



2018 California Foster Youth Ed Summit

ROOTS TO GROW - WINGS TO FLY

April 9-10, 2018
Sheraton Fairplex—Pomona

Student Academy
April 8, 2018

www.cafosteryouthedsummit.com

Hosted By



Details about the Summit



The 2018 California Foster Youth Education Summit will be a time to showcase programs that support the academic and social/emotional progress of youth in foster care. Preparing youth to transition from the K-12 system to post-secondary education and career opportunities is a key priority. It is a focus area for District Local Control Accountability Plans under Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). Robust multi-agency collaboration is essential to supporting youth in foster care to achieve academic milestones, persist in their educational paths, and envision the diverse academic and career opportunities available to them.

This year we have scheduled excellent workshops that showcase collaborative models and promote academic persistence and achievement through the full continuum of education.

You will be able to choose from 40 workshops in 5 different sessions. And you will have dedicated times created for networking with colleagues. Be inspired by our keynote speaker who will talk on the importance of teaching dignity, compassion and respect and spend time in groups thinking and discussing authentic youth engagement.

Monday night, you can spend an evening on the Farm. A beautiful five acre organic farm on the property, where you can enjoy a strolling farm to fork dinner while catching up with old friends and meeting new ones.

We are encouraging the following to attend:

- Child Welfare Staff
- Court stakeholders (e.g., attorneys, judges)
- School District Staff
- Caregivers
- School District Leadership
- Advocates
- Youth in Foster Care (or were in FC)
- State Agency Staff
- Education Rights Holders
- Philanthropic Community
- Group and FFA Homes
- County Office of Ed Staff & Leadership
- Probation staff

Workshop Topics will include:

- *Building programs through partnerships*
- *School stability*
- *Equity and Diversity*
- *Working with Child Welfare and Probation*
- *Foster Youth Data Local Indicators*

Student Program

See page 6 for full details about this year's Student Program. In order to ensure a successful participation experience, All Students attending the conference are expected to participate in the Youth Academy on Sunday, from 2-7pm





Registration Information

Registration Fees

Full Summit Registration Fees—\$400

(includes Networking Dinner Monday Night at the Farm, Lunch Monday, Breakfast and Lunch Tuesday)

Event Registration Fees—\$325

(includes Lunch Monday, Breakfast and Lunch Tuesday)

Student Program Registration Fees—\$300

(in addition to the meals included with the Summit Registration, this also includes Sunday Student Academy, Sunday dinner, Monday breakfast and Monday night Student Only activity)

One Day Event Registration Fees—\$200

(includes Lunch Monday or Breakfast and Lunch Tuesday depending upon which day you will be attending)

Early Registration Deadline

March 19, 2018

All fees will increase by \$50 after that date.

Final Registration Deadline

April 2, 2018

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You **MUST** receive a confirmation email to complete your registration process. If you do not receive an email—please contact us immediately.

Registration Fees Cancellation Policy

If cancellation occurs before April 2, 2018, the registration fee will be refunded less a \$25 administration fee. No fees will be refunded for registrations that are cancelled after April 2, 2018.

Hotel Information



Conference Hotel

Sheraton Fairplex Pomona

601 West McKinley Avenue. Pomona, CA 91768
909.622.2220

- Sleeping rooms are \$135 per night. Rate expires March 16, 2018 or when block is full—which ever comes first. Due to limited sleeping room quantity—this hotel will sell out.
- Free parking
- Free shuttle to/from Ontario airport (you must call the hotel to reserve your spot).

[Make your room reservation here.](#)

Additional Hotels

Doubletree Claremont

555 W Foothill Blvd, Claremont, CA 91711
(909) 626-2411

- Sleeping rooms are \$149 per night
- Free Shuttle to/from the Sheraton for the conference (10 minute drive)
- Close to Claremont Village full of shops and restaurants
- Students receiving scholarships from LACOE will be staying at this hotel

[Make your room reservations here.](#)



Sheraton Ontario Airport

429 N Vineyard Ave, Ontario, CA 91764
(909) 937-8000

- Sleeping rooms are \$129 per night
- Free Shuttle to/from the Sheraton for the conference (10 minute drive)
- Free parking
- Free 24 hour shuttle to/from Ontario Airport

[Make your room reservation here.](#)





Schedule of Events

Sunday April 8, 2018

2:00 pm - 7:00 pm Student Academy and Dinner

Monday, April 9, 2018

9:00am Check In Desk Opens

10:00 am - 11:30 am **Opening Session**

- Welcome by Bobby D. Cagle, Director, Department of Children and Family Services, County of Los Angeles*
- Keynote Presentation by David Flood*

