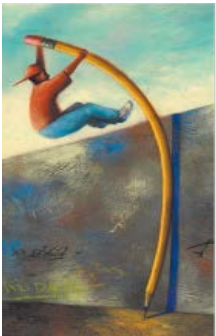


AB 2668: Supporting Parenting Foster Youth by Providing Emotional and Financial Support

John Burton Foundation

Children's Law Center of California

Tuesday, October 20, 2015



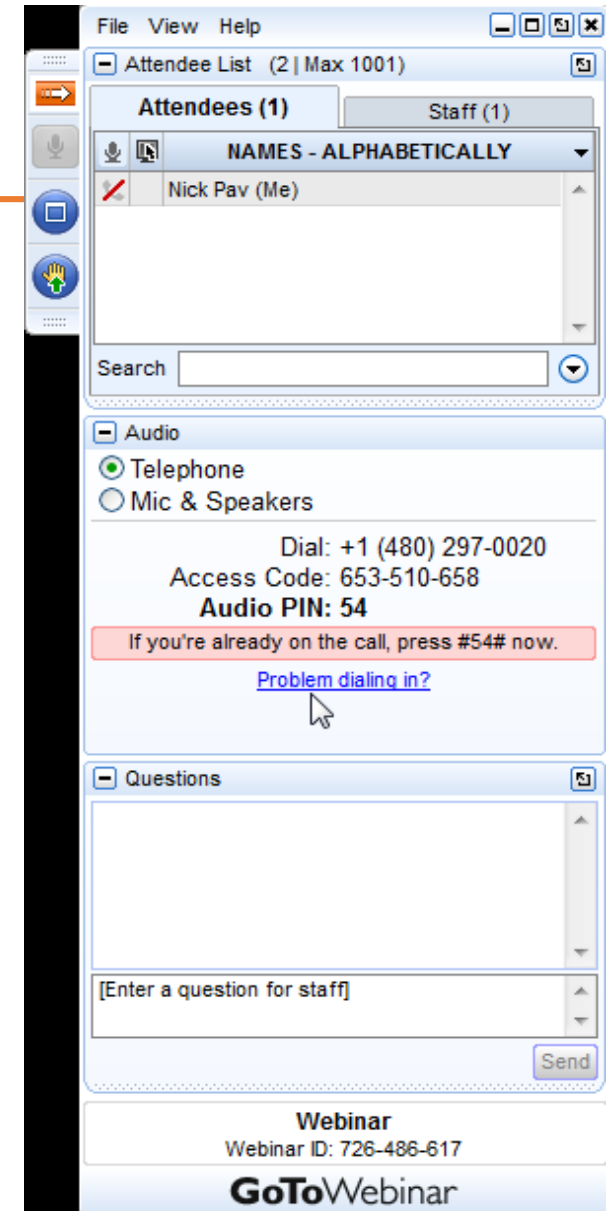
**JOHN
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WITHOUT HOMES



Children's Law Center
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Information to Participate

- Call-in number is 1 (646) 558-2121 and access code is 856-683-517.
- Presentation materials and audio will be posted at:
 - www.cafosteringconnections.org
 - www.clccal.org
- To submit live questions, click on the “Questions” panel, type your question, and click “Send”



