FOSTERING SUCCESS MICHIGAN
WEBINAR SERIES

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

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UNDERSTANDING THE SEVEN LIFE DOMAINS AS A FRAMEWORK FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Presented by Jamie Bennett, MSW
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GOALS AND AGENDA

1. Provide knowledge of the background of Seven Life Domains
2. Increase awareness of reasons to use the Seven Life Domain framework with students and programs
3. Increase strategies for using the Seven Life Domains
   • In network and program development
   • In communication and partnership with students
4. Increased knowledge of best practices from the field in using the Seven Life Domains
The Seven Life Domains: History

It’s My Life (2001): Identified Seven Life Domains

- Education
- Finances and Employment
- Housing
- Physical and Mental Health
- Community Connections and Supportive Relationships
- Personal and Cultural Identity Formation
- Life Skills

THE SEVEN LIFE DOMAINS
USE IN STUDENT SUPPORT

- Employment (including financial aid, income, and savings)
- Housing
- Physical and Mental Health
- Supportive Relationships & Community Connections
- Personal and Cultural Identity Formation
- Life Skills for Campus, Living, and Career Preparation
- Education & Academics
Why use the life domains framework?
WHY USE THE LIFE DOMAINS FRAMEWORK?

- Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- Educational Training Voucher (ETV)
- Youth in Transition (YIT)
- Community Mental Health (CMH)

Wmich.edu/fosteringsuccess/outreach/training
WHY USE THE LIFE DOMAINS FRAMEWORK?

College Student
from Foster Care

- Academic Support
- Public Assistance
- Residence Life/community housing
- Medicaid
- CMH
- Student Life/Extra-curriculars
- Counseling Services
- Health Services
- Registrar
- ETV
- Admissions

Why use the life domains framework?

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SEVEN LIFE DOMAINS
Support Recommendations
SUPPORT RECOMMENDATION #1: GUIDANCE FOR NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

• Which domain are you an expert in?
  • You do not have to be the expert in each domain!
• Develop networks based on the domains for holistic network support

Source: Wmich.edu/fosteringsuccess/outreach/training
Support Recommendation #2: Data Tracking and Program Development

- What domains are the focus of your interactions with students?
  - Data tracking
- What domains are high touch?
- What domains are low touch?
- Event programming, workshops
SUPPORT RECOMMENDATION #3: DELivering INFORMATION TO STUDENTS

• Huge amounts of information can be overwhelming
  • Organizing information in the life domains offers a categorical method for organization

• Help students with organizing important deadlines with the life domains
  • ETV and FAFSA
  • Leases and bills
Support Recommendation #4: Partnered Student Support

- Share!
- Encourages student and supportive adult to partner
  - What domains does the student view as priority?
  - Agenda setting
- Empowers student to take the wheel
  - Goal setting and accountability
Support Recommendation #5: Start with Strengths

- Strengths-based approach to support
  - Can balance and diffuse high stress over problems student is experiencing
  - Strength areas can be leveraged to problem solve

Highlights and Lowlights?
What can we celebrate today?
SUMMARY: SUPPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. GUIDANCE FOR NETWORK DEVELOPMENT
2. DATA TRACKING AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
3. DELIVERING INFORMATION TO STUDENTS
4. HOLISTIC PARTNERED STUDENT SUPPORT
5. START WITH STRENGTHS
FROM THE FIELD: BEST PRACTICES

• Programming
• Partnership
• Flexibility
INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE LIFE DOMAINS AND OTHER STRATEGIES FOR STUDENT SUPPORT?

LEVEL I TRAINING:
AUGUST 2016 AND NOVEMBER 2016

LEVEL II TRAINING:
JULY 2016

PODCAST:
MAY 12, 2016

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