



Charter for Foster Youth Workgroup

February 2022 – June 2023

This Charter is established February 2022 between the Foster Youth Workgroup and the Student Support Council to structure the process and planned outcomes included herein thru the 21-23 academic years.

Purpose

The Foster Youth Workgroup is centered on Norco College's mission of access, equity, and success in support of current and future foster youth students. The workgroup receives ideas, guidance and recommendations from internal and external constituent groups in order to support program and college goals as illustrated in the NC Educational Master Plan (EMP). The workgroup in collaboration with various constituent groups to host events for current and future foster students to Norco College.

Charge

The Foster Youth Workgroup is responsible for supporting the goals listed below.

1. EMP Objective 3.5: Reduce the equity gap for Foster Youth by 40%

Guiding Principles and Assumptions

The guiding principles of this workgroup is to work with internal and external constituent groups in support of the successful transition of foster youth students into college and guiding them towards academic and personal success based on their educational and career goal through a certificate, training and/or transfer. Additionally, the workgroup is charged with addressing the key performance indicator, KPI: 12. The group will address strategies and assess progress made in reducing the equity gap among foster youth.

Scope & Expected Deliverables

The goal is to collaborate with these partners every other month to discuss mutual events, plan visitations, onboarding activities, student issues, program updates, policies and student achievements. The workgroup will assess ways to navigate support for students who struggle to navigate services. The workgroup serves as a pipeline to local high schools and public agencies that support foster youth and work to reduce the equity gap among foster youth at Norco College.

Membership

Membership is open to the entire college community to include classified professionals, faculty, administrators, and students. Facilitators will guide meetings and plan agendas. Facilitators are nominated by the workshop and serve for two years in the role.

All Phoenix Scholars employees will serve as members of the Workgroup. There will be opportunities for other employees across all constituencies to participate depending on agenda items specific to their area of expertise.

External members are specifically identified and invited to serve for a two-year commitment and is based on expertise serving and supporting foster youth in the community.

- Riverside DPSS Liaison
- Foster Youth Housing Agencies
- RCOE Liaison
- CNUSD Liaisons

Meeting Time/Pattern

Meetings occur 4-5 times per a year. Twice in fall, once in winter, and twice in spring. Each meeting is approximately 1.5 hours in length. Facilitators host the meetings via zoom and/or in-person.

Roles of Chairs and Members

The Foster Youth Workgroup meets throughout the academic year to discuss the needs of foster youth, support the seamless transition of high school foster youth to Norco College, plan collaborative events, and to identify strategies to reduce the equity gap of foster youth.

Members are recognized as stakeholders with important expertise and perspectives relevant to the workgroup that can help to achieve the charter objectives. Members that attend and participate in meetings will take part in deliberations, and decision-making processes. While representing the perspectives of the constituency group to which they belong, members are expected to engage in effective dialogue with peers with the intention of finding consensus on all issues that come before the workgroup.

It is recommended that the minute recorder (or a designated delegate) shall prepare notes of each meeting and send it to the workgroup within two weeks of the meeting to fulfill transparent communication reporting.

Meeting Procedures and Expectations

Meeting agendas are issued in advance of meeting times. Meeting agendas are organized to achieve milestones established in the charter and prioritize actions pending, actions required, and problem solving to move the work of the group forward. Either minutes or notes are taken to record the groups progress OR a final summary report is to be submitted/posted.

Members endeavor to:

- appropriately prepare for meetings based on the meeting agenda.
- arrive promptly and stay for the duration of entire meetings.

Meeting Procedures and Expectations

- participate in a problem-solving approach where the interests of all participants are considered in developing proposals and recommendations and, where appropriate, distinguish between constituency versus college-wide perspectives.
- welcome all ideas, interests and objectives that are within the scope of the charter.
- actively listen to engage in respectful and constructive dialogue.
- work with a spirit of cooperation and compromise leading to authentic collaboration.
- move forward once a consensus-based decision has been made.
- continue to progress with the members who are present at each meeting.
- follow through on tasks that are committed to outside of scheduled meetings.