CALIFORNIA COLLEGE PATHWAYS

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*

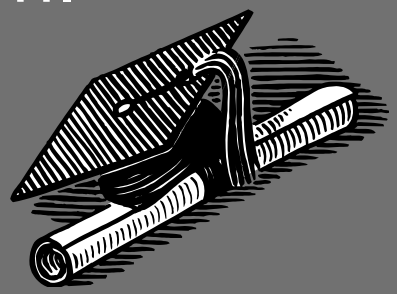
TODAY'S PRESENTERS

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

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.

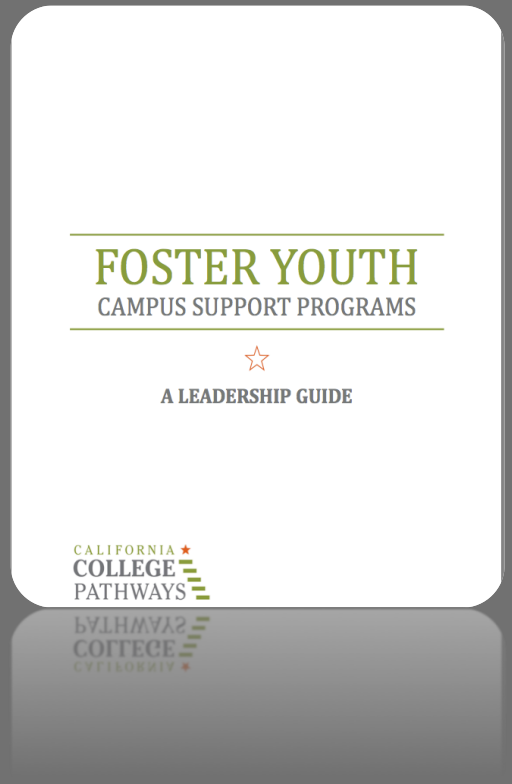


TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PUBLICATION
RELEASED JUNE 2013 BY CCP

"Foster Youth Campus Support Programs: A Leadership Guide"

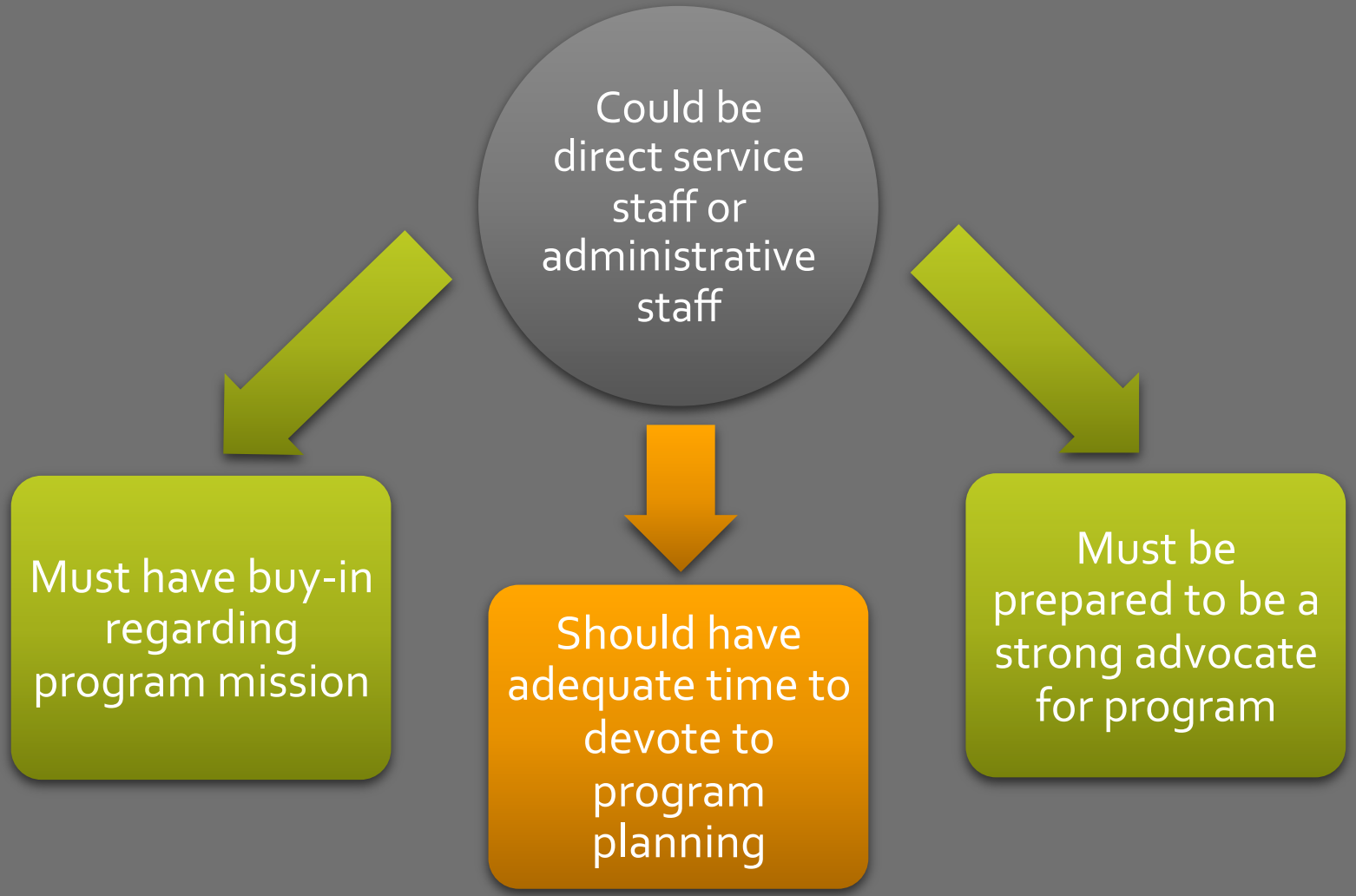
Available at www.cacollegepathways.org/resources

