Out-of-Home Care Educational Stability Joint eBrief

SPRING 2021



A newsletter from the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI)



May is National Foster Care Month

Foster Care as a Support to Families, Not a Substitute for Parents

childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth



Spring is once again upon us and we want to take a moment to recognize May as National Foster Care Month and thank you for your tireless work in unprecedented times. The global pandemic has impacted all of us. Despite this, you continue to provide crucial services to youth facing some of the most barriers within our schools and systems while also preparing for the potential cascading impacts from the past year. Along with our appreciation, we hope you can take time to reflect and appreciate one another this May. Without your dedication and collaboration, we would not have the education stability we see for our students.

Thank you and to learn more about the national conversation on National Foster Care Month and share your expertise you can visit

https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/about/ to find resources, graphics (like the image above and below), stories, and more.

DPI Links

- <u>DPI Out of Home Care</u> website
- Student Records and Confidentiality
- Trauma-Sensitive Schools
- Wisconsin Education Calendar
- <u>Instructions on updating</u> your Foster Care Point of Contact

DCF Links

- <u>DCF Education Points of</u> <u>Contact Map</u>
- DCF Educational <u>Stability website</u>
- Email contact for updating your Education Point of Contact

Other Links

- Wisconsin Youth Advisory Council Facebook Page
- Disproportionality
 <u>Technical Assistance</u>
 <u>NETWORK Calendar</u>

Introducing the New DCF State Points of Contact

Two new members now represent DCF as Education Points of Contact on the collaborative DPI/DCF working group for Educational Stability for Students in Out-of-Home Care. **Moe Green** is a Program and Policy Analyst with the Bureau of Permanence and Out-of-Home Care and **Alana Peck** is a Youth Justice Policy Coordinator in the Bureau of Youth Services. Both Moe and Alana bring a wealth of knowledge with experience bridging child welfare and educational systems to support permanency and educational success. The impact of their work can already be seen in some of our working group's latest initiatives to enhance understanding and implementation of students' rights under ESSA. Both Alana and Moe can be reached through the Education Point of Contact email dcfedupoc@wisconsin.gov.



Youth Advisory Council and Foster Care Month

The Wisconsin Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is leading an effort to amplify the voices of young people touched by the child welfare system on their Facebook page throughout the month of May in honor of National Foster Care month.

We encourage you to follow the YAC's Facebook page in May (and beyond) and to find your own.

We encourage you to follow the YAC's Facebook page in May (and beyond) and to find your own ways to amplify the voices of foster youth and alumni you work with. The YAC is issuing a call to

action for everyone to check back on their Facebook page during the week of May 24th to share what you did to support foster students.

Out-of-Home Care Educational Stability Joint e-Brief is published by the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Public Instruction. Get a PDF version of this newsletter here.

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