TOOLS FOR CAMPUS SUPPORT PROGRAMS
WEBINAR TECHNICAL DETAILS

- Call in phone number for live audio*: (646) 307-1722; Access Code: 253-687-353
- To submit live questions, click on the “question and answer” arrow on your screen, type your question, and hit “send”.
- PowerPoint and recording of web seminar will be posted online at www.cacollegepathways.org/training-materials

*For better sound and reduced risk of technical difficulties, use telephone rather than computer speakers
TODAY’S PRESENTERS

- **Debbie Raucher**, John Burton Foundation
  California College Pathways Project

- **Devon Werble**, John Burton Foundation
  California College Pathways Project

WWW.CACOLLEGEPATHWAYS.ORG
BACKGROUND: SUCCESS

- When foster youth participate in campus support programs and receive sufficient financial aid, they are 3 times more likely to stay in college and earn their degrees.

- The average persistence rate across 14 campus support programs (75%) is 16% higher than the national general student population.
"Foster Youth Campus Support Programs: A Leadership Guide"

Available at www.cacolleagepathways.org/resources

Outlines essential components to a Campus Support Program (CSP) and provides a roadmap for campus professionals wishing to provide targeted support for foster youth attending their institution.
IDENTIFY A DESIGNATED LEADER

Could be direct service staff or administrative staff

Must have buy-in regarding program mission

Should have adequate time to devote to program planning

Must be prepared to be a strong advocate for program
DEMONSTRATE THE NEED

With shifts in policy:
- Passage of AB 12 → increase in foster youth access to college

With data:
- How many foster youth on your campus?
- How many college-age foster youth reside in your county?
- How many new youth expected to participate in extended foster care in coming years in your county?
- How many youth participate in your county’s ILSP?
- What services are currently available to foster youth in your county?

CCP website “Reports” section contains studies that help demonstrate need on statewide & national level
Host a “Foster Youth Awareness Event”

Offer training to faculty/staff about the needs of foster youth and the project

Attend and speak at different campus committees to provide info about foster youth and the project

Remind campus administrators at the community college level about fiscal requirements

Involve higher levels of administration early on in the project

Leverage legal obligations
CREATE A PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Representatives from campus departments
- Off-campus partners
- Others on campus
CONNECT WITH OTHER CAMPUS SUPPORT PROGRAMS & PEER NETWORKS

- Set up site visits to other campuses with CSPs
- Connect with CSP consortia
- Attend and participate in conferences
- Notify CCP about your program

CCP website contains comprehensive list of campuses with foster youth CSPs
ESTABLISH PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

**How will your program define “Foster Youth”?**
- Youth who were in foster care at 18?
- Youth who qualify for FAFSA independent status based on foster care involvement?
- Chafee-eligible youth?
- Youth who had contact with foster care system at any point?

**Will your program serve all eligible students?**
- Will your program limit participation to a specific cohort of students?
- Will you create a hybrid model with different tiers of service?
- Create a Program Application Form

**Will your program have participation criteria?**
- Regular meetings with program staff?
- Mid-term grade reports?
- Minimum academic progress?
- If so, create a Program Agreement Form
Use info gathered on other campus visits to determine priorities for your project and realistic goals

Conduct focus groups and/or interviews with youth

Build your program incrementally, adding new components as resources or gaps are identified

Evaluate the program regularly once it is operational
IDENTIFY RESOURCES

⇒ Ask for in-kind & financial support from campus administration
⇒ Build a relationship with campus’ foundation/development office
⇒ Develop fundraising skills – solicit foundations, corporations, major and individual donors
⇒ Leverage resources from other campus departments
⇒ Work with local businesses – in-kind donations & possible cash donations
⇒ Fundraising must be ongoing
PROGRAM ELEMENTS
CENTRAL POINT OF CONTACT

Feeling of being lost in an impersonal bureaucracy

Frequent turnover of adults in their lives

Having a trusted and knowledgeable individual

Help students succeed
SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFICATION

Strategies for Identification
• Those who self-identify on FAFSA
• Those who apply for Chafee grant
• Those who self-identify on campus application

Educate campus personnel about foster youth

Ask for assistance with identification:
STRATEGIES FOR OUTREACH

**Programs with fewer resources**
- Email notification
- Program Brochure
- Campus website
- Attend regional meetings
- Include info @ campus orientations
- Word-of-mouth, social media
- Open house
- Ask Advisory/planning committee

**Programs with more resources**
- Present at local conferences
- Attend ILSP & child welfare meetings
- Present info at campus orientations
- Attend local CYC chapter meetings
- Host table/booth at campus events
- Attend AB12 sub-committee meetings
## ON-CAMPUS PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs with fewer resources</th>
<th>Programs with more resources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partnerships with key departments</td>
<td>Walk student over to referral office to introduce them to point person</td>
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<tr>
<td>Designate point-of-contact person for foster youth</td>
<td>Track referrals made for follow up with student and campus department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connect students immediately to financial aid &amp; academic advisor</td>
<td>Develop a trigger system to ensure staff follow up on each referral made</td>
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<tr>
<td>Create referral system to support youth in accessing services</td>
<td>Agreement with EOP/EOPS program to reserve spots for foster youth</td>
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PROVIDE HOUSING RESOURCES

Programs with fewer resources:

