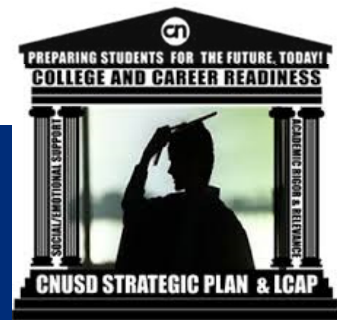


**ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL**

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# **ALL STAR FOSTER PROGRAM**

**CORONA-NORCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**





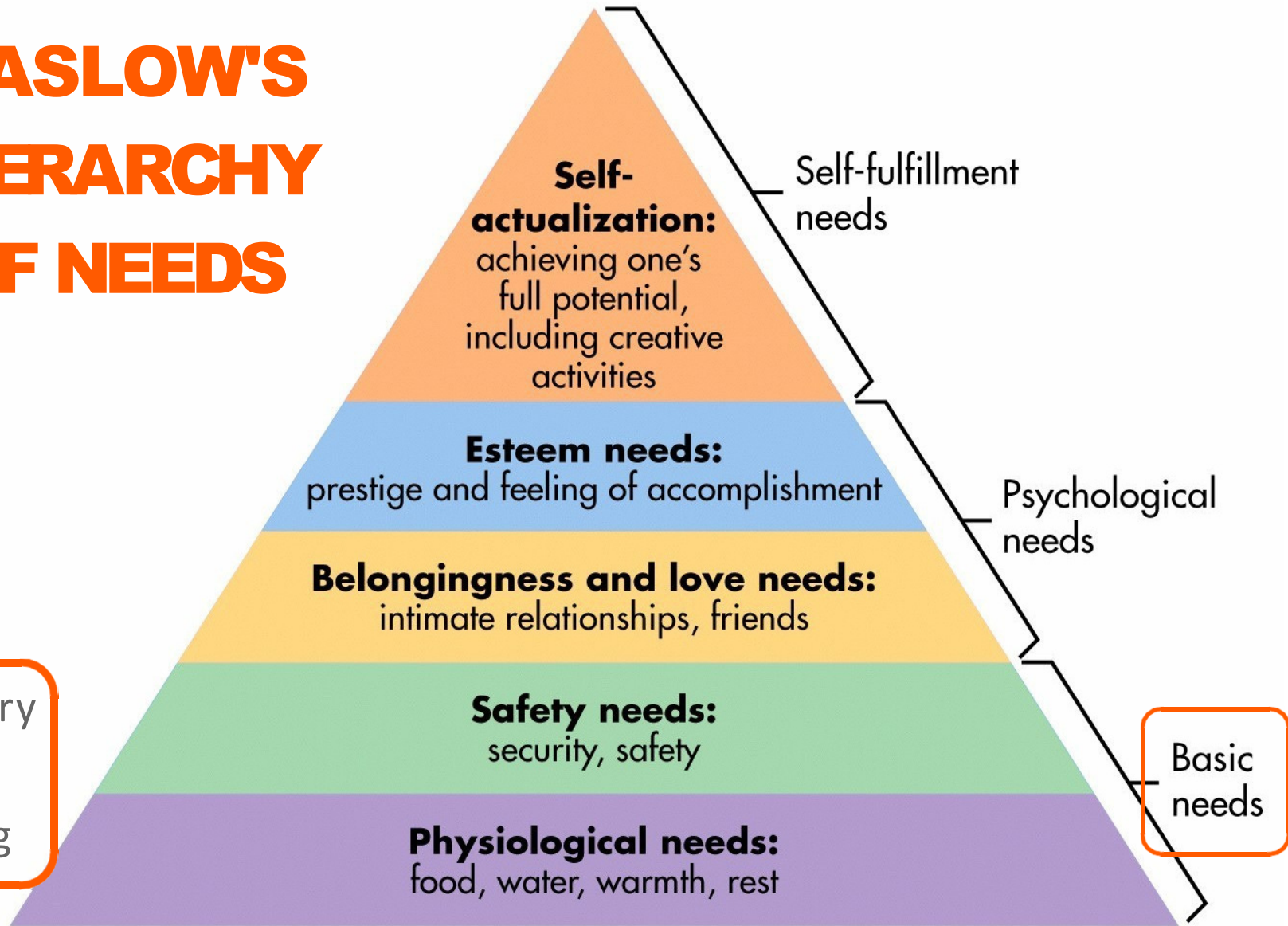
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**A QUICK**

# **INTRODUCTION**

- Jenna Mendez | TK-12 District Foster Youth Counselor
- Annie Havard | Teacher/Advisor

