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#HackFosterCareLA+1 Reunites Los Angeles's Tech and Child Welfare Sectors to Improve Outcomes for Foster Youth and Families

(Los Angeles, CA, May 21, 2018) — On May 24, tech professionals, child welfare leaders, political figures and foster youth will descend on L.A.'s "Silicon Beach" to explore how technology can address some of the toughest issues facing Los Angeles County's foster care system.

#HackFosterCare +1, comes one year after a two-day event that brought together many of the same groups and resulted in nine projects that focused on helping the county solve some its most vexing issues. These include: recruiting more foster parents, ensuring school stability for students in foster care and managing the 6-million-hour-a-year task of administering all-important visits for foster children and their biological families.

"The interaction between the local tech sector and the Los Angeles County foster care community has generated significant strategies for addressing foster care issues," said Bobby Cagle, director of the County's Department of Children and Family Services, the biggest foster care system in the nation. "We are extremely grateful to the LA County Board of Supervisors,

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

the Pritzker Foster Care Initiative and Fullscreen for continuing to move the dialogue forward building on last year's successes."

Thursday's event is expected to draw 200 attendees. Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, LA County DCFS Director Bobby Cagle, and Fesia Davenport, Assistant Chief Executive Officer will share their reflections at the convening, which is co-sponsored by Pritzker Foster Care Initiative and Los Angeles County.

Media professionals are welcome and will have the opportunity to interview developers, designers, tech executives, foster youth, foster parents and social workers who are working together to unleash the power of technology to chart a new course for local foster children, youth and their families.

The event, scheduled from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., will be held at Fullscreen, located at 12180 Millennium Drive, Suite 100, Playa Vista, CA 90094.

Highlighted projects include ([click here](#) for a full description):

- FosterLAKids.org: Using Technology to Recruit and Develop Resource Families
- Time2Connect: A Technological Solution for Scheduling & Managing Visitation
- Harnessing Digital Media to Improve Foster Parent Recruitment & Retention
- Disrupting Tech: Diversifying the Hiring Pool
- FosterCode: Building Tech Skills for Foster Youth
- Using Open Data to Improve Foster Care
- Fast & Furious 9: Driving Toward Youth Outcomes Using Machine Learning Algorithms
- Mentor2Mentor: A Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative by ScaleLA to Address Youth Homelessness
- HopSkipDrive: Ride Sharing to Promote School Stability for Foster Youth

This latest event comes after a series of similarly themed foster care Hackathons at the White House, in New York City, Silicon Valley and the HackFosterCareLA kickoff event last year. More information on this and related events promoting digital solutions to child welfare's problems can be found at [HackFosterCare](#).

If you are interested in covering, please reach out to Juana Aguilera at the Department of Children and Family Services, who can coordinate media opportunities.

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