



COSAF: Foster and Former Foster Youth
(FFFY) Ally Training

Julie Agosto
Assistant Director of
Advising and Retention
Services

Valeri Garcia
Guardian Scholars Program
Coordinator
EOP Retention Specialist

Agenda

- Overview of GSP
- Purpose of Foster and Former Foster Youth Ally program
- Budget Request
- Student Testimony

GSP Objectives & Support



Transition & Orientation

Guardian Scholars Program supports students in their transition to the university by assisting them to navigate on-and off-campus resources, build essential skillsets, and successfully acclimate to a research university



Graduation Pathway

Guardian Scholars Program aims to improve education outcomes by providing individualized mapping, guidance and holistic support as well as encouraging peer and campus engagement while students are pursuing their academic and personal goals.



Post-Graduate Planning

Guardian Scholars Program encourages students to plan beyond the degree so, in preparation, we offer opportunities for students to explore and become well equipped to pursue their interests in graduate school, professional school, or career.

Challenges faced by FFFY students

- Imposter Syndrome – inability to internalize success
- Lack of community
- Financial independence
- Feeling of not belonging
- Self-sabotage behaviors, lack of self-confidence
- Lack of knowledge and concerns with navigating campus resources and policies
- Relationship issues (i.e. trust in others)
- Academic issues (e.g. undetected learning disabilities, lack of study skills)

“I don’t think there will ever be anything in my life that doesn’t relate to my experience as a former foster youth.”

FFFY Ally Training Objectives

- Develop a network of staff, faculty and peers to support FFFY students
- Increase awareness of support services offered to FFFY students
- Analyze personal ideas, stereotypes, and assumptions related to FFFY students
- Boost campus engagement with services for FFFY students

Overview of FFFY Ally Training

- One 3-hour Ally training per quarter
- Central campus location
- Target audience staff, faculty (Fall & Winter), student leaders (Spring)
 - 30 anticipated attendees per session

Upon Completion participants will:

- Receive a certificate of completion
- Receive their choice of a FFFY ally placard or FFFY ally sticker
- Be added to the friends of guardian scholars listserv

FFFY Ally Training Budget

Trainer / Consultant www.jbaforyouth.org	\$300
Posters & LCD Screens SAMC	\$50
Refreshments (\$3 x 30 people x 3 trainings)	\$270
Room Reservation fee (MPR = \$148 per hour x 3.5 + 32 reservation fee) total \$550 rounded up in case cost increases	\$585
Handouts supplies	\$65
Handouts certificates of completion	\$100
Vinyl Ally Sticker & placard	\$250

Why is FFFY Ally Training Important?

“Terminology is a big aspect that gets over-looked when talking to foster-youth. For example, many UC Davis emails may provide recognition to up-coming holidays and include phrases like "hope you enjoy the holidays with your family", but it may be that some foster-youth do not know their actual family and this can cause discomfort to them. With ally training the proper terms can be used to allow for the same message to be portrayed, and not provide unpleasant experiences to the students”

– Miguel Dominguez-Diaz class of 2018

“Being a part of the system did not cut all my ties to my family. I still had to work through still working through and am still working through so many dynamics of being part of them. That very much effected how I felt about my academic achievements at UC Davis and how I could share those with my semi family unit without giving them power over my hard work”
- Vanessa Forwood class of 2017

Questions?

Allyship:

is not an identity—it is a lifelong process of building relationships based on trust, consistency, and accountability with marginalized individuals and/or groups of people. **allyship** is not self-defined—our work and our efforts must be recognized by the people we seek to ally ourselves with.

<https://theantidepressantnetwork.wordpress.com/allyship>