

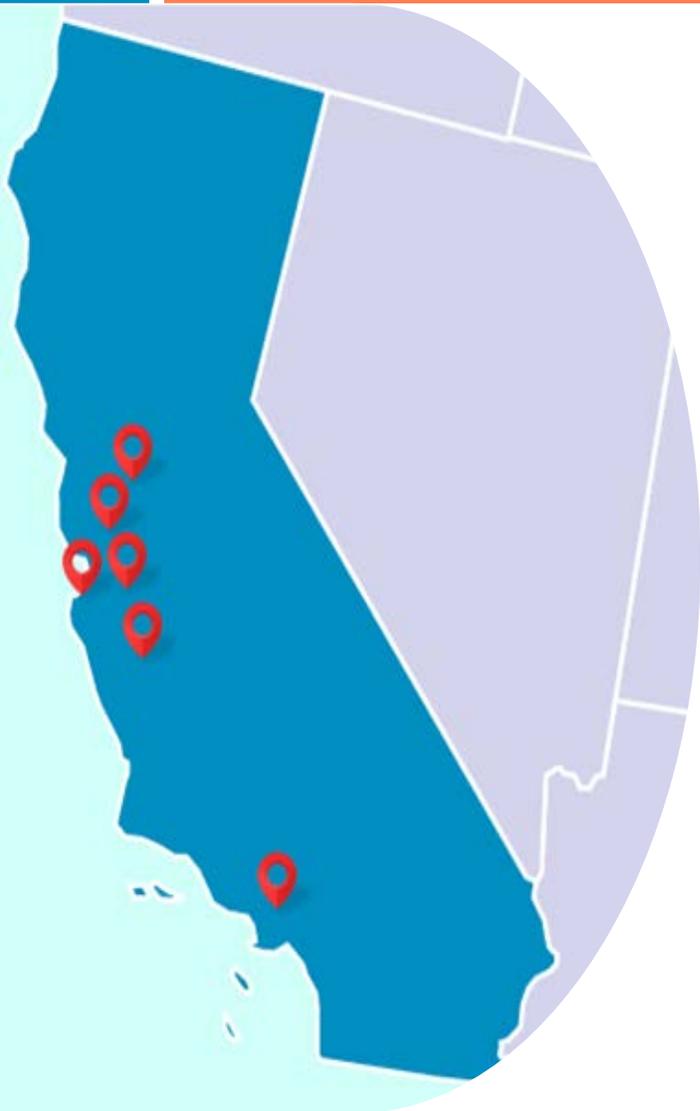


# FIRST PLACE FOR YOUTH

*December 1, 2017*



# First Place for Youth



- ❑ **FOUNDED:** 1998
- ❑ **MISSION:** Help foster youth build the skills they need to make a successful transition to self-sufficiency and responsible adulthood
- ❑ **VISION:** We believe that all foster kids in the United States can achieve self-sufficiency and make a successful transition to adulthood so that the disparities between them and their non-foster care peers are eliminated. First Place is a national leader in building the evidence to support this drive and in increasing awareness, changing perceptions and building a movement to make it happen.
- ❑ **YOUTH SERVED:** 556 in My First Place, total of 1,460 (FY17)
- ❑ **LOCATIONS:** HQ in Oakland and services in 6 counties in CA; First My First Place™ affiliate site launching by Feb. 2017 in Boston, MA

