



TARGETED EDUCATION CASE MANAGEMENT FOR STUDENTS IN FOSTER CARE: *MODELS AND IMPACT*

July 12, 2023

Hosted by the ABA Center on Children &
the Law and the Youth Law Center



AGENDA

- Introductions
- Overview & Framing
- Model: Treehouse
- Model: NYCL
- Questions





AMERICAN **BAR** ASSOCIATION

Center on Children
and the Law

ABA CENTER ON CHILDREN AND THE LAW

A nonprofit grant-funded entity within the American Bar Association with a mission to promote access to justice for children and families. Projects support collaboration and coalition building at local, state and national levels to build the capacity of legal practices and systems that serve children and families.

www.americanbar.org/child

LEGAL CENTER FOR FOSTER CARE & EDUCATION

A strong national voice for the education of children in foster care. A facilitator of networks for education advocates and child welfare professionals. A provider of training and technical assistance across the country. A centralized source of information on foster care and education including resources, tools, and templates.

www.fostercareandeducation.org



LEGAL CENTER FOR
FOSTER CARE & EDUCATION

Supportive Advocates Improve Education Outcomes



Data supports that students in foster care need targeted, 1-on-1, intervention

“Non-parental supportive adult” = higher likelihood of attending college

- Consistent supportive relationships can those with include parents, kin, foster parents, caseworkers, teachers, children’s attorneys, and others.
- A study of college admissions showed that for each institutional or supportive adult a youth could identify their odds of enrolling in college increased by 39%
- Adult supporters provided guidance, emotional support, and stability

[Exploring Education Outcomes: What Research Tells Us](#)

[Fast Facts: Data at a Glance](#)

Targeted Education Case Management



Targeted attention and advocacy for students in foster care

Location:

*Specialized child welfare unit
School-based
Community partners*

Funding:

*Federal/state funded
Philanthropic support
Local investment*

Students served:

*Universal (all students in foster care)
Intervention by age or grade
Special education needs
High school completion
By referral*

Important elements:

*Youth-centered
Collaborative
Data/impact tracking*

Targeted Education Case Management

TREEHOUSE

FOR KIDS





Education Case Management for Students in Foster Care

July 12, 2023

Introductions



Nicole Herron
Senior Director,
Programs



Roland Pablo
Regional Manager,
Graduation Success

Historical Context

- Founded in 1988
- Launched Educational Advocacy in 2001
- Launched Graduation Success in 2012
- Annually provide 7,000 children & youth with \$24 million in education, financial and material supports throughout Washington State
- Advocate for policy and practice changes at intersection of child welfare & education

Educational Advocacy

Education Advocates provide short-term assistance and training for caregivers, school personnel and social workers to remove immediate educational barriers.

Examples:

- › School enrollment
- › Best interest determination decisions
- › Special education
- › School disciplinary issues
- › Academic progress

Youth Served

- › 900 - 1,300 annually

Eligibility

- › Pre-kindergarten to grade 12

Funding Source

- › OSPI Contract
- › Private Funding



Educational Advocacy Team

Graduation Success

Middle and high school youth in foster care are paired with a Treehouse Education Specialist, a trained professional who provides educational support, coordination of services and a connection to resources.

Education Specialists partner with the youth's existing support system – caregivers, parents, social workers, teachers and school counselors – to create a student-centered plan tailored to their individual needs and goals.

