



Foster Youth Success Initiative

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Division of Leadership, Wellness, and Student Services
Riverside County Office of Education

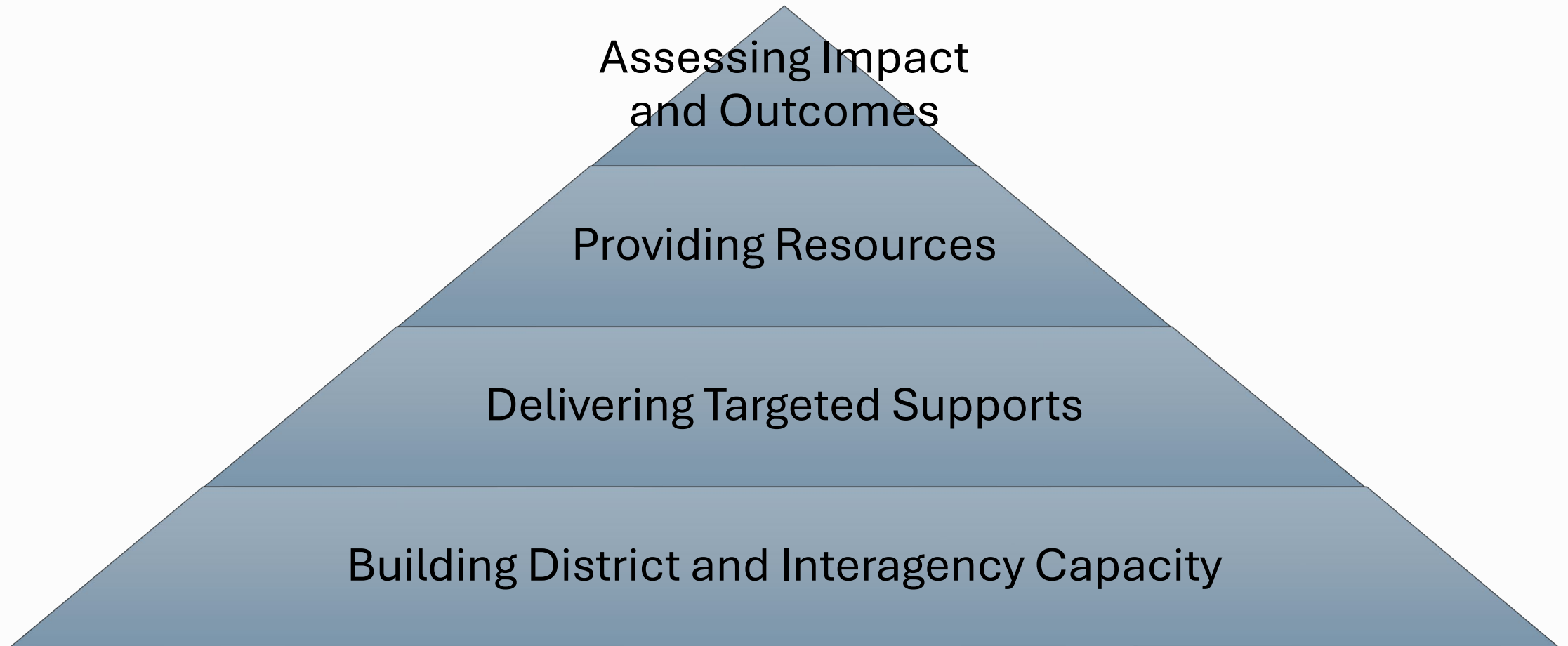
Riverside County Foster Youth Success Initiative