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.



CREATING A PLAN

IDENTIFY A DESIGNATED LEADER



DEMONSTRATE THE NEED

With shifts in policy:

- Passage of AB 12 → increase in foster youth access to college

With data:

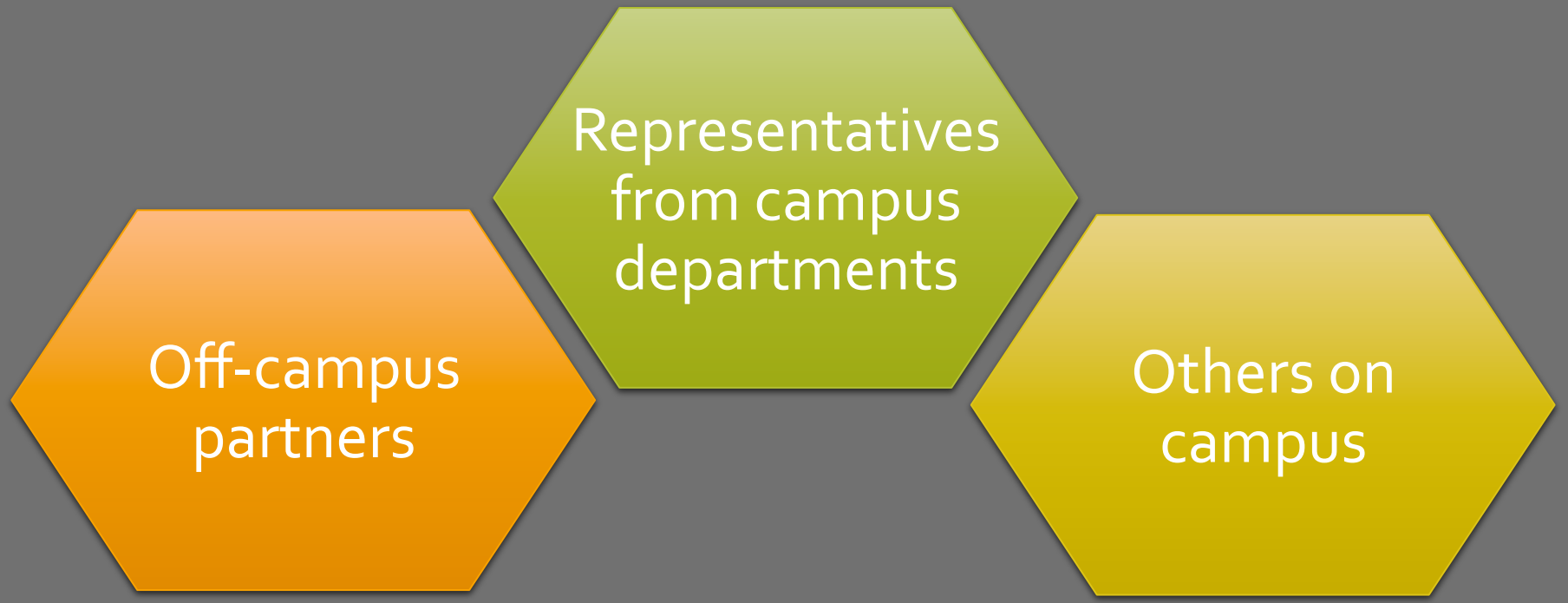
- How many foster youth on your campus?
- How many college-age foster youth reside in your county?
- How many new youth expected to participate in extended foster care in coming years in your county?
- How many youth participate in your county's ILSP?
- What services are currently available to foster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