# MASLOW'S HIERARCHY OF NEEDS



**"PEOPLE DON'T  
CARE HOW MUCH  
YOU KNOW UNTIL  
THEY KNOW HOW  
MUCH YOU CARE"**

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**JOHN C. MAXWELL**



# WHY?

- U.S. – 437,465 (up 40,000 from 2012)
- California - 62,000
- Riverside County - 4,700- 6,200

People who had been in foster care as children had *higher* rates of PTSD (25%) than US war veterans (12%)

"The AFCARS Report," 2016; "Number of Children in Foster Care," 2017



# **WHY?**

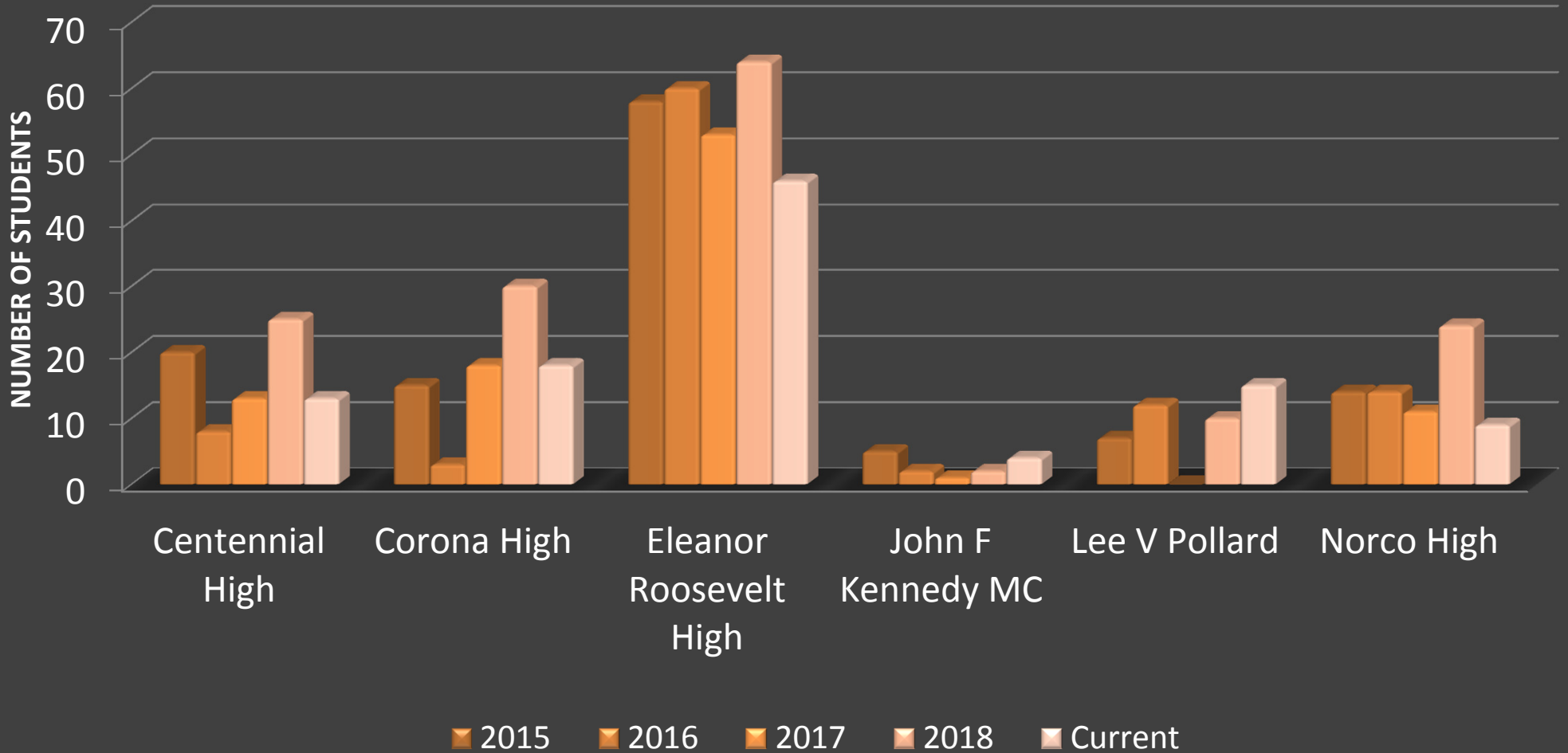
By age 24

- 67% of women have children
- 60% of men have been convicted of a crime
- 24% are homeless
- 52% are unemployed
- 3% have a college degree

