

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



November 21, 2001

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-101-01

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order
- Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- Initiated by CDSS

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS**SUBJECT:** SURVEY OF HOUSING NEEDS OF EMANCIPATED FOSTER/PROBATION YOUTH

The California Department of Social Services is conducting a survey to evaluate the housing needs of emancipated foster/probation youth. This survey will provide information that will assist the state in developing viable methods for providing safe and affordable housing for these youth and for producing favorable outcomes for California's former foster/probation children.

Many counties are already developing a variety of housing programs specifically designed for these young people. The Governor recently passed Assembly Bill 427 (2001-2002) which provides state funds for housing for emancipated foster/probation youth. Grant money is also available through programs such as California Department of Housing and Community Development, California Housing Finance Agency, Housing and Urban Development and other public and private organizations.

The information acquired through this survey includes the number of emancipated youth in need of safe and affordable housing; the types, number, and location of housing programs currently available for these youth; and the types and number of housing programs still needed.

This survey was presented to the County Welfare Directors Association's Children's Operational Implementation Committee and the Children's ILSP Committee on November 14, 2001. County representatives in attendance expressed their support for the survey and were encouraged to know this important information is being collected for county use.

Please complete the survey on or before December 28, 2001 and return in the enclosed envelope or FAX to:

Chris Forté, Transitional Housing Coordinator
California Department of Social Services
Youth Programs & Policy Bureau
744 P Street, MS 19-70
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 327-8958
FAX: (916) 445-9874

Should you have any questions regarding this survey you may contact Sonya St. Mary, Manager, Independent Living Program Policy Unit, at (916) 445-7001 or Chris Forté at the address listed above.

Sincerely,

***Original Document
Signed By***

SYLVIA PIZZINI
Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division

Attachments

FOR INTERNAL
USE ONLY



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

YOUTH PROGRAMS AND POLICY BUREAU

SURVEY OF THE HOUSING NEEDS OF EMANCIPATED FOSTER/PROBATION YOUTH

COUNTY: _____ COUNTY CODE: _____

NAME OF PERSON
COMPLETING SURVEY: _____
(Please print.)

TITLE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ DATE: _____

CONTACT PERSON FOR QUESTIONS: _____
(If different than above. Please print.)

TELEPHONE: _____

Please return by December 28, 2001 to:

California Department of Social Services
Youth Programs and Policy Bureau
Independent Living Program Policy Unit
744 P Street M.S. 19-70
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attention: Chris Forte

You may also FAX to: (916) 445-9874.

SURVEY STARTS HERE

PART A - EMANCIPATED FOSTER/PROBATION YOUTH

1. Enter the approximate number of emancipated foster/probation youth who emancipated during the period of July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001.	
2. Enter the approximate number of foster/probation youth who emancipated from your county foster care system during the period of July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001 who were in need of safe and affordable housing.	
3. Enter the approximate number of other emancipated foster/probation youth (those who have migrated to your county or those who previously left foster care that are not included in Question 2) in need of safe and affordable housing during the period of July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001.	

PART B - HOUSING PROGRAMS FOR EMANCIPATED FOSTER/PROBATION YOUTH

1. Did your county administer any of the following program(s) during the period of July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001?

- If Yes , check Code 01. From the list below, please indicate the program(s) administered in your county and go to Question 1a.....	01	
■ Host Families		
- vacation or holiday		
- 19-21 in high school		
- college or vocational school		
■ Foster/Probation Youth Student Housing and Dormitories		
■ Housing Opportunities Through the Acquisition of Houses, Duplexes, Apartment Buildings etc. by Public or Private Organization		
■ Transitional Housing Programs for Emancipated Foster/Probation Youth Which Provide a Range of Services and Guidance		
■ Boarding Houses		
■ Voucher Programs		
■ Other Housing Programs for Emancipated Foster/Probation Youth		
- If No , check Code 02 and go to Part C on Page 9.....	02	

2. Please provide information that applies to the housing program(s) you identified in Question 1.		Host Families			Dorms	Housing Opp.	Trans. Housing	Boarding House	Voucher Program	Other Prog.
		Vac/hldy	19-21 in HS	Coll/voc School						
Number of Host Families.....	01									
Number of housing units	02									
Number of housing programs with emancipation services	03									
Number of available beds	04									
Number of youth participants under 18 years of age.....	05									
Number of youth participants 18 years of age.	06									
Number of youth participants 19 years of age.	07									
Number of youth participants 20 (up to 21) years of age	08									
Number of youth participants with minor children	09									
Average monthly cost per youth participant....	10	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

3. Please indicate the funding source(s) for the housing program(s) you identified in Question 1. Check ALL that apply.		Host Families			Dorms	Housing Opp.	Trans. Housing	Boarding House	Voucher Program	Other Prog.
		Vac/hldy	19-21 in HS	Coll/Voc School						
Federal Title IV-E Maintenance.....	01									
Chafee ILP 30%.....	02									
US Department of Housing and Urban Development.....	03									
California Department of Corrections.....	04									
California Department of Mental Health	05									
California Department of Housing and Community Development.....	06									
CalWORKs Welfare to Work.....	07									
County Welfare Performance Incentive Funds.....	08									
Non-profit organization (please specify in the space below).....	09									
Grants (please specify in the space below)	10									
Participant's contribution (average monthly amount).....	11	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Unknown.....	98									
Other (please specify in the space below).....	99									

