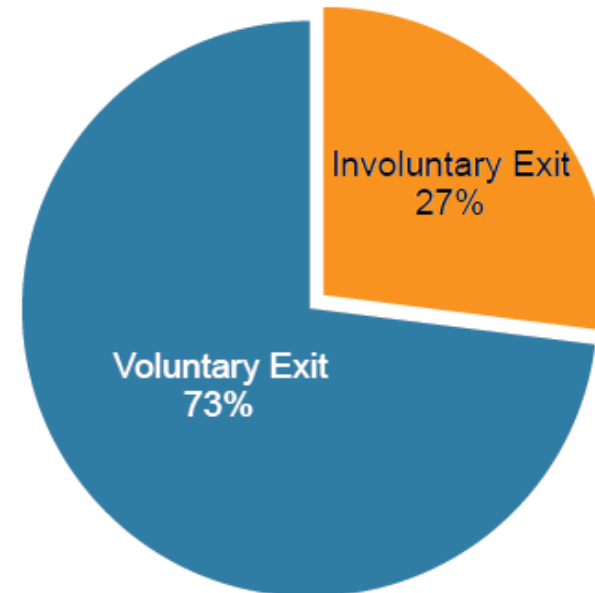


More than 1 in 3 youth in THP-NMD and more than 1 in 4 youth in THP-Plus exited the program on an involuntary basis.

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



THP-NMD



THP-Plus



EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT & INCOME

FINDINGS

HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION RATES

- 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.

Educational Status	THP-NMD		THP-Plus	
	Entrance	Exit	Entrance	Exit
Youth has not earned their high school diploma, GED or high school equivalent or higher	30%	21%	14%	12%
Youth has earned their high school diploma, GED or high school equivalent or higher	70%	79%	86%	88%

In both THP-NMD and THP-Plus, youth did not make collective progress in post-secondary education during their time in the program.

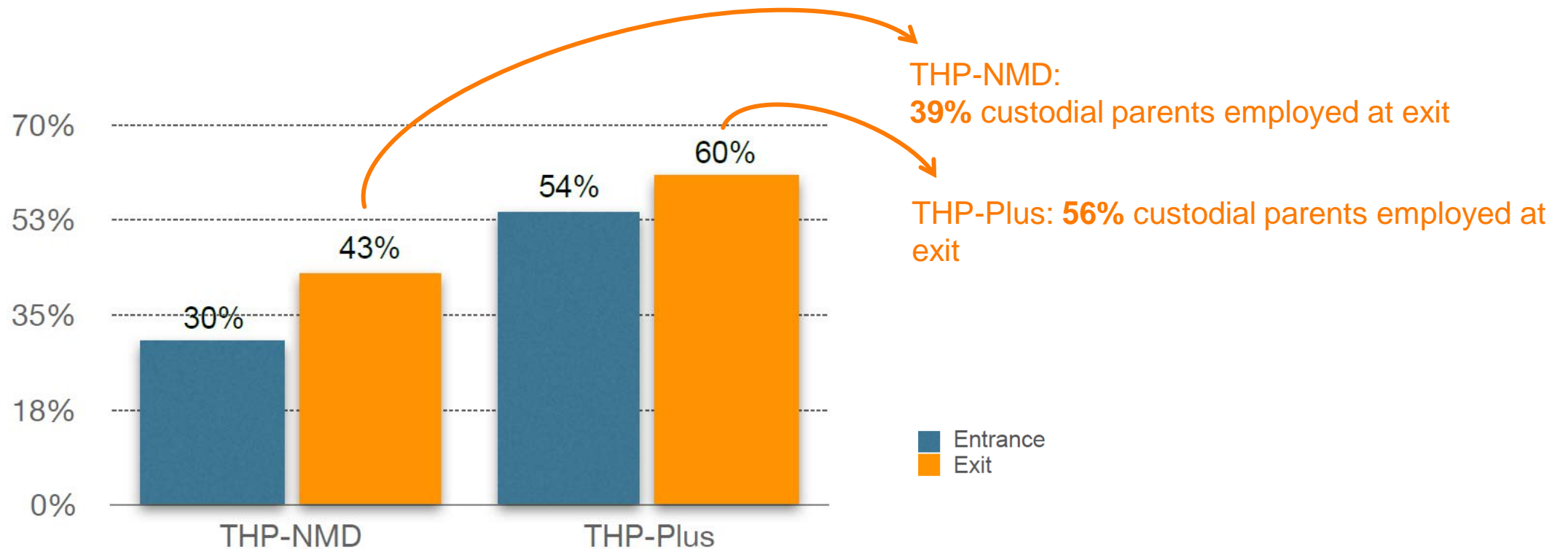
Post-Secondary Education Attendance & Completion Rates
Youth Who Exited Over FY 2018-19

