

# CA-LEND Leadership Project Final Presentation

**Mandated Supporting in CHLA Foster Hub Clinic  
(Type: Policy)**

## **Project Team**

**(Suzanne Paggi, Self-Advocate, Sheela Rao, CHLA Foster HUB Clinic  
Team)**

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# ABSTRACT

Recently, the Los Angeles Child Protection System known as LA DCFS has taken a policy stance that they term “mandated supporting” .came out of terminology from Los Angeles County Commission for Children Youth and Families

- .IT is mandatory to support individuals who are at risk of abuse and neglect
- .Don't just report, please try to support

## Project Summary- Perspectives on Educating about Individuals with Disabilities and Child Protection System

- > Visit to CHLA Foster Hub clinic in Dec 18 2023
- .attended by invitation to Los Angeles County Commission meeting in March to get more insight into mandated supporting from different stakeholders
- .interviewing 2 different team members in CHLA Foster Hub

## Presentation for House Staff March 2024

- Suzanne Paggi- My Journey
- Feedback forms indicated wanted to hear more from Suzanne
- Future directions- Giving insight as to why Suzanne's parents were present
- Physicians get limited curricula in medical school about individuals with disabilities and need to hear more family perspectives

## Panel Discussion- April 3

- People wanted to know my lived experience, person with disability
- How do I navigate the world?
- Self-advocacy Board of Los Angeles
- Helping parents to see potential in their kids
- Wanting to make sure that it was educational- not just talking about oneself
- Wanting to hear questions of audience rather than me assuming what they wanted to know
- Hopefully making it fun, people were interested in understanding more of themselves and others- this is a part of leadership
- Wanting to share my life story with my parents involved; parents don't really know what's in kids' future; see potential

## Key Informants

- . Liz Garcia- Community Health Worker, member of CHLA Foster Hub Clinic team
- . Next week- Gauri Kolhatkar, MD, MPH, MS- AAP Fellow inPolicy, former Robert Wood Johnson fellow, physician coordinator of CHLA Foster Hub clinic; has lot of networking connections to people

## Brief Rationale and/or Background for Project

- Los Angeles Department of Child and Family services has a long history of struggling with promoting child safety, family permanency and child well being all at once
- Compare/contrast mandated reporting vs mandated supporting
- Literature review of LA Commission for Children Youth Families website for “mandated supporting”- policy stance they have adopted
- Not in plain language; don't know where to go in website
- Not enough information on children with disabilities
- No easy link for resources
- No connection to Regional Center websites

## Presentation of Project

- . Suzanne met a family going through DCFS currently who had HUB appointment
- . reflection on the CHLA foster hub clinic experience- Interdisciplinary Clinic Consultation; had a lot of questions that you wanted to ask birth mother who was present with aunt who was legal guardian of baby
- . Meeting with different key informants to get their impressions on how to help children and families involved with child protection system



## Impressions

- . Mandated Supporting - questioning/monitoring before a child is in danger; there should be something before reporting a family
- . We have to be creative in figuring out ways to keep a family intact and help children thrive without removing them from their caregivers
- . Strategies/ techniques to help others- how to encourage families to reach out
- . people get scared of the resources
- . try to make people feel comfortable enough to tell their story
- . what is mandated supporting-get to know what is really going on and take one step at a time after that

## Next Steps

- Next LEND scholars will continue asking the same questions to CHLA Foster hub clinic members
- Get more impressions from families of their experiences with child protection services

## Alignment with LEND Values (Consultation w/ SA, FS, DEI)

- Learning to be able to work with different families
- It was a mix of all different stuff- mostly on children but also learning about child protection system, how it impacts children with disabilities, talking a little bit about adoption
- How does adoption impact your life?
- Learning different cultures

# Lessons Learned

- Open eyes to keep CHLA Foster Hub clinic open because it serves important role- how to do this?
- Hearing about different lived experiences
- How the appointment goes- referral process from DCFS, single encounter
- Limitations of what you can and cannot do
- Follow up after appointment can be continued observation for family

## Questions for Audience/ Invitation for Feedback

- How would you increase patient volume in the CHLA Foster HUB clinic?
- We are considering changing the name
- We need to find more community partners to spread these services

# Acknowledgments

Thank you- Liz Garcia who already completed the interview  
In anticipation Gauri Kolhatkar