



## 2021 POLICY AGENDA

### FOCUS ON PLACEMENT STABILITY, COVID-19 RESPONSE, AND SUPPORTING LEARNING RECOVERY

- **INCREASE RATE FOR RESOURCE PARENTS TO PARTIALLY COMPENSATE FOR INCREASED COST OF CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF CHILDREN DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC:** CAC is co-sponsoring a budget proposal for a \$100 increase in the basic Foster Care Reimbursement Rate, and another \$100 increase if the child is distance learning. A nationwide study found that, on average, families are incurring an additional \$500 of expenses to have children at home during the pandemic.
- **INCREASE ACCESS TO THE CHILD CARE BRIDGE PROGRAM:** CAC is co-sponsoring a budget proposal to increase funding for Child Care Bridge vouchers, navigators, and trauma-informed training so that more families are able to access this valuable support. Families have had to quit their jobs or reduce their hours as a result of distance learning. The loss of income has made it impossible for many families to continue to take placement of children needing foster care without the support of child care.
- **STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION BETWEEN PROBATE AND DEPENDENCY COURT:** CAC supports **AB-260** (Stone) that would establish judicial oversight of child welfare investigations; and ensure that relatives who receive guardianship through juvenile court are provided necessary financial support.
- **CONTINUE EMERGENCY CAREGIVER FUNDING UP TO 365 WITH GOOD CAUSE.**
- **CONTINUE IMPLEMENTATION OF FAMILY URGENT RESPONSE SYSTEM.**
- **PREVENT CHRONIC HOMELESS BY INVESTING IN YOUTH:** CAC supports **AB-71** (Rivas) which would include homeless individuals, age 24 and younger, in a statewide strategy to reduce homelessness. This initiative is called Bring California Home and would dedicate 10% of funds to address homelessness among unaccompanied youth, of whom a sizable proportion have previous foster care involvement.
- **DEVELOPING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL MODELS AND ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS FOR K-12 STUDENTS TO ADDRESS LEARNING LOSS/RECOVERY:** CAC supports initiatives to provide compensatory education to all students who experienced significant learning loss as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic; and streamlining access to compensatory services for students with IEPs or section 504 plans.

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