TODAY’S WORKSHOP FORMAT

➢ GSC Introductions
➢ Youth Introductions
➢ Panel Presentation
➢ Questions/Discussion
GUARDIAN SCHOLARS COLLABORATIVE MISSION STATEMENT

To identify and assist foster youth in obtaining a post-secondary education through a collaborative network of educational institutions agencies and youth.
OBJECTIVES

- Support the Development of GSP’s at Ventura College Campuses
- Identify, Contact, Assist and Support Youth Interested in Post-Secondary Education
- Network and Collaborate in Support of Youth Interested in Post-Secondary Education
- Sharing and Dissemination of Information and Learning Opportunities
- Identification and Training of Adults Wishing to Serve as Education Rights Holders
- Data Collection and Sharing
THE GUARDIAN SCHOLARS COLLABORATIVE

- Ventura County Office of Education
- Ventura County Community College District
- California State University Channel Islands
- Moorpark, Ventura and Oxnard College
- Cal Lutheran University
- Foster & Kinship Care Education
- 44th Assembly District
- John Burton Foundation/California College Pathways
- Ventura County Children and Family Services
- Ventura County Probation Agency
- California Youth Connection
- Casa Pacifica
- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
- Dark to Dawn/Milestones
The GSC formed in January 2013 as a Subcommittee of the PATAY Committee formed in 2009.
PROGRESSING THE ADVANCEMENT FOR TRANSITIONAL AGE YOUTH (PATAY)

PATAY is a voluntary association of likeminded professional and concerned citizens ...

Five Domains

- Educational Opportunities
- Employment and Career
- Living Situation
- Community Life Functioning
- Wellbeing
VENTURA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

- Meeting Organization, Logistics and Facilitation
- Collection and Dissemination of Information
- Initial Contact with Youth and Presentation of Youth Surveys to GSC
- Data Collection
THE JOHN BURTON FOUNDATION/CALIFORNIA COLLEGE PATHWAYS

- California College Pathways Funded Program
- Technical Support, Assistance and Guidance
- Knocking on Doors
- Legislative Awareness
- The Organic Method of Program Development
CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES/DATA & INFORMATION SHARING

- Standing Court Order
  - Approval and Use of the Youth Survey
  - Verification of Foster Status
- VCOE/HSA Utilization Foster Focus
- Shared Activities; IPERC, TEACCh, Road to Independence, Trainings, PATAY
- Taking Ownership of the Cause
- PATH Program named in Spring 2013
- The PATH Center established in Fall 2014
- Welcome Appointment required to enroll
- Currently 20 students in the program
- The program provides priority registration, 1:1 guidance, a welcome kit, and access to PATH center
- Partnered with The Cove Bookstore and the John Burton Foundation to establish Book Fund
THE VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT (VCCCD)

- Multi Department Participation; Financial Aid, Foster & Kinship Care Education (FKCE), Director of Economic Development and Support Staff, Institutional Research, Chancellor
- Lead Agency for the Stuart Foundation Grant Proposal
- Logistics Support
COMMUNITY COLLEGE GUARDIAN SCHOLARS PROGRAMMING

- Foster/Veterans Center at Moorpark College
- Foster Youth Center at Oxnard College
- Foster Youth Scholarship Established at Ventura College
- The Ventura College Community College Districts Creates Guardian Scholars Program Coordinator Position
THE YOUTH SURVEY

Guardian Scholars Collaborative (GSC)
Youth Survey for College Enrollment Assistance

Mission: To identify and assist foster youth in obtaining a post-secondary education through a collaborative network of educational institutions, agencies, community and youth members.

Survey

The GSC wants to help you attend college. Completing this survey will allow us to help you achieve your goal!

Name: ____________________________
Address: ___________________________
Phone Number & Email Address: ____________________________
Grade Level & Current or Last School Attended: ____________________________
College/Campus Interested In: ____________________________

Are you 18 or over?    □ Yes    □ No
Do you have a social worker or probation officer?    □ Yes    □ No
If yes, please give us their name and phone number: ____________________________

Current Living Arrangement:
☐ Foster Home    ☐ Group Home    ☐ Relative    ☐ Legal Guardian
☐ Residential Facility (such as Casa Pacifica)    ☐ SILP    ☐ TIHP    ☐ Other

Statement of Interests:

I give my permission for the GSC to share my name, phone number, email address, grade level, and educational goals with the GSC Committee. I also give my permission for members of the GSC to contact me.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Signature of Social Worker or Probation Officer: ____________________________
Signature of Education Rights Holder (if under 18): ____________________________

Ventura County Fact Sheet

January, 2015

WHAT IS A GUARDIAN SCHOLAR PROGRAM?

The number of college and university programs that provide support services to current and former foster youth to assist them with their goals in higher education is increasing all the time. The programs vary from college to college and each may offer different support services. This Fact Sheet gives you information on what is currently available here in Ventura County.

WHO ARE GUARDIAN SCHOLARS?

Guardian Scholars students are foster youth who are participating in a program on a college campus that supports them while attending. Most of the support programs are called “Guardian Scholars.” Others are named: Resilient Scholars or Fife Scholars. Just recently, CSU Channel Islands named theirs - Promoting Achievement Through Hope (PATH).

WHOM DO I CONTACT?

Moorpark College
Anaisa Alonso
(805) 378-1402
aalonzo@vcccd.edu

Ventura College
Danielle Rodríguez
(805) 289-6125
danielle.rodriguez2@vcccd.edu

Oxnard College
Ashley Lajole
Financial Aid Specialist
805-586-5800 ext. 2073
ashley.lajole1@vcccd.edu

CSU Channel Islands
Leticia H. Cazares
Division of Student Affairs
(805) 437-3526
leticia.cazares@csuci.edu

To find foster youth contact information for campuses in other counties, visit www.cacollegethans.org/explore campus-support programs
LESSONS LEARNED

- Try to get everyone at the table
- Continue to reach out and build membership
- Stay consistent with meeting framework
- Make sure everyone at the table has the opportunity to provide input
- Physical space cements program
THANK YOU!

For more information contact:
Ralph Velarde: Administrator on Assignment
Laura Welbourn: Special Populations Coordinator

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805-437-1529
Joe Mendoza: Director, Special Populations Department