CCP website "Reports" section contains studies that help demonstrate need on statewide & national level

CULTIVATE CHAMPIONS ON CAMPUS

- 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



CONNECT WITH OTHER CAMPUS SUPPORT PROGRAMS & PEER NETWORKS

CCP website contains comprehensive list of campuses with foster youth CSPs

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

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?

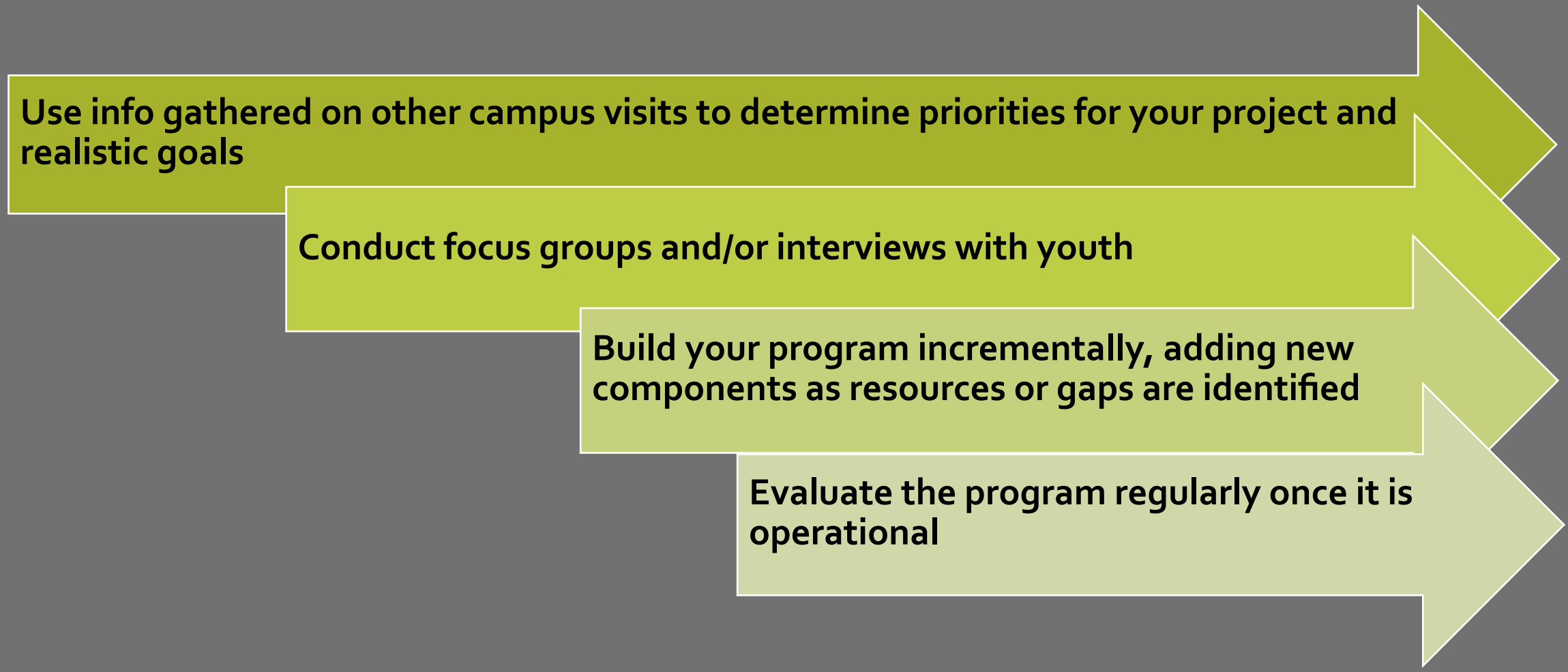
Will your program serve all eligible students?