11:30 am - 12:30 pm Lunch

12:45 pm - 2:00 pm **“A” Group Workshops**

2:15 pm - 3:30 pm **“B” Group Workshops**

3:45 pm - 5:00 pm **“C” Group Workshops**

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm **Networking Dinner at the Farm**

5:30 pm - 9:00 pm **Student ONLY Dinner and Activity**

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

8:00 am - 9:00 am Breakfast and Announcements

9:00 am - 10:15 am **“D” Group Workshops**

10:30 am - 11:45 am **General Session**

- Youth Panel and Roundtable Discussions*

11:45 am - 12:45 pm Lunch

1:00 pm - 2:15 pm **“E” Group Workshops**

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm **Closing General Session**

Student Program Details

In order to ensure a successful participation experience

All Students attending the conference are expected to participate in the Youth Academy on Sunday, from 2-7pm.

This year we will have a strong Youth program that includes a Sunday afternoon **Student Academy** which will help them prepare for a successful time at the Summit. The session will open with a youth motivational speaker. Youth will learn about their education rights, engage in activities to develop their public speaking and networking skills, work in small groups to identify what messages they would like to convey to the adults at the conference about how the system could be changed to better meet their needs, develop personalized talking points for sharing at the conference (at the youth's discretion), and will receive support in planning their conference session including choosing breakout sessions where they can both gather and share important information.

Monday night the students will join together in a Student Only dinner and activity. This is a great unwind time for them where they get to meet and hang out with others at the event in a fun, low-key environment.

Registration Fees for the Student Program include:

- Sunday afternoon Student Academy
- Sunday night dinner
- Monday student breakfast
- Monday night Student ONLY dinner and activity
- Along with the conference program and meals (Monday lunch, Tuesday breakfast and lunch)



Networking Dinner at the Farm

Come join your colleagues for a strolling dinner at the Farm on Monday night.

Take this time to catch up with old friends and meet new ones in this beautiful and unique environment while eating amazing farm to fork foods.

The Farm at Fairplex is a five-acre working farm with an abundant garden whose seasonal bounty is used in the delicious cuisine for this dinner and for the hotel. The event will include a custom menu inspired by in-season herbs, fruits and vegetables harvested from the Farm's organically grown five acres of plantings.



Keynote Speaker

David Flood

Teaching Dignity • Respect • Compassion

David's humorous and genuine speaking style empowers people with social and emotional skills while teaching them the crucial life skills of dignity and respect. David's life teaches him every day about dignity, understanding, patience, forgiveness, and most of all unconditional love.

His start as a motivational speaker comes from personal experience; he grew up impacted by addiction in his family; he married and became a father of two children, his oldest son has special needs; he is active in his church; he is a hospice volunteer who visits with terminally ill patients; and is on the board of KIDS Plus, a non-profit organization which helps special needs children through sports and other activities. David attends meetings and participates in activities with The Anti-Bias Consortium for Nassau County Schools. He is a member of The Northport-East Northport Drug and Alcohol Task Force. As a motivational speaker, focused on youth topics, David speaks with passion and conviction and through his humility, leaves his attendees inspired and able to look at people and things in a different way.



Youth Engagement Session—Tuesday Morning

This general session is designed to support participants to think deeply about authentic youth engagement. It will consist of two parts:

First there will be a panel discussion with representatives from VOICES (Sonoma/Napa Counties), CYC (California Youth Coalition), and Attendance Works*. The group will discuss how they work to engage the youth voice in a meaningful way and what challenges they face when doing so.

After their discussion, there will be a time for group work at each table centered around guiding questions that will encourage participants to work with their teams and reflect on current practice, raise questions, and challenge assumptions about what it means for organizations to embrace youth engagement and seek to create space for youth voice.

The goal of the session is to provide space for the sharing of best practices, lessons from the field, and questions related to meaningful youth engagement.

*invited

“A” Group Workshops

Monday April 9, 2018

12:45 pm—2:00 pm

A1 Youth Empowering Success (YES!)

Ian J. Anderson, Foster Youth Prevention Services Facilitator, Kern County Office of Education

Tina Smith, Student Support/Ed. Services Coordinator, Delano Union Elementary School District

Katie Price, Foster and Homeless Youth Counselor - Bakersfield High School, Kern High School District

YES! Member (Foster Youth)

Youth Empowering Success! (YES!) are school based organizations created to mentor and empower foster youth in the elementary, middle, high school as well as college. YES! is an organization that allows schools to serve foster youth students directly and maintain their confidentiality. Being voluntary and student-driven, YES! provides a forum where foster youth network socially and learn to advocate for themselves while also gaining valuable leadership skills and transitional services. Audience members will learn about the various YES! models and how this program could be adapted to their school district.