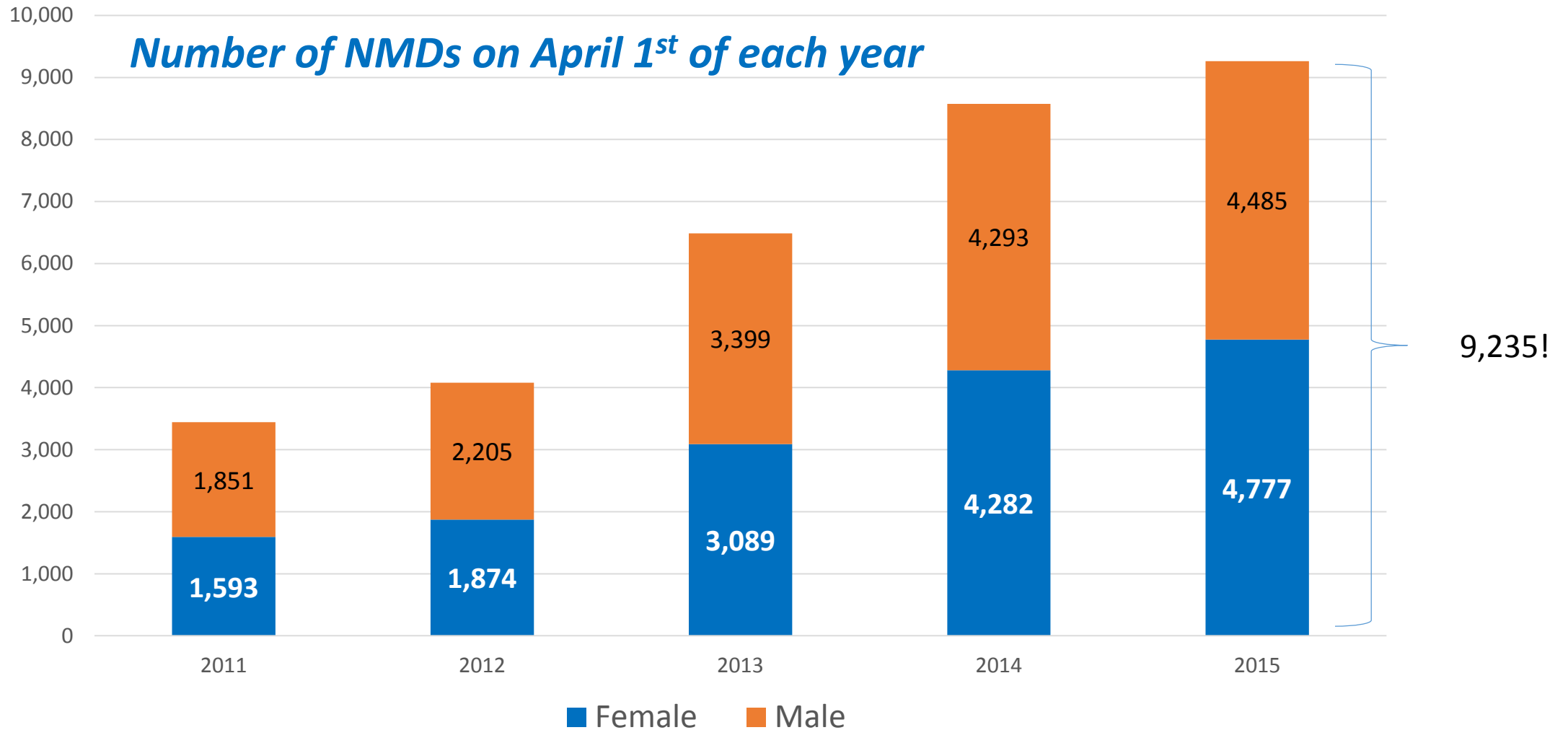
Agenda

- Rationale for Policy
- Legislative History of AB 2668
- Who is Eligible to Receive \$200 Supplement?
- Elements of a Parenting Support Plan
- Who is Eligible to be a Mentor?
- How to Pick an Adult Mentor
- Outreach to Youth in a SILP
- Question and Answers

