treehouse™
giving foster kids a childhood and a future

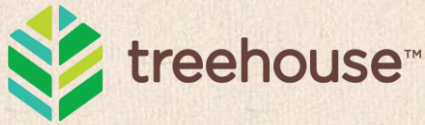# The Essentials: Student-Centered Planning

Jamie Burns & Danielle Wilson

Today's Objective

- Treehouse

- Working with Youth in Foster Care

- Overview of Student-Centered Planning

- Combination of Support Services
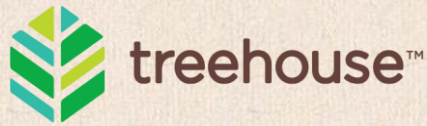
- Program Success and Next Steps

- Q & A

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Mission
Giving foster kids a childhood and a future

2017 Goal
Youth in foster care in King County
will graduate high school
at the same rate as their peers
with a plan for their future.

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Treehouse Programs

Graduation Success
Proactive education planning, monitoring and coaching to high school graduation for middle and high school students in foster care in King County and high school students in Spokane, Everett, and Tacoma School Districts.

Educational Advocacy
Work with schools, social workers, and caregivers to remove critical barriers to school success for children and youth in foster care statewide.

The Wearhouse
Provide 100,000 items of clothing, school supplies & toys that help our youth feel good, fit in, and succeed in the classroom.

Little Wishes & Summer Camp
Pay for important extracurricular and school activities that research shows lead to better school and life outcomes. We also send 400 youth to summer camp and other summer learning and leadership experiences.

Holiday Magic
Partner with 97.3 KIRO FM to raise resources from the community to provide over 5,000 children and youth in foster care with one significant holiday gift.

What we've covered...

Treehouse Overview

The Why...

Why we do what we do

Turn & Talk

How does knowing your 'why' impact your work?

Only 50% of youth in foster care graduate from high school

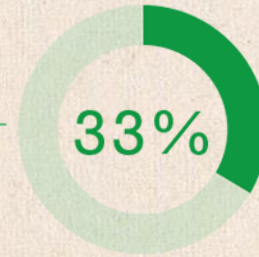**Less than 3% of youth in foster care go to a 4-year college, yet every kid dreams about their future**

Treehouse's Goal:
Foster youth graduate from high school at the same rate as their peers with a plan for their future.

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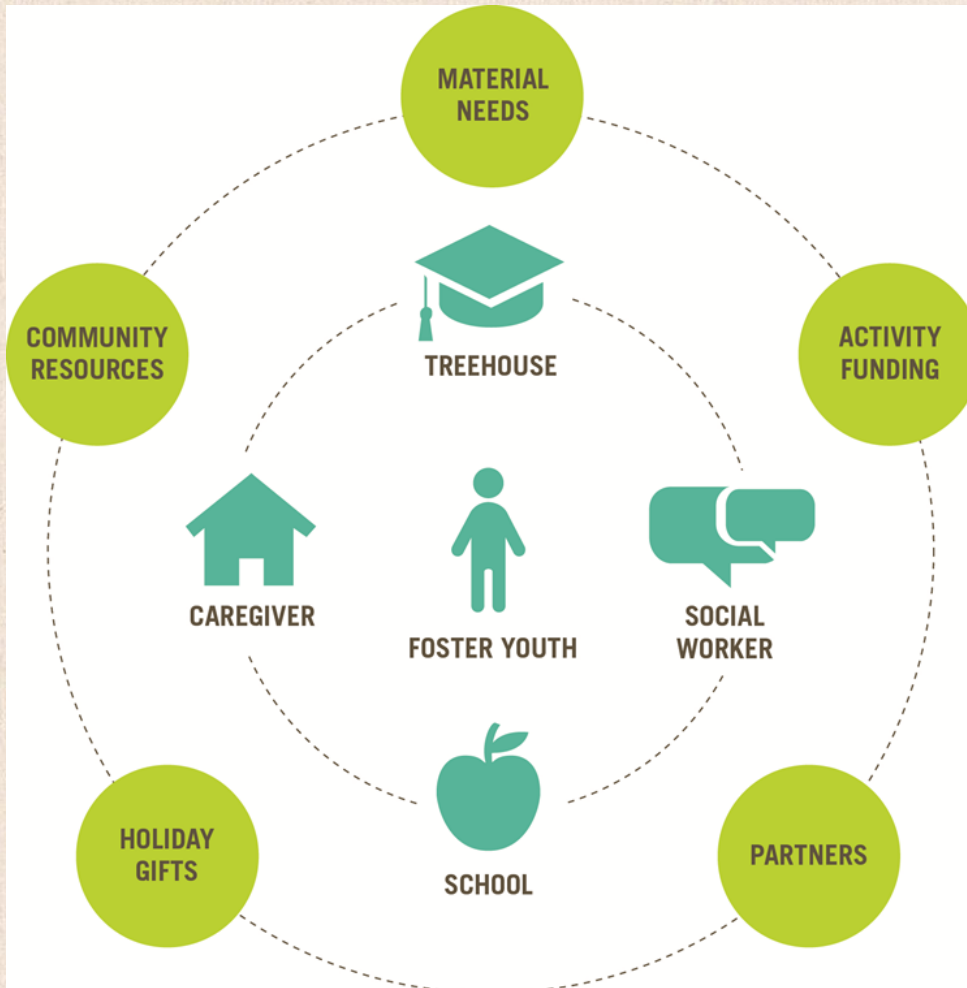
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What we've covered…

