



L.A. OPPORTUNITY YOUTH COLLABORATIVE

DCFS 101: What You Need to Know to Serve and Engage Foster Youth
February 10, 2022 | 10 am - 11:30 am

Access the recording [here](#) - Access the youth panel video [here](#)
Access the presentation slides [here](#)

Brought to you by:

- Jenny Serrano, Department of Children and Family Services
serraj@dcfs.lacounty.gov
- Maria Turrubiarres, CA Department of Rehabilitation
maria.turrubiarres@dor.ca.gov
- Ena Volic, Transition Age Youth Collaborative
ena@tayatwork.org
- Melanie G. Ferrer-Vaughn, LA Opportunity Youth Collaborative
melanie@laoyc.org

We appreciate your feedback and ideas for future topics, please complete the [evaluation](#) for DCFS 101 [here](#).

Questions and Answers

- What does ILP stand for?
 - [Independent Living Program](#)
- What can we do on our side from the AJCC to make sure we are serving high priority youth?
 - You can use the ARS referrals with the youth that DCFS sends to you. All of those youth are high priority. There is a large campaign in place to ensure that all youth referred via the ARS system are immediately contacted and offered the opportunity to participate and that sites who are not able to reach the youth referred communicate that back to DCFS to ensure that we connect back with the youth.
- Are there any available after care resources or support for youth who have aged out of care (24+ population)?
 - Unfortunately, for the 24+ population, the child welfare community doesn't offer much. Those young adults can be connected to general services for everyone, such as DPSS/food banks/shelters/211, etc.
- Do you partner with organizations like Dress for Success and Clothes the Deal for interview/work related clothing?



L.A. OPPORTUNITY YOUTH COLLABORATIVE

- We have hundreds of partnerships, but for work clothing, we provide funding and then rely on your centers to connect them to resources in their area if additional clothing is needed.
- How does the process of supporting youth with vocational training, tools, etc work? Does DCFS pay directly to schools or whatever the direct need is? Do the youth connect with their social worker for these requests?
 - For ILP funding, we can pay youth directly or directly to the vendor (training program, driving school, etc.). The youth will work with their Transition Coordinator to gather the documents needed and make the request for funds. Please contact Jenny Serrano to find out who the Coordinator is if the youth don't know.
- Is there an update system to update when a youth completes or stops working (i.e.. like if they move out of the area)?
 - The ARS is just a referral system and essentially stops at enrollment. WDACS may provide other updates internally, but it is not a part of the ARS system.
- Until what age are youth ILP eligible?
 - Youth are ILP eligible from age 16 (one day after) through their 21st birthday (one day before).
- What about Probation Youth?
 - Probation youth have their own category/funding/slots. There is a small subset of probation youth (about 500) who are in placements that are paid for by DCFS, so they show up in our system, but they are not foster youth. Ideally, they should not be enrolled in a foster slot.

Additional Resources

- [Universal Referral Form](#)
- DCFS has teamed up with the John Burton Advocates for Youth, Coalition for Responsible Community Development, The Community College Foundation and we have a tax prep and filing pilot - a VITA site just for foster youth! So, if you have foster youth ages 18-24 that need to file taxes - send them our way! [Access Info Here](#)
- Career Guides
 - [Youth Guide](#)
 - [Caregiver Guide](#)



L.A. OPPORTUNITY
YOUTH COLLABORATIVE

Upcoming Training and Events

- Wed Mar 9, 2022 at 9:30 am: [Substance Use Disorders in Youth: Services in LA County](#)
- Tues Mar 15, 2022 at 10 am: [Paid Job Training for Foster Youth with IEPs or 504 Plans](#)