

Quarterly Report • Oct-Dec 2022

Foster Care Advocacy and Solutions in Education

FosterCareForward is a solutions-based working group led by Enay Coaching and hosted by the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education's Rural Learning Networks. We aim to improve outcomes for youth in foster care by spotlighting and advancing effective programs and practices in education and workforce readiness.

Current Collaborators

FosterCareForward collaborators include stakeholders from GADoE, the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education, DFCS, Georgia Appleseed (GAA), MENTOR Georgia, Great Promise Partnership, foster youth residential services, and school districts, each exercising regional impact across the state.

2022Q4 FosterCareForward Progress

The following report is the result of the contributions and teamwork of our collaborative partners. Actions are organized according to FosterCareForward's Four Focus Issues.

Issue 1: Cultivating effective school climates for student success

- Under Georgia Appleseed's Georgia Education Climate Coalition, we have begun leadership of a working group to study and promote mediation as a resource for school climate improvement, assembling partners from across the state. Our early work includes researching, promoting, and supporting healthy compliance with School Attendance and School Climate Committees across the state of Georgia.

Issue 2: Helping enable speedy academic record transfers and course credit parity between school systems

- We are currently testing sustainable protocols with our local school district to help speed up academic record transfers under the umbrella of HB855 implementation, which addresses impacts of trauma on academic performance for youth in foster care.

Issue 3: Helping to expand and strengthen academic remediation opportunities for foster youth with severe gaps and/or barriers to on-time graduation

- We are working with our local LEAs and other education support providers to explore sustainable solutions for youth with severe academic gaps and barriers to on-time graduation. We presented a case study to local school district staff to help begin the process of norming unconventional remedial supports for youth in special cases.

Issue 4: Building stronger pipelines from foster care to careers

- We closed out our three month program supported by the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education's College Access Mini-Grant. Students from two group residence homes received Transitions Toolkit guides, enhancing each site's student transition support, and participated in career orientations with local partners to help provide motivation for post-secondary education and interest in employment opportunities.

Join the Effort

Please complete this online form to indicate any of the Four Focus Issues to which you would like to contribute your expertise and support (see original email for the link if you are not able to click on this page).