AB 114 Transition Workgroup
Survey Results
February 16, 2012

Workgroup Participants:
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) California
Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (DREDF)
Family SOUP
Team of Advocates for Special Kids (T.A.S.K.)
AB 114 Transition Workgroup
Invitation to Obtain Parent Viewpoints

• Effective July 1, 2011, the California Legislature repealed the AB 3632 mandate. As a result, school districts are now responsible for ensuring that students with disabilities receive special education and related services to meet their needs according to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004.

• The California Department of Education (CDE) convened an AB 114 Transition Working Group of stakeholders for monthly meetings starting in August 2011 to assist school districts and other local education agencies with this transition. At the November 2011 meeting, participants encouraged parent groups to give a detailed presentation of parent viewpoints at a future meeting.
AB 114 Transition Survey Process

- Designed by four (4) co-sponsoring groups
- Five (5) additional groups volunteered to distribute survey to their members
- Workgroup utilized Survey Monkey templates
- Survey provided in both English and Spanish
- Launched February 2, 2012
- All responses received by Wednesday, February 8
- More than 500 families responded
- Survey Monkey compiled results (auditable/verifiable)
AB 114 Transition
Survey Goals

• Data should reflect parent/caregiver perceptions
• Stakeholder data should be used in assessing AB 114 transition & realignment impacts
• Family member input should generate further discussion and engagement
AB 114 Transition
Presentation Intent

Our presentation today will:

1. Report quantitative results of survey and synthesize some of the quantitative data
2. Invite your initial impressions, questions, feedback regarding data
3. State major themes of parents/caregiver responses
4. Invitation to discuss how to work together more effectively for the benefit of our children within the limitations of the current AB 114 transition and IDEA
AB 114 Transition
Basic Quantitative Data
(19 Survey Questions)

Question # 1:
During the 2010/11 school year did your child receive any mental health supports or services authorized or documented in a written IEP team agreement?
59.9% of *applicable* respondents (284/474) had a child receiving mental health supports/services through an IEP in 2010-2011. [54.1% of *all* respondents (284/525) answered “yes”]
Question # 2:

During the 2010/11 school year, did your child’s IEP provide for the services of a psychiatrist to evaluate the need for or prescribe medication, or to monitor your child’s psychiatric medication?
Question # 2 results:

23.9% of *applicable* respondents (112/469) reported their child’s IEP provided services of a psychiatrist to evaluate the need for, to prescribe, or to monitor medication. [20.2% of *all* respondents (112/555) answered “yes”]

555 answered
469 applicable
Question # 3:

If your child had an IEP during the 2010/11 school year, have you been told that any of the mental health supports or services described in that IEP will not be provided to your child this year (in 2011/12) because a provider or funding for a specific type of service is no longer available for your child?
Question # 3 results:

30.8% of applicable respondents (124/402) reported they were told that prior year IEP mental health supports or services would not be provided in 2011-12 because a provider or funding for that service was no longer available.

[23.7% of all respondents (124/523) answered “yes”]
AB 114 Transition
Basic Quantitative Data
(19 Survey Questions)

Question # 4:

Have school authorities told you of changes in CA laws or state budget as a reason for specific changes this year to mental health supports or services described in your child’s IEP?
Question # 4 results:

25.2% of applicable respondents (109/432) reported school authorities told them that changes in California laws or state budget were the reason for changes to mental health supports or services in their child’s IEP.

[20.9% of all respondents (109/521) answered “yes”]

![Bar chart showing the distribution of responses to the question. The chart indicates that 25.2% of applicable respondents and 20.9% of all respondents answered “yes.”]
AB 114 Transition
Basic Quantitative Data
(19 Survey Questions)

Question # 5:

Has your child’s school personnel advised or suggested to you that schools can no longer provide the support of a psychiatrist to prescribe, monitor, or adjust medication in connection with your child’s school program?
Question # 5 results:

18.5% of applicable respondents (71/383) reported school personnel advised them the school could no longer support a psychiatrist to prescribe, monitor, or adjust medication in connection with their child’s IEP.

