



Expect Success: Supporting Foster Youth in Schools March 19, 2008

A Collaborative Summit Sponsored by [Region 4 King County Children's Administration](#), [Northshore School District](#), [Treehouse](#), [Puget Sound Educational Service District \(PSESD\)](#), and [Casey Family Programs](#).

When: Wednesday, March 19, 2008, 8:30am to 3:30pm.

Where: PSESD Blackriver Conference Center, 800 Oaksdale Ave. SW. Renton, WA 98057-5221

Cost: None – All registration costs, snacks, and lunch are paid for by Children's Administration.

How to Register: Please fill out the registration form attached and email it to Jim Jones:

Did you know, that:

- 70% of youth in the child welfare system drop out of school, and never earn their high school diploma.
- Children in foster care are *six times* more likely to have emotional, behavioral and developmental problems, including conduct disorders, depression, and difficulties in school.

What can we do, as foster parents/caregivers, social workers, educators, and caring adults, to address the needs of our children and help them succeed in school?

- Understand the complex challenges that children and youth in foster care face;
- Use our understanding to form partnerships that will help children not just survive but thrive in school, and in life.

Morning Presentation: *Complex Trauma: Approaching Community from a Trauma Sensitive Lens*

We will learn about the impact of Complex Trauma on children and families. Our presenter* will:

- Provide a framework for understanding trauma in the context of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) and how these experiences influences neurobiology and brain development
- Explain how these factors influence children's response to trauma
- Discuss effective strategies (targeting social workers, educators and caregivers) for working with children and families impacted by complex trauma

****THREE FREE CLOCK HOURS for educators and professional development hours for CA social workers****

Afternoon Agenda: *Integrating our learning into partnerships to help children succeed in school*

We can help children succeed in school despite whatever experiences they have had, by taking what we learn about complex trauma to develop meaningful partnerships and strategies. Our afternoon agenda includes:

- A panel of foster care youth who will talk about the obstacles they faced while in school and foster care, and what helped them rise above those obstacles to succeed;
- Small-group discussions about myth-busting, inter-agency communication, collaboration and more.

We can improve educational outcomes for children and youth in foster care. We look forward to seeing you March 19th!

**About our morning presenter, Natalie Turner, MS LMHC:* Natalie Turner is a Research Associate for the Area Health Education Center of Eastern Washington at Washington State University in Spokane. She received her undergraduate degree in Psychology from the University of Washington and her graduate degree in Clinical Psychology from Eastern Washington University; she is also a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in the state of Washington. Areas of specialization include Mental Health, K-12 Education, Family Violence and Complex Trauma. Ms. Turner has worked very closely with the authors of the Helping Traumatized Children Learn Curriculum.