



Child Welfare Policy Briefing Series

The John Burton Foundation is hosting a four-part Child Welfare Policy Briefing Series.

Each briefing will address a child welfare topic, followed by a moderated conversation. The goal of the lunchtime series is to bring advocates, academics, practitioners and policy makers together for a discussion about some of the most pressing issues facing California's child welfare system, informed by current research and in the context of federal and state policy developments.

Friday, September 28th

Extension of Federal Foster Care Funding to Age 21: Policy Overview and Implications for California

US Senator Barbara Boxer has proposed legislation that would extend federal funding for youth in foster care from age 18 to 21. But do youth want more foster care? What does foster care for young adults look like and what effect has it had in states that have implemented it with state-only funding? Please join **Amy Lemley**, Policy Director of the John Burton Foundation, to discuss these questions and learn about Senator Boxer's legislation, including how similar policies have been implemented in other states and policy implications for California.

Friday, October 19th

Bringing Child Welfare into the 21st Century: Changing the Look-Back Provision

Federal foster care funding is tied to 1996 welfare income eligibility requirements, making a smaller percentage of children in foster care eligible for federal funds each year. Changing this "look back provision" is regarded by many as fundamental to the long-term health of the child welfare system. What is the history of this policy? What are the alternatives that are currently being considered, their political viability, and their tradeoffs? Join us as **Robin Nixon**, Executive Director of the National Foster Care Coalition addresses this important topic and how it related to recent proposals to reform child welfare financing.

Friday, November 16th

Philanthropy and Child Welfare Reform: Which Came First: the Chicken or the Egg?

Private foundations have long been the catalyst for innovations in the child welfare system, both in California and nationally. How do demonstration projects become the official practice of child welfare systems? What is the history of this relationship and how is it evolving nationally and in California? How do advocates of philanthropic investment respond to the charge that private funding lets public systems "off the hook?" Join us as Senior Program Officer **Teri Kook** of the Stuart Foundation addresses these questions and briefs us on philanthropy's latest efforts to promote change in the foster care nationally.

Tuesday, December 4th

Foster Kids in the 2010 Census: Making Sure they Count

Advocates were recently successful in making sure the Census Bureau identifies foster children in the annually-administered American Community Survey, a companion to the decennial Census. Now that we have secured on-going collection of this information, it is important to determine how we can use it to promote a broader understanding of the economic and social conditions of children and youth in foster care and the families that care for them. To address these questions, we will be joined by demographer **William O'Hare**, a Fellow at the Annie E. Casey Foundation, who will present his research on foster families using Census data.

All briefings will be held at in the Koshland Conference Room at the San Francisco Foundation at 225 Bush Street, Suite 500 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Space is limited. To register, please follow this [link](#). If you have technical difficulties, please contact Policy Director Amy Lemley at amy@johnburtonfoundation.org or call her at 415-693-1322.