

Into Adulthood:  
Supporting  
Transitional Foster  
Youth Into the Next  
Stage of Life

# The HOPE House

*Tuolumne County*

*Moderator: Lynn Nolte*

*Presenters: Michelle Clark & Linda Downey*

*Assisting: Karen McGettigan*

# AGENDA

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- *The Need*
- *What is the HOPE House?*
- *Implementation*
- *Running the Program*
- *Challenges*
- *Changes/New Directions*
- *CSAC Award*

# THE NEED

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*Many foster/probation youth leave the foster care system at age 18, without a job, behind educationally and with no resources.*

- Each year 25,000 youth “age out” of the foster care system in the U.S., including 4,500 in California.*
- 18-22% of youth who age out of foster care experience homelessness within the three years.*

*John Burton Foundation for Children Without Homes & California Coalition for Youth*

*National Foster Care Youth Statistics provided by On the Move.org*

- ‡ Up to 50% of former foster/probation youth become homeless within the first 18 months of emancipation.
- ‡ Less than half of former foster youth are employed 2.5 - 4 years after leaving foster care.
- ‡ Youth in foster care are 44% less likely to graduate from high school & after emancipation 40-50 & never complete high school.

*National Foster Care Youth Statistics provided by On the Move.org*



# THE NEED

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- &• *Foster youth in Tuolumne County often end up homeless or moving from home to to home after emancipation.*
- &• *Tuolumne County has a shortage of housing in general, but especially housing that will accept young adults without co-signers.*
- &• *Transportation remains limited and cumbersome.*
- &• *In December 2005, when plans were initiated, there were 46 youth eligible for the program.*

# Mission Statement

*To provide emancipated foster and probation youth a transitional housing opportunity with real-life concrete opportunities, supported with individualized, strength-based services that will enable them to obtain skills and abilities necessary for a successful transition to adulthood. Tuolumne County is committed to assisting emancipated youth with accessing housing & services designed to fulfill the goals included in each youth's Transitional Independent Living Plan.*

# What is the HOPE House?

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- &• ***Housing & Opportunities Program for Emanipated Youth (HOPE House).***
- &• *3 Models identified & described under the Transitional Housing Program (THP-Plus);*
- &• *Tuolumne County unique in approach of building facility just for the CWS and Probation youth emancipating out of foster care.*

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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- Behavioral Health and Recovery
- Teen Works
- Sonora Union High School Alternative Education Program
- Mother Lode Job Training
- Columbia Junior College Job Placement
- Center for a Non-Violent Community
- Family Health & Wellness Center
- County Public Health Dept.

# IMPLEMENTATION

**The Project:** Renovate an existing county-owned building, expanding it to a 3633 sq. foot residence with 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, an office and a study. The building would be retrofitted to meet ADA requirements, and the County would contribute parking, fencing and landscaping.



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- The State Department of Housing & Community Development operates the Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP), which provides supportive housing funding for projects such as emergency homeless shelters.
- In November 2005, EHAP issued a Notice of Funding Availability for \$31 million in new projects, of which \$6.2 million was set aside for projects in rural areas.

# EHAP CD

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Emergency Housing and Assistance Program Capital  
Development (EHAP CD)- State of California  
Department of Housing & Community Development

- &• 10 year Forgivable Loan.
- &• EHAPCD Funding: \$1,000,000.
- &• Competitive Statewide

# CONSTRUCTION FINANCING

<i>DEVELOPMENT BUDGET</i>	<i>TOTAL PROJECT COST</i>	<i>EHAPCD</i>	<i>COUNTY</i>
Land Cost or Value	\$1,500,000		\$1,500,000
Site Improvement Costs	\$15,000		\$15,000
New Construction Costs	\$790,000	\$790,000	
Architectural Costs	\$80,000	\$80,000	
Perm. Financing Costs	\$2,000		\$2,000
Other Construction Costs	\$13,000	\$8,000	\$5,000
Other Costs	\$51,954	\$46,800	\$5,154
Developer Costs/Admin.	\$75,200	\$75,200	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>	<b>\$2,527,154</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,527,154</b>