# Approach to My First Place



## 5 Guiding Principles

Data-driven

Grounded in positive youth development principles

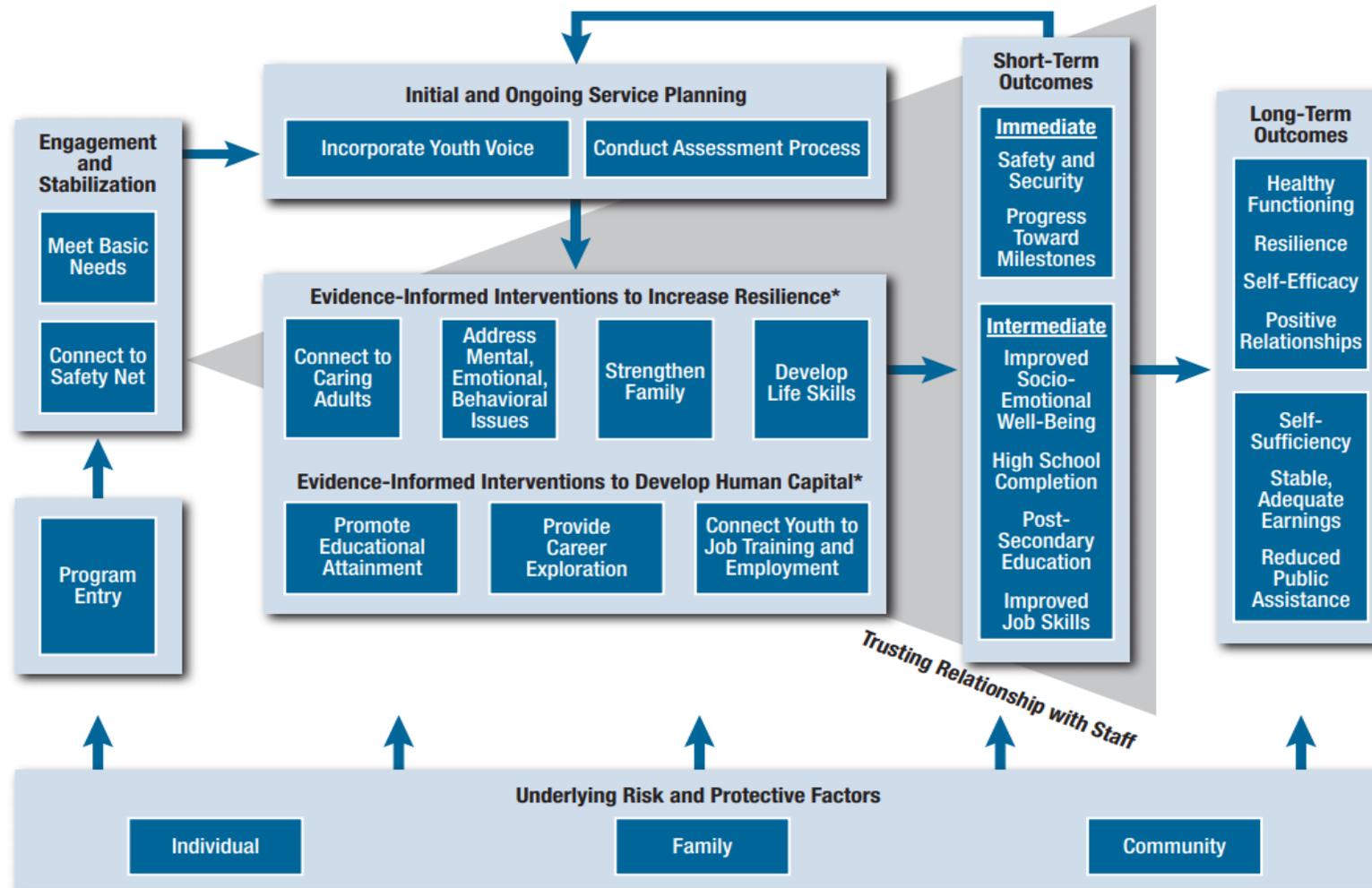
Unconditional commitment to youth outcomes

Stable housing provided as foundation for youth to pursue education and employment goals

Staff and youth accountability

# Framework from Research\*

Figure 1. Conceptual Framework for Advancing the Self-Sufficiency and Well-Being of At-Risk Youth



\*Interventions are selected based on each youth's assessment results.

\*Dion, M. Robin. "Framework for Advancing the Well-Being and Self-Sufficiency of At-Risk Youth." Mathematica Policy Research: Issue Brief, March 2013.

# My First Place (1/2)

*We provide housing, education, employment, and healthy living support to youth participants.*



# My First Place (2/2)

## Education + Employment

Education and employment are the keys to self-sufficiency

Linked Learning approach

Academic + Career Readiness;  
Career Exposure + Selection

## Healthy Living

Youth-centered, needs-driven, trauma-informed approach

Intensive case management provided in community

Evidence-based practices (EBPs) including Motivational Interviewing

## Housing

Housing as stabilizing factor

Scattered site master-leased 1 and 2BR apartments

“Rent” is deposited into a savings account and **returned** to youth at the end of program

Youth learn tenancy skills and money management through budgeting for rent and utilities

## Staffing Roles and Ratios

Education and Employment Specialist: 1:30; meets bi-weekly or weekly face-to-face

Youth Advocate:  
1:15 youth; meets weekly face-to-face

Housing Specialist:  
1:75 apartments

# My First Place Outcomes

AREA	OUTCOMES AT PROGRAM EXIT*
<b>Housing</b>	While 40% of the nation's former foster youth experienced homelessness by age 24, <b>73% of MFP youth exit to stable housing.</b>
<b>Education and Employment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>96% of eligible MFP youth earn their HSD/GED or were actively pursuing their HSD or equivalent</b></li> <li>• <b>77% of MFP youth are employed and/or realized wage increase.</b></li> <li>• <b>82% of MFP youth are enrolled in school or employed at exit.</b></li> </ul> <p>While less than 5% of foster youth will graduate from a 4-year college,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>83% of eligible MFP youth enrolled in PSE</b></li> </ul>
<b>Healthy Living</b>	<p>Over 70% of female and 50% of male foster youth will be parents, compared to 41% and 28% of their peers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>97% of MFP youth retain custody of their children</b></li> <li>• <b>94% of MFP youth do not have new pregnancy</b></li> </ul> <p>Nearly 43% of female and 74% of male foster youth will have been incarcerated, compared to 6% and 23% of their peers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>92% of MFP youth did not experience an arrest while in program</b></li> </ul>

\*MFP data from youth who exited program in FY17. Comparison data from *The Midwest Evaluation of the Adult Functioning of Former Foster Youth: Outcomes*

# Using Data in Practice



- Staff use data to **drive towards youth education, employment, housing, and healthy living outcomes.**
- Frontline staff **collect and review real-time data** compiled in a cloud-based system that allows staff to
  - draft case notes tracking their interactions with youth
  - use reports to help assess youth progress and identify interventions, and
  - to monitor whether the program is delivered with fidelity
- Program leadership also data to **guide staff supervision**, development, and coaching. Frontline staff view outcomes for youth on their caseloads in real-time and regularly discuss them with their supervisors.