



CDSS

CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

November 8, 2011

Dear California Fostering Connections to Success Partners,

Please find in the adjoining attachment a flyer to hand out to foster youth that explains the basic aspects of the California Fostering Connections to Success Act (formerly known as AB 12), which **becomes law January 1, 2012**. This important new law gives foster youth the option to receive services and supports until age 20. The goal of the law is for foster youth and the adults in their lives to work in new and different ways to help youth achieve their educational, work, health and other goals.

The purpose of this flyer is to provide youth who are aging out of the system with basic information on how they can take advantage of this new law. It includes eligibility requirements, where they can live to be eligible, and what their responsibilities are if they choose this option.

This flyer is also intended to help adults who are supporting or in contact with foster youth about to age out of foster care, including social workers, attorneys, probation officers, foster parents, mentors and others. The flyer has been developed and approved by members of the California Department of Social Services and a wide range of partners (social workers, foster youth, attorneys, etc.) who are working to implement the law.

Given that we are less than 60 days from the law taking effect, it's **urgent** that information get out to youth. Please help spread the word on this important new law and the benefits it can bring to foster youth, including:

1. Providing hard copies of the flyer to youth.
2. Sending the flyer and this memo out by email to your contact lists.
3. Posting the flyer to your organization's website.
4. Including the flyer and this memo in newsletters or other forms of communication (such as Facebook) that your organization uses.

Additional information is being developed and will be forthcoming. We encourage you to visit the California Fostering Connections Facebook page and "like" it so that you can stay up-to-date on additional information.

Visit www.facebook.com/CAFosteringConnections

Thank you for your help in spreading the word and helping foster youth across California.

Sincerely,

Greg Rose, Deputy Director, Children and Family Services Division,
California Department of Social Services

The California Fostering Connections to Success Act Team