A2 Exploring Data Driven Collaboration in FOSTER FOCUS

Bridget Stumpf, Project Specialist, FYS Technical Services, Sacramento County Office of Education

Learn how to use shared education and child welfare data to improve education outcomes and transitions for foster youth. Examine with us, a system of case management and reporting features including dashboards, education plans, graduation monitoring and post-secondary transition tools. This workshop is a system overview for new or prospective system users. The FOSTER FOCUS data system incorporates CWS/CMS, CALPADS and school district data and is used by COEs, school districts, child welfare and probation agencies in almost 40 counties across California.

A3 District Collaborations to Improve Foster Youth Outcomes

Jill Rowland, Education Program Director, Alliance for Children's Rights

Mark Rodgers, Director, Specialized Student Services, Bonita Unified School District

Dr. Laurel Bear, Assistant Superintendent, Alhambra Unified School District

Marc Trovatore, Director Student Services, West Covina Unified School District

By sharing best practices and common pit falls, six school districts in LA County are working collaboratively to improve foster youth outcomes. Hear from district leaders why they chose to participate in this collaborative and how learning from other districts is helping them shape their programs and service delivery models. Relationship building, topics (including access to Exploration Guides which have guided the discussions around each topic), and utilizing data to drive improved student outcomes will be discussed. Learn the best practices discovered in the collaborative and how to begin or improve their own learning networks.

A4 Foster Youth Shadow Day: Linking Youth to Professional Mentors to Improve High School Graduation Rates and Encourage Post-Secondary Education

Rachel Coates-Campbell, LCSW, Lead Foster Youth Counselor, LAUSD/PSA

Katrina Taylor, PSA Specialist, LAUSD/PSA

Traci Williams, Foster Youth Counselor, LAUSD/PSA

Student, LAUSD

Adult mentorships can help foster youth envision a future in which educational success is obtainable. LAUSD implemented this idea by creating a “Shadow Day” to connect foster youth with a professional mentor and give the youth the opportunity to shadow the professional for the day in their job. This allowed the youth to connect with an adult and see what types of requirements there are for that career field. Come hear how and why the event was organized, and hear feedback from youth who participated in the day.



Monday April 9, 2018

12:45 pm—2:00 pm

A5 School Stability and ESSA: Solving the Transportation Puzzle

Michelle Lustig, Ed.D, MSW, PPSC, Director FYSCP and HES, San Diego County Office of Education

Kimberly Giardina, MSW, Deputy Director, County of San Diego HHSA, Child Welfare Services

Molly Ravenscroft, Family Community Services Program Coordinator, Sweetwater UHSD, Foster & Homeless Youth Education Services Program

What is the greatest barrier to school stability for a student in foster care? Transportation! San Diego County is on track to have a truly collaborative cost sharing agreement that will fully comply with the ESSA Requirements for the provision of Transportation to school of origin for students in foster care. Come learn about our collaborative program which includes these partners: San Diego County Health and Human Services, Child Welfare Services, The San Diego County Office of Education and San Diego County school districts. Through the use of contracted services, along with district resources, we intend to increase school stability and ensure that all children stay in their school of origin when it is their best interest to do so.

This workshop is also being offered in Session “B”

A6 Fostering Success: Statewide Support Programs, Outreach Strategies and Critical Resources for Foster Youth

Amanda Davis, Program Manager, I Can Afford College (Ca. Community Colleges Chancellor's Office)

Mark Perry, Program Manager, Career Education (Ca. Community Colleges Chancellor's Office)

Cortney Ceccato, Program Mngr, Associate Degree for Transfer (Ca. Community Colleges Chancellor's Office)

Join a panel of experienced program managers, financial aid, transfer and career education experts for this session sharing best practices and critical resources specifically focused on serving foster youth. Three programs developed by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office will be highlighted, which include financial aid, transfer, and career education. Learn how these programs and their outreach efforts support foster youth in pursuing their higher educational dreams.

A7 Teaching Students Dignity, Respect, and Compassion for Themselves and Those Around Them

David Flood, Motivational Speaker



Following up on his keynote message David will go further into topics discussed by getting feedback from students. Students will have the opportunity to share, and should come prepared to do so, about their experiences in relation to self-care and care for others. Students will leave with a call to action along with ideas and coping skills to use in their everyday lives.