Educational Status	THP-NMD		THP-Plus	
	Entrance	Exit	Entrance	Exit
Attending two-year community college	22%	21%	19%	18%
Received AA/AS, certificate or license from two-year community college	0%	1%	2%	2%
Attending four-year college/university	2%	1%	5%	3%
Received BA/BS	0%	0%	1%	3%

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.



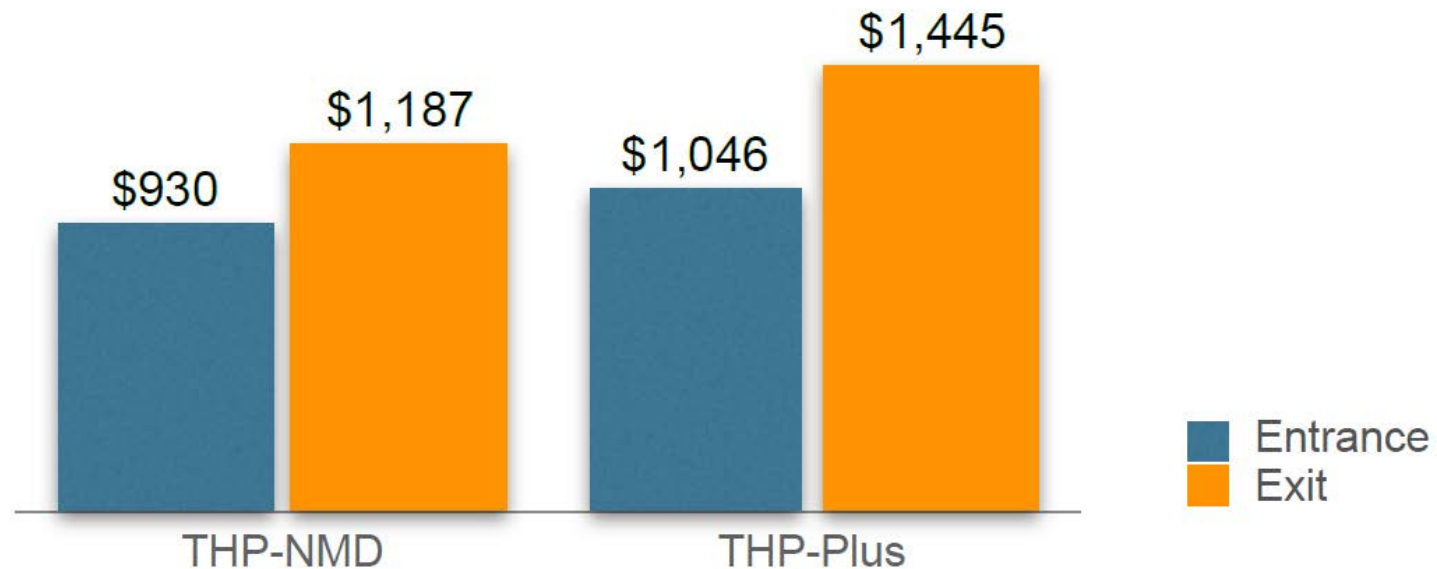
Employed youth experienced a 9% increase in hourly wage during their time in the program, however are still earning just above the state's minimum wage at exit.

