

College Connection for Foster Youth

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Convening constituents and defining intent of program.

Building an Advisory Council:

- Foster Youth Services
- EOP &/or Financial Aid representatives from all local Community Colleges and 4 year Universities.
- Representatives from local organizations that provide scholarships (Guardian Scholars, Ed Fund, Cal Soap)
- Local care provider agencies (Casey Family Programs)
- Independent Living Skills representative from Child Welfare
- Representatives from ILS provider agencies.
- School District Liaisons
- CASA
- Any community business' (Cal Coast Credit Union)



College Connection Advisory Council

- Facilitation of the College Connection Advisory Council.
- The CCAC is the link between agencies serving transition age youth and college campuses
- Provides a place for exchanging ideas and information on how each campus serves former foster youth and responds to their mandates surrounding foster youth.
- Provides an opportunity for issues that are county wide to be addressed in one place for all campus' i.e. foster youth identification issues.
- CCAC members participate in the Foster Youth Services Advisory Committee



College Connection purpose and goals:

- Exposure to campus life.
- Information on college entry requirements, transfer options and support services.
- Workshops on financial aid, scholarships, and grants.
- General campus expectations.
- Contact with currently enrolled former foster youth.



Career Day purpose and goals:

- Provide an opportunity for students in foster care to learn about a variety of careers, internships, and apprenticeship programs.
- Meet potential employers from the private, public, nonprofit sector, and the military.
- Attend workshops directed at career interests, interview skills, and budgeting.



Organizing and preparing for your event

Work with local site/campus on what they want to showcase:

- Any particular area of study that is unique (Miramar example)
- Benefits of applying early and potential hardships (Cuymaca example)
- Tours to show things that attract youth to their campus' (Palomar example)



Sample timelines for your day.

The Following is a sample of
a day's agenda at a
College Connection event



AGENDA

9:00 Welcome & Opening

- *Campus Representative*
- FYS Representative or CCAC representative

9:35 First Session

- Money Matters, Financial Aid Representative
- *Robyn Quaco, California Coast Credit Union*

Dance Performance



10:00 Second Session "Tour"

- Career Center
- Glass Blowing
- Child Development Center
- Fashion Design
- Auto Body Shop
- Diesel Mechanics
- Nursing
- Dome (sports complex)

12:00 Third Session
Foster Youth Panel

12:30 BBQ Lunch

1:00 Raffle, Certificates & Closing Remarks



Workshop ideas and examples

- Financial Aid
- Financial literacy
- Foster Youth panel
- From choosing my major to career
- Admissions requirements & how to meet them



Planning for food and donations.

- Colleges provide food
- Raffle donations – community partners
- Give aways – Community partners



Information on the Appli-case and College Cases for giveaways.

- With money donated from Casey Family Programs we purchase the cases to give away at the event.
- Samples



Promote, Promote, Promote!

Where and how we get youth to the event.

- Fax and email all group home and FFA providers in area.
- Fax and email CASA
- Fax and email Mentors
- ILS providers
- Educational Liaisons
- Any Foster Parent Associations in area
- Child Welfare Services contacts & newsletters (specifically teen unit workers)



Questions ??