Regionalized Support Model

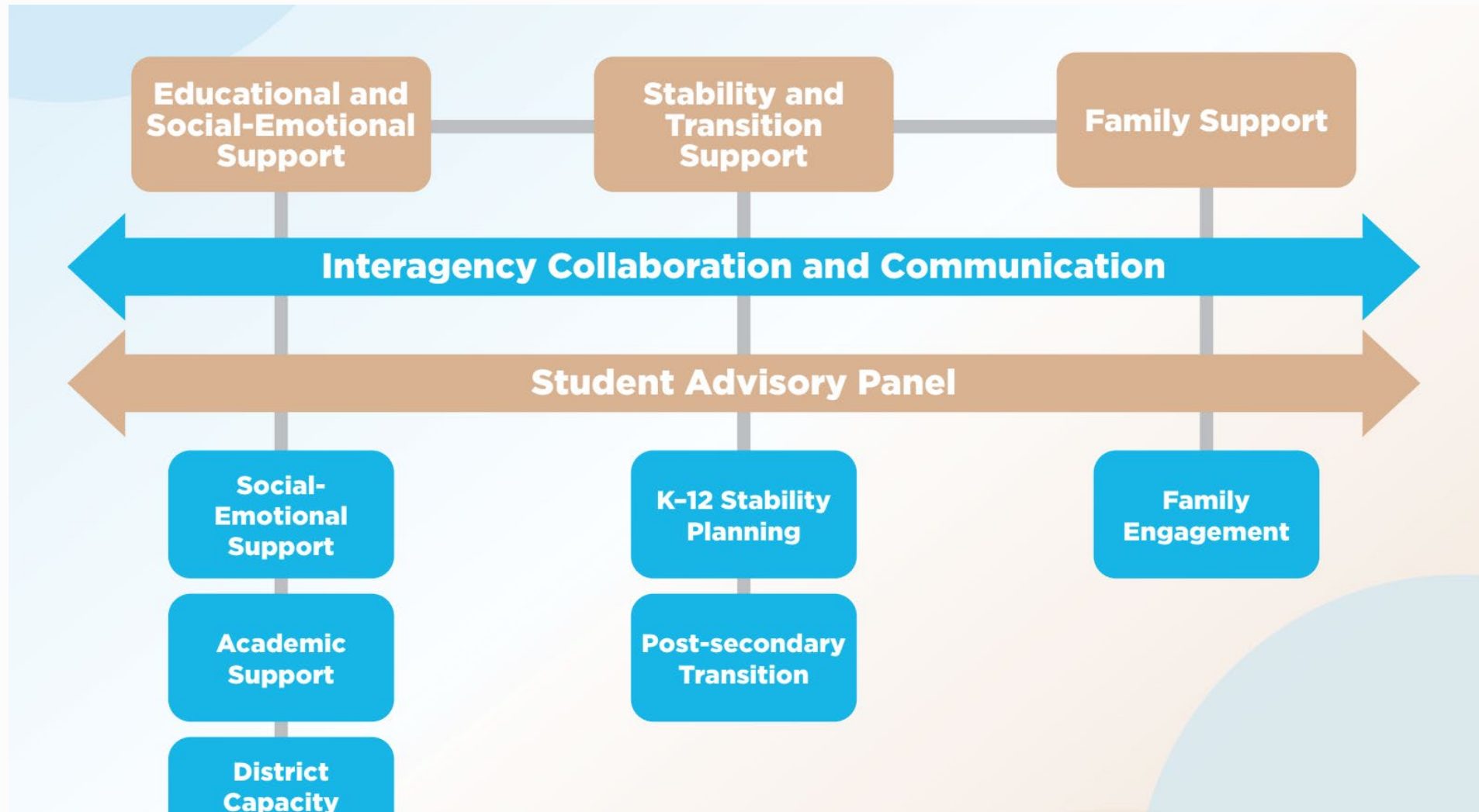
Region	Districts Served
Metro	Riverside, Jurupa, Alvord, Corona-Norco, and RCOE
Valley	Moreno Valley, Val Verde, Perris Elementary District, Perris Union High School District, NuView, and Romoland
South Corridor	Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Murrieta, Temecula, Hemet, and San Jacinto
Desert	Beaumont, Banning, Palm Springs, Desert Sands, Desert Center, Coachella, and Palo Verde

Pyramid of Support



The Benefits of the Model

- **Stronger Foundations** through enhanced responsiveness to ensure that every foster youth has a reliable base of support.
- **Strengthened Collaboration** between districts and community partners.
- **Aligned Supports** to provide the right pieces in the right place for meaningful impact.
- **Aligned (county-wide) Priorities**, while meeting local needs, to create pathways that carry students toward success.



