



## Foster Youth Success Work Group

November 6, 2024

1:00pm to 2:30pm

ZOOM:

<https://rccd->

[edu.zoom.us/j/85880353696?pwd=99tSFDCDmZZQyPlsUSm6t7rAdqliuY.1&from=addon](https://rccd-edu.zoom.us/j/85880353696?pwd=99tSFDCDmZZQyPlsUSm6t7rAdqliuY.1&from=addon)

**Attendees:** Jennifer Briseño (Co-Chair), Mayra Gonzalez (Inspire), Steven Gonzalez, Azadeh Iglesias, Daniela McCarson, Jenna Mendez (Co-Chair-CNUSD), Denise Robles (Lee V. Pollard), Lisa Starr (RCOE), Reneisha Wilkes (CSUSB) Stephen Morales (UCR), Pamela Mitropoulos (Centennial), Ryan Sanchez (ERHS)

### AGENDA

- I. **Welcome/Introductions (Tri-Chairs: Jennifer Briseño/Jenna Mendez/vacant).**
  - a. Call to order 1:05pm
  - b. Motion to approve minutes: Jenna/Lisa. Approved by consensus
- II. **Dean's Report (Daniela McCarson)**
  - a. **Priority registration** was completed last week. Late April for Su/Fa'25 priority registration.
  - b. **EOPS conference:** Chancellor office reported proposed provision for title V. separating EOP and Next Up Programs. Must meet standalone requirements for EOPs to go into effect in 2025 to make the programs more accessible for new students coming in. The state received negative feedback regarding this.
    - Advantages-opportunity to be in both programs with two memberships beginning next week. Will continue to update community partners regarding our programs.
  - c. **Grant Application:** ECMC equity grant for all 3 foster youth programs across RCCD. Met to outline parameters & will be submitting application for grant up to \$1mil. Will need to utilize funding for FYSN support in high schools, student fees, textbooks, college tours, staff and extending high school support. Goal for next AY 25/26.
- III. **Community Partners Updates**
  - a. RCOE-Lisa Starr: Oct 6-Dr. Edward Gomez Superintendent-5<sup>th</sup> initiative for foster youth success initiative with 7 pillars. Will provide a link for the website. Internally working more closely for foster youth & working more in riverside w/ this initiative to support vulnerable populations. High school and college grad rates are lower than non-foster youth peers. 7 pillar sub committees are reaching out to community partners to be a part of each pillar subgroup. Lisa is coleader for subcommittee post-secondary committee-assist w/ transition and support. Reach out to Lisa if interested in sitting on any of these. Working w/ Thrive, Inspire and ILP. 2<sup>nd</sup> EAC Advisory coming up on Tuesday, Nov 12<sup>th</sup> in person at RCOE main office. March 6<sup>th</sup> -Dual County Ed Summitt at Ontario Double Tree Hotel-will send flyer when available. Dec 7<sup>th</sup> Norte Vista & 14<sup>th</sup> Don F Kenny Center in High Desert for Wonderland event. 9-1pm for both events-flyer to follow. Reneisha Wilkes-CSUSB would like to partner w/ Success Initiatives. Link for success subgroups-  
<https://www.rcoe.us/about-us/superintendent/superintendent-s-initiatives/foster-youth-success-initiative>
  - b. Thrive-Alexandra-no one present
  - c. Inspire-Mayra-Opening: Full w/ girl houses, but if any girls interested, please let us know. We may have 1 opening in Riverside in January. Possible openings in Corona because they are getting a new house. May have one that is transferring in the Spring- this way they can get prioritized.
    - Men-1 Eastvale and 2 in Riverside. [mayra@inspirelifefskills.org](mailto:mayra@inspirelifefskills.org)
  - d. Aspiranet-no one present
  - e. Hazel's Hands-Dr. Spears: Holiday Event on December 8<sup>th</sup> at Dave N Busters in Ontario for youth in

Foster Care, transitional aged out foster youth, kinship and their families. Will have games and provide gifts for students. Plan to have a sports event and movie day for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. A small non-profit based out of Eastvale providing support for youth in foster care and kinship. Provided supplies for Norco and partner w/ CSUSB as well. Looking forward to partnering w/ RCOE. Jennifer-Hazel's Hands provided assistance for CNSUD high schoolers for handler's card. Mayra-asked to get connected w/ newsletter.

