



**JOHN  
BURTON**  
Advocates for Youth



## **L.A. OPPORTUNITY YOUTH COLLABORATIVE FOSTER YOUTH COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT PROJECT**

An initiative within the L.A. Opportunity Youth Collaborative, the Foster Youth College Advancement Project seeks to increase foster youth postsecondary attainment in order to help youth transition to sustainable careers and achieve self-sufficiency. FYCAP focuses on six strategies:

- 1. INCREASE DIRECT COLLEGE ENROLLMENT:** Increase the number of foster youth who enter postsecondary education from high school in Los Angeles County.
- 2. IMPROVE FINANCIAL AID ACCESS:** Improve the rates of FAFSA completion and successful attainment of financial aid, in particular federal Pell grants and state Cal Grants.
- 3. REDUCE REMEDIATION:** Promote awareness of college and university remediation assessment policies and evidence-based remediation models in order to help foster youth avoid the additional costs and prolonged time to completion associated with traditional remediation models.
- 4. PREPARE YOUTH FOR CAREERS:** Increase college-enrolled foster youth's access to work-readiness training, summer jobs, internships, job shadow opportunities, part- or full-time employment, and career training within high-wage and high-growth industries.
- 5. LINK COLLEGE STUDENTS TO SUPPORT:** Support the development of a cohesive and consistent network of foster youth college-based support programs throughout Los Angeles and assist programs to link students to available external resources.
- 6. IMPROVE CROSS-SECTOR COORDINATION:** Enhance and streamline cross-sector collaboration and coordination in Los Angeles County to support college access and success for foster youth.

### ***Why this matters***

- Only 57% of foster youth in Los Angeles who attend community college receive a Pell grant despite close to 90% meeting the financial eligibility.***
- Just 40 percent of California Community College students placed in remedial coursework go on to complete a degree, certificate, or transfer within six years, compared to 70 percent of those who begin in college-level coursework.***
- Foster youth are 50% less likely than other students to stay enrolled in college.***
- Career paths for those without a post-secondary credential are extremely limited. Individuals with a college degree or certificate have more career options, earn more money, have increased job stability and on average have a better quality of life than those without.***

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