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

	THP-NMD		THP-Plus	
	% of Employed Youth Working these Hours	Average Annual Earnings	% of Employed Youth Working these Hours	Average Annual Earnings
Working full-time (35-40 hours/week)	36%	\$23,397-\$26,739	56%	\$24,857-\$28,407
Working part-time (10-34 hours/week)	56%	\$6,685-\$22,728	40%	\$7,102-\$24,146
Working part-time (1-9 hours/week)	8%	\$668-\$6,016	3%	\$710-\$6,392

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.



HEALTH & WELL-BEING

FINDINGS

HEALTH INSURANCE & SPECIAL SERVICES



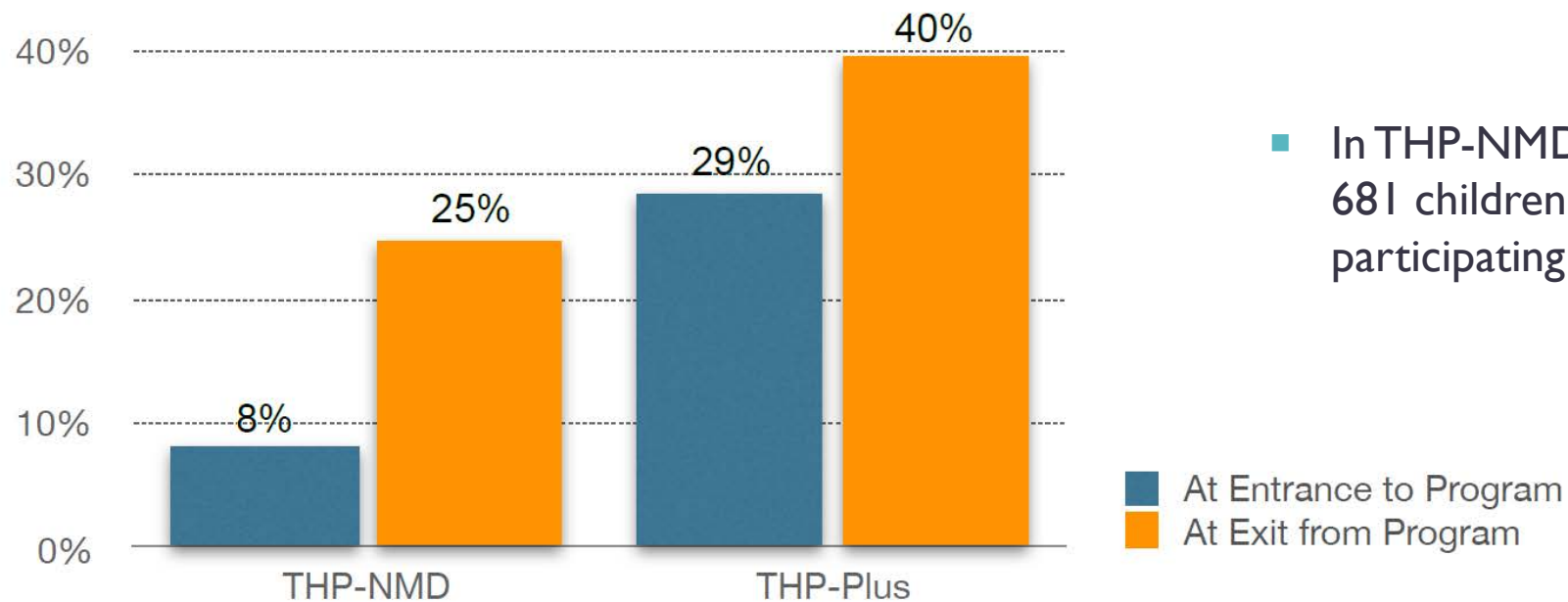
Almost all youth (99%) in THP-Plus were enrolled in health insurance upon exit from the program.