Youth Served

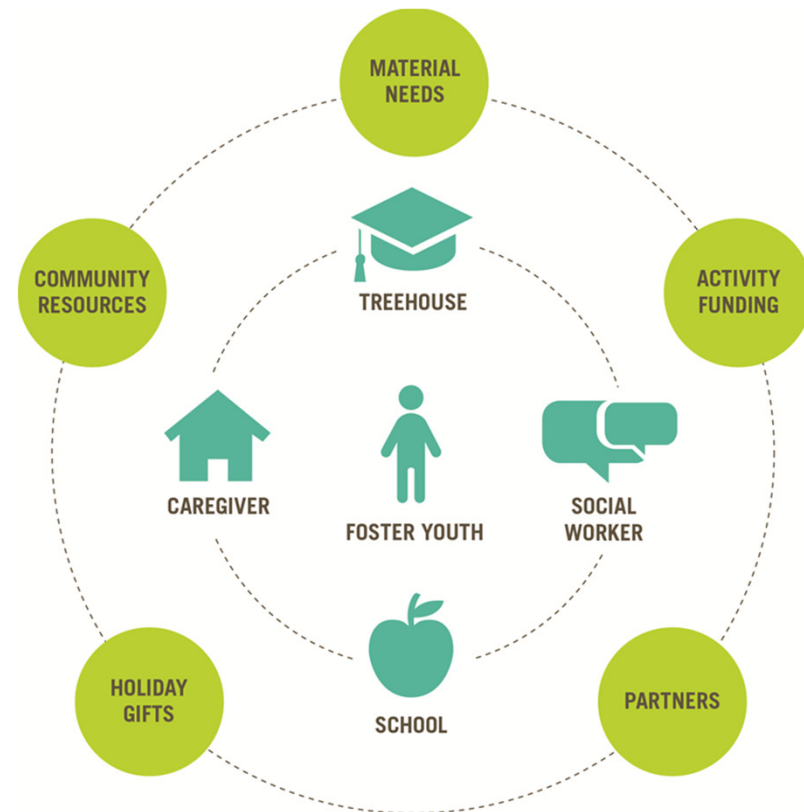
- > 1,500 annually

Eligibility

- > Grades 8-12

Funding Source

- > OSPI Contract
- > Private Funding



Funding Strategies

Public/Private Partnership

- HB 1999
- 70:30 Ratio
- Multi-year planning and forecasting is essential
- Diversified private funds with a focus on unrestricted general funding

What We're Learning

#1

Persistence

#4

**Youth Adult
Partnerships**

#2

**Systems
Change**

#5

**Healing Centered
Practice**

#3

**Special
Populations**

#5

**Learning
Agenda**

Key Insights for Replication

- Track both persistence (continuing and dropout rates) and graduation (4th - 7th year)
- Secure funding
- Establish DSA & MOU standards
- Serve youth beyond dependency
- Learn how case complexity impacts workloads
- Understand level of support needed for youth vs adults
- Consider needs of special populations
 - Ex: Tribal, dual-system, ICPC, unaccompanied refugee minors etc.
- Secret sauce = educational advocacy + access to financial and material resources



NATIONAL CENTER FOR YOUTH LAW

National Center
for **Youth Law**



Compassionate Education Systems Overview

Supporting the Educational Journeys of Students in Foster Care
July 12, 2023



A Compassionate Education Experience



Students are equipped and supported to become strong self-advocates



The experience of special education is student-centered and restorative



Students feel welcome & supported by their school community

Young people feel seen, listened to, respected and supported in their educational journeys.

NCYL's CA Compassionate Ed Framework



Compassionate,
Student-Centered
Partnership



School Site & District
Capacity Building,
Coaching & Training



Cross-System
Collaboration, Advocacy
& System Reform



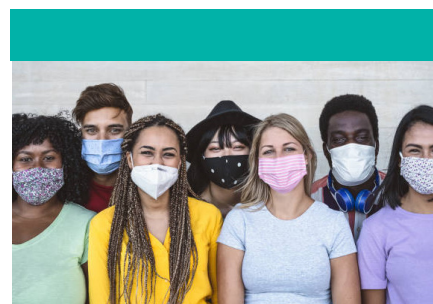
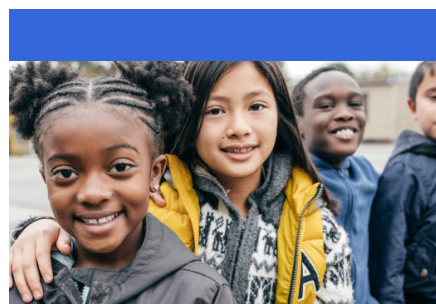
County & Statewide
Advocacy on
Practice & Policy

Compassion – the experience of “together with” is the vision of success and the primary intervention – at all levels: youth, family, community and systems.



Demonstration Site Program Model

The Compassionate Ed System's Initiative model goal centers the needs of students' specific needs.



Whole-Student Supports

Centering from student voice and their unique needs and assets

Individualized Educational Planning

Student-led, connecting with community and school resources. Team approach.

