Fostering Success Michigan Program Summary

In 2012, through generous support from The Kresge Foundation, Western Michigan University, the Havirmill Foundation, and others, Fostering Success Michigan was established to help increase college-going rates and successful career transitions among Michigan's students from foster care by building a network of support on college campuses and within local communities. A statewide initiative of Western Michigan University's Center for Fostering Success, Fostering Success Michigan is building a holistic network that insulates (i.e., strengthens protective factors and reduces risks) the education to career "pipeline" for students from foster care. Fostering Success Michigan has become a state and national hub of resources and information for those who work with students from foster care, resulting in a significant increase of knowledge, skill and social capacity of network participants.

Fostering Success Michigan is utilizing a Collective Impact Framework to address Michigan's need for large-scale social change in the area of students with experience in foster care and their access and success in higher education and post-college careers. The collective impact framework employs five distinct conditions for social change: Common Agenda, Backbone Organization, Mutually Reinforcing Activities, Shared Measurement, and Continuous Communication.

COMMON AGENDA: Fostering Success Michigan has adopted the Lumina Big Goal of increasing the number of students from foster care who obtain high-quality degrees and credentials to 60% by the year 2025. By aligning ourselves with the Lumina Big Goal, Fostering Success Michigan is joining the Michigan College Access Network, and other stakeholders in the education arena, toward their efforts to achieve this goal.

BACKBONE STRATEGIES: Fostering Success Michigan is a hub, supporting Michigan's network of experts versus being an "expert organization". As a collective impact backbone organization, Fostering Success Michigan employs three strategies: Resourcing, Supporting, and Networking.

- *Resourcing:* Building the knowledge capacity of FSM Network participants through creating awareness of unique issues faced by students with experience in foster care and providing foster care specific resources.
    - *FSM Website*
    - *FSM guides, podcasts, and webinars*
- *Supporting:* Building the skill capacity of FSM Network participants through utilizing best practices in college readiness and persistence and increasing postsecondary institutional capacity to support students with experience in foster care.
    - *FSM Higher Education Consortium*
    - *FSM Student Leadership Activities*
- *Networking:* Building social capital capacity of FSM Network participants through facilitating opportunities to bring diverse groups of participants together and engaging new participants into the work to expand resources and support available to students with experience in foster care.
    - *FSM Community Collaborative Events*

Fostering Success Michigan Program Summary

MUTUTALLY REINFORCING ACTIVITIES: Each participant in the Fostering Success Michigan Network plays a vital role in the education to career pipeline for students from foster care. Fostering Success Michigan utilizes the Casey Family Programs 7 Life Domains Framework to holistically support student success through the alignment of activities and resources of the participants in the FSM Network.
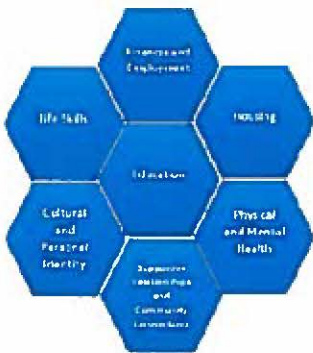
KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- *Michigan Department of Health and Human Services*
- *Michigan College Access Network*
- *Students and alumni of foster care*
- *Michigan Postsecondary Institutions*
- *Michigan Department of Treasury*
- *Michigan's Children*

ACTION NETWORKS

- *FSM Higher Education Consortium (HEC) Action Network:* 16 campus support programs representing 17 postsecondary institutions across Michigan all focused on supporting students with experience in foster care.
- *FSM Policy Action Network:* Professionals representing Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Department of Education, Alumni of Foster Care, Michigan's Children, Student Advocacy Center, Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative, Western Michigan University Seita Scholars Program, Wayne State University, University of Michigan Blavin Scholars Program, Eastern Michigan University, The New Foster Care

SHARED MEASUREMENT: A shared measurement strategy is being established through the collaborative efforts of the Fostering Success Michigan Higher Education Consortium (FSM HEC). FSM HEC participants utilize the 7 Life Domains model, adapted from Casey Family Programs "It's My Life framework", to monitor progress of success and provide a realistic understanding of how Michigan's students with experience in foster care move to and through postsecondary education and into professional careers.