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

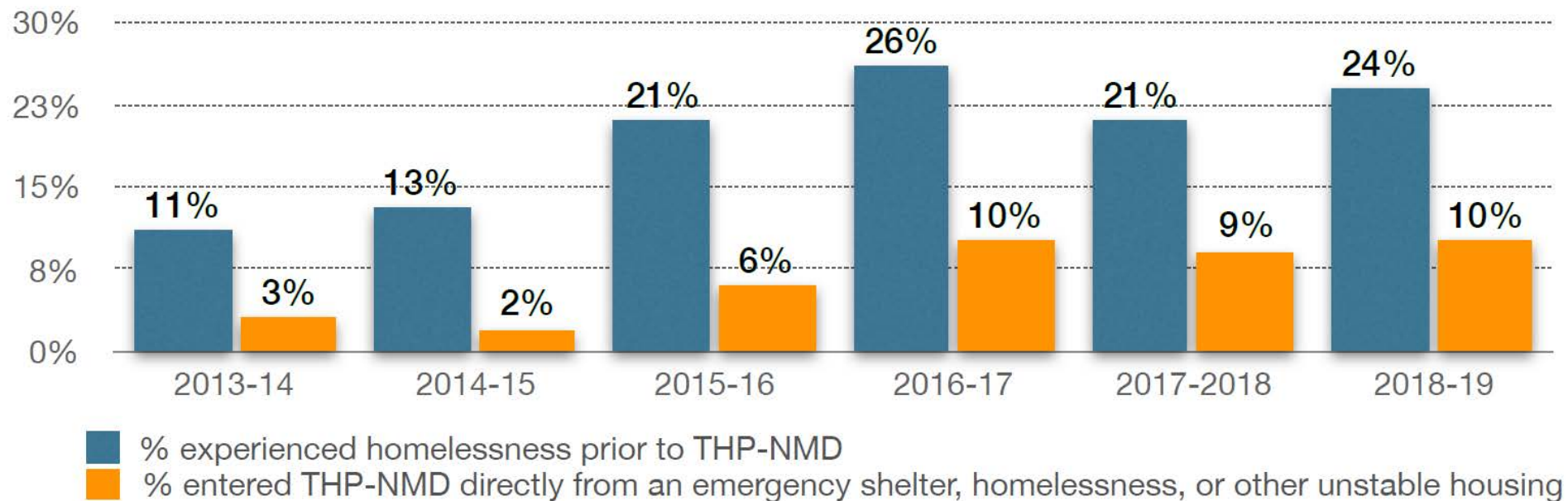
Percentage of Female Participants Who Were Custodial Mothers *Youth Who Exited Over FY 2018-19*



- 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.

