

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY
FOSTERING
SCHOLARS

FULFILLING HIGHER EDUCATION
DREAMS OF FOSTER YOUTH



OUR CAMPUS APPROACH

The Fostering Scholars program was established in 2006 at Seattle University in order to promote the educational attainment of current and former foster youth. The program is designed to identify students whose achievements and goals mirror the University's mission and to allow these exceptional students to fully focus on their goals by providing financial, academic, and personal support towards the completion of an undergraduate degree.

We continue to advocate for foster youth and serve as change-agents. We want for these scholars what any parent would want for his/her own children – access to a great education, stable housing, health care, opportunities to study abroad and engage fully in the college experience.

\$28,000 is the estimated private fundraising need per student to fill the gap not covered by other forms of financial assistance.

SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDES:

- Full funding of tuition
- Books
- Waiver of all enrollment related fees
- Year-round on-campus housing and meal plan
- Student insurance, including coverage for both physical and mental health services
- Access to Emergency Fund
- Other educational charges (tech fees, lab fees, etc.)

PROGRAM PROVIDES:

- Ongoing check-in with staff
- Assistance navigating university systems
- Supplemental academic advising
- Quarterly cohort socials
- Learning assistance workshops
- Lunch & Learn Series
- Community celebrations (back to school, graduation, holiday)
- Enrichment Fund (retreats, clubs, study abroad)

“NOT ONLY DOES THIS SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDE ME WITH AN EDUCATION, IT PROVIDES ME WITH A SENSE OF SELF, INDEPENDENCE, AND SELF-RELIANCE THAT I WAS NEVER ABLE TO HAVE.” SCHOLAR, CLASS OF 2014

SOCIAL IMPACT

22%

of foster youth experience homelessness. (NACo)

33%

of foster youth/alumni aged 18-24 have no health insurance, which is double the national rate of their peers. (THE NORTHWEST FOSTER CARE ALUMNI STUDY)

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN FOSTER YOUTH EMANCIPATE (AGE-OUT) FROM THE SYSTEM?

(THE CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY INSTITUTE, CASEY & THE URBAN INSTITUTE)

- 65% emancipate without a place to live.
- 3% complete a bachelor's degree. (CASEY 08)
- 51% are unemployed within 2-4 years of emancipation.
- 1/3 of former foster youth earn \$6,000 or less, substantially below the federal poverty level. (NW FOSTER CARE ALUMNI STUDY)
- In any given year, foster children comprise less than 0.3% of the state's population, and yet 40% of persons living in homeless shelters are former foster children. A similarly disproportionate percentage of the nation's prison population is comprised of former foster youth.



“COLLEGE HAS OPENED UP MANY DOORS THAT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN OPENED UP TO ME HAD I NOT WORKED TOWARD A DEGREE. I AM WELL AWARE THAT ONLY 2% OF FOSTER YOUTH GRADUATE COLLEGE. I AM PROUD TO BE COUNTED AMONG THEM.”

PAULA CARVALHO BECAME THE FIRST FOSTERING SCHOLAR TO GRADUATE WHEN SHE RECEIVED HER DEGREE IN 2008. SHE ALSO HOLDS A MASTER'S IN TEACHING FROM SEATTLE U.

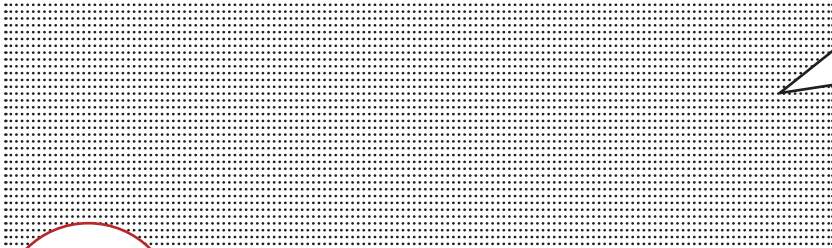
BY THE NUMBERS

Children & youth who are in foster care want to go to college just like many other adults. Our society rightly perceives going to college as a means to good jobs, career advancement, economic independence, and the establishment of important social networks. It is a part of the American dream, a dream to which youth in foster care should aspire. (CASEY 2008)

If foster youth attended college at the same rate as their peers, nearly

100,000

additional foster youth would be attending college. (INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY)



x 20

24%

of the general population complete a bachelor's degree or higher.



1.8%

of foster youth of the same age complete that level of education.






400-500

 youth "age out" of Foster Care in Washington State annually.



PROGRAM OUTCOMES

OUR GRADUATES ARE SHIFTING THE PARADIGM

-  20 graduates (as of June 2013).
-  A retention rate that exceeds the U.S. average retention rate of 77.1%.
(NATIONAL CENTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS)
-  The Fostering Scholars Program is a national model.
-  100% of our graduates are employed or in graduate school. These grads are teachers, nurses, programmers and community advocates.
-  **Because of the Fostering Scholars Program and its support, many of our scholars are choosing careers in social work, law, and public policy and will someday be the be the leaders who will help improve the foster care system they know firsthand.**

GIVE seattleu.edu/fosteringscholars

Help us move from success to significance. A gift of any size will help Fostering Scholars fulfill its important mission. All gifts are tax-deductible. If you are interested in learning more, please contact the Office of University Advancement 206-296-6000.



\$350

WILL PROVIDE MEALS FOR A STUDENT DURING THE WINTER BREAK HOLIDAY



\$1,000

SUPPLIES FIVE "DORM STARTER KITS"



\$1,500

SUPPLIES BOOKS FOR A STUDENT FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR



\$4,000

PROVIDES HEALTH INSURANCE FOR THREE STUDENTS FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR



\$12,000

PROVIDES YEAR-ROUND HOUSING AND MEALS



\$28,000

SUPPLIES TUITION, BOOKS, ALL SCHOOL-RELATED FEES, HEALTH INSURANCE, HOUSING, MEALS, PROGRAM ACTIVITIES, ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL MENTORING, AND ACCESS TO THE EMERGENCY FUND FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR

You can also consider making a gift to the **Fostering Scholars Endowment**, which insures a sustainable future of fulfilling higher education dreams of foster youth.

“BECAUSE OF THE FOSTERING SCHOLARS PROGRAM, I AM PRIVILEGED TO ATTEND A WONDERFUL UNIVERSITY. I HAVE THE PROGRAM ADVISORS’ AND COUNSELORS’ SUPPORT. I HAVE CHALLENGING CLASSES THAT ENABLE MY SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO EXPAND EVERY DAY.” SCHOLAR, CLASS OF 2013

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Seattle University is dedicated to educating the whole person, to professional formation, and to empowering leaders for a just and humane world.