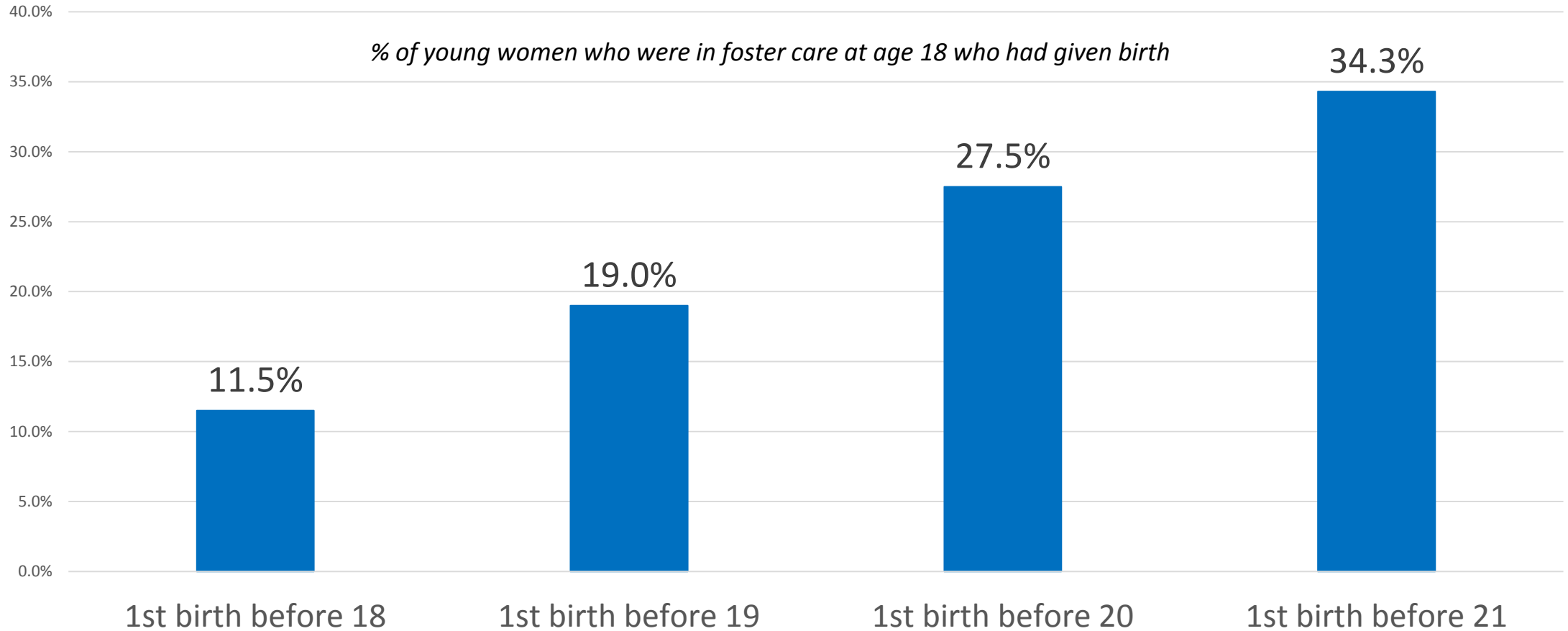
Panelists

- Amy Lemley, John Burton Foundation
- Sue Abrams, Children's Law Center of California
- Jennifer Lorson, Children's Law Center of California
- Miranda Sheffield, Peer Advocate at Children's Law Center of California
- Elisia Jenkins, Adult Supporter
- Daisy Braxton, California Department of Social Services
- Kelly Walker, California Department of Social Services