A8 Nudging Foster Youth to College Success

Simone Tureck, Associate Policy Director, John Burton Advocates for Youth

Cecilia Le, Director of Strategic Engagement, Persistence Plus

Youth Presenter

Behavioral science offers simple, scalable strategies, known as “nudges,” that can help students persist through college and graduate. Through a partnership between John Burton Advocates for Youth and Persistence Plus, foster youth in housing programs across California are receiving personalized, interactive nudges over text message to support them to college success. This session will describe how nudges can guide students through important college milestones (registering for courses, renewing financial aid) and engender key mindsets (seeking help from campus resources, belonging in college). Participants will hear early lessons about implementing the support and perspectives from youth receiving the nudges.

“B” Group Workshops

Monday April 9, 2018

2:15 pm—3:30 pm

B1 Early Intervention: Powerful and Underused Educational Services for Children Birth Through Three, and How to Get Them

Lisa Winebarger, Staff Attorney and Eugene Yoo, Staff Attorney, Alliance for Children's Rights

Early intervention services are free educational services which promote the development of children ages 0-3 who have, or are at risk of, developmental delays. Children in care are at increased risk of delays, but early intervention is highly effective at mitigating the impacts of trauma, addressing developmental delays, improving lifelong educational outcomes, and promoting home stability. Unfortunately, many children in care are not appropriately referred, or experience delays and other barriers to services. Attendees will learn how to identify potentially eligible children, how to advocate for them, and how to help secure services in an Individual Family Service Plan (“IFSP”).

B2 Graduation Success for Youth in Foster Care

Angela Griffin, Chief Program Officer; Nicole Herron, Senior Manager, Resource Services; Amy Kopriva, Senior Education Specialist, Treehouse

Robert Bennett—Student

Through Treehouse’s Graduation Success program, youth in foster care graduate from high school with a plan for the future. Our Class of 2016 had an extended graduation rate of 89%, which is 7% higher than the extended rate for their peers. We are currently providing the program to more than 900 youth in 26 school districts. The youth-driven model is based on the evidence-based practices of Check & Connect, an intensive student engagement model, and Student-Centered Planning. Come learn about the program model, including the tools and strategies our education specialists use to support and motivate youth to overcome barriers.

B3 Court Companion to the Foster Youth Education Toolkit

Alaina Moonves-Leb, Senior Staff Attorney, Alliance for Children's Rights

Miracle Wilber, Former Foster Youth

After several years of successful implementation of the Foster Youth Education Toolkit with school districts, ACR has created a Court Companion for use by all other parties supporting foster/probation youth educational success, including: judges, social workers, probation officers, and attorneys for youth and parents. For each subject area (education rights holders, school of origin, transferring schools, and graduation), the Companion includes the basics of the law, best practices, and sample tools such as hearing checklists, minute order, and court report language. This presentation will share highlights of this free resource, including an in depth look at one section, as well as an inside perspective from a current judge and a former foster youth about the need for tools like these in the courtroom and how to utilize them.

This workshop is also being offered in Session “D”

B4 The Community Resiliency Model (r)

Edwin Weaver, Executive Director, Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley

Susan Reedy, MFT, Guidance Counselor, Mayfield Junior School Pasadena CA/Therapist in Private Practice

In the movie, Resilience (2016), Dr. Nadine Burke-Harris states that children coming into preschool with an ACE (Adverse Childhood Experience) score of 4 or more were 32 times more likely to have a behavioral problem or learning disability. We have developed The Community Resiliency Model™ to help combat those issues. CRM’s goal is to help create “trauma-informed” and “resiliency-informed” individuals and communities that share a common understanding of the impact of trauma and chronic stress and how resiliency can be restored or increased using this skills-based approach. We will discuss their partnership with school districts and how that has allowed them to provide training for school counselors, teachers, substitute care providers and foster youth in the CRM Skills. You will receive information on a free App where you can finish your CRM training and practice the skills for self-care or use it to teach others.

**Monday April 9, 2018****2:15 pm—3:30 pm****This workshop is also being offered in Session “E”**

B5 Probation Youth in Foster Care: Removing the Labels and Creating a More Inclusive School Climate
Lakeah Dickerson, Senior Program Specialist, Los Angeles County Office of Education
Kimberly Faulkner- Camacho, Senior Program Specialist, Los Angeles County Office of Education

Let's be honest: most people have a negative image in mind when it comes to youth on probation, or in a juvenile hall school. Ultimately, students released from the halls or camps will return to your school district. How do you effectively deal with the many challenges of educating youth on probation? What does it take to have an impact on students who will seemingly give you every reason to send them packing? Let's get to the bottom of these behaviors and talk about key strategies that will make the most difference in the least amount of time.