# *U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)*

- &• *Competitive-Continuum of Care (COC)*
- &• *McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act programs require the development of a COC in the community*
  - *Address Homeless through coordinated community-based process of identifying needs & building system to address the needs*
  - *Homelessness is not caused merely by lack of shelter*



# CONTINUUM OF CARE

- &• Supportive Housing Program- Provides housing, including housing units & group quarters, that has a supportive environment & includes a planned service component
- &• Shelter Plus Care Program- Grants for rental assistance for homeless persons w/disabilities through four component programs (tenant, sponsor, project & Single Room Occupancy Rental Assistance)
- &• Single Room Occupancy Program - Rental assistance on behalf of homeless individuals in connection w/moderate rehabilitation of SRO dwellings

# SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAM

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- *Designed to develop supportive housing & services that will allow homeless persons to live as independently as possible*
- *Three goals: achieve residential stability, increase skill level and/or income, obtain greater self-determination*

# IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

*January 2006      Submitted the EHAP CD Grant Application*

*June 2006        Received notification of grant award*

*September 2006   Construction Contracts signed*

*October 2006     Construction Begins*

*April 2009        Dedication Ceremony*

*August 2009     First Resident Moves In*



*Existing Property*











Monday, October 3, 2011



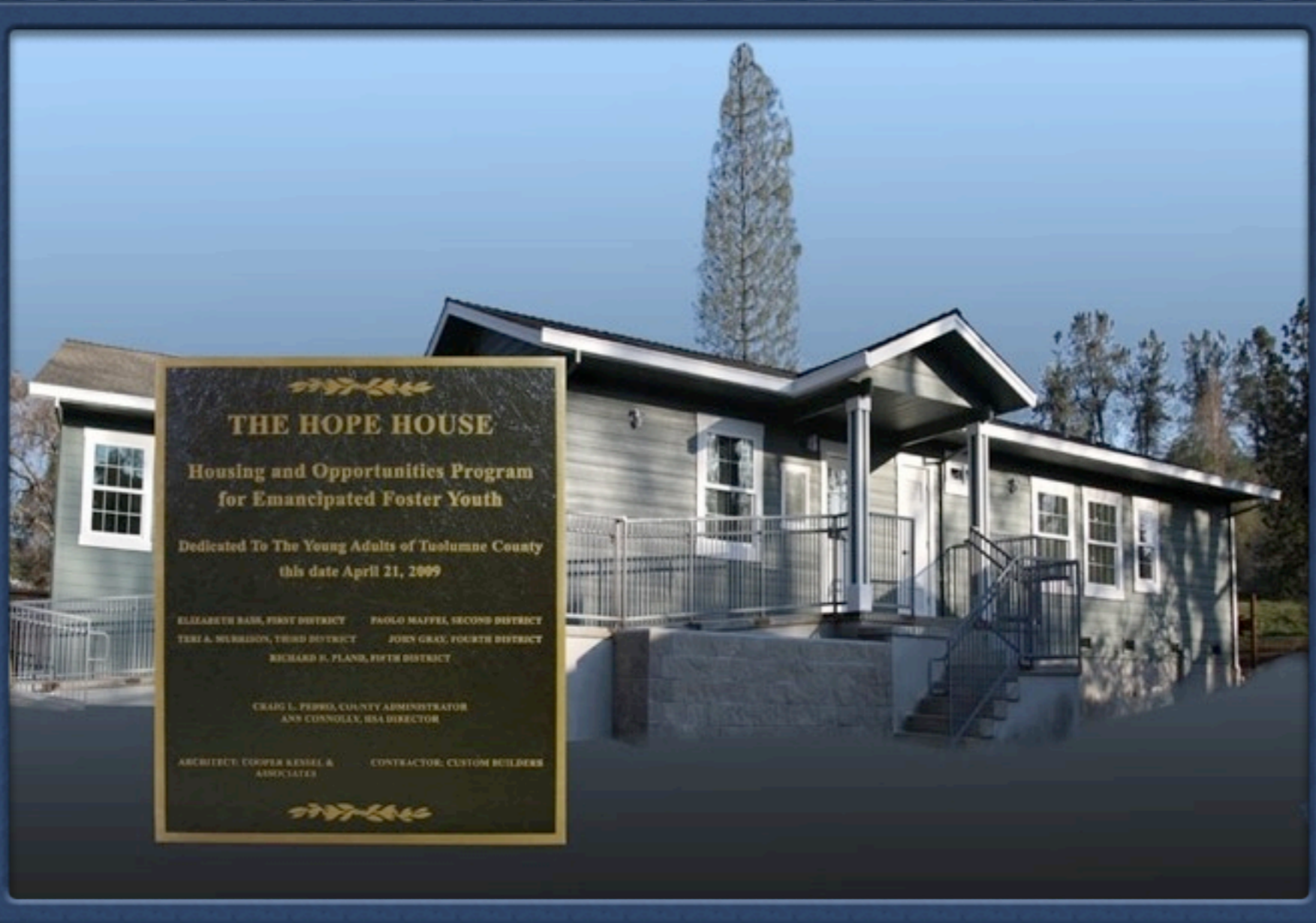












# *The HOPE House*





*Front Yard*



*Backyard*



*Kitchen*



*Living Room*



*Study*

# Population Served

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- *THP-Plus tenants are young adults who have emancipated from foster/probation care and are at least 18 years of age, but not yet 24 years of age;*
- *Are pursuing the county-approved goals they have developed in the Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP);*
- *Are actively participating in school if a diploma or GED has not yet been obtained, or are participating in vocational training;*
- *Are obtaining & maintaining part-time or full-time employment as appropriate;*