- Set aside units in on-campus housing,
- Create options for year-round housing
- Extended foster care housing
- Transitional housing: [www.thp-plus.org](http://www.thp-plus.org)
- Create a resource guide

Programs with more resources:

- Develop partnerships with local housing providers to make residences available to foster youth students
- Consider raising funds to cover summer housing costs

CCP website contains “Foster Youth’s Guide to Housing”
CREATE A PLACE TO BELONG

**Programs with fewer resources**

- Identify confidential office space to meet with students & group meeting space for larger events
- Create a culture of community & engage youth in decorating space

**Programs with more resources**

- Identify designated program space ideally with multi-functionality
- Include private office space for sensitive conversations
- Provide computers & printers for student use
- Create resource library
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

**Programs with fewer resources**
- Educate financial aid office about foster youth
- Ask to designate a financial aid officer
- Provide guidance regarding FAFSA
- Assist students in trouble-shooting
- Identify relevant scholarships & provide application assistance
- Connect with Burton Backpack Scholars to Success Program

**Programs with more resources**
- Provide book vouchers
- Create a lending library
- Create a revolving loan fund program
- Create an emergency fund
- Provide scholarships

Provides foster youth attending college with gift cards for life necessities & school supplies
www.johnburtonfoundation.org
ACADEMIC & CAREER COUNSELING

Programs with fewer resources
- Assist with priority registration
- Remediation support
- Tutoring
- Transfer assistance (CC only)

Programs with more resources
- Have staff trained to create ed plans
- Hire tutors for your students
- Create a foster youth student success course
- Create an “early alert system” by using mid-term grade reports
- Provide support during transition to college including summer bridge
PERSONAL GUIDANCE & SUPPORT

**Programs with fewer resources**
- Create culture of community & support
- Agreements with campus counseling departments to enhance services
- Referral to mental health/substance abuse
- Assist youth in accessing health benefits
- Refer parenting youth to local services/childcare
- Train staff in trauma-informed care

**Programs with more resources**
- Structured meetings with all participants
- Program gear with CSP name & logo
- Develop mentoring system
- MSW intern
- Peer support groups
SOCIAL EVENTS

- Welcome night (for new students)
- Movie night
- Study jam
- Field trips
- Recognition events for students’ academic achievements
- Sports events
- Open-mic nights; poetry jams
- Graduation/endpoint of year parties
- Community service events
- A foster care awareness event in May
- Graduation for students exiting program
RESOURCE GUIDE

- Career & employment assistance
- Clothing
- Legal rights/advocacy
- Peer support such as local CYC chapters
- Emergency needs (food banks, emergency shelter, reduced cost utility programs, etc.)
- Childcare
- Transportation
- Health care
- Mental health & substance abuse treatment
STUDENT WORKSHOPS

**Education & Career**
- Employment skills: resume writing, applying for a job, interviewing skills, keeping a job
- Academic etiquette: study skills, test-taking, time-management, etc.
- Planning for life after graduation
- Transferring to a 4-year college (for CCs)
- Introduction to campus: campus tour/scavenger hunt

**Life Skills**
- Basics of independent living
- Landlord & tenant rights
- Money management: budgeting, balancing checkbook, banking basics, establishing credit
- Preparing tax returns
- Purchasing & maintaining a car
- Buying groceries & shopping on a budget

**Health & Wellness**
- Healthy sexuality
- Communication skills
- Substance use & abuse
- Managing peer pressure
- Mental health services & referrals
- Depression & suicide prevention
- Parenting support
- First Aid/CPR
- Healthy lifestyles: nutrition, healthy eating & cooking, exercise
LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**On- & off-campus activities to engage interests**
- Clubs, athletics, student organizations, student government, churches, rec groups, volunteering, peer mentoring

**Formal & informal clubs for foster youth**
- (for youth who want to spend time with other foster youth) - Associated Student Organization/Student Life department

**Youth advocacy organizations**
- California Youth Connection & other leadership opportunities

**Mentoring younger foster youth**
- Outreach to high school students in foster care
CAREER SUPPORT & TRANSITION AFTER COLLEGE

- Create linkages to campus career center
- Develop relationships that provide employment assistance/training
- Provide workshops/seminars on employment-related topics
- Create a senior seminar to address planning for life after graduation

- Provide one-on-one coaching on transition to employment after college
- Collaborate with campus & business communities
- Work with other campus offices
- Connect students to the UC Davis Guardian Professions Program
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Staffing
- Data Collection
- Ongoing Youth Involvement
- Developing Future Scholars
SAMPLE FORMS PROVIDED IN PUBLICATION

Also available as Word documents at www.cacollegepathways.org/resources

- Program Intake Form
- Release of Information
- Student Agreement
- Checklist
- Emergency Fund Form
- Mid-term Grade Check
CAMPUS TRAINING

Foster Youth: Supporting Educational Success
TRAINING OVERVIEW

- Overview of child welfare
- Adolescent brain development
- Impact of trauma
- Foster youth and college
- Campus support programs
- How you can help
  - Faculty
  - Counselors and support staff

Contact CCP Staff to schedule a training at your campus
QUESTION & ANSWER

- Enter your questions on your screen now by clicking the “question and answer” arrow, typing your question, and clicking “send”.
- Or, direct later questions and comments to:

  Debbie Raucher
  debbie@johnburtonfoundation.org

  Devon Werble
  devon@johnburtonfoundation.org

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