B6 Fostering Your Network of Care: Using your program as a tool to connect with the community to ensure educational success for foster youth

Rashida Elimu, Guardian Scholars Supervisor & Angela Aceves, Jr Guardian Scholars Supervisor, Promises2Kids Youth Presenters

Promises2Kids' goal is to create a brighter future for foster kids. Since 2001, Guardian Scholars has fostered relationships with CWS, universities, and community organizations to aid foster youth in tackling all obstacles to completing their education. Offering programming that is inclusive of all systems that foster youth experience, Guardian Scholars program model draws on support from social workers to collaboration with universities.

Promises2Kids holistic approach allows students to gain the support necessary to move forward without duplication of basic services. With a 95% high school graduation rate and an 80% college success rate, Promises2Kids has advocated and embodied multi-agency collaboration.

B7 Show Me the Money: The FAFSA and Beyond for Foster Youth



Deborah Pruitt, Program Manager, John Burton Advocates for Youth
Jeff Belcher, Foster Youth Liaison, Fresno Unified School district
Britney Slates, Financial Aid Guardian Scholars/Next Up Specialist, Sierra College

Each year, billions of financial aid dollars go unclaimed simply because students abandon the application or don't know how to follow it through. Furthermore, the overwhelming majority of foster youth do not receive all the financial aid available to them due to lack of support in the process. We will bring together a high school foster youth liaison with a college financial aid expert and student to cover the A-Zs of financial aid – for youth and for professionals - and make it simple to ensure that foster youth students get all the financial aid they are eligible for. We will cover strategies that school district personnel can implement to reach all seniors in their district to create a transition plan and complete the FAFSA. We will also review the FAFSA application and the questions that are critical for foster youth, to make sure they get the best possible financial aid package. We will explain the steps that must be taken after submitting the FAFSA to make sure that the application is complete and all financial aid is awarded in a timely manner. We will also cover how to keep getting financial aid, stay in school, and avoid financial aid debt resulting from overpayments. Finally, you will hear first-hand from a student about the real-life pitfalls in the financial aid process and how to avoid them.

B8 Building Your Mindfulness Practice

Anika Fernandez, Manager of Experiential Learning and Engagement; Mike Brooks, Senior College Counselor; Dan Gallagher, College Counselor; Nawal Salim, Program Manager, United Friends of the Children

Discover creative, fun and meaningful tools for incorporating mindfulness into your everyday world so you can more easily navigate the highs and lows of life. Current research in the fields of psychology, education, and neuroscience indicate that mindfulness practices can help you improve attention and focus, manage stress, decrease depression, enjoy more positive relationships, and increase optimism! We will provide participants with current research, practical tools, and experiential exercises to support the effective use of mindfulness into your everyday world.



Monday April 9, 2018

3:45 pm—5:00 pm

This workshop is also being offered in Session “A”

C1 Fostering Success: Statewide Support Programs, Outreach Strategies and Critical Resources for Foster Youth

See Workshop A6 for full description.

C2 The iPlan: An Education Resource Planner for Foster & Homeless Youth

Pamela Hancock, Coordinator, Fresno Co. Superintendent of Schools

Jeff Belcher, Teacher on Special Assignment, Fresno Unified School District

Liz Torres, Education Services Specialist, Fresno Co Superintendent of Schools

Explore how Fresno County’s service delivery programs support youth toward graduation and becoming college/career ready. At the county level, FCOE Homeless Program provides 9-12th graders education planning and transition services and the iPlan©, an all-inclusive education resource planner. iPlan© includes homeless laws, graduation & college requirements, financial aid information and community resources. At the district level, Fresno Unified provides academic monitoring and case management through Project 7-10, and other support services (including California’s AB 167 graduation waiver, school/hygiene supplies, & connection to homeless services). Get resources and information that you can use to replicate in your own schools today.

C3 Know Your Education Rights And Become An Advocate

Alaina Moonves-Leb, Senior Staff Attorney, Alliance for Children's Rights

Megan Stanton-Trehan, Staff Attorney, Alliance for Children's Rights

Miracle Wilber, Former Foster Youth



Despite incredible resilience and potential, foster youth continue to demonstrate the poorest education outcomes in the state, even compared to other disadvantaged student groups. Due to the unique challenges foster youth face, there are special rights they are granted under the law; however, these laws are only helpful if someone knows about and advocates for their application. During this training, youth attendees will gain a clear understanding of their education rights and helpful steps for what they can do to protect those rights. They will learn 1) who makes their education decisions; 2) their right to remain in their school of origin or immediately enroll in their local comprehensive school; 3) their right to partial credits when they change high schools ; 4) their high school graduation options; 5) their rights when subject to school discipline; and 6) their right to special education services. Youth will practice practical steps they can take when their rights are violated to ensure they have meaningful access to a high quality education.

