ACCESS IS MORE THAN OPENING THE DOOR:
CULTIVATING PATHWAYS TO CAREER AND COLLEGE FOR UNDERSERVED STUDENTS
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Goals for today’s presentation:

Attendees will leave the session with,

- The knowledge to challenge their own and others’ biases and misconceptions about students who have been impacted by poverty and trauma.
- The dialogue to begin conversations with educational decision makers that will enhance existing structures and increase academic student engagement by investing in social and emotional development.
- Best practices and opportunities for collaboration to create pathways to career and college for students who have been impacted by poverty and trauma.
- Ideas on how to become an empowerment agent within your organization.
Adverse Childhood Experiences - ACE

- Stressful or traumatic events that are related to the development of a wide range of health problems throughout a person’s lifespan. Including those associated with substance use.
Activity 1 ACE TEST

On your web browser type the following link:

pollev.com/deshawnchapm194

- Anonymous
- Confidential
PEOPLE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED TRAUMA ARE:

- 4 Times More Likely To Become An Alcoholic
- 4 Times More Likely To Develop A Sexually Transmitted Disease
- 4 Times More Likely To Inject Drugs
- 15 Times More Likely To Commit Suicide
- 2.5 Times More Likely To Smoke Tobacco
- 3 Times More Likely To Use Antidepressant Medication
- 3 Times More Likely To Be Absent From Work
- 3 Times More Likely To Have Serious Job Problems
- 3 Times More Likely To Experience Depression
ACES can have lasting effects on:

- **Health**: obesity, diabetes, depression, suicide attempts, STDs, heart disease, cancer, stroke, COPD, broken bones
- **Behaviors**: smoking, alcoholism, drug use
- **Life Potential**: graduation rates, academic achievement, lost time from work

ACEs have been found to have a graded dose-response relationship with 40+ outcomes to date.

*This pattern holds for the 40+ outcomes, but the exact risk values vary depending on the outcome.*
# Economic Impact of Foster Care Youth Transitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Cost Estimate</th>
<th>Time Frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost of not completing high school</td>
<td>$2,170,000,000</td>
<td>lifetime gross income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early parenthood</td>
<td>$295,400,000</td>
<td>cost of early parenthood (parental income loss, medical expenses and the likelihood of the child ending up in foster care) for the first 15 years of the child's life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td>$9,600,000</td>
<td>cost of a bed per night across homeless episodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incarceration</td>
<td>$1,827,700,000</td>
<td>cost of per-day detention, cost to society and victim and recidivism rate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Costs Avoided $4.1 billion

If adolescents transitioning out of foster care had housing at the rate of the general population, 4,370 fewer individuals would experience homelessness.
Empowerment agents creating pathways

Traditional vs. Non-Traditional

- Academics -
  - Instructional strategies used
  - Classroom Culture
- Post secondary -
  - Lifelong Learning
  - Self-Efficacy
- Careers
  - Exposure

Bringing community to students
- Purpose for learning
- Social Capital

Social Emotional learning
- Impact of trauma and development of brain
- Strategies and space to deconstruct experiences
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dawnasia Coleman</td>
<td>Apopka High School, Senior</td>
<td>Senior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerico Rivera</td>
<td>Universal Education Center, Senior</td>
<td>Senior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amari Blakey</td>
<td>Simon Youth Academy, Junior</td>
<td>Junior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paige Goff</td>
<td>Simon Youth Academy, Junior</td>
<td>Junior</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity 2 Parking Lot
Institutional Agency vs Empowerment Agency

**Institutional agents** “act on behalf of another to directly transmit institutional support (resources, opportunities, privileges, services) which are highly valued, yet differently allocated within any organization or society that is invested in social inequity and in hierarchical form of control and organization.”

**Empowerment agents** “strive to empower low-status youth with varied forms of institutional support, and in doing so are willing to disembed themselves from the reproductive practices of their institution and become a moral agent for positive change.”

Activity 3 - How can you as a community member be an empowerment agent?

List resources and access to:

Knowledge
Organizations
People
Final Reflection

In reference to your role in creating pathways; for college and career to underserved students; how would you respond to the following prompt.

I used to think......but now I think
Are you an Empowerment Agent?