

# Improving Permanency & Inclusion For Our Youth



JUDICIAL COUNCIL  
OF CALIFORNIA  
OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS DIVISION  
CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

**November 19-20, 2014**

**Judicial Council Northern/Central Regional Office  
Veranda Rooms**

2860 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 400  
Sacramento, California 95833

## Agenda

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014**

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.      **Registration**

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.      **Current Legal Overview of Extended Foster Care**

*Hon. Patricia Bresee (Ret.), Consultant/Trainer/Retired Juvenile Court  
Commissioner*

*Marymichael Miatovich, Attorney, Center for Families, Children & the  
Courts*

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.      **Lunch. Question and Answer with Faculty**

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.      **Financial Benefits for our Foster Youth**

*Brian Blalock, Youth Justice Project Director, Bay Area Legal Aid*

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.      **Break**

3:15 – 4:00 p.m.      **Permanency Considerations for Youth**

*Jennifer Rodriguez, Executive Director, Youth Law Center*

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.      **Question and Answers**

**Panel Discussion**

*Hon. Patricia Bresee (Ret.), Consultant/Trainer/Retired Juvenile Court  
Commissioner*

*Brian Blalock, Youth Justice Project Director, Bay Area Legal Aid*

*Marymichael Miatovich, Attorney, Center for Families, Children & the  
Courts*

*Jennifer Rodriguez, Executive Director, Youth Law Center*

### **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & OBJECTIVES—WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014**

#### **A Focus on Permanency for Non Minor Dependents**

The training will provide current legal information on AB 12; 212; 1712 and 787 regarding extended foster care and non-minor dependents that includes an overview of the legal benefits for non-minor dependents. Additionally, some of the unintended consequences of the new law and ethical considerations will be addressed along with strategies on increasing permanency efforts.

**Participants will be able to:**

- Identify the legal requirements for permanency in older youth;
- Distinguish between legal and emotional permanency;
- Explain the legal process for extended foster care;
- Value the importance of focusing on permanency at the beginning of the case;
- Understand the legislative history and intent of extended foster care;
- Distinguish between the different benefit options available to foster care youth and non minor dependents;
- Understand the relationship between securing connections for youth and permanency outcomes;
- Learn at least one new strategy for meaningfully engaging youth;
- Describe several unintended consequences from AB12; and
- Apply 3 new strategies when working with youth to help improve outcomes.



**Day One of this training will provide continuing education units for the following categories:**

- 6 hours of continuing education for MFTs & LCSWs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS). The Judicial Council of California, Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) is a Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) approved CEU provider, Provider #699.
- 6 hours of continuing education for Attorneys as required by the State Bar Association (MCLE). The Judicial Council of California is approved by the State Bar of California as a Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) Provider #4781

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**Disclaimer**

The points of view expressed in this training event and in associated training materials are those of the authors and presenters and do not necessarily represent the official positions or policies of the Judicial Council.

**Accessibility**

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## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	<b>Registration and Continental Breakfast</b>
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	<b>Increasing Engagement with LGBT Youth</b> <i>Rob Woronoff, Child Welfare Consultant</i> <i>Darryn Green, Independent Contractor</i>
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	<b>Break</b>
10:15 – 11:45 a.m.	<b>Research and Legal Framework</b>
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	<b>Lunch. Video and Discussion: Digital Stories</b>
12:45 - 2:15 p.m.	<b>Valentine Road</b> Show film clips and have interactive discussions, activities
2:15 - 2:30 p.m.	<b>Break</b>
2:30 - 4:00 p.m.	<b>Permanency and Well-being</b>

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & OBJECTIVES—THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014**

### **Permanency & Inclusion for Youth**

Participants will take a look at the unique needs of LGBTQ youth and how to engage in culturally sensitive practices that promote safety and wellbeing. Additionally, participants will learn strategies and effective practices toward achieving improved outcomes for our youth.

#### **Participants will be able to:**

- Explain the need for integrating culture and diversity into practice;
- Define human sexuality terminology commonly used by young people;
- Distinguish terminology related to human sexuality and gender identity development;
- Describe the links between familial acceptance or rejection of LGBTQ youth and the effects they have on youth health outcomes;
- Increase their understanding of the California laws and professional standards governing services to LGBT youth in state custody; and
- Apply new strategies when working with LGBT youth to help improve outcomes.

