

Building Connections with Group Home & Runaway Teens

October 16, 2012

6-7 pm

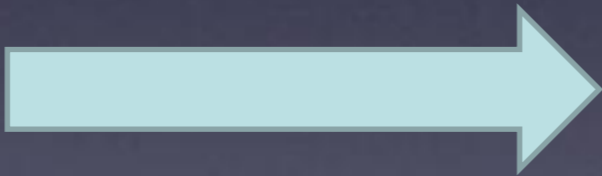
About the Presenter: Hanna Duff

- Began volunteering with School on Wheels at Kids to Kids group home in February 2010
- Earned elementary teaching credential from UCLA this June
- Currently earning a Master's in Education from UCLA and working with homeless children at the School on Wheels Learning Center in South L.A.



Ask

Questions



File View Help

Attendee List (2 | Max 201)

Attendees (1) Staff (1)

NAMES - ALPHABETICALLY

Corena Bahr (Me)

Search

Audio

Tel Number: 0041 22 580 3918
PIN Number: 3215

MUTED

Audio Setup

Talking: Suzie Smith

Questions

Questions Log

Q: Is there a volume discount?
A: Yes! We will send you more info after the event.

Yes

Send

Webinar Now
Webinar ID: 731-938-951

GoToWebinar™

Discussion Topics

- Strategies for the initial meeting
- Challenges in forming relationships
- Dealing with disappointments
- Advocating for teen students

3 Major Challenges

Safety

How can I make my student feel safe with me?

Connecting

How do I show my student that I care?

Advocating

How can I help my student reach out for support?

Safety

School on Wheels Policies

- Be familiar with the rules & regulations and follow them at all times.
- Always wear your School on Wheels badge to identify yourself.
- Always check in with facility staff as soon as you arrive.
- Never enter a student's bedroom.



Safety

My Personal Tips

- Take time to say hello to everyone who is around.
- Pay close attention to your body language and tone of voice.
- If possible, find a quiet workspace.
- Keep your physical distance.
- Make sure your student understands why you are there.
- Be consistent.
- **Give it time!**

Connecting

Showing Your Student that You Care

- Spend time with your student every week
- Listen
- Ask questions
- Manage your own expectations

Connecting

How do I connect with a teenager?

- Be yourself
- Be creative
- Be patient



Connecting

My Activity Ideas

Movie night
Memory books
Game night
Invent a new type of pizza
Make a music video
Make cards for friends & family
Play water balloon games
Create a sidewalk chalk mural
Do BUS program activities together
Plan a college tour together
Bracelets/beading for themselves & friends
Bake cupcakes for friends & family

Make a collage
Read a book together based on a movie
Draw self-portraits
Do a science experiment
Keep a dialogue journal
Make a comic book
Play games online
Do drama activities together
Plan a garage sale for a cause of their choice

Connecting

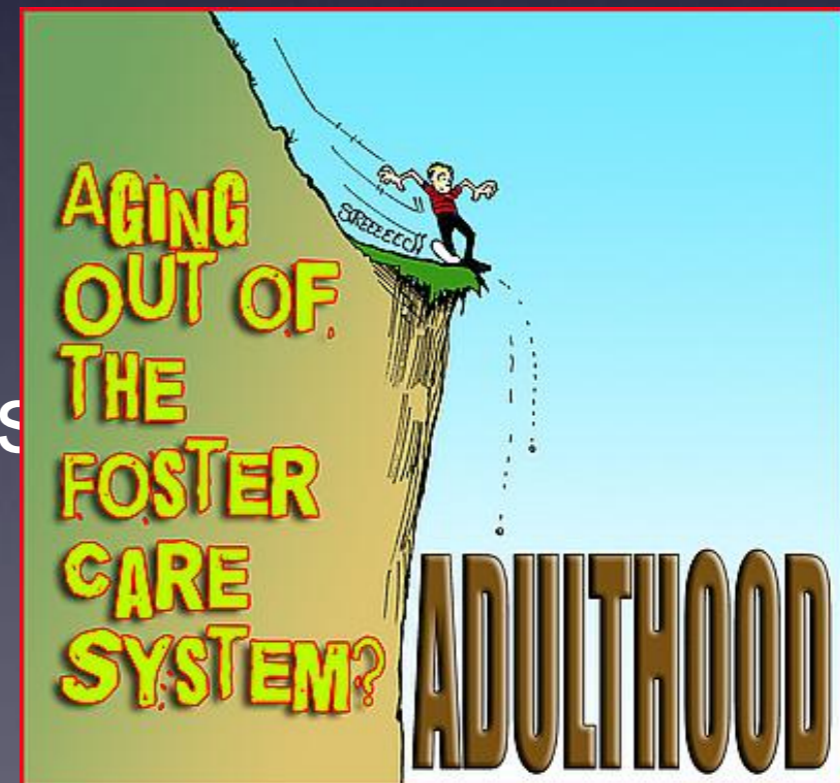
Dealing with Disappointments

- Do not blame yourself
- Allow yourself to be sad
- Reach out
- Loyalty of our students

Advocating

Who are the adults in my student's life?

- Social worker
- Parole officer (P. O.)
- CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)
- Therapists
- Teachers
- Trustworthy family members
- Facility directors and staff
- Other adult mentors



Advocating

How do I reach out to these people?

- Establish a good relationship with the facility directors and staff
- Keep your School on Wheels RC updated
- Contact your student's social worker/case manager
- Get permission to go with your student to meet with teachers
- Bring in resources for your student

Closing Remarks

- The importance of your relationship with your teenage student...
- Our rewarding and sometimes tragic work...
- Other ways we can support one another...

Open Discussion

- Are there any situations you would like feedback on?
- Are there other topics that you would like to discuss?
- Are there any questions you have for me or for others in the Webinar?

My Contact Information

- Hanna Duff
- (805) 272-5226
- hannacduff@gmail.com