The Why…the reason we work with youth in Foster Care!

The How…

How we do what we do

Graduation Success Program Model

This year, we expect to serve 900 youth in 26 school districts

Check & Connect:

Weekly monitoring & individualized interventions:

A = Attendance
B = Behavior
C = Course Performance
Build a support team around youth

Student-Centered Planning:

Youth-driven Student-Centered Plan

Educational Advocacy to remove barriers

Youth define their support network

Extracurricular and school activities

Meet material needs

Coach self-determination & persistence

Impacts of Trauma

The average youth in foster care experiences

3
placement changes

6
months of lost academic progress per move

Youth in foster care suffer PTSD at 2x the rate of war vets

2X

Student-Centered Planning

- Provides youth the opportunity for their voices to be heard

- Builds Self-Determination

- Helps youth identify needs and/or extracurricular activities they want to participate in

- Helps youth identify people they can count on

Tools

STUDENT MAP

Name_____ Date_____ Conversation Partner_____

3) Goal:

Step 3

Step 2

Step 1

1) What am I doing right now?

2) Who am I? What are my strengths?

Others see this in me:

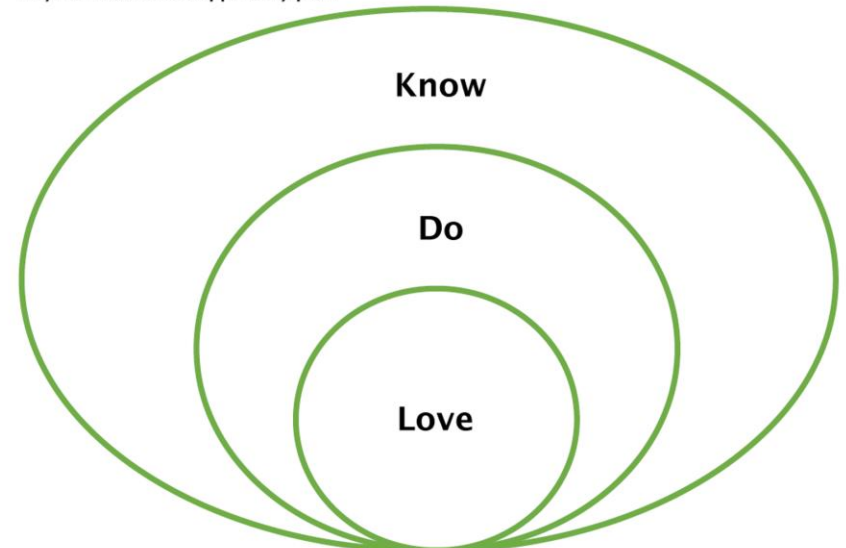4) What behaviors do I need to change or steps do I need to complete to reach my goal?

Note big idea, loaded statement, ahha or key learning:

SOCIOGRAM PLANNER

Name_____ Date_____ Conversation Partner_____

Complete the sociogram by listing people the student **knows** (e.g. an acquaintance in the community), **does** things with (e.g. a friend student meets to play once a week), and **loves** (e.g. student's sister). Make sure to ask about people at *home*, at *school*, in the *community* and at *work* (if applicable).