[13.8% of all respondents (71/513) answered “yes”]

513 answered 383 applicable
Question # 6:

Has your child’s IEP team addressed, to your satisfaction, concerns you have had about changes occurring this year in regards to your child’s mental health support services?
Question # 6 results (continued):

64% of applicable respondents (237/370) reported their child’s IEP team HAD NOT addressed changes occurring in their child’s mental health support services to their satisfaction.

[46% (237/515) of all respondents answered “no”]
Question # 6 results:

25.1% of applicable respondents (93/370) reported their child’s IEP team HAD addressed changes occurring in mental health support services to their satisfaction.

[18.1% of all respondents (93/515) answered “yes”]
Question # 7:

In regard to the 2010/11 school year, please rate on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest), how satisfied you are with the effectiveness of school-related mental health supports/services your child received.
Question # 7 results:

In rating the effectiveness of 2010-11 school-related mental health services for their children:

51.7% were NOT SATISFIED to VERY UNSATISFIED
26.9% were SATISFIED to VERY SATISFIED;
21.4% were NOT SURE
AB 114 Transition
Basic Quantitative Data
(19 Survey Questions)

Question # 8:

In regard to the 2011-12 school year, please rate on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest), how satisfied you are with the effectiveness of school-related mental health supports/services your child has been receiving this year.
Question # 8 results:

In rating the effectiveness of 2011-12 school-related mental health services for their children:

46.3% were NOT SATISFIED to VERY UNSATISFIED; 
28.9% were SATISFIED to VERY SATISFIED; 
24.8% were NOT SURE
Question # 9:

Have you or your child encountered barriers to communication with school authorities or others involved in IEPs and related mental health supports/service planning? If yes, please briefly describe.
Question # 9 results:

47.7% of *applicable* respondents (207/434) reported they HAD encountered barriers to communication.

[41.2% of *all* respondents (207/503) answered “yes”]
Question # 9 results (continued):

42.6% of applicable respondents (185/434) reported they HAD NOT encountered barriers to communication.

[36.8% of all respondents (185/503) answered “no”]
AB 114 Transition
Basic Quantitative Data
(19 Survey Questions)

Question # 10:

If your child is not receiving mental health supports or services through the IEP process, do you believe those services may be necessary for your child to learn and process?
Question # 10 results:

Of those whose children are not receiving mental health supports/services through the IEP process:

75% of applicable respondents (239/317) believe these supports may be necessary for their children to learn and progress.

[47.9% of all respondents (239/503) answered “yes”]
Question # 11:

What kind of health care insurance, if any, does your child have?
Question #11 results:

- 29.1% Medi-Cal
- 5.1% Healthy Families program
- 62.6% Private health insurance
- 3.2% No health insurance

473 answered
Question # 12:

Have you been told that some mental health services can be provided to your child, but only if you allow the school district to bill Medi-Cal or other insurance?
Question # 12 results:

20.7% of applicable respondents (86/415) reported they were told that mental health services could be provided only if they allowed the school district to bill Medi-Cal or other insurance.

[18% of all respondents (86/477) answered “yes”]
Question # 13:

Has your child been denied any mental health support service such as day treatment or family counseling, due to his or her current lack of Medi-Cal coverage?
Question # 13 results:

18.4% of applicable respondents (65/354) reported their children had been denied mental health services (such as day treatment or family counseling) because they lacked Medi-Cal coverage.

[13.7% of all respondents (65/475) answered “yes”]
AB 114 Transition
Basic Quantitative Data
(19 Survey Questions)

Question # 14:

Have you been asked to provide consent for the school district to bill Medi-Cal or other insurance for mental health supports or services that are included on an IEP?
Question # 14 results:

24.4% of applicable respondents (94/386) reported they were asked to provide consent for the school district to bill Medi-Cal or other insurance for services included in their child’s IEP.

[20% of all respondents (94/470) answered “yes”]
AB 114 Transition
Basic Quantitative Data
(19 Survey Questions)

Question # 15:
If you answered “Yes” to Question #14, did the consent form advise you that billing Medi-Cal or other insurance for IEP services could affect “caps” (maximum amounts allowed) for health care services or costs for private insurance?
Question # 15 results:

Of the 94 persons answering “yes” to Question #14: 9.6% (9/94) reported being informed that consent to bill Medi-Cal or other insurance could affect “caps” for services or costs, OR 6.2% (9/145) of those who treated this question as applicable.

