

## A look at Fresno County 9/2013

- Fresno County serves over 2,000 children & youth in foster care.
- Approximately 1,300 children & youth attend school K-12 (65%)
- 32 school districts serve approximately 300 schools (K-12 and Charter)
- Approximately 800 are ages 0-5 (40%)

1

## Child Welfare's Focus

### Strategic Planning to Improve Outcome Achievement

- Safer, stronger families with children thriving in stable environments
- Timely, safe permanent connections for children and youth
- Improved physical, social and emotional well-being for children and their families
- Reduced ethnic disparity across all child and family outcomes

2

## Coordination with Other Priorities

- Katie A – Mental Health Screening and Teaming
- SOGIE – Sexual Health, Best Practices for LGBTQ
- Family Finding
- Transition planning

## We Don't Do This Alone

- The emphasis in improving Education outcomes is supported in Fresno through partnerships with:
  - Stuart Foundation – Education Equals
  - Fresno County Foster Youth Education Services
  - AB490 District Liaisons, Partnerships with School Districts
  - First 5 Fresno County

### **Education Information Gathering at Entry and Ongoing Monitoring for all children Cradle to College**

- Collect and Distribute Information as it is received
- 3 Initial Check-ins – 5 Days, 60 Days, 6 Months
- Ages and Stages Questionnaires
- Education Progress Summary
- Incorporate with TILP
- Expansion of 0-5 Child Focus Team
- Maximize utilization of CWS/CMS when possible

### **School Stability**

- Discussion of Education in Teaming Meetings
- Placement Matching
- Care provider Capacity
- Potential School Change Process for Court Review

## Screen and Plan

- Education Liaisons request to join the youth's team.
- Findings from interviews with the student and adults in his or her life, including birth parent(s), caregiver(s), Education Rights Holder (ERH) and teachers.
- Information gathered will help to inform the overall case plan, specifically in supporting education.

## Advocacy & Support

- Coordination of efforts continues
  - Foster Care Oversight Subcommittee
  - Foster Youth Educational Services Committee