Career & Post Secondary Planning

Skill assessment and exploration, FAFSA, college/career and application support

Relationship-Centered Engagement

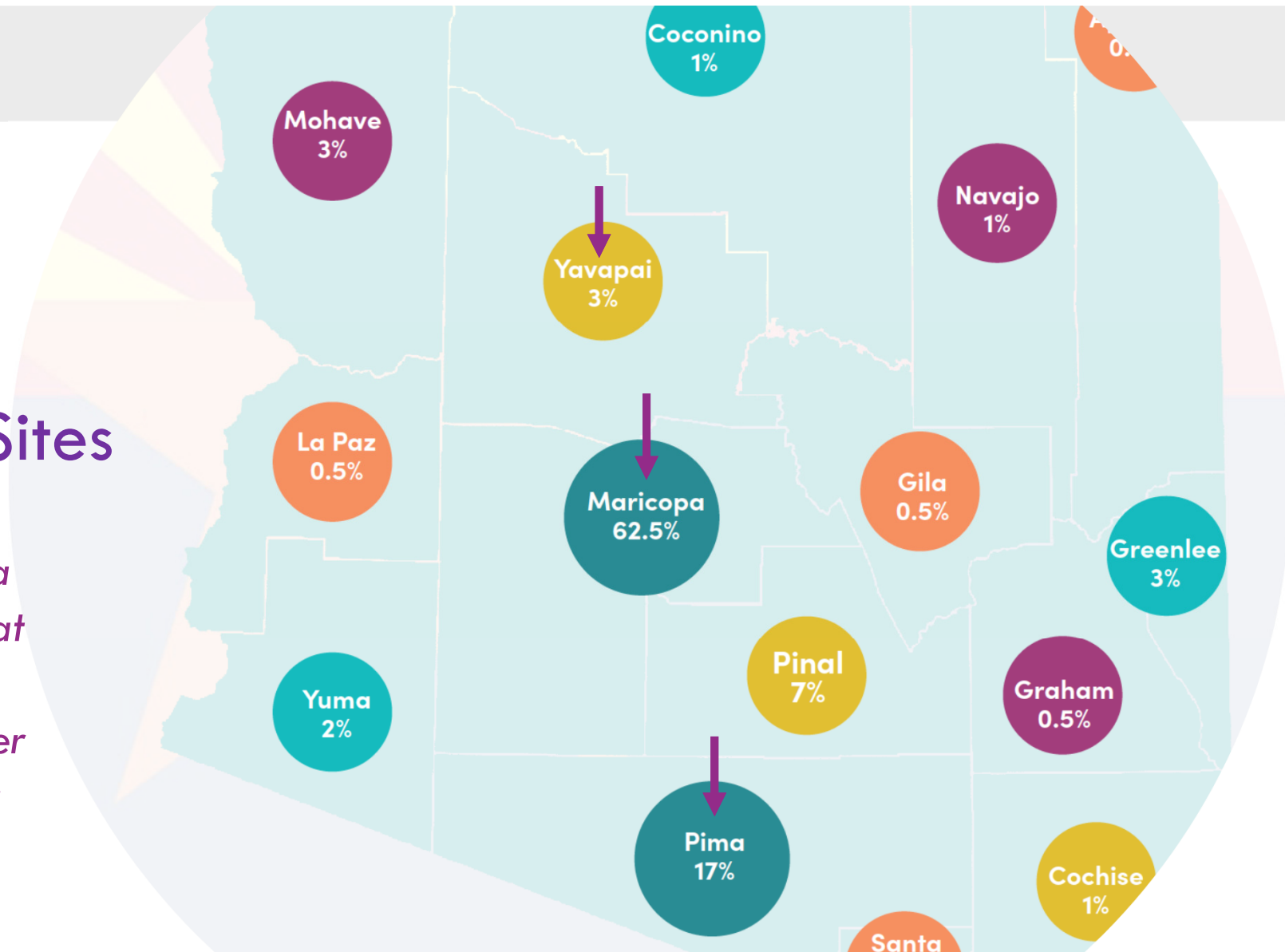
Building compassionate and trusting relationships with students and families

