



EDUCATION
Reach
for TEXANS

6TH ANNUAL CONVENING

Fostering Success: Partnering Pathways

Dallas Community College | Dallas, Texas | June 2–3, 2015





Empowering Texans to champion postsecondary success for foster youth and alumni.

Education Reach for Texans

seeks to eliminate barriers to success and build support programs for alumni of care attending public colleges and universities in the state of Texas. We are part of an emerging network of organizations across the nation seeking to improve the success of former foster youth in postsecondary education.

Day One



8:00 a.m.

Registration Opens
Lobby

8:00 a.m.
– 9:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast
1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

9:30 a.m.
– 4:15 p.m.

Exhibits Open
Second Floor Foyer

9:30 a.m.

Opening: Fostering Success: Partnering Pathways
1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room
Wade Bradfute, Education Reach
and Austin Community College

10:00 a.m.

Welcome

1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

Gregg Williams, Dallas Community College

10:10 a.m.

Keynote Speaker

1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

Dr. Joe D. May, Chancellor, Dallas Community College

10:25 a.m.

Plenary Session – Why We Are Here

1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

Youth Leadership Panel

11:45 a.m.

Networking Lunch

1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

1:15 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

STUDENT

Advocacy and Collaboration for Foster Care Alumni

Room 1210

Ashley Harris, Texans Care for Children

FOSTER PARENT/AGENCIES

Training/Certification for CPAs

Room 1215

Becoming Familiar with Psychotropic Medications

Sandra Galindo, CPS Region 3 Nurse Consultant

Day One

NEW COLLEGES PROGRAMS

Trauma Informed Care/Practice with Alumni

Room 2200

Mark Ditloff, LPC, Denton County Counseling Center

EXISTING PROGRAMS

Effectively Managing Finances and Resources

Room 2002

Loretta Edelen, Austin Community College

Chris Owens, Austin Community College

Kathy James, Austin Community College

2:10 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

STUDENT

How to Be Successful in College

Room 1210

Resources and Opportunities Panel Discussion

Mr. Warren, Foster/Adoptive Parent

Jarvis Warren, Alumni

Barbara Wells, Texas Department
of Family and Protective Services

Reneka Akins, Alumni

Felicia Burlison, Alumni

Jackie Davis, Alumni

Mr. & Mrs. Davis, Adoptive Family

FOSTER PARENT/AGENCIES
Training/Certification for CPAs
Room 1215

*The Working Relationship Between a Student
and a Transition Coach*

Chad Price, Dallas County Community College

Brittney Young, Dallas County Community College

NEW COLLEGES PROGRAMS
Getting Started: Accessing Grants
and Services for Foster Youth
Room 2200

Jenny Achilles, Texas Guaranteed Loan

Robin Head, Texas Woman's University

EXISTING PROGRAMS
Techniques and Best Practices to Identify, Track
and Retain Students in Your Program
Room 2002

Naomi Valdez, Texas State University — FACES

Sheila Bustillos, Texas Woman's University — FRONTIER

Brenda Sweeten, University of North Texas — PUSH

Terri Jagers, Sam Houston State University — FORWARD

3:15 p.m.

Break
Lobby Area Upstairs

Day One

3:25 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

STUDENT

Life Without a Safety Net: Youth Aging Out of Foster Care
Room 1210

Tameka Caldwell, Transition Resource Action Center

FOSTER PARENT/AGENCIES

Trio/Early College
Room 1215

Dr. Monica Faulkner, University of Texas at Austin

Kelly Kravitz, Texas Education Agency

NEW COLLEGES PROGRAMS

Myths, Assumptions and Realities of Education Training Vouchers
Room 2200

Marisol Lopez, ETV

EXISTING PROGRAMS

E Studios: A System to Track Foster Care Alumni Success
Room 2002

Cassie Bennett, Dallas County Community College

Deitra Craig, Dallas County Community College

Misherlae Pace, Dallas County Community College

4:30 p.m.

Wrap-up and Housekeeping

1530 Hobbittle Conference Room

Tuesday, June 2



Day Two



8:00 a.m.

Registration
Lobby

8:30 a.m.
– 9:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast
1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

9:00 a.m.
– 3:00 p.m.

Exhibits Open
Second Floor Foyer

9:00 a.m.

Legislative Updates and CPS Overview
1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

Lisa Black, Assistant Commissioner, Texas Department
of Family and Protective Services

9:30 a.m.

Keynote Address

1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

Marva Hammons, MSW

Executive Vice President, Child and Family Services,
Casey Family Programs

11:00 a.m.

Breakout Sessions

STUDENT

Foster Care and Student Success

Room 1210

Kelly Kravitz, Texas Education Agency

FOSTER PARENT/AGENCIES

The Impact of College Entrance Exams, Testing and FASFA

Room 1215

Norma Davila, Baptist Child and Family Services

SPECIAL TOPIC

Creating a Foster Alumni Program on Your Campus

Room 2200

Dr. Monica Faulkner, University of Texas at Austin

Ashley Payne, University of Texas at Austin

Adrian Garcia, University of Texas at Austin

SPECIAL TOPIC

All Church Home, Child & Family Services, Supervised
Independent Living Programs: the Ins and Outs

Room 2002

Carla Storey, All Church Home

Day Two

12:00 p.m.

Working Lunch

1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

Alumni Journey

Facilitator: Tym Belseth, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Davina Hollin, Alumni

Valerie Harkins-Humes, Alumni

Jackie Davis, Alumni

1:15 p.m.

Education REACH for Texans: Past, Present and Future

1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

Sheila Bustillos, Board of Directors,
Education REACH for Texans

2:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks

1530 Hoblitzle Conference Room

Gregg Williams, Dallas Community College

Please note:

CEU, LPC and MFT certificates provided through Texas Woman's University.

Please complete the conference evaluations online; info to be provided via email.

Wednesday, June 3



In Memorium

Jerry Don Sullivan, Jr.

April 29, 1970 – March 24, 2015



Jerry Don Sullivan, Jr. completed the remarkable life God gave him on March 24, 2015. He was 44 years old. His love of humanity paved a career path that impacted hundreds of lives of children in foster care, those who emancipated from foster care, and countless numbers of at-risk youth in the North Texas area and beyond.

Jerry began his career as a teacher and program leader at the Fourth Street Project (Arlington, TX), where he worked with developmentally delayed children through play therapy and group education sessions. In 2000, he joined the Arrow Project as a treatment coordinator and later became the State Director of foster care within the agency. Jerry joined the team at CitySquare as the Assistant Director of the TRAC (Transition Resource Action Center) program in 2008, and became its Director in 2012. TRAC is a “one stop assessment/intake and referral facility for transitional living services for youth exiting foster and juvenile care in North Texas.”

Jerry was a leader in helping foster children make the difficult transition to adulthood after their time in foster care ended. Over his short life, he was instrumental in fundamentally changing the course of so many children’s lives for the better.

DRAFT

EDUCATION Reach for TEXANS

CONVENING PLANNING TEAM

Logistics: Gregg Williams and Sunny Huang

Program: Michele Bland and Tym Belseth

Registration: Clint Rodenfels

EDUCATION REACH FOR TEXANS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Clint Rodenfels

Vice President/Treasurer: Sheila Bustillos-Reynolds

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SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Dallas County Community College District

Austin Community College

Casey Family Programs

Rodenfels Family Foundation

Kathleen Christensen