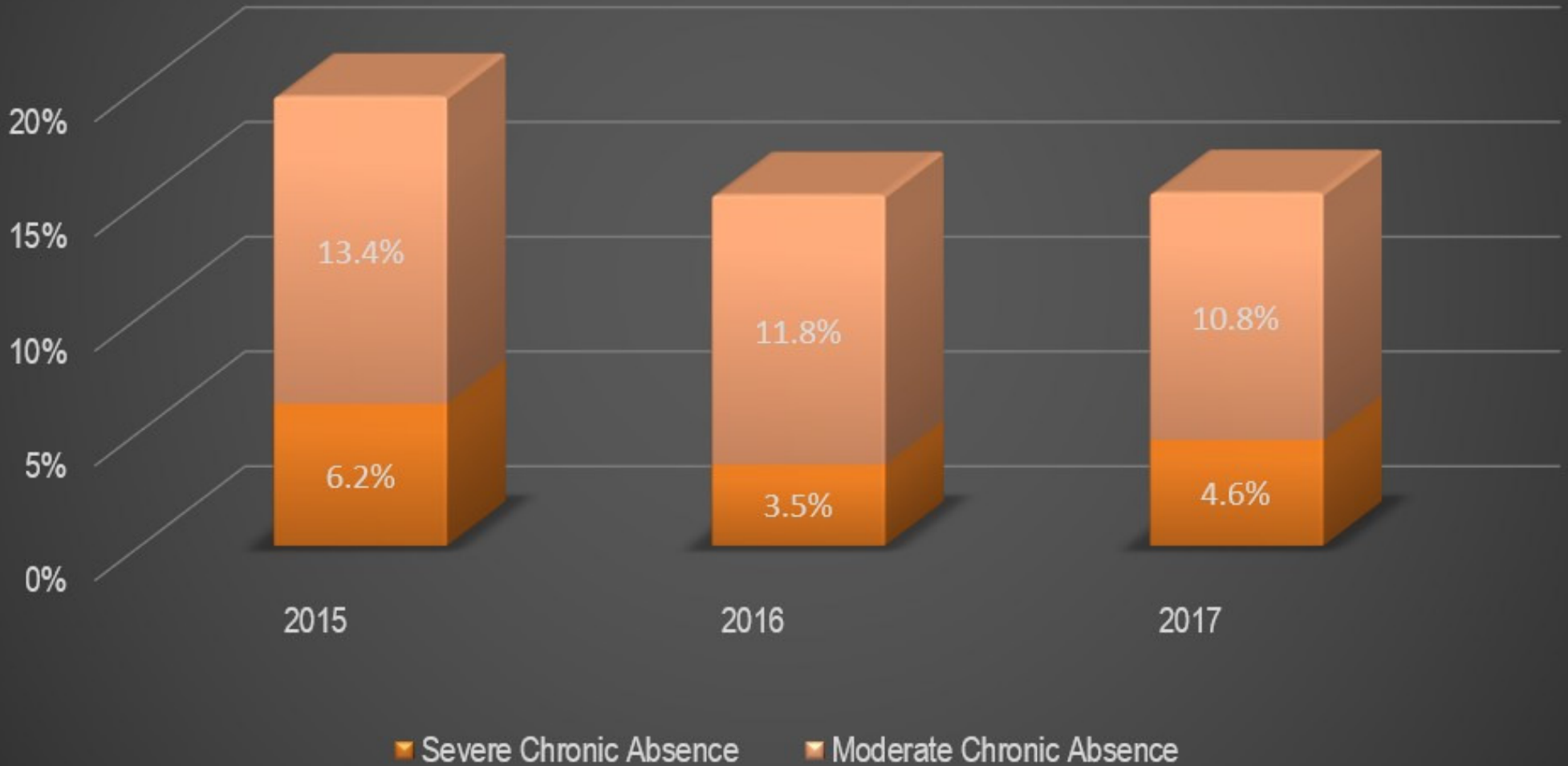


"Foster Kids Face Tough Times," 2010; National Foster Youth Institute, 2015

# CNUSD NUMBERS

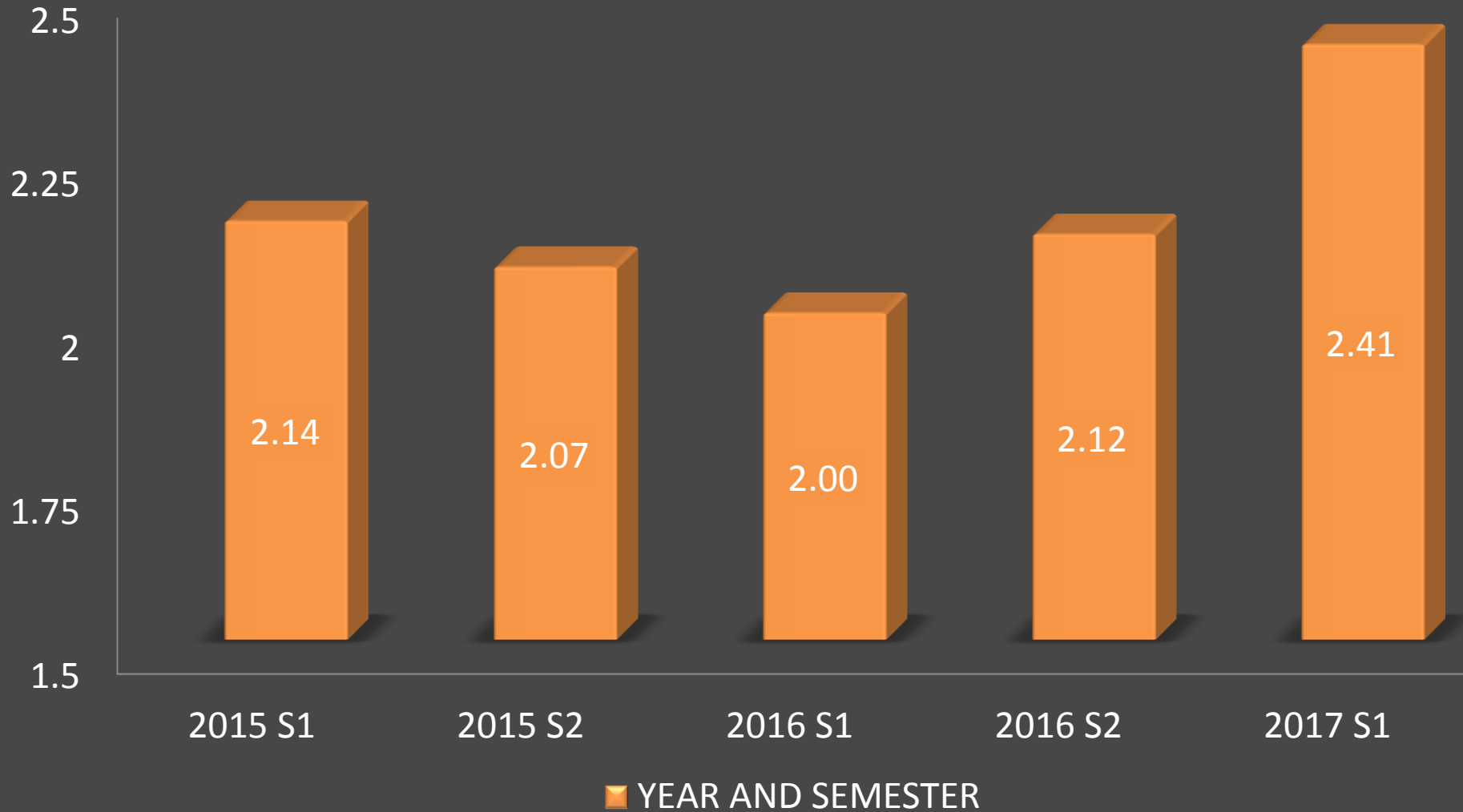


# ABSENCES

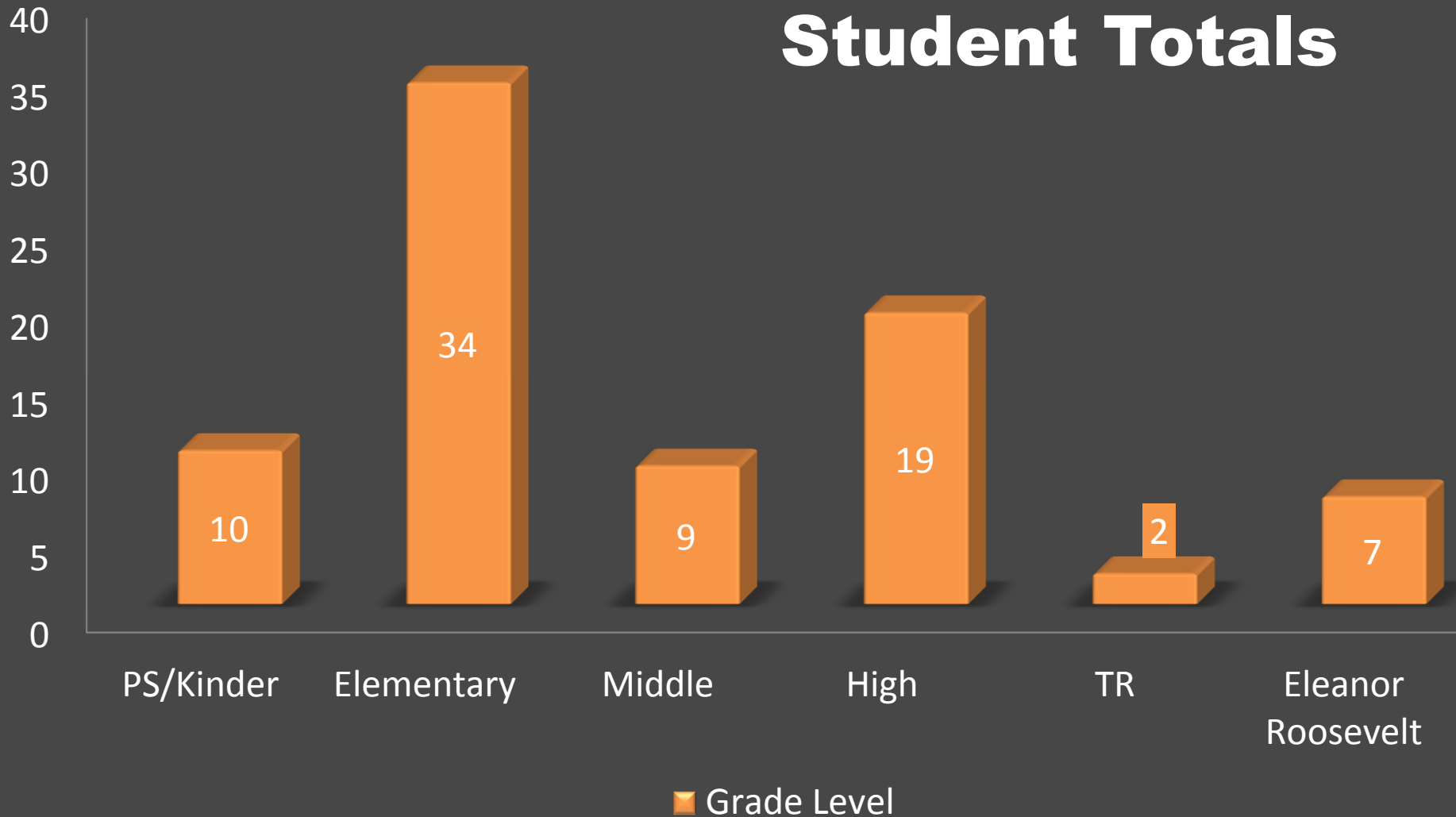


**ALL STAR FOSTER PROGRAM**

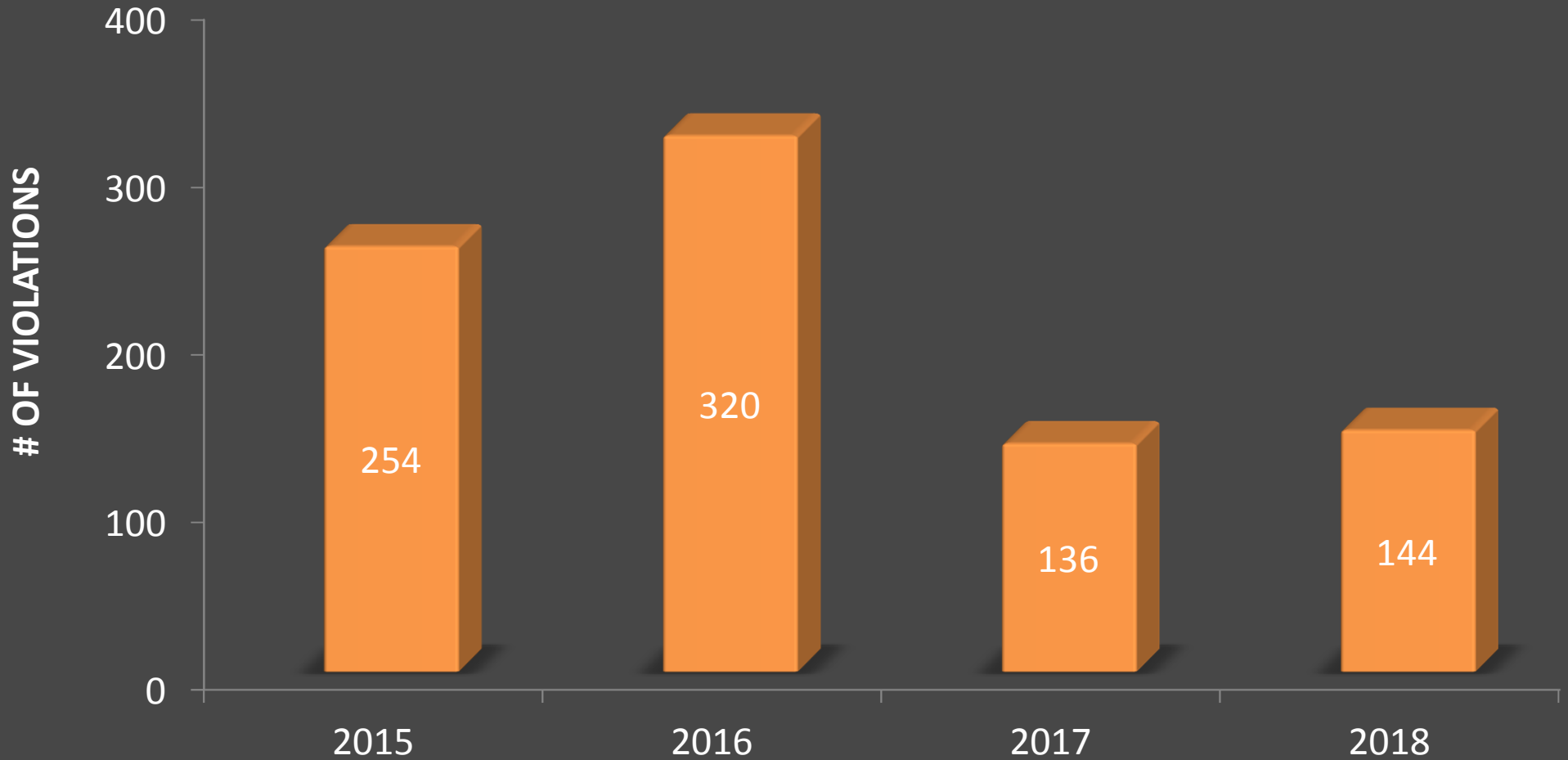
# GPA



# District African American Student Totals

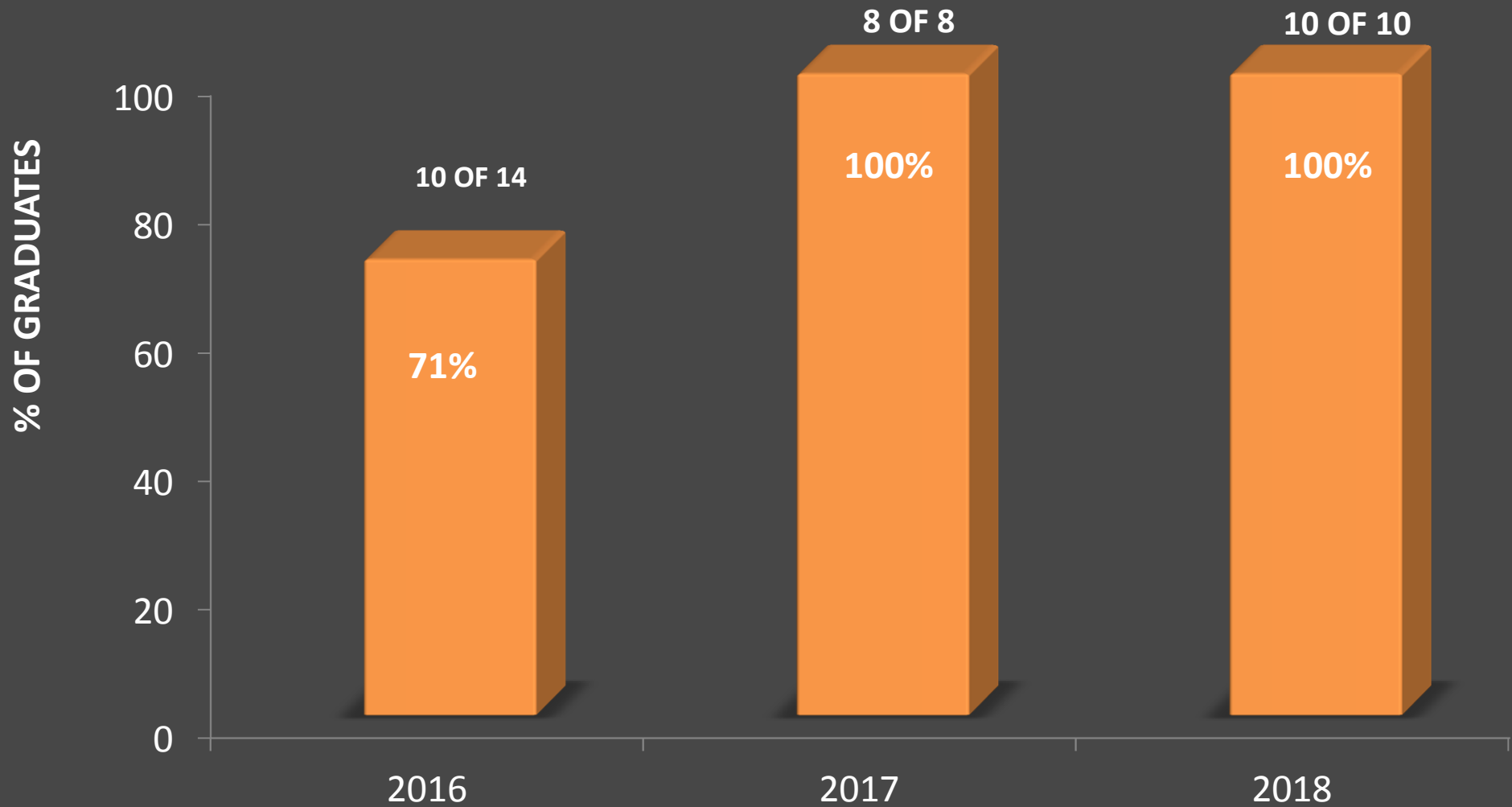


# BEHAVIOR VIOLATIONS





# GRADUATION RATES



**OUR ALL STAR PROGRAM**

**PURPOSE**

Foster youth are often the *invisible* under-served population.

The purpose of the All-Star program is to empower youth with the resources needed to self-advocate, make healthy choices, and prepare for their future.

Our program is designed to build a village for these "at-promise" students.

**ACHIEVEMENT**

Helping close the achievement gap in terms of academics, attendance, and behavior

**COMMUNITY**

Increasing student engagement by establishing a social support network and providing emotional, informational, and academic support