#### **Day Two of this training will provide continuing education units for the following categories:**

- 6 hours of continuing education for MFTs & LCSWs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS). The Judicial Council of California, Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) is a Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) approved CEU provider, Provider #699.
- 6 hours of continuing education for Attorneys as required by the State Bar Association (MCLE). The Judicial Council of California is approved by the State Bar of California as a Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) Provider #4781

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## **FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES**

**BRIAN BLALOCK** is a staff attorney at Bay Area Legal Aid, where he founded and currently directs the Youth Justice Project (YJP), providing direct representation and systemic advocacy on issues related to youth who are under twenty-five years old. Brian's work at YJP aims to create a civil legal safety net for youth in the Bay Area through a strong presence in the community and collaboration with system partners with a focus on reaching youth who are delinquency or dependency involved and/or who have disabilities. YJP's current projects include working with homeless young adults in accessing appropriate benefits, health, and emergency supports and looking at systemic funding issues that create barriers to entitled services. Brian was formerly a public school teacher in the south Bronx. He has graduate degrees from Columbia and Harvard and a law degree from Stanford Law School.

**HON. PATRICIA BRESEE (RET.)** is a retired Juvenile Court Judge. Pat Bresee is a recognized expert in Juvenile Law and has been recognized as Juvenile Court Judge of the Year by the California Judges Association and as Judge of the Year by the National Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Association. She served two terms on the San Mateo County First Five Commission and currently serves on the San Mateo County Blue Ribbon Commission and the San Mateo County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission. In addition, she is the Chair of the Board of California CASA. She continues to train attorneys and judicial officers in Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency Law and fills in for judges in Juvenile Court in San Mateo County on request.

**DARRYN GREEN** is a foster care alumnus who left care in 2002 upon turning 18. Darryn entered the foster care system at age 14 where he spent time in kinship care, foster care and a short time in a group home. Upon entering care, he joined the Kern County Chapter of the California Youth Connection (CYC) where he learned public speaking, leadership, and event coordinating skills. Throughout his experience working with CYC, Darryn has been involved as a mentor, trainer and advocate for foster youth and LGBTQ youth. In 2005, he joined with the Speakers Bureau for Out of Home Youth Advocacy Council (OHYAC) facilitating workshops for conferences and was hired with the Y.O.U.T.H. Training Project (YTP). The YTP gave Darryn the opportunity to travel throughout the state of California training child welfare workers on better ways to work with transition aged youth in addition to the opportunity to develop personal and professional bonds with other young leaders. Alongside ten other LGBT identified former foster youth, Darryn shares his coming out story in the DVD entitled, "Breaking the Silence (2005)."

**MARYMICHAEL MIATOVICH** is an Attorney with the Center for Families, Children & the Courts for the Judicial Council of California in San Francisco. Currently, she is a part of the Juvenile Court Assistance Team (JCAT) which works to help improve the juvenile dependency courts in California. She is a statewide trainer on the topic of laws and best practices related to children in foster care. In 2008, Ms. Miatovich became a Certified Child Welfare Law Specialist (CWLS) through the National Association of Counsel for Children. This specialty is accredited by the State Bar of California, Board of Legal Specialization. Ms. Miatovich was previously a court-appointed attorney representing parents in Juvenile Dependency proceedings in Santa Clara County. In that capacity, she represented parents in all parts of the juvenile dependency process from the initial hearing to permanency planning. Prior to her work in the area of Juvenile Dependency, she worked in the City Attorney's office for the City of Santa Clara. Ms. Miatovich obtained her undergraduate and law degree from Santa Clara University and became a member of the California State Bar in 2001. Ms. Miatovich obtained her Masters in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in child abuse and neglect from JFK University in 2013.

**JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ** is the Executive Director of the Youth Law Center (YLC). Jennifer initially joined the YLC as a Gold Foundation Fellow in 2007, continued as a YLC staff attorney, and in 2012 became Executive Director. As a former foster youth who also spent time in juvenile justice institutions, her life focus is systemic legal advocacy on behalf of other children and youth who, like her, are growing up with a government agency as their only family. Jennifer works on both child welfare and juvenile justice projects at YLC where she develops and drafts legislation, works collaboratively with state and local agencies to improve programs and services, and provides training and technical

assistance to professionals, youth and families. Jennifer received her J.D. from the University of California, Davis in 2004. In 2014, President Barack Obama appointed Jennifer to the Presidential Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities.

**ROB WORONOFF, MS**, has been working with and on behalf of LGBTQ youth and families for more than twenty years. Among other positions he has held, Rob spent several years as Director of LGBTQ Services with the Child Welfare League of America in Washington, DC where he coordinated national efforts to improve systems of care for LGBTQ foster youth. He also directed the Putting Pride into Practice Project, a state-wide initiative seeking to improve treatment of LGBTQ foster youth throughout California. He is the principal author of *Out of the Margins: A Report Highlighting the Experiences of LGBTQ Youth in Care*, and his work has been featured in numerous publications including *Time*, *USA Today*, and *The Advocate*, and on NPR. Rob has trained thousands of social workers, youth, foster parents, attorneys, judges, mental health professionals and other children's advocates in nearly every state in the country. As an independent child welfare consultant, Rob is a lead trainer for the Human Rights Campaign's All Children All Families project and continues to provide training and technical assistance to organizations throughout the country.