Supporting Foster Youth across the LACCD Towards Completion
CA College Pathways

- Statewide initiative
- Includes CCC, CSU, UCs and Private Campuses
- Initiatives goals:
  - By 2018: 1,000 FY will graduate college or receive a certificate/degree
  - FY will achieve important milestones at rates equal to or better than the general student population

www.cacollegepathways.org
Statewide Data Child Welfare Data

Abuse and Neglect

LA County has half of the statewide foster youth population

57,000 children and youth in the State’s Child Welfare System

Trauma effects cognitive development
By age 24...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Foster Youth</th>
<th>Comparison</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ever homeless</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently employed</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women ever pregnant</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median income</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$18,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men convicted of crime</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women convicted of crime</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DESPITE THESE STATISTICS - 25% OF FOSTER YOUTH ENROLL IN COLLEGE

Recent Changes in Legislation

AB12 (2011) – Extended Foster Care

- Youth can now stay in foster care until 21
- **Eligibility requirements can include going to college or vocational school**
- 2.5 times greater likelihood of attending college and 3 times more likely to obtain BA
- Can live with foster parents, relatives or independent housing

AB194 (2012) – Priority Enrollment
Legislation Continued

- CAFYES - Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Success
- BOG Fee Waiver Exemption
- CSAC – Chafee Grant
- CCC Apply
Where we Were – 2012

Statewide Campus Foster Youth Support Programs

Established program: 35
Emerging program: 8
Light touch program: 42
Single point of contact only (e.g. FYSI liaison): 60
Current Picture - 2015

Statewide Campus Foster Youth Support Programs

- Established program: 59
- Emerging program: 10
- Light touch program: 29
- Single point of contact only (e.g. FYSI liaison): 51
The problem:

- Multiple campuses with different types of support
- Various compositions (location of program, managing department, connection to the college)
- Different methods of MIS flagging
- Different eligibility criteria for priority registration
Los Angeles Community College District

The re-design and need for uniformity

- Established a district-wide FY Work Group
- Began meeting in Winter 2015
- Worked closely with the district office and their SIS Modernization team to improve the FY flagging process
- Rewriting question on CCC Apply
- Establishing set principles widely adopted for priority registration eligibility and outreach
- Created a “Welcome Letter”
Steps to Take in Your Own District

1. Find the point person for FY on your campus
2. Learn about the current processes for FY
3. Figure out the existing connections
4. Work with the FY point people to develop a working group
5. Ascertain the proper person to work with at your district level
LMU Guardian Scholars Program
LMU GSP Overview

Serve former/current foster youth
Coordinate individualized services
Guaranteed access to year-round housing
Engage students as leaders
Aid in the successful completion of their degrees
Assist with post-graduate transitions
3 Ways to Get Involved

Participate in Guardian Scholars social activities

Guardian Scholar

Guardian Scholars Mentor
LMU-Community College Connection

63% of fall 2015 transfer enrollees coming from community college (~236 students)

Transfer agreements
- 35 specific agreements from Northern/Southern California CCs
- Top transfer institutions: Santa Monica College, El Camino College, Pasadena City College

Access LMU visit Day—October and March

Community College Counselor Alliance Day—October

What do foster youth need to do?

Perform Well & Take the correct courses
There isn’t a particular credit requirement to transfer; but different transfer requirements
LMU launched their program in partnership with two local CCs.
Successful Transfer to LMU

Loyola Marymount University

Profile of the Fall 2015 Transfer Enrollees

- 20% of enrollees are international students
- Average transfer GPA of 3.39
- Enrolling transfers are coming from nearly 150 different sending institutions
- 63% of enrollees are coming from a community college
- 37% of enrollees are coming from a four-year institution
- Transfer enrollees are pursuing study in 36 different major programs
- 36% of transfer enrollees identify as first-generation students

FAST FACTS

- 2,100 applications for fall transfer enrollment
- 875 students offered fall transfer admission
- 375 new transfer students enrolling

Enrolling students are:
- 51% male
- 49% female
LMU Admission and Foster Youth

- Reach out to coordinator during application process
- Indicate foster youth on LMU’s Common Application (question added fall 2014)
- Indicate foster youth status on FAFSA
- Personal statement/additional information on application
Believe in Foster Youth

“No one rises to low expectations” – Les Brown

- Danger of the self-fulfilling prophecy
- Set high expectations – regardless of past performance
- Consistently express expectation that the youth will graduate from college and go on to a successful career
- Use such phrases as, “When you transfer to a four year university….,”
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