Going Deeper: Understanding Arizona's Context



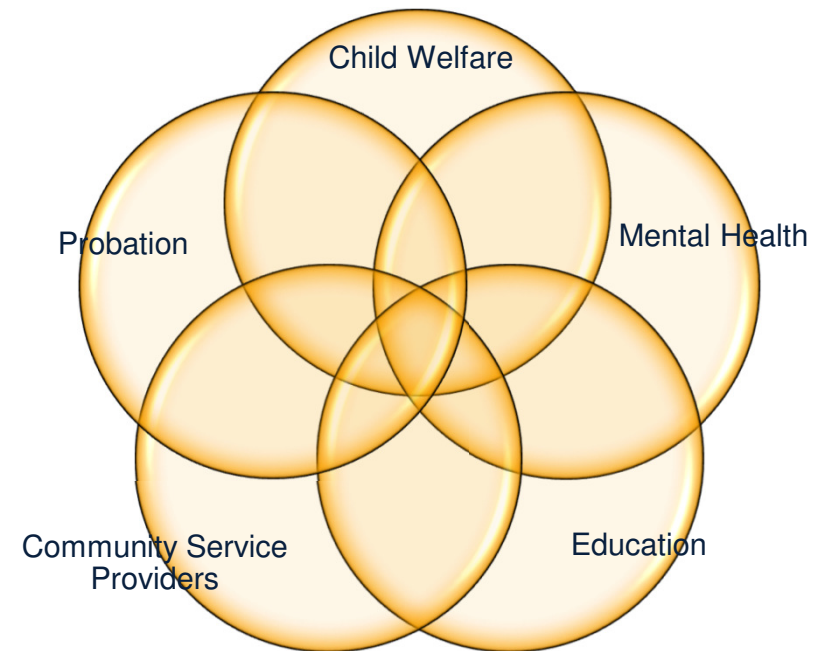
Arizona Sites

Three regions
encompassing a
service area that
reaches **82%**
students in foster
care in Arizona



Scope & Systems Approach

- At a systems level, we are improving collaboration between multiple public and community agencies.
- Since our statewide expansion in 2017, we have served nearly 2,000 youth across, 88 public school districts and over 140 individual private and charter schools in Arizona.

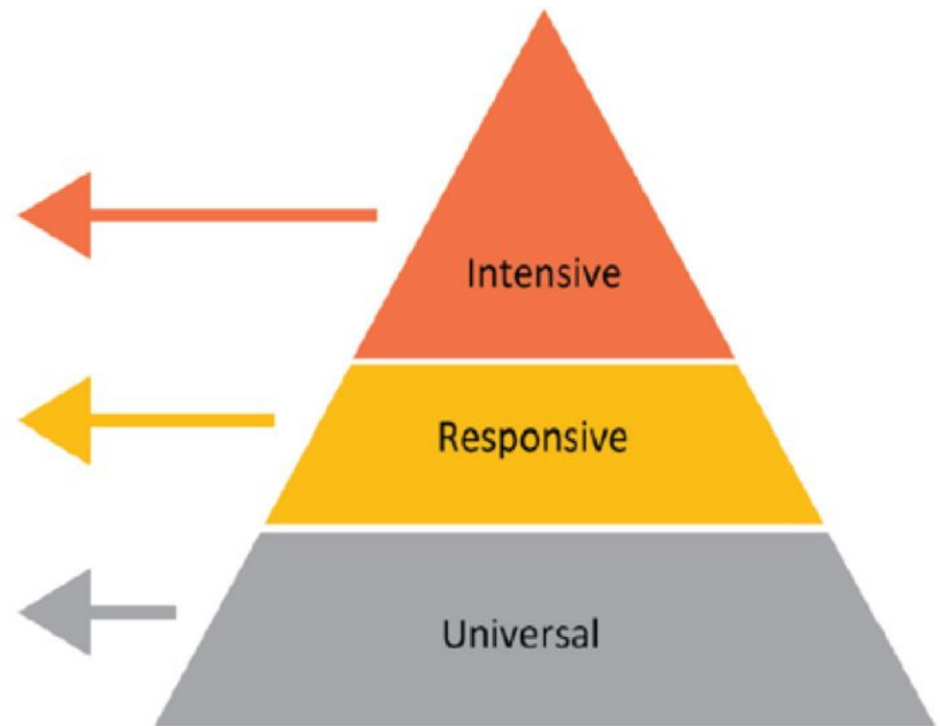


Engagement Tiers

“Intensive” Education Liaisons provide individualized and long-term (1- to 2-year) intensive supports (weekly) to highest need grade 9–12 students.