The Number of Older Youth in Foster Care has Increased Considerably



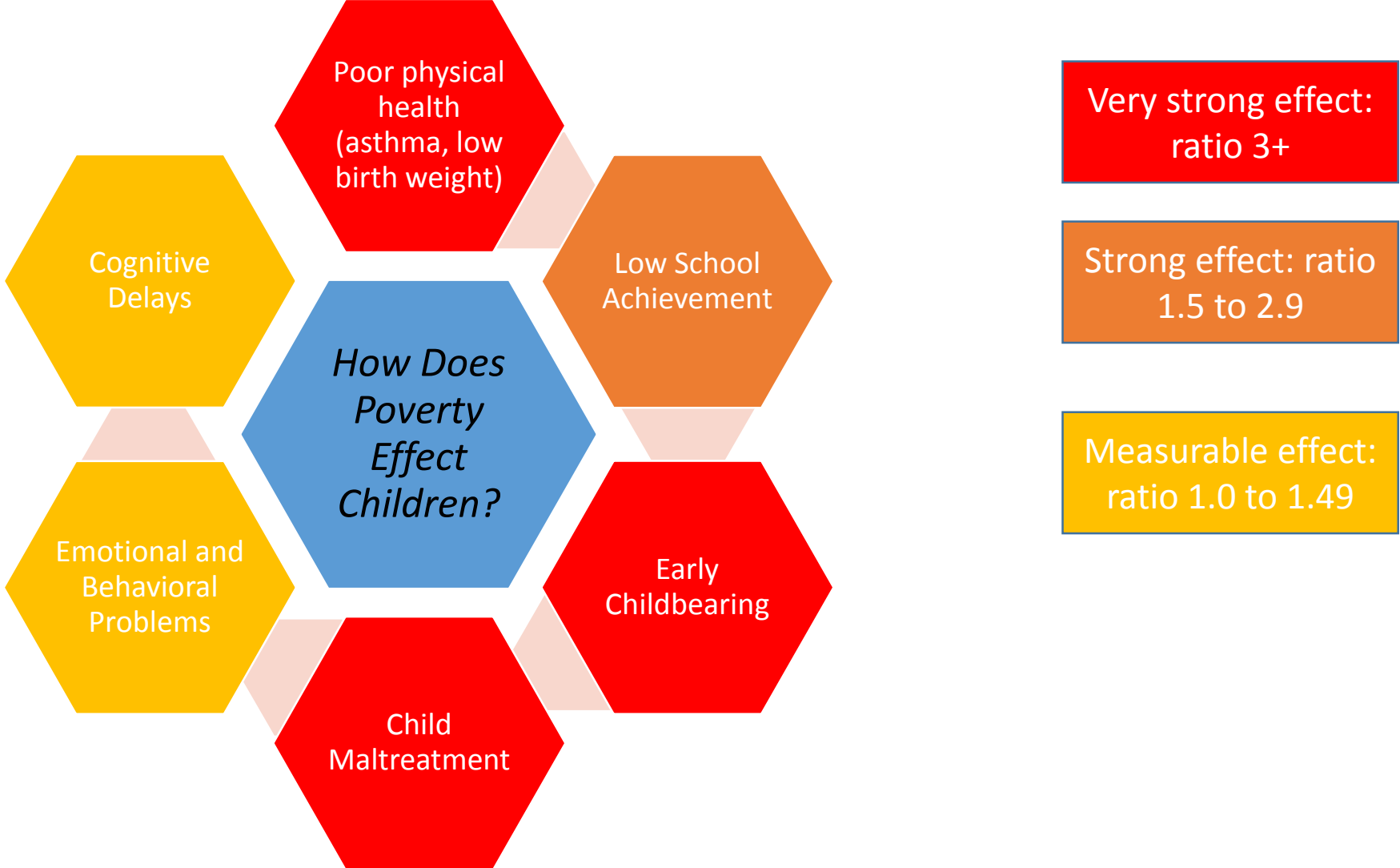
With this Increase in Older Youth Has Come an Increase in Parenting Foster Youth



More statistics...

- Parenting females in **foster** care under age 18 had a **39% chance of repeat pregnancy** before the age of 20 (Putnam-Hornstein, et.al., 2013)
- Youth experiencing **four or more placements** had the highest rate of pregnancy and (46%) (Putnam-Hornstein, et.al., 2013)
- The children of parenting youth in foster care were **three times** more likely to spend time in foster care than children in the general populations (Putnam-Hornstein, et.al., 2013)