#### **IV. Foster Youth Support Network/RCCD Updates (Michael Peterson)**

- a. Not present

#### **V. Norco College/Phoenix Scholars Updates (Azadeh/Monica/Jennifer)**

- a. College Bound Day
  - Oct 18<sup>th</sup>. 7 high schools represented w/ 10-12<sup>th</sup> graders to have students explore campus and s/w current and former students. Feedback Comments-"grateful for events, do more often, fun, shopping was best part". Staff and chaperones were pleased. 38 students w/ 13 staff/chaperones. About 50/50 ratio w/ Club Hope and All Stars-17.
  - Jenna: Great feedback. There was a bus issue. Best one so far.
- b. Blueprint Conference-great experience w/ students. Very student centered. 1<sup>st</sup> time these students that were able to attend and first time going to a hotel as well. Took 3 students-received scholarships and received a stipend.
- c. Upcoming Events
  - Senior Day in May 2025 to assist w/ registration and onboard students.
  - End of semester-holiday, update on Friendsgiving event, Thanksgiving college tours to CSUSD, UCSD & CSUSM

#### **VI. CNUSD Updates (Jenna Mendez and HS Reps)**

- a) Norco College Bound Day-Great to see former students who graduated from CNUSD.
- b) Holiday Flyer and upcoming events- Next week-Another event-game room, drumming event, breakout workshops. Holiday Event-Dec 6<sup>th</sup> event in Parent Center-inviting Norco College. Gift shop where students can shop for others & can get them wrapped.
- c) Ryan Sanchez-ERHS Intervention Counselor-great college bound day event. Dare to Dream Event. Jennifer has been present assisting students get wrapped up w/ applications. Things are going great.
- d) Pamela Mitropoulos (Centennial)-Intervention Counselor. Just started but was able to go on the field trip. Preparing students for Dare to Dream Field Trip.

#### **VII. University Partners**

- a. **CSUSB**-Reinisha Wilkes: Assembly James Ramos honored some students last week at a scholarship event. 65% of students received a scholarship this year. Goal-to make sure students have financial literacy. Financial literacy Café Series w /jr & sr's who can receive coaching to clear debt, set up a budget. 2 std went through escrow & will purchase first house & some students in the process of getting first house. 2 scholars that graduated in the Spring that cleared all personal debt-they have continued access to financial coach. 11/22 @4-6pm-Holiday Event w/ 40 sign ups. Inviting any of the partners. Mandated biweekly meetings. Retain 96% of F'23 cohort b/c of these mandatory intervention meetings where tutoring comes out w/ psychological services. 6 graduates, working w/ transition team to help w/ resume, grad school, stable housing, stable employment. 50% of F'24 grads applied to graduate school @ CSUSB. Spring'25 semester-will update at that time
- b. **UCR**-Steven Morales-Director for FY Services & Guardian Scholars. Historically 25 guardian scholars, this year that was doubled w/ about 200 non-guardian scholars foster youth. Support w/ permanent state funding. Have been able to expand team and increase outreach. Will be hiring 2 more positions before new year-f/t admin assistance/budgeting & Foster youth support Counselor-intensive support for Guardian Scholars. Donor was able to assist in awarding up to \$10k each scholar for unmet need, insurance assistance through university. New students will get a subsidized amount through that donor. Biggest event-tax event. Partnered w/ RCC, Aspirant and Cap proving support to about 30 students to assist w/ taxes and lunch w/ In N Out. Will do this again & will open to the public-will

- announce prior to winter break. Voices & Vision Event in May for National Care Awareness Month-last year hosted at Art Center w/ 3 students from RCC and UCR. Spoken word, visual art, sang-looking to expand this year and bring out a guest speaker for this event. Planning starts in January & will send out a sign-up list for that. Working on update w/ UCOP to revise UC question for Fall-revised was or am apart of child welfare system instead of ward of the court. IF not checked f/u question when capturing info for scholarships-kinship, guardianship etc. Will also provide links to UC's. This will be a unified approach to applications w/ UC's for how we accept foster youth students. Stephen.Morales@ucr.edu
- c. **CPP**-None present

**VIII. Good of the Order**-None

**IX. Adjournment: 2:02pm**

- a. Next Meeting: January @ 1:00pm
- b. Jenna-CNUUSD is not back, will let us know when return and we'll update meeting date.