C4 Social Stories to Assist Children in Foster Placement—Cancelled

C5 Serving Foster Youth’s Disability and Trauma Related Needs Through IEPs

Sam Paneno, Education Program Associate Director, Alliance for Children's Rights

Dr. Catherine DeRidder, Child Abuse Pediatrician, Asst Professor, VIP-CATC Hub Clinic, LAC+USD Med Center

Jill Rowland, Education Program Director, Alliance for Children's Rights

Youth in foster care experience trauma, disability, and school instability at higher rates than other student populations. This leads to a disproportionate number of foster students requiring special education services, and to many students’ disabilities going unrecognized or unaddressed due to school moves. Learn about a district’s “child-find” duty to seek out and serve these needy kids and how to utilize “Other Health Impairment” and “Emotional Disturbance” categories to make foster children IEP eligible. Get tips on how to advocate in IEP meetings including building goals focused on resiliency and services which can help a foster youth thrive in school.

**Monday April 9, 2018****3:45 pm—5:00 pm****This workshop is also being offered in Session “E”****C6 LGBT & Foster Care***Prizila Vidal, Health Education-Outreach Prevention Worker, San Diego Youth Services*

What does LGBTQ even mean? What are the rights of LGBTQ young people in care? How do I balance personal beliefs with professional responsibility? What resources exist for families of LGBTQ-identified youth? This workshop will describe disparities in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) populations, explain LGBT definitions and concepts and describe ways to overcome barriers to providing better care to LGBT people. You will leave with a deeper awareness of personal ideas, stereotypes, and assumptions related to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and allied (LGBTQIA) youth. And hopefully have an increased comfort level in addressing concepts and language regarding LGBTQIA communities with the university community and with individuals. We support you in building an inclusive, supportive environment where LGBTQ and ALL young people are safe and feel safe.

C7 Indiana Department of Child Services – Permanency and Practice Support*Melaina Gant, M.Ed., Director, Education Services, Indiana Department of Child Services**Joseph Combs, MSW, Acting Deputy Dir, Permanency and Practice Support, Indiana Dept of Child Services*

This workshop provides specific details regarding the statewide Education Services team within the Indiana Dept of Child Services (DCS) devoted to supporting the education of Indiana's foster youth. We will offer historical background describing the implementation of the statewide program, how the education services team assists DCS field, families, and youth and resources created by the team for use in educational setting to support youth impacted by trauma. We will also focus on the development of community partnerships within our division and how this has supported the foster youth in Indiana, specifically since the implementation of ESSA.

C8 Foster Youth Leadership Council: Supporting School Stability and Foster Youth Voice

La Shona Jenkins, LCSW, Coordinator, Foster Youth Achievement Program; **Katrina Taylor**, LCSW, Specialist, Foster Youth Achievement Program; **Dr. Jennifer Rios-Zambrano**, Lead Counselor, Foster Youth Achievement Program; **Omar Maynez**, Lead Counselor, Foster Youth Achievement Program; **Traci Williams**, LPCC, Foster Youth Counselor; **Student**, Los Angeles Unified School District

The LA Unified School District's Foster Youth Achievement Program has developed a district wide initiative to provide high school students an opportunity to empower themselves and develop their voice as leaders at local schools, within a support group setting. As educators, it is imperative that we encourage foster youth to become familiar with their rights and become advocates for themselves. Learn how you can better serve and support foster youth through facilitation of youth councils that focus on building leadership, social skills, post-secondary opportunities, and creating resiliency through the many obstacles they face, i.e., trauma, lack of permanency and/or a supportive environment.

C9 Building a Foster Care Advisory Council in Your District

Dr. Jeanette Mann, Council Secretary & Beth **Gertmenian**, All Saints Church Foster Care Project

Deidre Duncan, Resource Parent – Council Co-Chair

Theresa Reed, FKCE Program Director at Pasadena City College – Council Co-Chair

Franchesca Ocasio, PUSD Foster Care Community Liaison

This workshop will share the triumphs and challenges of the creation of the Foster Youth Guardians, Parents and Advocates Council as a voice to the School Board for Pasadena Unified School District. We will share steps to getting started, defining your allies, involving caregivers, and recruiting community partners. You will learn about the content and structure of the meetings, future goals for the collaborative group and recommendations for forming your own council.