Currently, Children of Dependents are being Raised in Poverty



The Timing and Duration of Poverty Also Matter

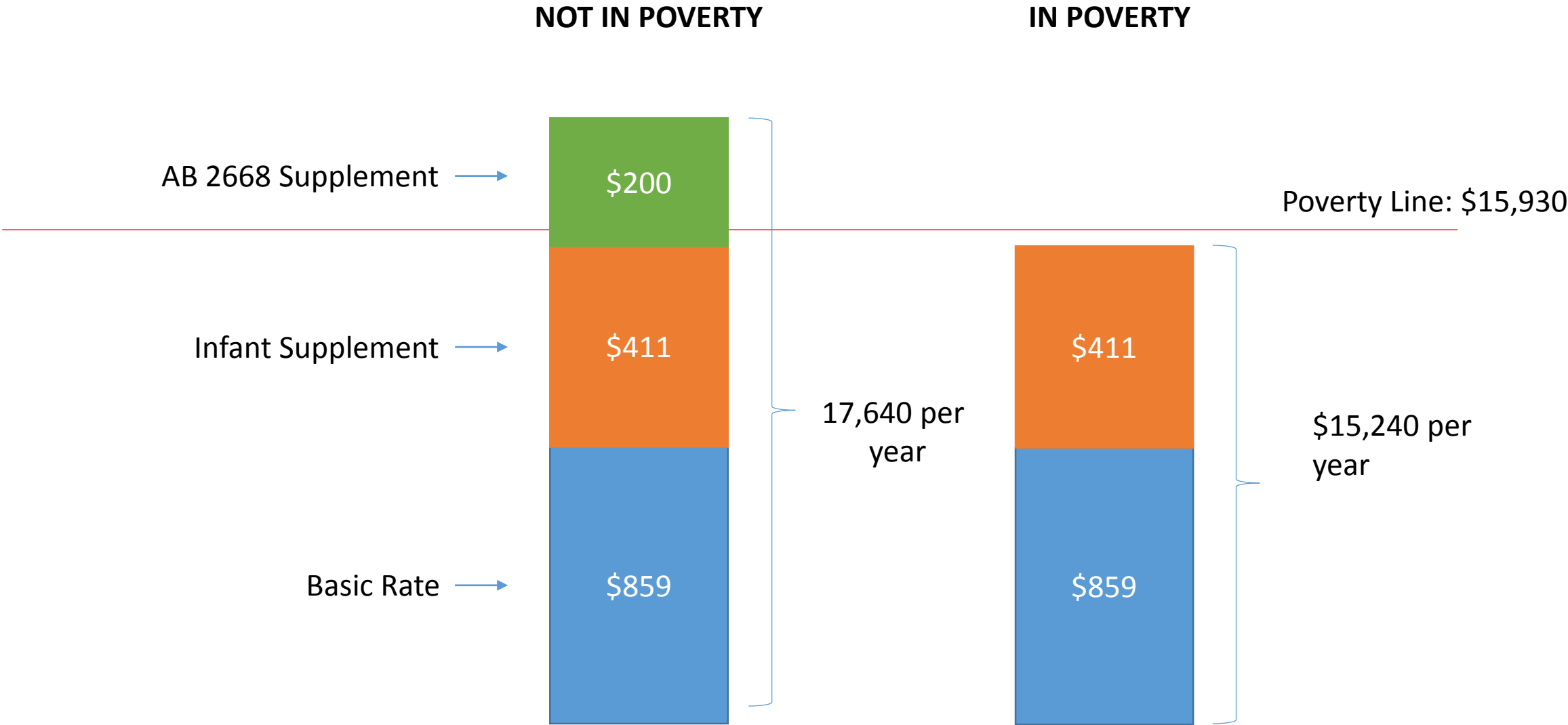
The effect of poverty is the greatest for children who experience it:

- during their preschool and early school years
- for multiple years

Given this, children of dependents are extremely at-risk!



AB 2668 Provides Additional Support to Parenting Dependents in SILPS & Can Move Them and Their Children Out of Poverty



Legislative History of AB 2668

- Authored by Assembly Member Quirk-Silva
- Sponsored by Children's Law Center and John Burton Foundation
- Modeled after Whole Family Foster Homes
- Went into effect July 1, 2015.
- All County Letter [15-67](#) was issued September 3rd
 - <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/acl/2015/15-67.pdf>

Who is Eligible to Receive \$200 Supplement?