Key individuals to support my plan:

Know

Do

Love

Adapted from the work of Al Condeluci, PhD, UCP Pittsburgh, http://www.alcondeluci.com/

Tools

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

Name_____ Date_____ Conversation Partner_____

Years from now	Living situation	Social/ Leisure Activities	Transportation	Needs	Opportunities/ Likes/ Preferences	What makes me feel empowered/ defeated?

ACTION PLAN

Name_____ Date_____ Conversation Partner_____

Plan Champion(s):

Goals	Obstacles	Plan to Overcome Obstacles	Action Plan: Who/What/When

Tools

Name_____ Date_____   Conversation Partner_____

SELF–ADVOCACY PLANNING

Issue: _____

I will ask/meet with/write to: _____ by the following date: _____

If this person does not resolve the situation by this date: _____

then I will call/meet with/write to: _____

Documentation that I will need: _____

Other people who can help me: _____

Things I can do next, if my problem isn't resolved by my first suggestion: _____

What I expect the other side to do: _____

Adapted from National Mental Health Consumers' Self-help Clearinghouse

Turn & Talk

What student-centered practices are you currently implementing, or planning to implement?

Support Services

- Financial Support for incentives

- Extracurricular Activities

- Barrier Removal

Case Study

Student Profile

- 19 year old post secondary youth with child.
- Engaged in Grad Success for 4 years.
- Graduated as 5th year
- 3 placement changes
- 2 school changes
- 6 Social workers

Program Engagement

- Student-Centered Planning
- C&C
- Little Wishes
- Advocacy
- The Wearhouse
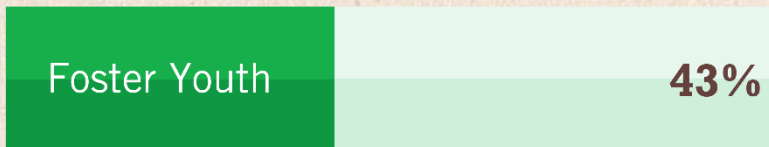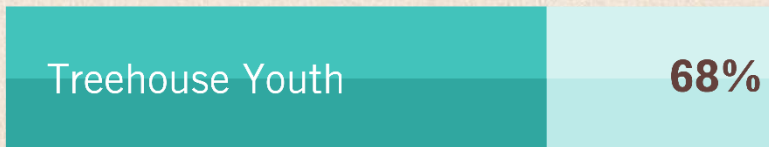- Community partners
- Barrier Removal

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What we've covered…
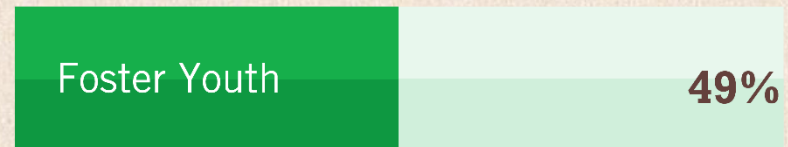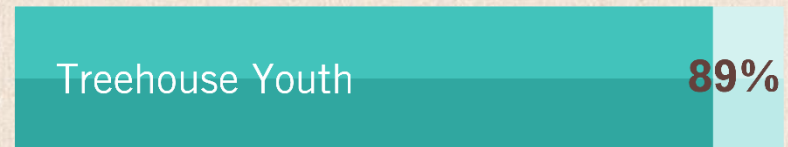
The How…our program model and support services!

The Outcome…

The impact we have made

Treehouse Progress

4-Year Graduation Rates

Washington State Youth — **79%**

Treehouse Youth — **68%**

Foster Youth — **43%**

5-Year Graduation Rates

Washington State Youth — **82%**

Treehouse Youth — **89%**

Foster Youth — **49%**

What's Next?

- Refinement of model and continuous improvement

- Extending service one year past graduation

- Addressing chronic absenteeism

- Addressing school mobility

- Addressing racial disparities in outcomes

Treehouse's Next Goal:
By 2022, youth in foster care across Washington will graduate from high school at the same rate as their peers and launch successfully into adulthood.
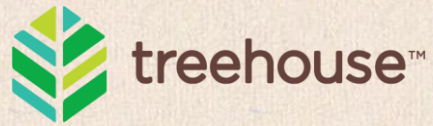
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Questions?

Thank you!

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