Foster Youth Support in Riverside County: *District Survey*

A “Three Pillar” Collaboration:

- Educational and Social Emotional Learning
- District Capacity Building
- Interagency Collaboration

Survey Purpose

- Determine current assets and needs in Riverside County School district related to foster youth services.
 - Determine areas to develop additional support services.
 - Determine “best practices” to feature.
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Academic Support

- **ENROLLMENT:** Investigate opportunities and processes to better identify Foster Youth with additional needs (IEPs, ELs, etc.) and communicate with site representatives.
- **ACADEMIC SUPPORT:**
 - Create a summary of evidence-based academic-support resources available to foster youth in each district and determine opportunities to share, expand, enhance access.
 - Create monitoring processes (metrics, data sources, etc.) to support District Foster Youth Liaisons
- **POST-SECONDARY:** Collaborate with “transitions” pillar (to avoid redundancy) to increase access.

District Capacity

To improve consistency, equity, and effectiveness across LEAs, we must implement a coordinated support system that:

- **Equips every role** from teachers to registrars to board members, with the training, tools, and policy knowledge needed to support foster youth
- **Streamlines processes and forms** so that enrollment, credit transfer, and data monitoring are efficient, legally aligned, and user-friendly
- **Builds site-level ownership and data fluency** by embedding data use into day-to-day school practice, backed by targeted training and role-specific follow-up supports

SEL

To fully support the social-emotional development of students in foster care, we must build an SEL system that:

- **Deepens trauma-responsive practices across all adult stakeholders**, including educators, mental health staff, caregivers, and STRTP teams
- **Ensure SEL programs are accessible to students with disabilities**, adapting interventions to align with individualized goals and behavioral supports
- **Intentionally include foster caregivers** in SEL planning and communication loops, recognizing their role in shaping youth wellbeing and reinforcing school-based strategies.

Interagency

- Improve cross-agency communication protocols and expectations
- Provide training on documentation and educational procedures (e.g., JV 535, ERH roles)
- Facilitate regular, regional meetings, with visits from DPSS, CPS, and CBOs
- Provide training and joint professional development on systems, roles, and collaboration processes
- Create structures to support continuity of collaboration despite staff turnover or transitions



Foster Youth Advisory Group



📍 Jurisdiction: Riverside Cnty. Foster Admin.

👤 Caseworker: [Susan Weller](#)

👤 Lawyer: [Milton Hunt](#)

👤 Ed. Right Holder: [Wendy Heume](#)

👤 Surrogate: [Irma Vallejo](#)

Your Rights

Are you feeling **secure & supported**?



How is your **mental health**?



Anything else you'd like to share?



85 KB • modified 2/10/2025



State I.D. 🔒

85 KB • modified 2/10/2025



Passport 🔒

85 KB • modified 2/10/2025



Immigration Papers 🔒

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Home Visit Reports

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FosterFerret

Find Foster Info—Fast!