“Responsive” Education Liaisons provide short-term (1- to 6-month) youth-level interventions triggered by a pressing education need for grade K–12 students.

Successful implementation of system-level policies and practices ensuring youth are accessing academic and social and emotional interventions intended for all students.



Example of Systems Supports

- IDEA Parent rights and the effect on schooling for youth in care
- Recent Judicial Rule change

What/Who	F.O. Parent w/ Ed Rights*	DCS Case Worker	Foster/ Kinship	Group Home/ Therapeutic	Educational Surrogate	Ed. Liaison, FosterEd
Grades/Attendance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Behavior	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
504 Plans Info	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes
Sign as Guardian for 504 Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	No
Sign as IDEA Parent for IEP	Yes	NO	No, unless EdRights are severed, or FO parents are unreachable	NO	Yes	NO
Have Online School Data (i.e. ParentVue)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pick Up Student from School	NO, unless approved by DCS	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO	NO
Speak with Student at School	NO, unless approved by DCS	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Please **connect with DCS first** to make sure F.O. Parents retain their Ed Rights and what types of interactions/information is okay. There might be a safety concern with them knowing the students school location. An F.O. Parent without Ed Rights is unable to do any of the above listed things, unless DCS says otherwise.

Partnerships & Collaboration

- Local partnerships allow for an increase in the network of resources available to youth we serve
- Local collaboratives lead to increase in communication and willingness to work together
 - Ex: Regional LEA ESSA POC roundtable in Pima County
- State-wide collaboration and the ripple effects of those efforts
- Statewide Foster Care Education Conference



FosterEd Back To School Events!
School Supplies & More!
Come fill up a new backpack with everything you need to be ready for school! You get to choose it all!
On Thursday, July 20th from 9-1pm

Please sign up for this event by Tuesday, July 18th at tinyurl.com/SignUpFE23

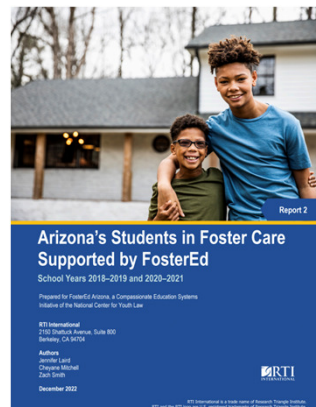
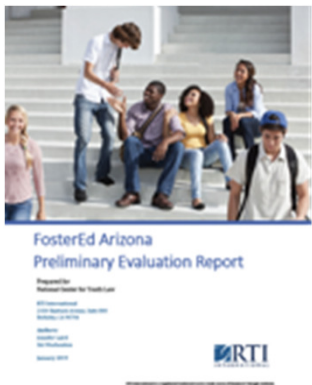
Hair Cuts by Local Pros!
Performed by licensed & experienced professional hair stylists and barbers. They have experience with curly and natural hair!
On Monday, July 31st from 9-1pm

Please sign up for a haircut by Friday, July 28th at tinyurl.com/haircutsFE

Join us for both events at the FosterEd Office located at 622 N Country Club Rd Suite E Tucson. Located close to bus lines # 17 & #31

FosterEd
An event in partnership with The Warehouse at 312 South & Buller Barber Shop

Learning, Research & Evaluation



PROGRAM LEVEL DATA

Information collected by Education Liaisons on champions, team and education planning work.

SEL & STUDENT EXPERIENCES

Surveys administered every 6 months to understand SEL and student experiences & with NCYL staff.

ACADEMIC

State level data linked between Department of Education & Child Welfare.

Ed Team Connect

Andrew Ed Liaison Students Actions Interactions Reports

Yulissa Robles

NORTHGATE HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 11 18 YEARS OLD OPEN

- Overview
- Goals
- Team
- Documents
- Interactions
- Education
- Student info

Documents

Upload a document

DOCK

Yulissa's transcript (spring semester 2016)

Uploaded 07/18/2016

TEST UPLOAD.docx
Edit Download

DOCK

Yulissa's Report Card with teacher comments

EL ONLY Uploaded 07/17/2016

Yulissa's Report Card.docx
Edit Download

DOCK

Yulissa's Attendance Report (Fall 2016)

Uploaded 07/17/2016

Yulissa's Attendance Report.docx
Edit Download

Yulissa Robles

NORTHGATE HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 11 18 YEARS OLD OPEN

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Your upcoming actions

You do not have any upcoming actions.