Tuesday April 10, 2018

This workshop is also being offered in Session “E”

D1 Maximizing ILP Resources for Foster Students

Nisha Kashyap, Staff Attorney, Alliance for Children's Rights



Both students and educators are invited to join this workshop to learn how to take advantage of all of the ILP services available. The Independent Living Program (ILP) offers unique resources for current and former foster students in high school, college, and vocational programs. These services can be vital to students' academic success and socioemotional wellbeing, but students and educators often struggle to access them because they do not know what to ask for or how to ask. Using LA County's program as a model, this workshop will cover who is eligible for ILP, the full range of resources available, and best practices for accessing resources.

D2 The Ways and Means to Obtain School Records from all Schools Attended in California

Larry Canter, Senior Program Specialist – Registrar, Los Angeles County Office of Education



Have you or your student heard “we don’t have any school records for you” or you get the records and they are wrong? Come learn what legal mandates there are that govern accessing your student records, maintaining and destroying of student records, fulfilling student records requests, and what to do when someone says they don’t have your records. Learn how do you access and obtain your own records; how to challenge your records when you have an issue with the information or if you feel there is something missing from your student records. Leave with concrete information on how to obtain and/or correct your records.

D3 Making College Access Possible Through Education and Community Partnerships

Loretta Ledezma, Senior Program Specialist, Los Angeles County Office of Education

Martha Calderon, Coordinator, Hacienda La Puente USD

Gloria Serrano-Corona, Children's Services Administrator, Department of Children and Family Services

Jeze Lopez, REACH Program Coordinator, Mount San Antonio College

Although much easier said than done, most people agree that our work cannot be done in isolation. We need strong partnerships in order to meet the unique needs of students in foster care, especially when it comes to college access. Crossing the invisible lines between Child Welfare, Schools, and Colleges takes patience and persistence. Join us as we explore the barriers and benefits of collaboration. We will provide tools to overcome those barriers, and discuss our joint projects that we hope will spark some new ideas you can take back to your local community.

D4 Utilizing FOSTER FOCUS to Facilitate and Track FYSCP Requirements

Bridget Stumpf, Project Specialist, FYS Technical Services, Sacramento County Office of Education

The FOSTER FOCUS data system supports AB 854 requirements by providing a platform to collaborate through shared data, implement countywide procedures and capture local agency efforts. Come learn how to proactively track district or FYSC program requirements and compile data for meaningful annual reporting. New or prospective users are also encouraged to attend the system overview workshop “Exploring Data Driven Collaboration in FOSTER FOCUS.” FOSTER FOCUS incorporates CWS/CMS, CALPADS and school district information system data and is used by COEs, school districts, child welfare and probation agencies in almost 40 counties across California.

“D” Group Workshops—Continued

Tuesday April 10, 2018

9:00 am—10:30 am

D5 Foster Youth and Stakeholder Engagement in the LCAP Process

Megan Stanton-Trehan, Education Attorney, Alliance for Children's Rights

Mark Rodgers, Director of Specialized Student Services, Bonita Unified School District

Jill Rowland, Education Program Director, Alliance for Children's Rights

A youth's voice can be a powerful driver of change, but how can you harness that power in your LCAP stakeholder engagement process? Learn from a district who has built a successful model over the past two years to increase their foster youth budget and improve their service delivery model. Attendees will hear from partnership participants and youth about the successes and learning moments of the process. Youth training materials will be shared, along with tools utilized to help youth prepare their thoughts for effective participation in stakeholder meetings. Learn how to raise up the voices of your youth!

This workshop is also being offered in Session “B”

D6 The Community Resiliency Model (r)

See Workshop B4 for full description.

D7 Keep Your Sanity: Compassion Fatigue and Self Care

*Susanne Terry, Project Specialist and Gabriela Delgado, Program Specialist;
San Diego County Office of Education*

Come and find out how and why compassion fatigue occurs, how it's impacting your home and work life, and what you can do to keep your sanity. Compassion Fatigue or secondary trauma, can be defined as a gradual lessening of compassion over time. This workshop will give you more knowledge around self-awareness and provide you various tools for developing self-care plans that work!

D8 Picking Up the Pieces: A Look into School Aged Foster Youth Dealing with Trauma and its Connection to High School Completion

*La Shona Jenkins, LCSW, Coordinator, Foster Youth Achievement Program, Los Angeles Unified School District
Dr. Jennifer Rios-Zambrano, Lead Counselor, Foster Youth Achievement Program, Los Angeles USD*

Foster youth in the U.S. have the highest rate of non-completion of secondary school, and are more likely to be unemployed, incarcerated, and homeless. The vulnerability and trauma they face within the educational and child welfare systems are among the highest when compared to their peers, often due to prior trauma, and their lack of permanency, stability, and a supportive family dynamic. Strong partnerships could support academic and mental health needs to increase high school completion.