[2.4% of all respondents (9/373) answered “yes”]

373 answered
145 applicable
95 said Yes or No
Question # 16:

Does your child receive mental health services that require residential (out-of-home) placement through his or her IEP?
Question # 16 results:

16.8% of *applicable* respondents (66/393) reported they have a child who receives residential services through his or her IEP.

[14% of *all* respondents (66/470) answered “yes”]
Question # 17:

Have you been told that your child could no longer have residential services due to a change in the law?
Question # 17 results:

Of 66 answering Q16 that their child received residential services: 27.3% (18/66) report they were told their child could no longer receive residential services due to a change in the law, OR 7.7% (18/235) of those who treated this question as applicable.

[3.9% of all respondents (18/463) answered “yes”]

463 answered 235 applicable 66 in Q16 said they had children receiving residential
AB 114 Transition
Basic Quantitative Data
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Question # 18:

If you answered “yes” to Question #17: Did you receive written notice ("Prior Written Notice") from school or CMH with reasons why a change to your child’s residential placement is needed?
Question # 18 results:

22% (4/18) who reported in Q#17 that their child lost residential placement, said they received Prior Written Notice, OR 7% (4/54) of those who treated this question as applicable.

[1.1% (4/354) of all respondents answered “yes”]

354 answered 54 applicable 18 said on Q17 that child lost residential placement
Question # 19:

If on Question #7 or #8, you rated your satisfaction as “1” (very unsatisfied), “2” (not satisfied), or “3” (not sure or neutral), briefly comment on the reasons for dissatisfaction or misgivings about ERMH services or supports your child has received.

NOTE: A space to type in brief comments was provided in the answer portion of every survey question. We will give examples from the major themes reflected in the numerous comments received.
Question #19 Results:

Initial Thoughts, Questions, Impressions…
What are your initial impressions, questions, and feedback on this data?

Comments Sent In By Parents: Major Themes
Themes from the comments parents and caregivers typed in as part of the survey.
AB 114 Transition Survey

Overview of Themes from Parent Comments

1. Gratitude (when MH services help the child)
2. Not receiving adequate amount of accurate information on ERMHS
3. Lack of understanding of IDEA
4. Pain, anguish, frustration, anger
5. Insufficient supervisory attention to whether teacher or ERMHS provider is up to the responsibility
AB 114 Transition Survey

Discussion, Questions, Answers, & Feedback
Whether or not a district or a Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) is directing information to families about AB 114 transitions, families by and large do not feel well informed.
Families report throughout the survey that they have been receiving verbal and written communication about mental health services for their children in connection with the AB 114 transition at a very low rate.
Families are anxious about what is to come.
AB 114 Transition Survey

Wrapping Up: Slide 4 of 8

We know that many families view getting their children’s special education needs met by the school systems, as needlessly adversarial experiences.

That is not news, but it is borne out by the survey responses.
Our survey suggests a comparatively low proportion of students currently receiving special education services are receiving Medi-Cal benefits.

If this is correct, families will need linkage to other resources that can replace some of the former AB 3632 services.
While these Workgroup partners conducted a quick survey administered by non-research analysts, conclusions point to the need for further studies to be conducted by professional researchers.
The changing of the guard from County Mental Health Departments to Local Education Agencies (LEAs, also known as school districts), as well as possibly to alternate service providers, may provide opportunities for improving the culture of special education services, and school systems’ partnerships with families.
AB 114 Transition Survey

Wrapping Up: Slide 8 of 8

The survey presenters and their sponsoring associations thank the CDE for including us in the planning process and for allowing us to present our survey results.

We would also like to thank the other organizations which volunteered to distribute the survey: California Alliance of Child and Family Services; California Council of Community Mental Health Agencies; Family Resource Networks of California; Family & Youth Roundtable; and CA Parent Training & Information (PTI) Centers. Special thanks also to the California Academy on Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, whose president and president-elect gave us valued input in the course of review of the data received in the survey.
AB 114 Transition Workgroup
Survey Results

• Thank you for your interest in our survey.

• Team of Advocates for Special Kids (T.A.S.K.)