View Everyone's Actions +

Latest Interaction

MEETING

Educational Progress Semester 1

August 15, 2017 Andrew Liaison Dennis

Met with Yulissa to discuss academic progress made last year and what we will do to build on that this summer. She is excited to be back at school and to see her friends. We also saved her academic records from an OJJ Summer Program.

07042652027 LOCATION: 16 Person (On-Site) TOPIC: Checked Ed Data, All Interactions +

Team Members

Send the Team

- Andrew Liaison, OJJ
OJJ Admitted Special Advocate
@andrew@nyouthlaw.org
- Ben Gable
Algebra Teacher
@ben.gable@nyouthlaw.org
- Charles Bonaventura
Social Worker
@charlesbonaventura@gmail.com
- Tanya Newman
Guidance Counselor
@tnewman@nyouthlaw.org
- Yulissa Robles
Project Manager
@yulissarobles.com
- Michelle Friedman
2016 Liaison Supervisor
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- Rachel Volkoff-Ruhs
Educational Liaison
@rachel@nyouthlaw.org

Yulissa Robles

NORTHGATE HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 11 18 YEARS OLD OPEN

- Overview
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Goals

Select the goal to view its action and milestones. You may also view everyone's actions. Click on goal for the student.

Current Goals

Goal	Created	Status	Action
Graduate High School	active 76 days ago	Current	Edit
Help Yulissa become involved with her school community.	active 76 days ago	Current	Edit
Increase 3rd Grade Reading	active today	Current	Edit
Improve student's math level.	active 230 days ago	Current	Edit
Improve the student's attendance rate.	active 462 days ago	Current	Edit
Ensure student can advocate for his or her own education needs.	active 246 days ago	Current	Edit

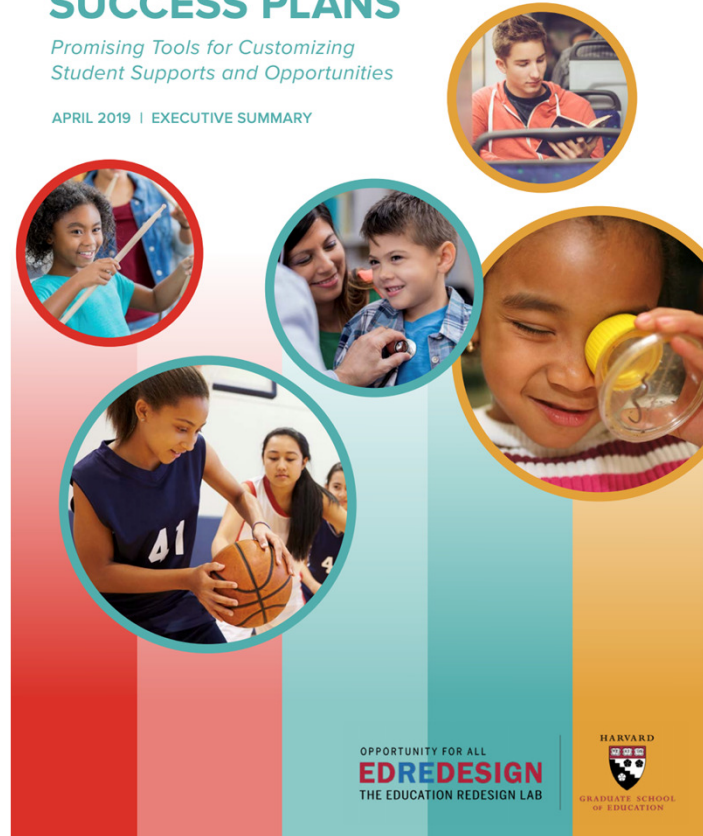
Future Goals

Improve Yulissa's math level.	active 76 days ago	Future	Edit
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SUCCESS PLANS