**FUTURE**

**PLANNING**

Providing opportunities and assistance in planning for the future

# **ALL STAR FOCUSES**

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**OUR ALL STAR**

**CLUB**

All foster youth are informed of this club and encouraged to be active participants.

We hold monthly meetings and check in with each student quarterly.

**FOSTER SUPPORT**

The club is designed to provide a safe space of students from similar backgrounds to socialize

**RESOURCES+ GUEST SPEAKERS**

We discuss resources for the students to access now and after they age out. We bring in guest speakers who were former foster youth or currently help foster youth

**FUN + FOOD**

We inform them of upcoming events and always provide food at all meetings

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**OUR ALL STAR**

**CLASS**

We created a class for foster youth only with between 10-20 students

Teacher should be trauma-informed and have a counseling partner

**SOCIAL/ EMOTIONAL**

Class starts with "family time" where the focus is on social training, emotional regulation, coping/life skills, + future planning

**ACADEMIC**

The second hour of class focuses on academic support through tutoring, grade checks, credit recovery, and meeting with case carriers

**CELEBRATIONS**

We celebrate events and all victories! Birthdays, mentor events, achievements, etc.

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**OUR ALL STAR**

**MENTORS**

We created our Mustang Mentor program for foster youth to be paired with an adult staff member on campus

The program is voluntary for our students and staff

**MENTOR SUPPORT**

Our program is designed for our students to have an adult on campus they trust to go to. We encourage bi-monthly check-ins.

**TRAUMA-INFORMED**

Staff are trained on how to best interact with the needs of these students and learn the basics of trauma-informed care

**FUN EVENTS**

We have quarterly mentor events. Mentors are encouraged to attend events with their mentee

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**OUR ALL STAR**

**EVENTS**

We have events 2-3 times a month for our foster students

