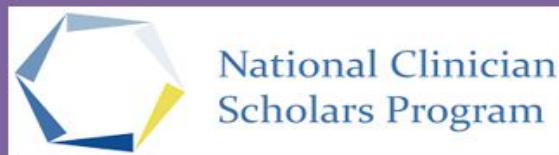


# **Improving Reproductive Health Services** in Medical Hub Clinics for **Adolescents in Foster Care** through Youth Engagement and **Health Navigator Pilot Program**

Stacy Barron, MD  
July 21, 2021



It takes a village! Thank you!



# The TEAM...

- Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, Department of Pediatrics (**Stacy Barron, Sonal Desai**)
- Alumni of the UCLA National Clinician Scholars Program (**David Richards**)
- UCLA Fielding School of Public Health (**Karinne Van Gronigen, Nayelie Benitez Santos and Elizabeth Agredano, Brenda Cruz and Haley Broder**)
- Bixby Center on Population and Reproductive Health, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health (**Paula Tavrow**)
- LA Reproductive Health Equity Project for Foster Youth (LA RHEP) (**Rebecca Gudeman, Felicia Reyes, Youth Advisory Board**)
- David Geffen School of Medicine (**Mikaela Kelly, Kyla Truman**)
- Department of Children and Family Services (**Karla Hernandez and Jenny Serrano**)
- DHS Hub Providers!

# Background

**2018-2020:** Provider perceptions of barriers and facilitators to reproductive health plan creation and execution for welfare-involved youth

**4 themes:** Privacy is paramount, promoting youth agency and avoiding coercion, you might only get one chance, increased collaboration is in tension with youth privacy concerns.

**2020:** Youth Perceptions

**2020-2021:** Design and Pilot Reproductive Health Navigator



National Clinician  
Scholars Program



# Part 1: Development of Health Navigator Role

- **Summer 2020**
  - Literature Review on health navigator role
  - Reproductive health asset map/geo mapping
  - Infrastructure creation of health navigator role



Thank you to **Nayelie Benitez Santos** and **Elizabeth Agredano**, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, Department of Community Health Sciences Field Studies Program

# Part 2: Recruitment, Hiring, and Training of Navigator

## Fall 2020:

- Haley Broder and Brenda Cruz selected as reproductive health navigators
  - Completed Family Planning Health Worker Certification through Essential Access Health
- Mikaela Kelly, MSIV, project co-lead
  - Reinforced training of navigators
  - Design of the role



# Part 3: Integrating Navigators into Clinic

**January 2021:** Health Navigators Interface with Patients!

- Pre-visit phone call
- Intra-visit counseling
- Post-visit follow up
- Log
- Frequent check ins with project PI and project co-lead

Numbers Jan-April 2021:

- 42 youth engaged in pre-visit phone calls
- 29 had counseling session with the health navigator



# Reflections of a navigator!

Thank you Haley Broder!



# Part 4: Rapid Cycle PDSA, Evaluation

- Working on formal evaluation to understand
  - Should we scale?
  - How and where to scale?
  - How to improve?
  - How to support foster youth in the role?
  - Training of the navigator
  - Additional partners?

# Future Steps

Grant Number 1 TP2AH000066-01-00 from the HHS Office of Population Affairs,  
**Innovation and Impact Network Tier 2 Grant**, Sub Grant Award

- **Launch of the California Reproductive Health Equity Project for Foster Youth**
- State-wide and cross-sector Innovation Network



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# Summer/Fall 2021

- Dr. Karinne Van Gronigen and Kyla Truman working together to update training of navigators and best integration into clinic
- Working with office of equity and office of youth development services at DCFS to create a way to support former foster youth in this role
- Hired two new navigators to start Fall 2021 and continue for the year
- Formal patient surveys to evaluate the navigators role in youth empowerment around sexual/reproductive health

# Thank you PRITZKER!

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