Promising Tools for Customizing Student Supports and Opportunities

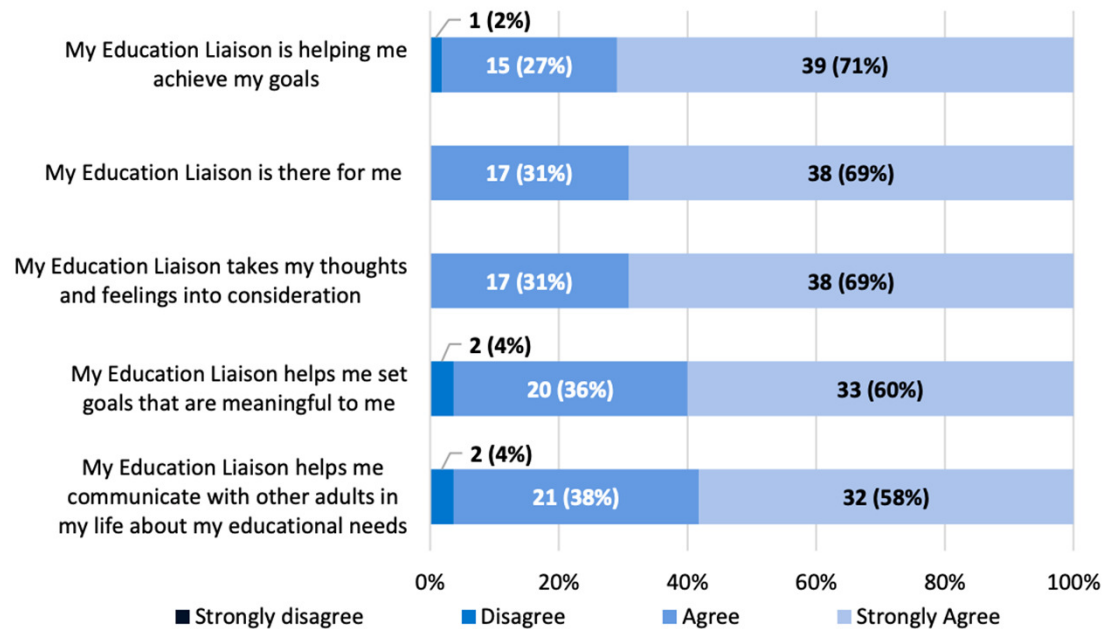
APRIL 2019 | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL
EDREDESIGN
THE EDUCATION REDESIGN LAB



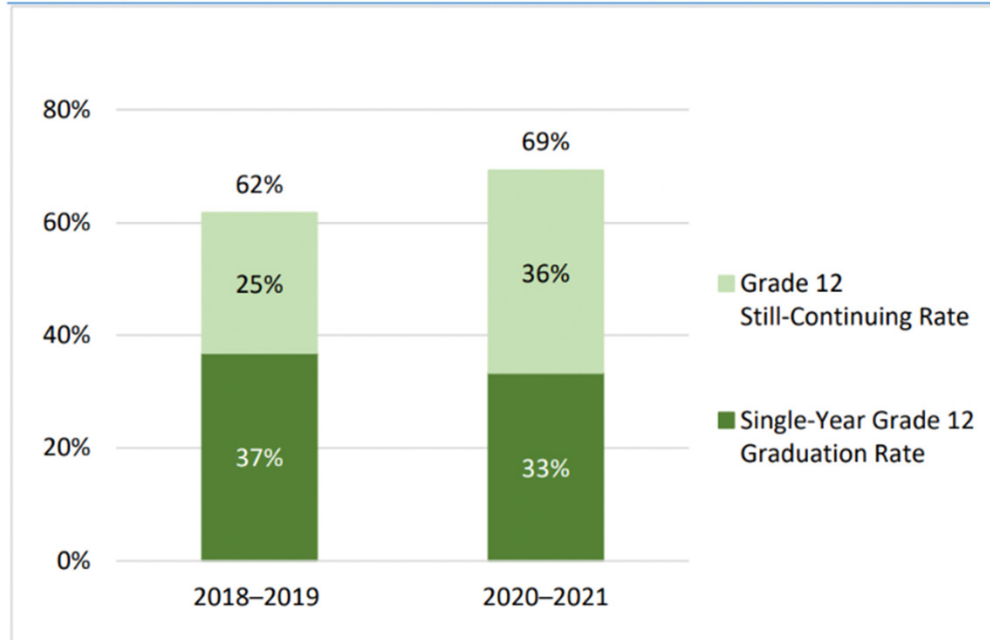
Learning & Research – Pre-Pandemic



- 11% percentage point increase in probability of graduation
- Increased likelihood of participation in statewide testing.
- Increases in self-efficacy and positive future orientation
- Decrease in out of school time. On average 13 fewer unenrolled days.
- Increase in English achievement by 14 points

