

Toolkit for Foster Youth Education Success Meeting the Disciplinary Challenges of Foster Youth

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Foster Youth Education Toolkit



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Youth Perspective



Bettyeruth Davis, Peer Advocate

Agenda

1. Indicators of Need
2. Prevention and Intervention
 - a. Specific Procedures, Tools and Tips
3. Formal Discipline
 - a. Legal Requirements
 - b. Special Requirements for Foster Youth
4. School to Prison Pipeline

The School to Prison Pipeline

The school to prison pipeline is the increasing trend of policies and practices that push youth, often those with the highest levels of need, out of schools and into the juvenile justice system.



The School to Prison Pipeline

Foster Youth are Disproportionately Impacted:

Exposure to child abuse and neglect increases the risk of arrest by 55%, and the risk of arrest for a violent crime by 96%

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Coalition, Back on Track: Supporting Youth Reentry from Out-of-Home Placement to the Community at 14 (Fall 2009).

25% of former foster youth are incarcerated within a few years of turning 18, and 70% of California inmates are former foster youth.

Brian Goldstein, "Crossover Youth": The Intersection of Child Welfare & Juvenile Justice, <http://jjie.org/crossover-youth-intersection-of-child-welfare-juvenile-justice>.

The School to Prison Pipeline

Other At Risk Populations are Also Over-Represented:

Of youth who are in juvenile detention facilities, such as juvenile halls and camps:

70% have a mental health diagnosis

87% have a learning disability

W. Haywood Burns Institute, Fact Sheet, 2013.

The School to Prison Pipeline

Monetary Costs of the Pipeline:

One year at Princeton University: \$37,000

One year at a New Jersey state prison: \$44,000

The Atlantic, Chart: One Year in Prison Costs More than One Year at Princeton, 2011.

California's cost to incarcerate a juvenile for 1 year:
\$200,000

Justice Policy Institute, Calculating the Full Price Tag for Youth Incarceration (2014).

California's cost to educate a pupil for 1 year: \$9,000

U.S. Census Bureau, Public Education Finances: 2012 (2012).

The School to Prison Pipeline

Personal Costs of the Pipeline:

Over their lifetimes, children who have been incarcerated:

- achieve less educationally (almost 90% drop out of high school)
- work less and for lower wages (\$4,100/year compared to \$13,900)
- far less likely to form enduring families
- experience more chronic health problems, including addiction
- more likely to see future imprisonment

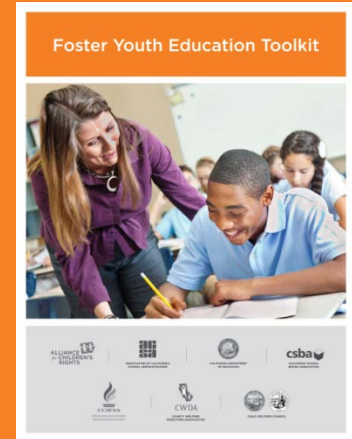
*A Road Map for Juvenile Justice Reform, Annie E. Casey Foundation, June 2008;
Rishawn Biddle, This is Dropout Nation: The High Cost of Juvenile Justice (2010);
Justice Policy Institute, Calculating the Full Price Tag for Youth Incarceration (2014).*

The School to Prison Pipeline

We can turn these statistics around by using the tools discussed today to meet the needs of youth before they escalate to the most extreme behaviors that require court intervention. This will create better outcomes for the youth, the school, and the community at large.



Questions? Contact us



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