- *Are maintaining a substance-free lifestyle.*

# Referral & Screening Process



# Referral & Screening Process

- *The placement social worker, probation officer or the Independent Living Plan (ILP) Coordinator may initiate a referral.*
- *The referring party should schedule an assessment with the youth.*
- *The referring party should assist the youth in completing the application process.*
- *The Social Svs. Supervisor shall follow-up with a review of the application and references, the completion of at least one interview with the youth, consultation with the social worker/probation officer or ILP Coordinator, and either accept or reject the application.*

# Service Components

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- *Linkages to job training*
- *Case management/life coach*
- *24-hr crisis intervention and support*
- *A mentor & support team*
- *Referrals for mental health & substance abuse screening*
- *Educational advocacy*
- *Assistance finding affordable housing*
- *Participation in ILP & execution of the TILP*
- *on-site, live-in house mgrs*
- *Monthly Stipend for living expenses*

## *THPP/THP-Plus Cost Per Bed/Month*

<i>Maintenance Costs</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Monthly Expenses</i>
YOUTH ALLOWANCE	Transportation	\$40.00
	Food, Cleaning Supplies	\$200
	Recreation	\$25
	Clothing	\$25
	Allowance/Savings/Emancipation Fund	\$100
	Telephone	\$15
	Miscellaneous	\$15
	HOUSING EXPENSES	Utilities (trash, electricity, etc.)
Rent		\$500
ADMINISTRATION COSTS	Administrative Costs	\$250
	THPP/THP-Plus Staff Support	\$40
	Staff Development	\$14
SOCIAL WORK	Social Work (non-federal eligible costs)	\$485
	Social Work Supervision	\$30
TOTAL YOUTH BUDGET	Youth, Maintenance, Admin. & Social Work	\$1819
BASE RATE	*Eligible Federal Costs Only	\$2100
TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET	Add Maintenance, Admin. & Add'l Amt. above base rate	\$1819



*Erin Gandolfo, ILP Coordinator*

*Aaron Quin, Social Worker*

*Cinnamon  
Lampi,  
Probation Officer*



# CHALLENGES

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- &• *Economy*
- &• *Administration*
- &• *Transportation*
- &• *Staffing*
- &• *Maturity and  
“Entitlement Program”*
- &• *Job Retention*
- &• *Monthly Stipend*



# CHANGES/NEW DIRECTIONS

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•&• *ABI2 -Non-Minor Dependents*

•&• *Therapy*

VIDEO  
↓  
QUESTIONS?