4. Please indicate the number of youth, by last foster care placement type, in the program(s) you identified in Question 1.		Host Families			Dorms	Housing Opp.	Trans. Housing	Boarding House	Voucher Program	Other Prog.
		Vac/hldy	19-21 in HS	Coll/Voc School						
Foster Family Home.....	01									
Foster Family Agency	02									
Transitional Housing Placement Program (THPP).....	03									
Relative	04									
Shelter Care.....	05									
Probation.....	06									
Medical/Mental Health Facility (please specify in the space below).....	07									
Group Home	08									
Homeless.....	09									
Unknown.....	98									
Other (please specify in the space below).....	99									

5. Do you anticipate the need for additional units/beds in the program(s) you identified in Question 1?		
- If Yes , check Code 01 and continue to Question 6.....	01	
- If No , check Code 02 and go to Part C on Page 9.....	02	

6. Please enter the number of anticipated additional units/beds needed in the program(s) you identified in Question 1 and continue to Part C.	<i>Host Families</i>			<i>Dorms</i>	<i>Housing Opp.</i>	<i>Trans. Housing</i>	<i>Boarding House</i>	<i>Voucher Program</i>	<i>Other Prog.</i>
	<i>Vac/hldy</i>	<i>19-21 in HS</i>	<i>Coll/Voc School</i>						

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

YOUTH PROGRAMS AND POLICY BUREAU

SURVEY OF THE HOUSING NEEDS OF EMANCIPATED FOSTER/PROBATION YOUTH

BACKGROUND

Studies across the nation indicate that between 24%¹ and 50 %² of former foster/probation youth become homeless within the first 18 months of emancipation. It is reported that 27%³ of the homeless population spent time in foster care. However, information regarding the number of youth emancipating yearly from foster care, a reference source of housing programs and opportunities available for them, or projections of future housing needs is not currently available.

In California, attempts to address the housing issues of the approximately 4,000 foster/probation youth who emancipate yearly indicate that information regarding the need for and the current availability of housing for these youths is fragmented, unreliable, and based on anecdote. A survey has been developed with the assistance of the Data Systems and Survey Design Bureau to obtain information necessary to facilitate the development of policy on housing for former foster/probation youth.

¹ Mark E. Courtney and Irving Pliavin, Foster Youth Transitions to Adulthood: Outcomes 12 to 18 Months After Leaving Out-of-Home Care (Madison, WI) University of Wisconsin, 1998.

² Grand Jury Orange County, 1999-2000 Final Report, "Orange County Is Not Camelot For Emancipated Youth."

³ M. & Aron Burt (1999), Homelessness Programs and the People they Serve: Summary Report Finding of the National Survey of Homeless Assistance Providers and Clients. Washington, DC Urban Institute.

INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete the survey by **December 28, 2001** and return to:

California Department of Social Services
Youth Programs and Policy Bureau
Independent Living Program Policy Unit
744 P Street, M.S. 19-70
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attention: Chris Forte

You may also FAX to (916) 445-9874.

If you have any questions or need assistance in completing the survey, please call Chris Forte of the Youth Programs and Policy Bureau at (916) 327-8958.

Part A – Emancipated Foster/Probation Youth

Is intended to determine the approximate number (derived from formal and informal data including county reports and conversations with knowledgeable parties) of emancipated foster/probation youth in need of safe and affordable housing during the period of **July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001**. Safe and affordable housing is defined as an adequate residence within one's financial means. It does not include publicly supervised or privately operated shelter that provides temporary arrangement for accommodation to other persons, friends, and family members. It also excludes public or private places not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping area. You will be asked to provide the following:

- The approximate number of emancipated foster/probation youth who emancipated during the period of July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001.
- The approximate number of foster/probation youth who emancipated from your county foster care system during the period of July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001 who were in need of safe and affordable housing.
- The approximate number of other emancipated foster/probation youth who have migrated to your county or those who previously left foster care in need of affordable housing during the period of July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001.

Part B – Housing Programs for Emancipated Foster/Probation Youth

Is intended to gather information regarding the following housing programs that were administered in your county during the period of **July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001**:

- **Host Families** - Adults or families rent bedrooms in their homes to youth who enjoy use of common rooms and prepare meals, do laundry and other housekeeping tasks. They are allowed a maximum amount of freedom, usually in accordance with a contractual agreement between the parties.
- **Foster/Probation Youth Student Housing and Dormitories** - Student rooms, apartments or shared housing on or near college campuses.
- **Housing Opportunities Through the Acquisition of Houses, Duplexes, Apartment Buildings etc. by Public or Private Organization** - Apartments or houses acquired by agencies or youth in which they function independently with financial support, training, or some monitoring. This includes roommate and shared housing arrangements.
- **Transitional Housing Programs for Emancipated Foster/Probation Youth Which Provide a Range of Services and Guidance** - Agency-acquired apartments and houses where participants live alone or with roommates. The agency provides supervision and a broad range of emancipation services.
- **Boarding Houses** - Youth live in individual rooms, share common areas, usually cook their own meals and do their own laundry with very little supervision.
- **Voucher Programs** - Section 8, tenant-based rental assistance certificates and vouchers used by youth to pay partial rent on existing privately owned rental housing of their choice.
- **Other Housing Programs for Emancipated Foster/Probation Youth**

Part C – Future Housing Programs For Emancipated Foster/Probation Youth

Is intended to gather information regarding housing programs your county plans to administer in the future.

Part D – Comments

Is intended to obtain additional comments you may have.