



## California Foster Youth Pregnancy Prevention Institute Fact Sheet

### Overview of the Institute:

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy (The National Campaign) and American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) and the John Burton Foundation (JBF), with support from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation are partnering in an “Integration of Youth Pregnancy Prevention into County Foster Care Systems” project. The project partners are jointly presenting an Institute that combines learning from experts, peer-to-peer support, and intersession technical assistance to help teams from up to six California counties incorporate youth pregnancy prevention practices into their core programs for foster youth. The project’s ultimate goal is for practices that are customized for foster youth to become value-added components of day-to-day practice in child welfare agencies in California.

The Institute will help teams from up to six California counties incorporate pregnancy prevention strategies into the services they provide to youth in foster care. For counties who have initiated this work, the Institute is an opportunity to fully implement the work. The Institute will also help teams develop a county-specific policy regarding the reproductive health needs of youth in foster care.

### General Approach:

The Institute will bring together up to six teams of 3-5 individuals from county public child welfare systems for an exclusive, intensive, and customized development experience. Participating teams will learn to use models, tools, and methods from the following resources:

- Pregnancy prevention programs customized for a foster youth population;
- Change Management national guidance developed by state and local public agency leaders, child welfare researchers, academicians, and stakeholders as part of the Positioning Public Child Welfare Initiative ([ppcwg.org](http://ppcwg.org)); and,
- APHSA’s Organizational Effectiveness practice and the DAPIM™ approach to continuous improvement, developed through more than 75 continuous improvement projects in 30 states.

With facilitation from APHSA Organizational Effectiveness consultants and peer-to-peer support from other teams, Institute participants will make systematic, sustainable improvements in their agencies to improve outcomes for youth in and preparing to leave foster care. The Institute is designed to have the following impacts:

- Participating agencies will become more effective in their provision of youth pregnancy and STI prevention services which will lead foster youth to achieve better outcomes;
- Participants will use the models, tools, and methods they learn beyond this project to diagnose their agencies' problems, be proactive in assessing and planning for change, and drive sustainable, positive change in their agencies
- Participants will have the opportunity to develop a county policy regarding pregnancy prevention and reproductive health for youth in foster care.

During the course of the Institute, participating teams will be expected to do the following:

- Complete pre-work prior to attendance at the first session, including required reading and answering reflective thinking questions;
- Actively participate in three, 2-full day sessions conducted by the institute team, to be held in Los Angeles;
- With technical assistance from the institute team, complete substantial work between in-person sessions to apply models, tools, and methods learned during the Institute;
- Provide the evaluation team baseline data, process data, and ending data; and,
- Participate in the development of case studies to be conducted and written by the institute team on each of the participating counties.

The Institute is highly interactive and participants are expected to prepare and make a strong commitment to completing activities during the pre-work, in-person, and intersession phases of the Institute. In-person sessions will combine learning of new models, tools, and methods, hands-on team activities to plan and implement improvements to the agency's youth pregnancy prevention products and services, and peer-to-peer critiques and support.

Customized facilitation and other technical assistance throughout the duration of the Institute will be provided to the county at no cost. Support from the agency leadership is vital to the success of the Institute and expected through commitment of time and resources.

**Specific Activities:**

Institute activities are scheduled to begin in December 2014 and end in June 2015. Monitoring and evaluation activities with participants will continue through October 2015. The major activities of the Institute include three, two-full day working sessions in Los Angeles and a range of intersession work between the in-person sessions to include:

- Forming and briefing a Sponsor Group of senior agency leaders;
- Forming and leading a continuous improvement (CI) team of agency staff, partners, and/or clients;
- With the CI team and, where appropriate, smaller work teams, creating a series of

- change management work products; and,
- Implementing change plans to drive sustainable change.

The Sponsor Group should include those in positions of authority whose decisions regarding resources and strategy directly impact work to prevent foster youth from getting pregnant. Sponsor groups establish the expectations and set the roster and parameters by which improvement teams operate, ensure these teams have the time and resources they need, and provide ongoing direction and advice. The CI team should include staff from multiple departments and levels of the sponsoring agency and may also include staff from partnering public or private agencies and/or clients like foster youth or foster parents. CI teams work through a critical thinking process that best ensures new strategies will have the desired impact. Each team will be assigned an Institute staff liaison who will be their “go to” person for technical assistance throughout the Institute. The nature and extent of technical assistance will vary depending on each team’s needs and wants. Technical assistance may be in the form of on-site visits, phone conferences, and/or review of draft written work products and is provided at no cost to the agency.

The Institute is scheduled for the following dates. All agency team members are expected to attend each date. We are planning for all sessions to be held in Los Angeles.

Activity	In-Person Sessions
Day 1 and Day 2	December 8-9, 2014
Day 3 and Day 4	February 26-27, 2015
Day 5 and Day 6	April 20-21, 2015

**Participants:**

Up to six county teams will be selected to participate in the Institute. Each team will consist of three to five participants from that county’s child welfare agency. All agency team members are expected to attend each in-person working session. Each team will be sponsored by a county public child welfare agency. Only one application from a county agency will be accepted. Successful applications will demonstrate readiness and commitment to implement the program to improve outcomes for youth in and preparing to leave foster care.

A selection committee comprised of representatives from the National Campaign, APHSA, the John Burton Foundation and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation will review the applications. The Institute will cover the costs of the Institute, lodging and food for the participants. The sponsoring agency is expected to cover airfare and ground transportation costs for the participants.

**Institute Partners:**

With generous financial assistance from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the following organizations have partnered to develop the Institute:

### *National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy*

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy seeks to improve the lives and future prospects of children and families. Its specific strategy is to prevent teen pregnancy and unplanned pregnancy among single, young adults. The National Campaign supports a combination of responsible values and behavior by both men and women and responsible policies in both the public and private sectors. It believes that if it is successful, child and family well-being will improve. The National Campaign was founded in 1996.

### *APHSA*

The American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) is a nonprofit, bipartisan agency of state and local human service agencies and individuals who work in or are interested in public human service programs. APHSA's mission is to develop and promote policies and practices that improve the health and well-being of families, children and adults. APHSA educates Congress, the media and the general public on social policies and practices and help state and local public human service agencies achieve their desired outcomes in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, child care, child support, Medicaid, food stamps, child welfare and other program areas and issues that affect families, the elderly and people who are economically disadvantaged.

### *John Burton Foundation for Children without Homes*

The John Burton Foundation for Children without Homes was founded in 2004 by retired President pro Tem of the California State Senate John Burton. The mission of the John Burton Foundation for Children is to improve the quality of life for homeless children and children and youth in California's foster care system. The principal activities of the John Burton Foundation include technical assistance and training, legislative and policy advocacy and research and analysis.

### **Institute Timeline:**

- Potential Institute Applicants Webinar: September 3, 2014
- Informational Application Conference Call: September 23, 2014
- Application Deadline: October 15, 2014
- Selection Announcement: October 29, 2014
- In-person Institute Sessions: December 8-9, 2014  
February 26-27, 2015  
April 20-21, 2015
- Monitoring and Evaluation Period: June 2015 to October 2015

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