- A nonminor dependent *WIC 11400(v)*
- Who is the full or partial custodial parent of a minor
- Residing in a Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP) *WIC 11400(w)*
- Who develops a written parenting support plan that is approved by the county child welfare agency or juvenile probation department.

WIC 11465(d)(3)(B), WIC 16501.26,

More Information about Youth Eligibility

- Scenario: NMD with two children
 - *Eligible to develop two PSPs and receive two \$200 supplements*
- Scenario: NMD without legal custody of their minor child
 - *Not eligible to develop a PSP or receive the \$200 supplement*
- Scenario: Father is an NMD and has shared custody
 - *Eligible to develop a PSP and receive a \$200 supplement*

Who is Eligible to be an Adult Mentor?

Basic Eligibility:

- Be at least 21 years of age
- Undergo a criminal records check
- Undergo a Child Abuse Central Index Check
- A negative result does not mean the adult mentor will automatically be excluded from being a viable candidate.

Additional Information:

- Social worker or probation officer are not prohibited from being mentors
- Social worker or probation officer are not required to meet the adult mentor

WIC 16501.27

What Happens if there is Disagreement on the Plan or the Mentor?

Step 1:

Pursue resolution method
identified in PSP



Step 2:

Address in Court

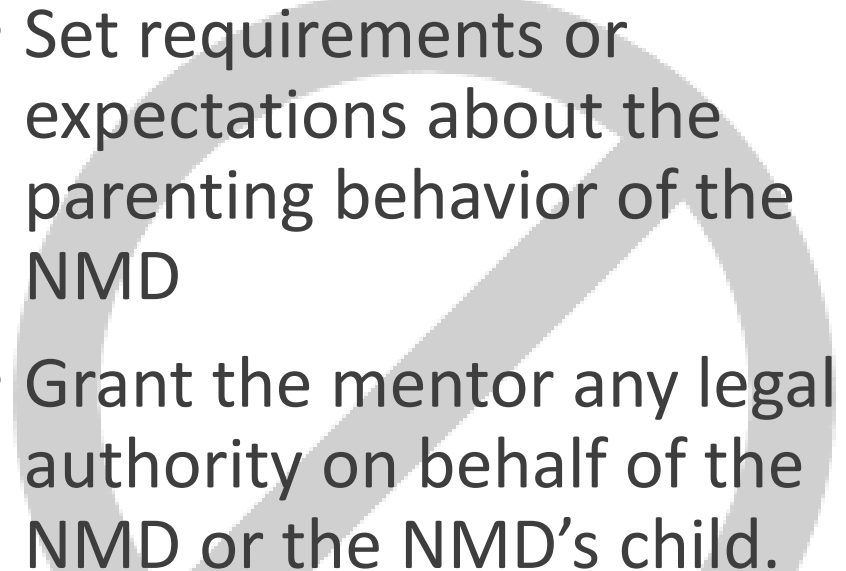


Purpose of Parenting Support Plan

What the PSP does:

- ✓ Identifies supports for parenting NMDs at the direction of the youth
- ✓ Outlines specific ways in which the adult mentor will assist the NMD parent
- ✓ Specifies how issues will be resolved if there is a concern.

What the PSPS does NOT do:

- Set requirements or expectations about the parenting behavior of the NMD
 - Grant the mentor any legal authority on behalf of the NMD or the NMD's child.
- 

Elements of a Parenting Support Plan

- Communication
- Nutrition & Feeding
- Dressing & Bathing
- Scheduling Medical Appointments
- Transportation
- Purchasing Needed Item
- Child Care & School Enrollment
- Family Planning
- Visitation
- Discipline

*Plan may included these categories or more;
It should be customized to the individual needs of parenting NMD*

Who Develops the Parenting Support Plan?

