

**Fostering Academics & Mentoring Excellence (FAME) -
Supportive Pathways to Educational Success
for Foster Care Youth**

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Getting Started

Introductions

What to expect today...

Presentation
Discussion
Questions

Learning Objectives

- By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:
- 1. Describe the prevalence of university *admission and completion rates* for foster care youth.
- 2. Identify three or more kinds of *support needs of foster care alumni who are university students, e.g.,* having an open case within DHS.

Learning Objectives, continued

- 3. Provide an overview of the *main interventions of the FAME program*, e.g., summer camp, mentoring program, website communication, and care baskets.
- 4. Be able to draw a chart illustrating *intra- and inter-university and community agency collaboration* needs to support foster youths' successes in higher education setting.
- 5. Articulate two or more *evaluation outcomes* reported by youth who participated in the FAME program.

Background Information

- College Access and Retention of Former Foster Care Youth
- Graduation Rates
- Educational Challenges
- Lack of Support Networks
- Transition to Adult Living

History of FAME

- Foster Care Alumni Services program at Michigan State University –Since 2008
- Founder Angelique Day
- Developing an infrastructure with broad community and university collaborative partnerships
- Development of the FAME name

Program Purposes

- Increase high school foster youth access to higher education
- Increase supports for foster care alumni students at MSU



Program Components – High School Foster Youth

- Summer Camps
- Purpose of the Camps
- Activities
- Referrals and registration
- Funding
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OoWpwzw43ks>

Program Components for FC Alumni -MSU Students

Mentoring Program

Connecting with Program Champions for Resources



Program Components, cont.

Care Packages



Website

- <http://www.finaid.msu.edu/fyas/appendix.asp>
- **Help with Financial Aid**
- Financial Aid is a crucial part in obtaining a college education for many students. Below are resources listed to assist in making college financing a possibility. The MSU Office of Financial Aid is committed to assisting Foster Youth to obtain Higher Education. For any additional information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Shappell at shappel2@msu.edu.
- *I agree- showing the website is better than showing examples!

Program Components

SSW Scholarship



Advocacy



Participants' Experiences

Evaluation Methods

1. Camper survey – pre, post, & follow up
2. Camper focus groups – post and follow up
3. “Counselor” survey (post only)
4. Check-ins with mentors
5. Debrief with “counselors” – post camp
6. Emerging – Impact of mentoring on the lives of camp “counselors”

What we’ve learned so far..

Youth Camp Outcomes

“Counselor” Camp Outcomes

Data from MSU student support services provided by the program

Limitations of the data

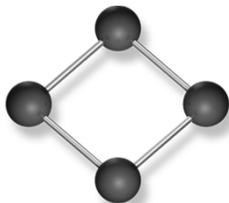
Implications

Practice

Policy

Research

Links between university and community resources – Your thoughts?



Ways to Help?

- Volunteer your time – Be an interviewer, mentor
- Care package donations
- Financial support
- Referrals
- Services linkages
- Other

References

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Discussion?

Questions?
Comments?
Thoughts?



Thank you!

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