CONTINUOUS COMMUNICATION: To ensure that our diverse group of partners maintains an awareness of successes, challenges, priority issues and shared solutions, FSM supports continuous communication activities. Stay up to date with FSM through our FSM Google Group listserv, FSM Monthly Newsletters, and FSM Social Media, "Like" FSM on Facebook and "Follow" @FSMichigan on Twitter and Instagram.
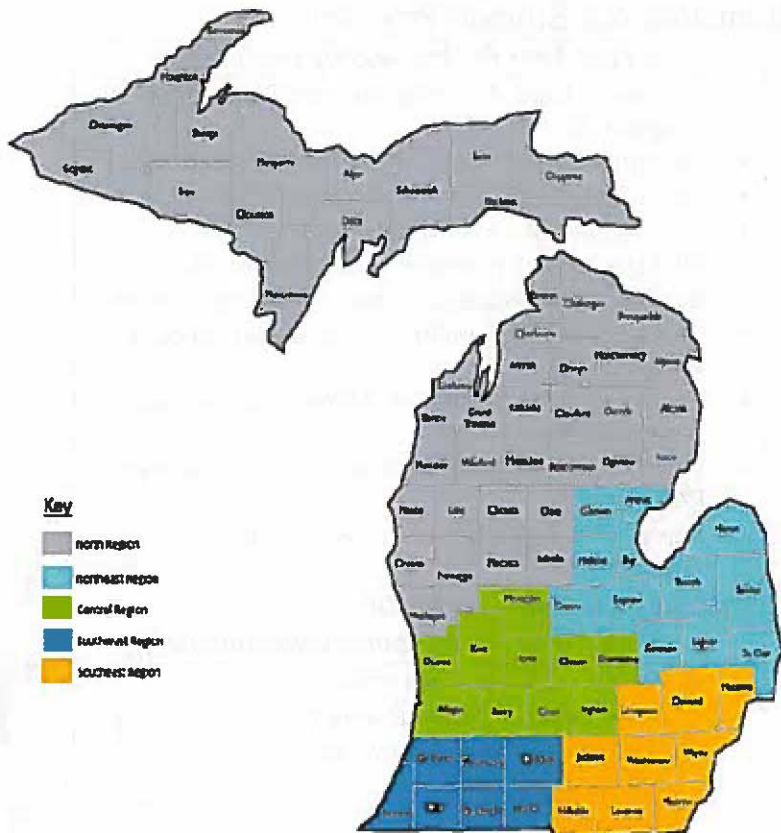
CURRENT GOALS

1. *Create sustainability strategies* for the long term support of the work of Fostering Success Michigan to ultimately increase access and success in postsecondary education for students from foster care.
2. *Fortify the work of FSM Network participants* through the development and delivery of best practice models that can be taken to scale ensuring the sustainability of Michigan's collective impact initiative to increase postsecondary education access and success for students from foster care.
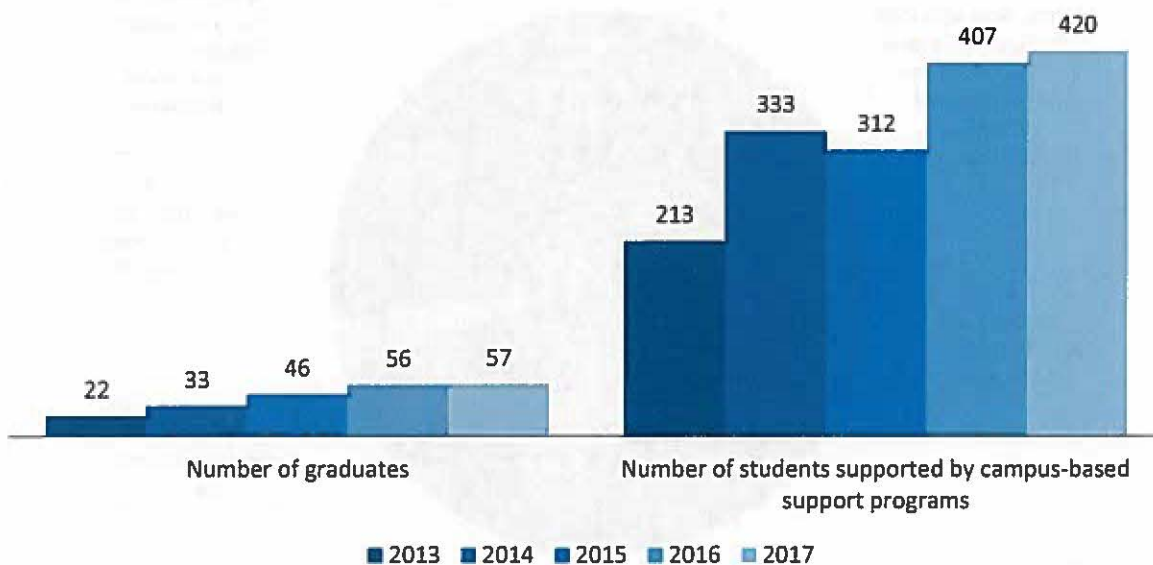
Center for Fostering Success
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Fostering Success Michigan
Campus Support At A Glance: 2017

