

“ It is indisputable that education is key to breaking the cycle of generational poverty and abuse — the very circumstances that often force children into foster care. ”

– Eileen McCaffrey, Executive Director of Foster Care to Success





Children with stable families are more likely to have a solid foundation of trusted adults and family connections to rely on when they begin their journey into young adulthood. Conversely, the foundation of children who have aged out of foster care is often lonely, confusing, and fractured.

Although we cannot fix their foundation, we can help raise children in foster care to firm ground with evidence based best practices, strong guidance, and critical support in the FRF Higher Education Navigator Program.

Family Resource Facilitators (FRFs) are trained family Peer Support Specialists who develop working partnerships with child-serving agencies and utilize those partnerships to guide families and children to successful outcomes and self-sufficiency.

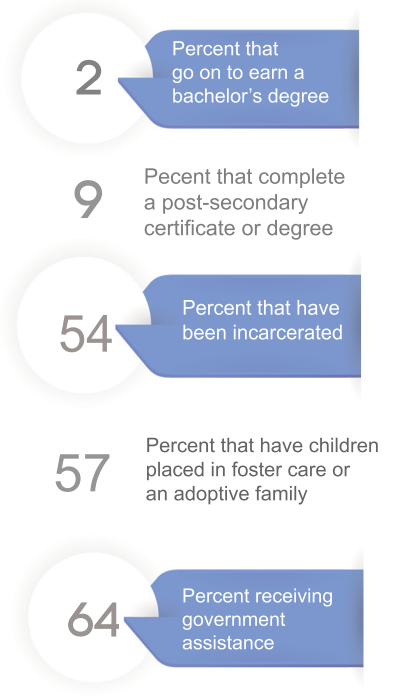
FRF Higher Education Navigators provide supports that guide children who have or will age out of foster care to postsecondary academic success.

The FRF Higher Education Navigators will provide four main services:

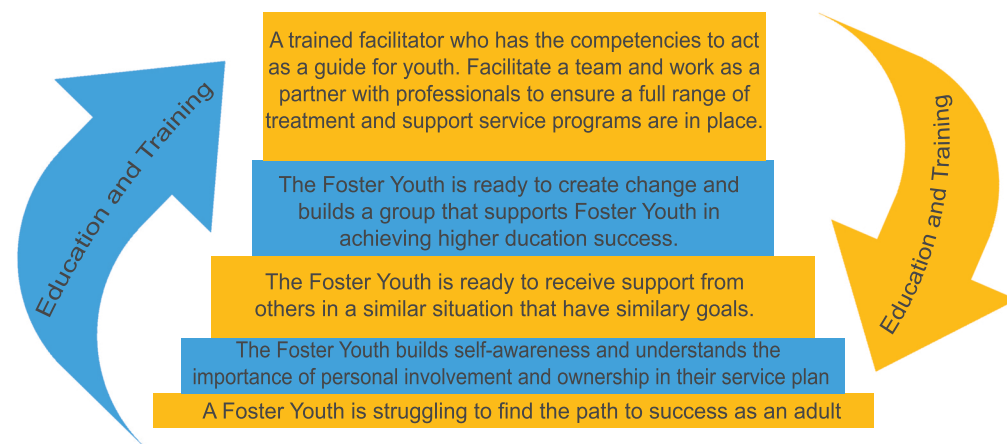
-  Education Advocacy/Advice: Advise children in foster care as they navigate and access services, and act as an advocate for youth through their working partnerships with provider agencies.
-  Resource Coordination: Coordinate and provide local resource information for children in the program.
-  Information & Support: Link children in foster care to local support and information groups or help develop groups if and when no other resources are available.
-  Wraparound Facilitation: Work with youth to build a plan that incorporates both formal and informal supports intended to help the child manage other complex issues in their lives while they are working toward a post-secondary education.

AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE BY THE NUMBERS

Outcomes for 26 year-olds who have aged out of foster care:



THE PATHWAY TO CHILD AND FAMILY EMPOWERMENT AND INVOLVEMENT



In the FRF Higher Education Navigation Program, youth actively engage with their FRF in an education driven planning process, utilizing the strengths and natural supports to help meet their needs. As Youth increase resiliency and gain knowledge, they are able to act as advocates for change in behalf of other youth in foster care.