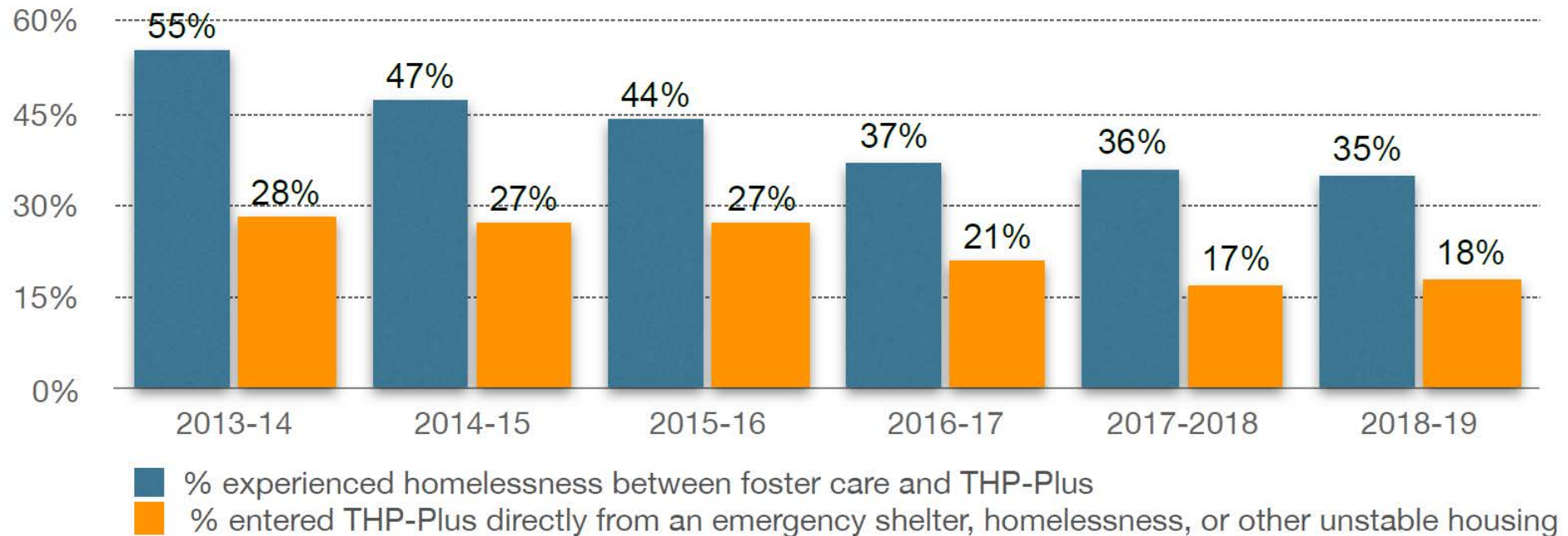
Nearly 1 in 4 youth experienced homelessness while in foster care, prior to entering THP-NMD.

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



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



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

	THP-NMD		THP-Plus	
	Eligible at Entrance	Eligible at Exit	Eligible at Entrance	Eligible at Exit
Youth without custodial children	94%	68%	65%	50%
Youth with custodial children	81%	72%	78%	67%

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/>

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.
- Learn more / support here:
<https://www.jbaforyouth.org/sb860/> and
<https://www.jbaforyouth.org/nextup-bill/>

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/>

JOIN US THIS 2020 TAX SEASON

To Ensure Transition Age Youth File Taxes and Receive the Full Cash Back Credits they are Eligible for

John Burton Advocates for Youth (JBAY) invites you to partner with us this upcoming tax season to support youth in care with filing taxes and claiming the expanded California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC), a cash-back tax credit that puts money back into the pockets of California's working families and individuals.



More than 600,000 young adults in California, including current and former foster youth, are expected to qualify for the CalEITC this tax season. This could mean hundreds or thousands of dollars in tax refunds for transition age youth in care. With the support of trusted adults and free tax preparation services, these refunds can help young adults cover necessary expenses.

HERE ARE THE THINGS YOU CAN DO THIS UPCOMING TAX SEASON



1. JOIN THE CALEITC WEBINAR ON JAN 30

JBAY and the California Franchise Tax Board will host a webinar to discuss recent changes to the CalEITC and strategies to support transition age youth (TAY) in filing taxes and claiming the credit. [REGISTER HERE](#).



2. TAKE THE PLEDGE

Join the movement to spread awareness about the CalEITC with youth in care and support them in filing their taxes. By **taking the pledge**, you'll have access to resources and tools to help you with this effort.



3. DISTRIBUTE AND POST TAX MATERIALS

Share JBAY's CalEITC publication and one pager for youth, or visit the California's Franchise Tax Board and CalEITCforMe websites for resources and materials to raise awareness about available tax credits.



4. TALK WITH YOUTH AND CONNECT THEM TO FREE TAX PREP SERVICES

Get the conversation started, help young workers get their paperwork together, inform them and get them connected to **free tax preparation services**.



5. PLAN OR PROMOTE A TAX PREP EVENT

Work with local community partners to host or promote tax prep events so that youth in care can get connected to **CalEITC4me** and local **VITA** tax prep centers and resources to file taxes free of charge.