



# MAY is FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH



Nationwide, there are over 400,000 youth residing in foster care. Despite this alarming number many of these youth are thriving and increasing their chances of obtaining their dreams of graduating from high school. We know this cannot be done without the support of great individuals who make a difference in their lives. Individuals such as teachers, principals, nurses, Pupil Services and Attendance Counselors, Psychiatric Social Workers, and other support personnel who are dedicated to ensuring that the level of foster youth achievement rises, by providing foster youth with opportunities to reach their full potential.

You can make a difference too! Throughout the month of May, wear a blue ribbon and show your support for foster youth. Continue to advocate and be an ally!

**Here are some things that you can do at your school to show support. If you have a DAY...**

Learn the facts and share them with the staff at your school site.  
Learn about the services offered for foster youth at your school site.

**If you have an HOUR...**

Post an article promoting Foster Care Awareness Month in your school's newsletter or website. Create a bulletin board on your school campus to highlight and celebrate Foster Care Awareness Month.

**If you have a MINUTE...**

**Wear** a blue ribbon.

**Make an announcement** during your school's announcement time; letting everyone know that May is Foster Care Awareness month.

**Meet your school's School-Site Foster Care Liaison and /or Foster Youth Achievement Program Counselor.** Ask what you can do to help support the foster youth at your school.



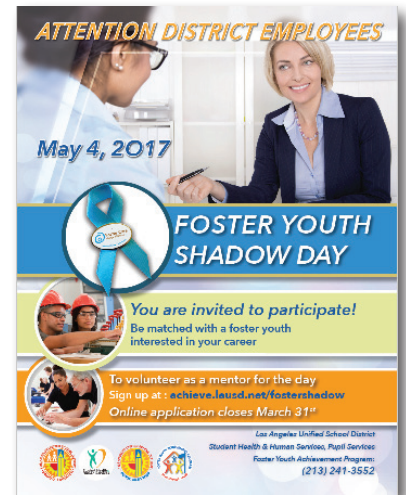


## FOSTER YOUTH EDUCATION SUMMIT – SACRAMENTO, CA



**CALIFORNIA'S FOSTER YOUTH EDUCATION SUMMIT, APRIL 2017**  
The California Foster Youth Educational Summit unites foster youth and policy makers from across the state of California. Students who attended the event at our state's capitol not only observed but also met with legislators and actively participated in discussions and workshops pertaining to policies and issues for Foster Youth. During this enriching experience, students had the opportunity to share their stories, highlight their accomplishments and build lifelong relationships with other youth in foster care.

On May 4, 2017, the Student Health and Human Services-Foster Youth Achievement Program (FYAP) will be sponsoring the 1st Annual Foster Youth Shadow Day. This event will align with National Foster Care Awareness Month, and will provide foster youth with the unique opportunity to broaden their horizons and prepare to participate in the 21st century workforce. Seventy-three students will shadow LAUSD employees who work within various district career fields such as: education (i.e., principals), health (i.e., school nurses), district support staff (i.e., food services, school police, board members, mental health and attendance professionals), and specialized fields (i.e., accountants, architects, attorneys, ITD). The purpose of this event is to provide a hands-on and interactive experience that will help foster youth discover the power and possibilities associated with having a career.



Twenty-five foster youth from the Foster Youth Leadership Council visited the Point Fermin Outdoor Education Center and participated in hands-on experiences that are far different from the everyday life of the big city. This retreat encouraged youth to develop problem-solving and leadership skills to increase self-esteem through team building experiences that are often difficult to access in the classroom. Foster youth are often disenfranchised from peers and family members, and these skills are necessary to motivate students to stay in school and to become healthy, productive adults who better understand their personal responsibilities as involved and informed members of their community.



FOSTER YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM-PATHWAYS TO COLLEGE CELEBRATION: MAY 10, 2017

LAUSD PUPIL SERVICES  
**FOSTER YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**  
**PATHWAYS TO COLLEGE CELEBRATION**  
**CLASS OF 2017**  
**FOSTER YOUTH PURSUING PATHS TO HIGHER EDUCATION**  
A fun filled day of activities, inspiration, food, and prizes!

High School Diploma

Wednesday  
May 10, 2017  
10 am - 2 pm  
Loyola Marymount University

2017

**PLANNED EVENTS:**  
Guest Speakers  
Lunch  
Tour of LMU  
Fun Activities  
Raffle Prizes

The Foster Youth Achievement Program will be hosting the annual Pathways to College Celebration on May 10, 2017 to honor and recognize the Class of 2017 graduating foster youth who will be pursuing paths to higher education in the fall. This event will celebrate 85 amazing LAUSD foster youth for their resiliency and hard work with a fun-filled day of activities, inspiration, food, and prizes at the Loyola Marymount University. The event will also include guest speakers (President Board Member Steve Zimmer, Jerome Carter of Inspiration 52, and three former foster youth), lunch, and a tour of the campus. Each student will receive a new backpack filled school supplies, and have the opportunity to win gift cards, lap top computers, in raffles that will be held throughout the day.



The Student Health and Human Services-Foster Youth Achievement Program will be hosting a bake sale on May 23, 2017 from 9am-2pm to raise monies to support the over 7400 foster youth in LAUSD. The monies will go toward supporting the educational and socio-emotional needs of foster youth. It will be held on the ground floor at the LAUSD Headquarters in the A-Level, Trimana Cafeteria.

**FUNDRAISER**  
**May 23, 2017 9am-2pm**  
**LAUSD Headquarters in the**  
**A-Level, Trimana Cafeteria**