 MARCH 18, 2025

UC Riverside Fall Enrollment Deadline



 MARCH 21, 2025

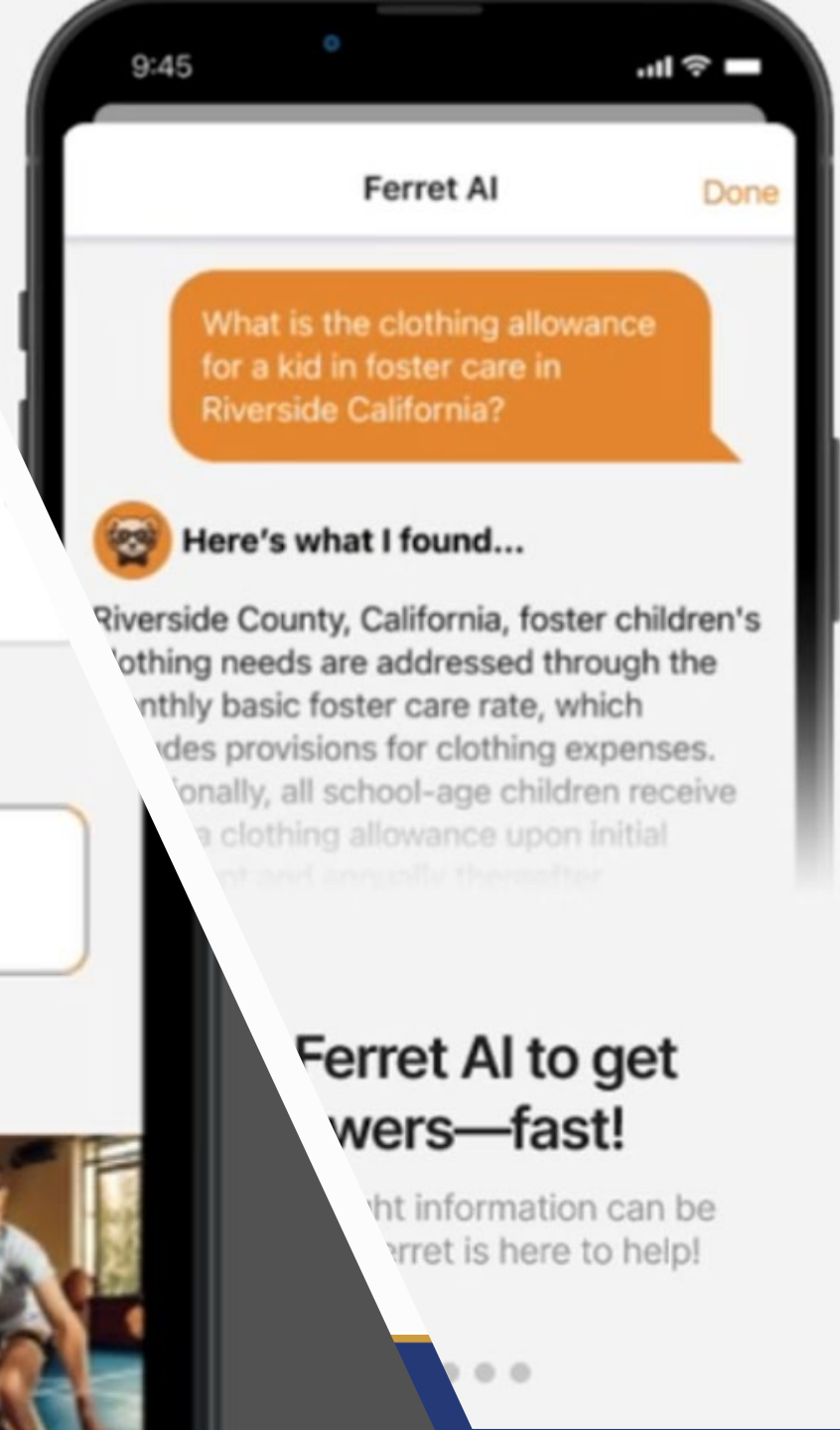
Rising Hope Riverside County Youth Job Fair

Get Help

[Schedule a Meeting](#)

[Message Your Caseworker](#)

What's New





**RIVERSIDE COUNTY
OFFICE OF EDUCATION**
EDWIN GOMEZ, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools



2025 STUDENT EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT

OCTOBER 27-28, 2025
Indian Wells, California

Nothing About Us, Without Us:

A Foster Youth and Allies Summit

This isn't a sit-and-watch conference, it's a *build-and-lead* summit. Students will leave with action plans, practical tools, and an increased sense of empowerment. Adults will leave with direct youth-driven feedback for a roadmap towards real change.

Experience the World With Your Passport: Every session is a checkpoint. Therefore, youth will be provided a Student Empowerment Passport to collect stamps as they gain tools, voice, and momentum.

Family Reunification Focus: Youth generate district-level solutions to strengthen reunification transitions.

Youth Voice → Action → Change: Youth lead the work. Adults act on it.



Register at:

<https://events.rcoe.us/Student-Empowerment>

Registration Deadline:

October 10, 2025

**Hyatt Regency Indian Wells
Resort & Spa**

44600 Indian Wells Lane
Indian Wells, California 92210

Hotel Reservations:

hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/CHAMP/G-RCOE
(760) 776-1234



Day 1

Check-in: 7:30 a.m.

Program: 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Keynote: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. (Includes dinner service.)

Day 2

Check-in: 8:30 a.m.

Program: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

For questions, please contact:

Kenneth Allman, Coordinator, kallman@rcoe.us



Thank you