Supporting Education of Youth in Substitute Care:

Resources and References

- Start talking to youth about 2-year or 4-year colleges in middle school.
- Remember that teen may have been traumatized in several ways.
- Consider school transportation issues and how that might affect youth's development.
- Ensure youth are taking college preparation courses.
- Hold Best Interest Determination (BID) meetings.
- Connect youth to LINKS to get exposure to college and independent living skills.
- Encourage youth to participate in extracurricular activities if possible to give youth exposure to another aspect of school.
- Ensure youth are getting the services they qualify for at school.
- Support and provide resources for LGBTQ+ youth, Check out our LGBTQ+ Youth in Foster Care Brochure for resources.

- Consider school transportation issues and how that might affect youth's development.
- Remember that teen may have been traumatized in several ways.
- Support and provide resources for LGBTQ+ youth, Provide them with the LGBTQ+ Youth in Foster Care brochure
- Help youth discover strengths to increase self-esteem and confidence and to decrease negative self-talk.
- Help youth find educational and mental health resources if learning is affected by internal emotions and behaviors.

- Hold Best Interest Determination (BID) meetings.
- Empower foster parents to be educational advocates for the youth.
- Invite school reps to CFT or have CFT at school (school social workers, guidance counselors, dropout prevention specialists, educational liaisons, or specialists) to ensure education is a priority.

Resources

Educational Resources

- Best Interest Determination (BID) Documentation: forms and instructions
  https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/info/olm/forms/dss/dss-5137.pdf
- Brochure about what child welfare workers can do for youth
  http://www.cfnc.org
- College Fund of North Carolina (to help with college planning)
  http://www.cfnc.org
- Special Education Services in NC
  https://www.ecac-parentcenter.org/
- Education and Training Voucher (for youth in care and foster care alumni)
  http://www.fc2sprograms.org/north-carolina/
- North Carolina Scholarships
  http://www.educationmoney.com/states/nc.grants.php
- US Department of Education- Educational Planning
  http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/plan.html
- Foster Care To Success Mentoring
  http://www.fc2success.org/programs/mentoring-and-support/
- Guide to IEP's in North Carolina
  https://law.duke.edu/childedlaw/docs/Parents'_guide.pdf

Developmental Resources

- Teen Brain: Still Under Construction
  http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/the-teen-brain-still-under-construction/index.shtml
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Child Development
  http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/childdevelopment/index.html

Community Resources

- Corral Riding (equine assisted therapy, academic intervention, vocational training, and mentorship)
  http://www.corralriding.org
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
  http://www.samhsa.gov/nctic/trauma-interventions
- SaySo, Inc.
  www.saysoinc.org

Don't Forget to Check out our Brochures on LGBTQ+ Youth in Foster Care and Helping Foster Youth get Ready for College!

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