Foster Care and Higher Education Data
THE ROAD TO COLLEGE

TEXAS FOSTER YOUTH & POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Presented by
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Cohort of Youth Who Were Ever in Care

All children who had ever been in foster care

All children who had ever been in foster care who turned 18 between 2008-2009

N = 4,035

Allows us time to calculate

4 year graduation

6 year graduation

Limitations of cohort

1. Not all youth “aged out” of foster care
2. Youth may have only been in care for a short period of time
3. Not all youth qualify for a waiver

The following analysis includes 3,855 youth who were ever in foster care & who would have turned 18 in FY 2008-2009. (Not all youth would have qualified for the waiver)
33% of former foster youth have enrolled in higher education within 7 years of turning 18.

56% of high school graduates enrolled in 2/4 year institutions in 2009.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth who have not enrolled in higher education</th>
<th>Youth who have enrolled in higher education</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61.4%</td>
<td>Youth who were adopted</td>
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<tr>
<td>75.2%</td>
<td>Youth who were reunited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57.9%</td>
<td>Youth who emancipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71.7%</td>
<td>Youth in kinship placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49.5%</td>
<td>Youth who completed PAL</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>Youth who have received ETV</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>38.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>42.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>92.7%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
of youth who have enrolled, youth had an average of:

1,405.3 days in care
5.32 placement changes

of youth who have not enrolled, youth had an average of:

1,095.1 days in care
5.35 placement changes

Youth who were in care longer were
● more likely to enroll in higher education.
“Traditional College Cohort:”
Youth who graduated HS and enrolled in 2009

- 67% did not use the waiver
- 33% used waiver

Youth who enrolled sometime after the Fall of 2009

- 69% did not use the waiver
- 31% used waiver

*not all who enrolled would have been eligible for waiver
Other studies have shown 2-3% of former foster youth obtain a bachelors degree.
Post-Secondary Supports on Campus
Under Texas Education Code (TEC) Section 51.9356, each institution of higher education must appoint at least one employee to serve as a liaison for students formerly in the conservatorship of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

College for All Texans has list of liaisons.
To find out how you can help foster youth thrive in higher education, check out this comprehensive guide on providing resources & support.
• Nationally, there is interest in campus programming
  • Michigan has a thriving program

• Some campuses have targeted programming
  • Early examples include FACES at Texas State, PUSH at University of North Texas
  • More programs are popping up
  • Programs usually emerge from Social Work faculty and/or student services departments
  • Programs provide a variety of supports: emergency financial, help with navigation, comradery

• Education Reach for Texas

• Challenges – Financial Support, Information Sharing
Points of Contact – Higher Education

• Higher Education Foster Care Liaisons
  • http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/apps/financialaid/tofa2.cfm?ID=429

• THECB Liaison
  • Natalie Coffey - natalie.coffey@thecb.state.tx.us

• Regional PAL staff
  • https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Youth_and_Young_Adults/Preparation_For_Adult_Living/PAL_coordinators.asp
LMCI Can Help Your Students...
Texas Career Check:
http://www.texascareercheck.com/

• Explore careers options
  • By endorsement
  • By career cluster
  • By hot jobs
  • By career interest assessment

• Explore colleges/universities

• Play a game
Use the Search Bar to Tie Jobs to Talents
Texas Reality Check:

http://www.texasrealitycheck.com/

- Great for $$-motivated students
- Great for undecided students
- Career exploration
- Lifestyle options lead exploration
Will you be able to afford the lifestyle you want?

It's difficult to predict the future, but it's never too early to start planning for it. Our tool will show you how much your living expenses will cost, and the amount of money you will need to earn to pay for them.

It's time for a Reality Check.

Lifestyle Calculator

- Walk through expenses you'll incur each month
- Decide how much to spend on your lifestyle
- Determine your minimum salary needs
- Explore occupations that earn the salary you'll need

Start Your Reality Check

Occupation Calculator

Choose an occupation, then review your expenses to see if its salary can support your lifestyle.

Get Started

Quick View Calculator

Skip the guided tour & quickly tally up your expenses to compare costs with different occupations.

Get Started
Texas Internship Challenge

A campaign to increase internships for Texas students
Benefits of Registering

Employers prefer candidates with internship experience.  
60% of employers prefer relevant work experience.

Students gain a competitive advantage through internships.  
73% of interns are offered a full-time position.
Workforce Systems Support Desk
Phone: 512-463-4210
wfsupportdesk@twc.state.tx.us

TXInternshipChallenge.com
Publications & Alternative Tools We Recommend for Career Exploration Help

- Telephone Hotline
- Print Publications
- Classroom Poster Sets
- Publications that provide
  - Projections
  - Soft Skill Help
  - College Selection Guidance
  - HB 5 Endorsement Help
  - College Readiness Info
Career Hotline:

• 1-800-822-PLAN (7526)
• 24/7 automated line
• Get career or college information
  ❑ 3 careers
  ❑ 3 colleges/universities
  ❑ Can call more than once
  ❑ Anyone can call
• Counselor Packets
Occupation Outlook Handout

- State Occupation Projections
- Projections through 2024
- Top 30 jobs in several categories:
  - Fastest growing occupations
  - Adding the most jobs
  - Most job postings
  - Highest paid occupations
Top 10 Career Tips:

• How to find a job
• How to get the job
• How to keep a job
  ◦ Employability skills
  ◦ What employers want
  ◦ Be an asset not a liability
  ◦ Social Media Tips
Meet the TWC Education Outreach Team
3 Specialists Available Currently

Malisa Barnes

Micah Carpenter

Lori Knight

careerinformation@twc.state.tx.us
Our Collective Experience

- Teaching
- College & Career Advising
- HS Counseling
- Student Advocacy
- Tech in Teaching
- Core, CTE & SPED

40+ Years Combined
Our Services

Presentations

PD Sessions

Resource Showcase

Resource Demo

Career Fair Table

Selfie Photo Booth

And more . . .
Our Audiences

- Students
- Teachers
- Counselors

- Administrators
- Policy Makers
- CTE Faculty & Staff
- Education Partners

And more . . .
Sample Topics

- Exploring Careers
- What Employers Want
- Career Fit
- Navigating Our Tools
- VR Resources
- Exploring After-HS Options
- Soft Skills
- Alternative Pathways
- Career + Education Connection
- Foster Youth Resources
- Partnering with Workforce
- Using LMI Data
- Interview Skills
- Doing What You Love
- Career Assessments
- And more . . .
Flexibility in All We Do

Participation
Type
Venue
Time Constraints
Audience
Content
Invitation Requests

Information We MUST Have to Obtain Travel Approval

- Date
- Time
- Physical Location
- Participation Type
- Presentation Topic
- # Expected to attend

# Expected to attend: 36
#AdultingUpTX
Contact Us

www.lmci.state.tx.us

careerinformation@twc.state.tx.us

#AdultingUpTX
TWC Foster Care Initiatives
Foster Youth Education Pilot

Dropout prevention and recovery services to current and former foster care youth.

Provides pathways to post-secondary education and work.
Pilot Runs 08/17 - 06/19

- Approx. $1,500,000 in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds are identified for the program
- 4 Grant recipients in pilot
Texas Statewide Foster Youth Conference

Support the multi-agency Foster Youth Initiative to increase the partnership between:
- Transition Centers
- Workforce Development Boards
- Community Colleges
- Schools, and
- Industry
Conference Objectives

- Support local delivery of integrated services for foster youth
- Share perspectives and evidence based tools, practices and resources
- Provide an opportunity to build the network of partnerships
Conference Topics

• Foster youth perspective on successful transition support

• Training on Labor Market & Career Information tools

• Coordinating local services, focusing on the perspectives of staff in the field
• WD 43-11 Priority of Service for Eligible Foster Youth
  • Executive directive to prioritize foster youth for workforce center services (2011/Currently in review for 2018 update)

• WD 38-11 Change 1 MOU with DFPS to Serve Foster Youth
  • Executive directive to establish MOUs and formal partnerships with DFPS (2011)
• WD 31-04 Coordination of Services to Foster Youth
  • Executive directive to inform local workforce boards about the needs of foster youth (2004)
    • http://www.twc.state.tx.us/files/partners/31-04.pdf
• TAB 274 Coordination of Services to Foster Youth
  • Technical and interpretive details regarding implementation of 38-11 and 43-11 (2016)
    • http://www.twc.state.tx.us/files/partners/tab-274-twc.pdf
Related Laws
Tuition and Fee Waiver

• Available at any Texas state supported institution of higher education;
• For eligible students formerly in foster care, reunified, and adopted;
• Lifetime benefit;
• As long as the student enrolls in at least one college or dual credit;
• Before turning 25.

Texas Education Code §§ 54.366, 54.367
Education & Training Voucher

• Under federal law, eligible youth entitled to up to $5,000/year to cover education-related expenses (i.e. college related expenses including rent, books, utilities, childcare, computers, personal expenses).

42 U.S. Code § 677
Extended Foster Care

• Federal law (Fostering Connections Act) allows a youth to voluntarily remain in foster care after their 18th birthday.
• Youth ages 18 –21 must meet certain requirements such as staying in school, working, or participating in a job training program.
• Supervised independent living (SIL) allows a youth to live in residential foster care in a more independent setting (e.g. college dorm).

See Texas Family Code Ch. 263, Subch. G
Creating a College Going Culture
Creating a College Culture from the Bench

• Frequent Permanency Hearings After Final Order for High School (PAL DOCKET)
• Small Dockets allow for personalization
• Feed the body to feed the mind
Supporting Educational Needs and Goals

• Ask them
• Teach them
• Create a Plan
• Repeat

what are your goals?

A GOAL WITHOUT A PLAN IS JUST A WISH!
-UNKNOWN
Local SIL Programs in Colleges

• Engage an established local SIL
• Set meeting between College Leaders and SIL
• Engage Larry Burgess at DFPS State Office
Contact Information

Jackie Davis
Supervisor
Dallas CASA
www.iamjackiedavis.com

Dr. Monica Faulkner
Director
TX Institute for Child & Family Wellbeing
mfaulkner@mail.utexas.edu

Hon. Katrina Griffith
Judge
CPS Project Court
Katrina_Griffith@Justex.net

Lorena Knight
Education Outreach Specialist
LCMI
Texas Workforce Commission
lorena.knight@twc.state.tx.us
Thank you for attending this presentation!