For the last 2 years, ERHS hosted the kick-off event in the form of a UNITY Forum

**DISTRICT EVENTS**

Events with all foster youth in the district. Guest speakers, DJs, photo booth, and lunch

**FIELD TRIPS+ CAMP**

Field trips include to the fire station, colleges, Zoo, and UCR high ropes course. UNITY camp in Big Bear allows students space to socialize and to learn about themselves/others.

**OTHER EVENTS**

Lunch for the middle schools, senior mentor/mentee dinner, gifts at the holidays, conferences, etc.



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**PROVIDING**

# **ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

In addition to social-emotional support, we supplement our academic counselors in providing academic support for our foster students

**COLLEGE/CAREER CLASS**

**COLLEGE VISITS**

Field trips to CSUSB, CSUSM, Cal Poly Pomona, CSUF, and Norco College

**COLLEGE APPS**

Providing assistance for all college applications, and Norco College in particular

**FAFSA ASSISTANCE**

**ACADEMIC CHECK-IN**

**AB216**

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**ALL STARS AT OTHER LEVELS**

# **Elementary and Middle**

New this year is the extra support for middle and elementary students

Corona-Norco currently has 271 middle and elementary All Stars

**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

**GOODY BAGS/DUFFEL BAGS**

Norco College packed duffel bags for each elementary student with school supplies, teddy bear, blanket, and coloring materials.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL LUNCHEON-**

Current All-Stars present the program to the 8<sup>th</sup> graders with lunch and raffle.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL FIELD DAY**

**ACADEMIC CHECK-IN**

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**SOURCES OF  
FUNDING**

**DISTRICT**

LCAP and LEA

**SCHOOL SITE  
COUNCIL**

**DONATIONS**

From staff, the community, Miguel's Jr., Foundation Foundation, community food bank, Corona City Rotary, etc. Donations include monetary, food, school supplies, camp supplies, etc.