- Developed between: the NMD parent, the identified responsible adult & a county representative (i.e. social worker or probation officer).
- Additional input may be provided by other individuals identified by the NMD parent, the other parent (if appropriate) or extended family members.
- Plan should be developed “as soon as practicably possible” after the responsible adult is identified.
- If the county representative is not available within 30 days, the NMD parent may enter into the plan with the responsible adult for payment to start, and it can be modified at a later date if necessary.

Things to Consider When Completing a PSP

- Understand the perspective of parenting foster youth
- Focus on the youth's strengths
- Emphasize that this is voluntary
- Celebrate their decision to identify a mentor
- Use the opportunity to connect with other resources of parenting dependents
- Don't be biased against a mentor who is younger

Additional Information about the Parenting Support Plan (PSP)

- No set form; template is included in ACL
- New plan must be developed if adult mentor changes
- Law does not specify minimum level of engagement on the part of the mentor; this is specific to each plan.
- May be updated as needed to account for the changing needs of the NMD parent's child

Importance of a Supportive Adult

Miranda's Experience

How to Pick an Adult Mentor

Questions for a youth to think about when identifying an mentor:

- Who was supportive of your pregnancy?
- Who has consistently been there for you?
- Who is a parenting role-model for you?
- Who do you feel really believes in you?
- Who do you trust to be alone with your child?
- Who will understand that they are doing this as a volunteer and not getting paid?

Importance of a Supportive Adult

**Elisia Jenkins,
Adult Supporter**

How Many People Will Likely be Eligible to Receive this Supplement?

As of July 1, 2015

	Young Women in Foster Care in California	# who are in a SILP	# who are Custodial Parents
<i>Age 18</i>	1,845	467	89
<i>Age 20</i>	1,490	799	220
<i>Age 20</i>	1,442	815	280
			=589 likely eligible young women*

** This is likely a minimum because it does not include dependents with multiple children or fathers*

Outreach to Parenting Youth in SILPs

- Post flyers: <http://thpplus.org/wp2/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Outreach-Flyer.pdf>
- Include flyer in next SILP check
- Train specialized units serving NMDs
- Communicate via social media
- Connect with local CYC chapter
- Inform other programs that serve parenting NMDs, such as home visitation programs & WIC.
- Begin process in youth's third trimester of pregnancy
- Emphasize voluntary nature
- Pregnant and parenting teen conferences



New State Direction About Tracking Parenting Dependents

- ACIN I-60-15 was issued on September 14th
 - http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/acin/2015/I-60_15.pdf
- Amended section 16002.5 of the W&IC to ensure that complete and accurate data on parenting minor and non-minor dependent parents is collected.
- Contact the Foster Care Rates Bureau at (916) 651-9152 for any questions regarding the information in the ACL. Additional information regarding claiming instructions will be forthcoming in a County Fiscal Letter.



To Track Parenting Dependents, CDSS Created 8 New Special Project Codes

1. S-DepMinorParent + 1: The dependent is a minor parent who has one child only.
2. S-DepNonMinor Parent + 1 The dependent is a non-minor parent who has one child only.
3. S-DepMinorParent + 2 The dependent is a minor parent who has two or more children.
4. S-DepNonMinorParent + 2 The dependent is a non-minor parent who has two or more children.
5. S-DepMinorParent + 1 Dep The dependent is a minor parent who has one child who is also a dependent of the juvenile court.
6. S-DepNonMinorParent + 1 Dep The dependent is a non-minor parent who has one child who is also a dependent of the juvenile court.
7. S-DepMinorParent + 2 Dep The dependent is a minor parent who has two or more children who are also dependents of the juvenile court.
8. S-DepNonMinorParent + 2 Dep The dependent is a non-minor parent who has two or more children who are also dependents of the juvenile court.

Questions & Answers

Enter questions into the control panel. For questions after the web seminar, contact the panelists below:

CDSS: assistance.claims@dss.ca.gov

Sue Abrams: abramss@clcla.org

Jennifer Lorson: lorsonj@clcla.org

Amy Lemley: amy@johnburtonfoundation.org

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