- 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***

DETERMINE THE PROGRAM ELEMENTS

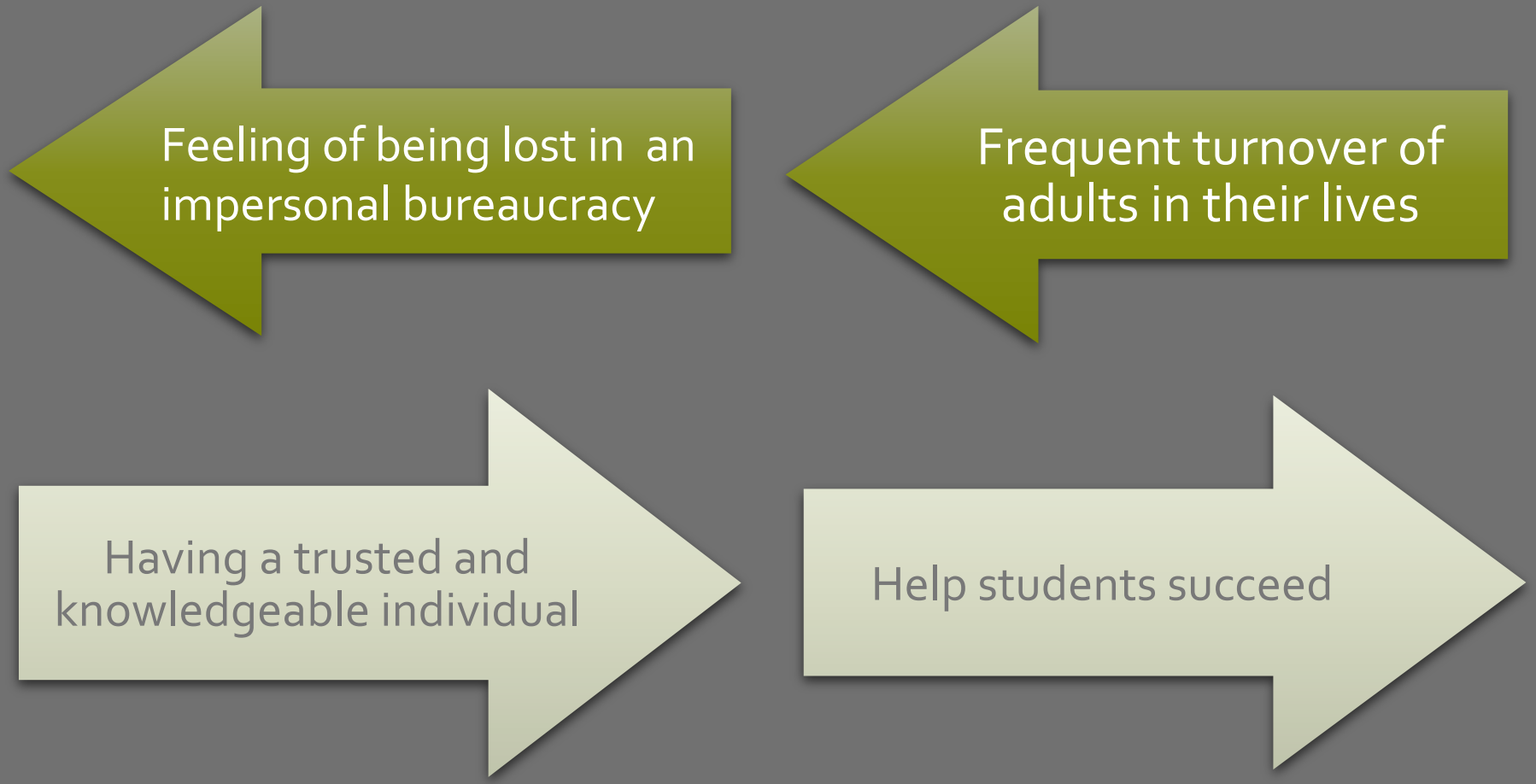


IDENTIFY RESOURCES

- 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

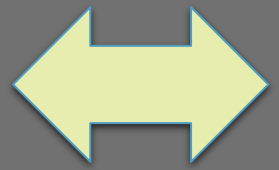


SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFICATION

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

Programs with fewer resources

- Partnerships with key departments
- Designate point-of-contact person for foster youth
- Connect students immediately to financial aid & academic advisor
- Create referral system to support youth in accessing services