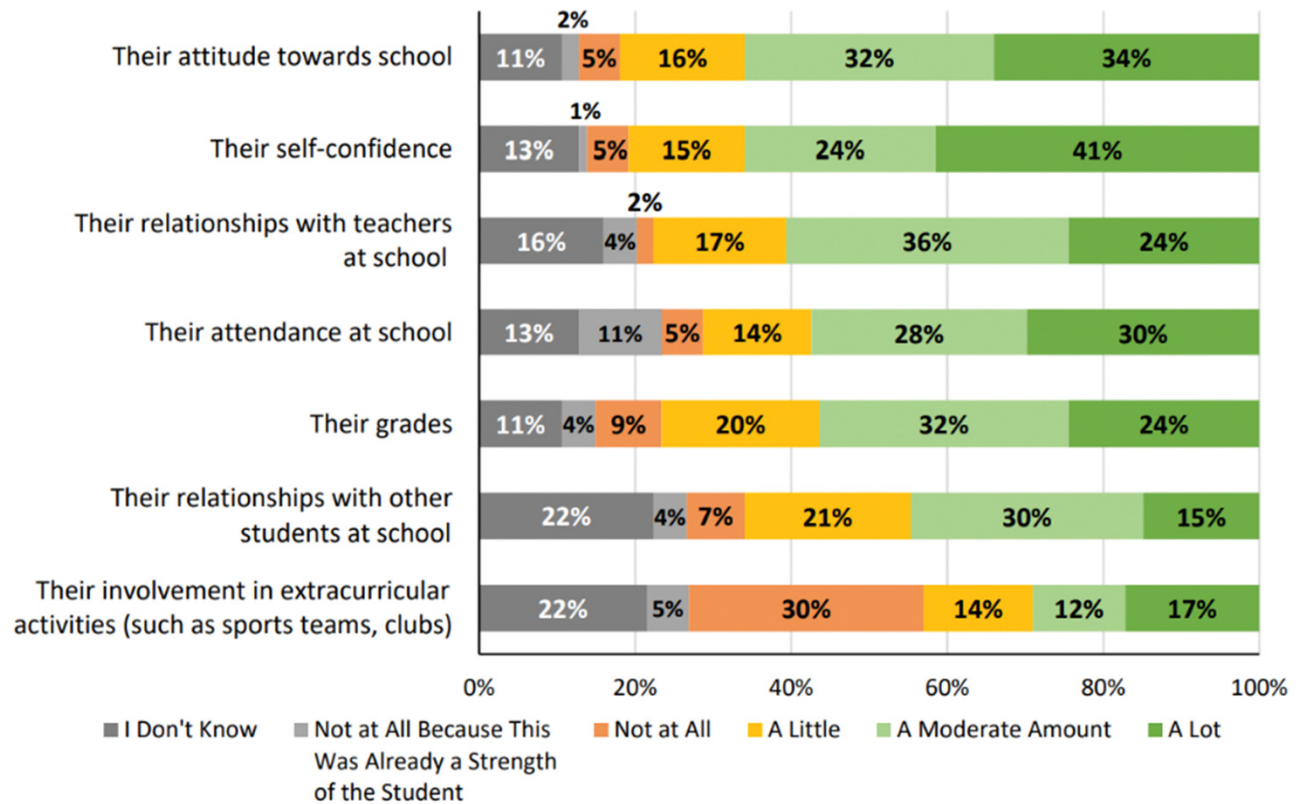
Learning & Research – During Pandemic

Figure 1: Still-Continuing Rate and Single-Year Graduation Rate for Grade 12 Students in Foster Care Served by FosterEd, 2018–2019 and 2020–2021 School Years



Learning & Research – During Pandemic

Figure 5: Perceived Impacts of FosterEd on Youth, From Perspective of Adult Team Members (Percentage Distributions)



Parting Thoughts



Questions?

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Ashely Dickerson, Senior Program Manager, Arizona (adickerson@youthlaw.org)
Michelle Francois, Senior Director (mfrancois@youthlaw.org)



QUESTIONS

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