Tuesday April 10, 2018



E1 Preparing Foster Youth for Higher Education and Beyond

Katrina Taylor, Specialist, Foster Youth Achievement Program, Los Angeles Unified School District

La Shona Jenkins, Coordinator, Foster Youth Achievement Program, Los Angeles Unified School District

Dr. Jennifer Rios-Zambrano, Lead Counselor, Foster Youth Achievement Program, Los Angeles USD

Steven Wilson, Assist. Director, Guardian Scholars, CSU, Los Angeles

Come learn about our Pathways to College program, a collaborative program which includes college tours, assistance with college and financial aid applications, and an end-of-year graduation celebration to improve post-secondary education attainment rates among foster youth. Join in discussions around planning events that cater to foster youth, how to organize college tours, and how to solicit donations for college essentials. Receive sample college tour and end-of-year celebration agendas. Let's turn the tide for Foster youth, who we know are less likely than their non-foster peers to believe that they can have a successful future, graduate high school, or attend college.

This workshop is also being offered in Session “B”

E2 Probation Youth in Foster Care: Removing the Labels and Creating a More Inclusive School Climate

See workshop B5 for full workshop description.

E3 Taking Flight - the Foster Youth Education Journey

Lori-anne Elinsky, Supervising Social Service Practitioner, San Bernardino Children and Family Services

Using flight as a metaphor, this presentation will highlight how we as leaders have launched a new era of educational accountability. In the first 100 years of flight, human beings have set precedence for achieving what seemed impossible. In San Bernardino County, we who are entrusted with the responsibility to educate foster youth are hitting a stride in leveraging laws and relationships to build a future based the opportunities in education. The presentation will contain inspiring aviation references to illustrate the accomplishments that are possible when partnerships are built; data is used effectively, and hope continues to be cultivated.



E4 Former Foster Youth in Higher Education: First Year Experience "If I had only known..."

Lorri M Capizzi, Department of Counselor Education, Faculty, San Jose State University

Catherine Davis, Master's Candidate - Counselor Education, San Jose State University

Dacia Martinez, Master's Candidate - Counselor Education, San Jose State University

Come hear about the first year experiences of former foster youth attending a 4 year university, the realities of college life for these youth, what has worked well for them and what they wished they would have known. Leave with a better understanding of how to navigate through the first year of college and get a better understanding of college majors, minors and career clusters.



This workshop is also being offered in Session “C”

E5 LGBT & Foster Care

See workshop C6 for full workshop description.

“E” Group Workshops—Continued

Tuesday April 10, 2018

1:00 pm—2:15 pm

E6 Developing Local Indicator Data for Foster Youth to Enhance Stakeholder Engagement In Your LCAP Process

Jill Rowland, Education Program Director, Alliance for Children's Rights

Mark Rodgers, Senior Director, Specialized Student Services, Bonita Unified School District

Marc Trovatore, Director of Student Services, West Covina Unified School District

Dr. Laurel Bear, Assistant Superintendent, Alhambra Unified School District

Foster youth data is now in district Dashboards and the results are poorer than expected. A school district panel will describe how to identify and tag foster youth within your student information systems and how to gather and analyze that data in a meaningful way to demonstrate early indicators of local growth. Attendees will discuss additional data points specific to foster youth (e.g., awarding partial credits, school stability measures) not currently available in the Dashboard. Panelist will share how to utilize data as one tool towards meaningful discussions around the needs of foster youth in the LCAP stakeholder engagement process.

E7 Trauma Informed Practices for Schools (TIPS)

Mindy Kukich, Project Specialist and Michelle Bailow, Tutor Connection Program Supervisor

San Diego County Office of Education, Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program and Homeless Education Services

Becoming “trauma-informed” means recognizing that people often have many different types of trauma in their lives. People who have been traumatized need support and understanding from those around them. Often, trauma survivors can be re-traumatized by well-meaning caregivers and community service providers. Come learn about the physiological impacts of trauma on the brain and possible emotional, behavioral, social and intellectual/academic impacts on students in foster care. Also hear about the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) studies and how they relate to life-long impacts for students impacted by trauma. Also hear what is being done at schools and in classrooms to create trauma sensitive learning environments and strategies for responding to these impacts. Leave with a better understanding of the importance of self-care and addressing our own traumatic experiences/history.

This workshop is also being offered in Session “D”

E8 Maximizing ILP Resources for Foster Students

See workshop D1 for full workshop description.

