



## BUILDING CROSS-SYSTEM PARTNERSHIPS: EDUCATION, CHILD WELFARE, AND COURTS



### IN THIS CHAPTER

- CROSS-SYSTEM COLLABORATION IS NECESSARY
- GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND GROUND RULES
- PRACTICAL STEPS FOR ESTABLISHING COLLABORATION AND LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS
- COLLABORATION IN ACTION: FOSTER CARE CONSORTIA

POSTCARD: Provided by Foster Care Alumni of America - "Together we can."

# CHAPTER 3

## Building Cross-System Partnerships: Education, Child Welfare, and Courts

### CROSS-SYSTEM COLLABORATION IS NECESSARY

state child welfare systems and educational agencies to partner in the implementation of educational stability provisions for students in foster care. Coordination between the



Children and youth in foster care have supports to prevent school dropout, truancy, and disciplinary actions, and to reengage in the education experience.

Children and youth in foster care are involved, empowered, and prepared to self-advocate in all aspects of their education.

Children and youth in foster care have consistent adult support to advocate for them and to make education decisions.

Children and youth in foster care have support to enter and complete post-secondary education.

- ⇒ *[Illegible text]* counterproductive and divisive.
- ⇒ Courts, education, and child welfare must all be represented in the discussion if a coordinated





- Host, convene, or participate in a local or regional foster care consortium that meets regularly with education, child welfare, and community partners to identify barriers and create joint solutions.
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GHU 'Uhh'Y'ghUHY'UbX'cWU'Yj'Y'g'k'c'Vc'UVcfUHYX'fc'UXXFYgg'h'Y'YXi'WWh]cb'ic'Zghi'XYbhtg']b'Zc'ghYf'WUfY'\Uj'Y'g'\UFYX' insights on cross-system collaboration:

'h]g]a' dcfUUbhtc'XYj'Y'cd'U'Vc'a' a'cb'Ub[i'U[Y'UbX'WfYUHY'Wcgg!grghYa'fU]b]b[ 'cddcfh' b]h]Yg'UbX' information-sharing forums to gain insight from multiple perspectives.

Building trust between schools and child welfare organizations is essential to removing barriers, blame,

Patience is integral as a large, multi-disciplinary cross-section of stakeholders work together to understand each system's organizational processes and constraints.

Mci'h'j'c]W'a' i'ghVY'fYdfYgYbhYX']b'nci'f'Vc'UVcfUh]j'Y'Y'c'f'rg'Vm]b'W'X]b[ 'W.]XfYb'UbX'nci'h'k'\c'\Uj'Y' experienced foster care.

Each victory in your coordination matters and should be celebrated along the way.





### RESOURCES: Building Cross-System Partnership and Collaboration

DFPS, [Regional DFPS Education Consortia: The Building Bloc](#)

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