



FOSTERING SUCCESS MICHIGAN **Toolkit** WEBINAR SERIES

Providing professionals and supportive adults with tools to increase knowledge, skill, and social capacity to support youth with experience in foster care.



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Center for Fostering Success



FOSTERING SUCCESS MICHIGAN

Toolkit

WEBINAR SERIES

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HOUSEKEEPING

- Attendees in listen only mode.
- Ask questions using the chat or questions feature.
- Technical difficulties? Contact Citrix team at 1-888-259-8414
- Recording available following the webinar in our resource library on our website. Webcam video will not be available in the recording!





A special welcome to our guest and expert!

Von Washington Jr., M. Ed.
Executive Director,
Community Relations,
The Kalamazoo Promise

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Today on the FSM
Toolkit Webinar
Series...



The FSM Child Welfare for Educators Toolkit....
Peeling back the red tape to understand the foster care experience

This toolkit is great for:

Principals, Teachers, Educators, Professionals and Supportive Adults

Goals for webinar:

- Build awareness of the unique challenges faced by students with experience in foster care.
- Provide suggestions of how educators can support students with experience in foster care.

Don't forget to use the questions or chat feature during the presentation to interact! We want to hear from you!





What is foster care?

Foster care is a temporary living arrangement for abused, neglected and dependent children who need a safe place to live when their parents or other relatives cannot take care of them.

Common Family Issues: Alcoholism, Mental Illness, Drug Addiction, and/or Homelessness.

(treehouse.org)





Foster Care Placement:

Children are placed with licensed foster families, relatives, or in group care facilities while social workers and judges work with their families toward safe reunification or another permanent living situation.

(treehouse.org)





Who are students who experience foster care?

Students who experience foster care look just like any other student! However, the experience of foster care may cause them to feel isolated and the stigma of foster care may prevent them from asking for support.





Who may be involved in the child's foster care case?

- Biological family (siblings, relatives)
- Caseworker/Social Worker
- Foster parents
- Court advocate (CASA or GAL)
- Doctors
- Psychologist
- Teachers





Challenges in education settings for students with experience in foster care:

- Lack of educational stability
- Absences from school
- Poor academic performance
- Loss of credit due to school moves
- Challenges in peer relationships
- Problem behaviors





Ask The Expert!

What are some common challenges faced by educators and educational staff for working with students in foster care?





Ask The Expert!

How can educators and educational staff support students with experience in foster care in the classroom?





Ask The Expert!

What are some examples of partnerships that work for teachers and educational staff in supporting these students?





Ask The Expert!

What are other resources teachers and education professionals can utilize to support students with experience in foster care?





Toolkit Review

Child Welfare for Educators Toolkit





Questions & Answers

We welcome your questions and comments! Using your control panel on the right side of your screen, you may use the chat or questions function.





**We need your
feedback!**



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For more information:

<http://groups.google.com/group/fostering-success-michigan>

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