**FUNDRAISERS**

# PARTNERING WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

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- Speakers (financial literacy, prior foster youth, non-profits, RCOE, MSWs, military, etc.)
- Financial help
- Life skills and transitioning out of the system
- Mentoring
- Field trips and college visits
- District All Star events Monthly All
- Star meetings All Star class
- Incoming freshmen outreach
- Complementary school photos

## ALL STAR FOSTER PROGRAM



All District Forum hosted by ERHS



Team building/bonding



## ALL STAR FOSTER PROGRAM



UNITY All Star Camp- Big Bear



Many different activities



## ALL STAR FOSTER PROGRAM



Team building and bonding



on the challenge course



## ALL STAR FOSTER PROGRAM



Monthly Activities



Speakers

## ALL STAR FOSTER PROGRAM



Mentor Events



Holiday Treats



## ALL STAR FOSTER PROGRAM



Holiday Donations



Celebrations

## ALL STAR FOSTER PROGRAM



Senior Dinner- Class of '18



Senior Dinner- Class of '17



# **OUR DATA SPEAKS**

Our past 3 years of support has shown:

- Increase attendance
- (20%) Increase academic performance (20%)
- Decrease of behavior incidents (36%)



# FUTURE

- Big Buddies - our foster students working with elementary and middle school foster youth
- Pen pals with gifts at the holidays
- Meeting with foster parents and social workers
- TK-12 Foster Youth Program w/accurate data



# STARTING SMALL

- Identify your at promise population- homeless, low SES, foster, behavior
- Collect data
- Support from administration and buy-in from staff
- Meet monthly- lunch, snacks
- Birthday notecards
- Mentor program
- Reach out to on campus programs (ASB, PTA)
- Explore community resources



**PEOPLE WANT TO  
HELP, YOU JUST  
HAVE TO SHOW  
THEM WHAT YOU  
NEED**

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# RESOURCES

- CA Dept of Ed: Foster Youth Services [cde.ca.gov/lis/pf/fy/](http://cde.ca.gov/lis/pf/fy/)
- Foster Youth/Caregiver Resources [iFoster.org](http://iFoster.org)
- Life Skills Training [InspireLifeSkills.org](http://InspireLifeSkills.org)
- Foster Youth Education Toolkit [kids-alliance.org](http://kids-alliance.org)
- LCAP/LEA and Local Control Funding
- College EOPS, Guardian/Renaissance Scholars
- Chafee Grant and other college funding sources

# Success Stories

Roshon Williams-

- Became the president of our All-Star club
- Was asked to speak at the Riverside County School Board Association's conference and introduce Steve Pemberton-Author, speaker and executive
- In RSP courses in high school
- Was accepted to Cal State Fullerton through the EOPS program and is doing very well.



**... AND SO DO OUR STUDENTS'  
TESTIMONIES**

ALL STARS HAS BEEN A JOURNEY FOR ME. FROM BEING A STUDENT WHO GETS IN FIGHTS AND NOT CARING ABOUT SCHOOL TO NOW I HAVEN'T GOTTEN IN TROUBLE AND I CARE ABOUT MY SUCCESS THANKS TO THE HELP THAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR ME. MY MENTOR HAS HELPED ME MENTALLY TO GET MY MIND RIGHT AND HAS REALLY BEEN THERE FOR ME THROUGH THE JOURNEY. \_\_\_\_\_

## **... AND SO DO OUR STUDENTS' TESTIMONIES**

BEING IN THE ALL STARS CLASS HAS BENEFITTED ME TREMENDOUSLY. ALSO THE TEACHERS HAVE HELPED AND GUIDED ME THIS PAST YEAR. GOING ON THE ALL STAR TRIPS HAS MADE ME OPTIMISTIC ON LIFE IN GENERAL. HAVING EXTRA HELP IS NECESSARY BECAUSE IT SHOWS THAT YOU'RE NOT ALONE. IT HAS BROUGHT ME CLOSE TO PEOPLE WHO I WOULD USUALLY NOT TALK TO. THE TRIPS PREPARE ME FOR LIFE AND REALITY. THE SUPPORT SYSTEM OF THE ALL STAR PROGRAM IS STRONG AND LIKE NOTHING I HAVE EVER SEEN BEFORE. I BELIEVE THAT IT IS GREAT TO HAVE PEOPLE WHO GENUINELY CARE ABOUT OUR FUTURE.

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# CONTACTS

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