Programs with more resources

- Walk student over to referral office to introduce them to point person
- Track referrals made for follow up with student and campus department
- Develop a trigger system to ensure staff follow up on each referral made
- Agreement with EOP/EOPS program to reserve spots for foster youth

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*

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/end 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

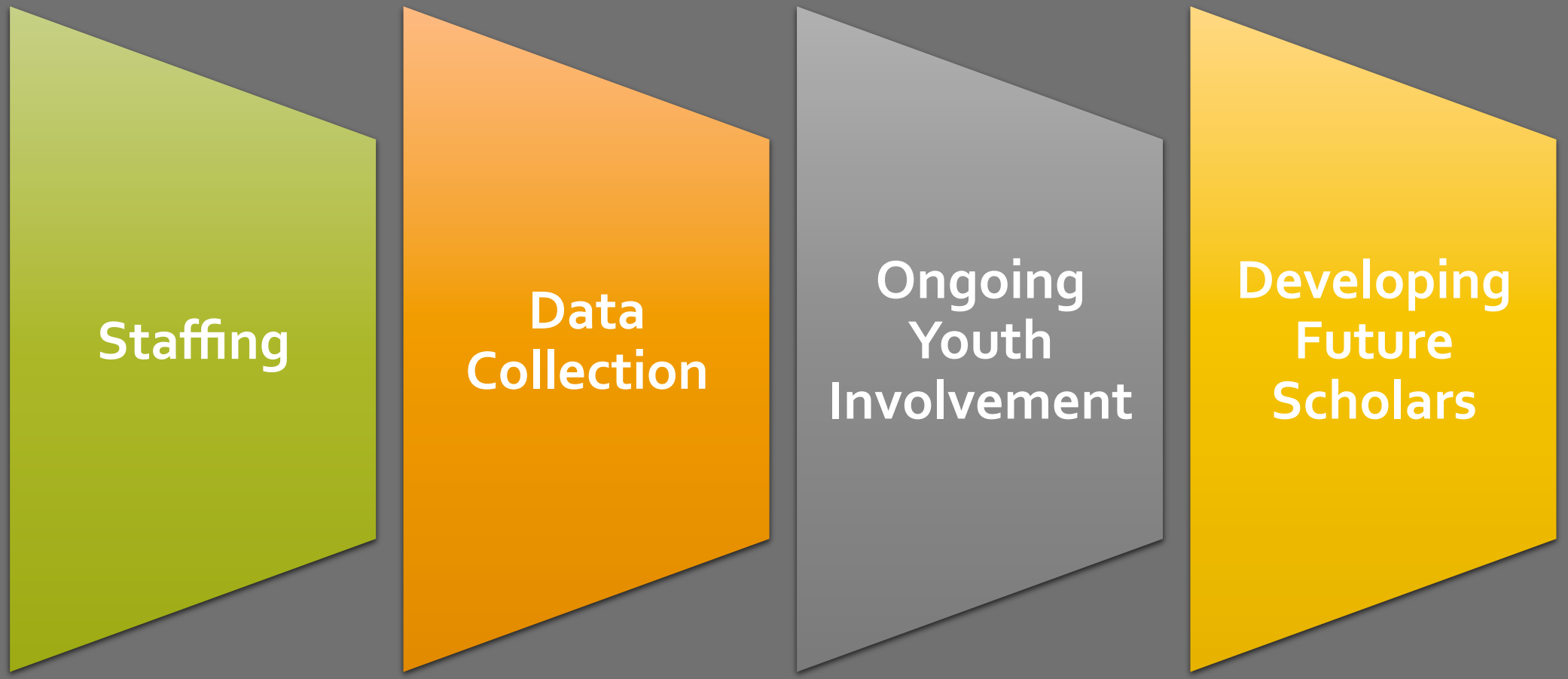
LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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



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

Contact CCP Staff to schedule a training at your campus

- 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

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:

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