3776 Total youth in care ages 12-21

- **North Region:** 550 youth in care ages 12-21; 2 FSM HEC participant institutions
- **Northeast Region:** 481 youth in care ages 12-21; 3 FSM HEC participant institutions
- **Central Region:** 677 youth in care ages 12-21; 4 FSM HEC participant institutions
- **Southwest Region:** 477 youth in care ages 12-21; 3 FSM HEC participant institutions
- **Southeast Region:** 1591 youth in care ages 12-21; 5 FSM HEC participant institutions

Key
- North Region
- Northeast Region
- Central Region
- Southwest Region
- Southeast Region

Trends in Student Support for Campus-Based Support Programs

Number of graduates: 22, 33, 46, 56, 57

Number of students supported by campus-based support programs: 213, 333, 312, 407, 420

■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016 ■ 2017

Center for Fostering Success
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Fostering Success Michigan
Campus Support At A Glance: 2017

FSM Higher Education Consortium: Campus Support Programs	
7 Two Year Postsecondary Institutions	*10 Four Year Postsecondary Institutions*
• Delta College: FAST Program (NE) • Kalamazoo Valley Community College: Foster Care Support Program (SW) • Lansing Community College: Fostering Stars Program (C) • Lake Michigan College: Start to Finish Program (SW) • Northwestern Michigan College: YourNMC Program (N) • Washtenaw Community College: REACH Program (SE) • Wayne County Community College District: SMART Program (SE)	• Aquinas College: Fostering Success Scholarship Program (C) • Eastern Michigan University: MAGIC Program (SE) • Ferris State University: Ferris Youth Initiative (N) • Grand Valley State University (C) • Michigan State University: FAME Program (C) • Saginaw Valley State University: FAST Program (NE) • University of Michigan-Ann Arbor: Blavin Scholars Program (SE) • University of Michigan-Flint: MPowering My Success Program (NE) • Wayne State University: Transition to Independence Program (SE) • Western Michigan University: Seita Scholars Program (SW)
Campuses with a FSM Designated Campus Champion	
1 Two Year Postsecondary Institutions	*4 Four Year Postsecondary Institutions*
• Grand Rapids Community College	• Central Michigan University • Lake Superior State University • Michigan Technical University • Oakland University

2017 Fostering Success Michigan Campus Based Support

- 4 Insitutions with FSM Designated Campus Champions and Finanical Aid Champions 6%
- 14 Institutions with Campus Support Programs and FSM Financial Aid Champions 22%
- 3 Institutions with Only Campus Support Programs 5%
- 2 Institutions with Only FSM Designated Campus Champions 3%
- 40 Institutions with Only FSM Financial Aid Champions

63 Total Postsecondary Institutions; 56% of all Michigan Postsecondary