Providing academic and social support to help young people in foster care succeed in college and beyond.

The New York Foundling
Since our bold beginnings in 1869, The New York Foundling has supported hundreds of thousands of our neighbors on their own paths to stability, strength, and independence. With an internationally-recognized and interrelated set of research-backed services, The Foundling works in partnership with children, families, and adults in New York and in Puerto Rico who are working to create transformational change in their own lives.

Fostering College Success Initiative
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Since 2016, The Foundling’s Fostering College Success Initiative has provided support for young people in foster care to achieve their academic and professional goals. Serving students attending colleges and universities, participants receive:

- Access to workshops and events geared toward the unique needs of young people in care
- Assistance applying for financial aid
- Connection to a community of peers
- Leadership opportunities
- Tutoring, career counseling, and emotional support from trained Foundling staff

In collaboration with:

- The City University of New York
- Administration for Children’s Services
- The New York Foundling

Only 3% of young people in foster care receive a college degree. The Fostering College Success Initiative looks to beat those odds.
HOW IT WORKS

Working in partnership with students from foster care agencies across New York City that are attending colleges and universities, our dedicated college success coaches, tutors, and career counselors offer social and emotional support, mentorship, and guidance to help students stay focused on their classes and career goals. Support is provided remotely or in-person, depending on location and each student’s unique needs.

Our specialized wraparound services, geared to the needs of those in foster care, provide a support system as they pursue their degrees and navigate the complexities of gaining a college education.

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

Our CUNY partnership provides limited on-site dorm housing across select campuses. Eligible students attending a CUNY institution may be able to receive this housing as part of this program.

COLLEGE SUCCESS COACHING

College Success Coaches serve as a guide and mentor for students throughout their college experience. All students are assigned a dedicated coach, who provide a variety of supports including emotional guidance, conflict resolution assistance, pro-social and educational workshops, financial literacy training, and other forms of assistance that involve the day-to-day well-being of students in and out of the classroom.

TUTORING

Tutors provide consistent academic guidance to students, honing their understanding of concepts and teaching them viable study habits. Students in the program receive weekly one-on-one tutoring sessions, which include instruction in all subject areas and long-term academic planning.

CAREER COUNSELING

Career Counselors ensure that students are ready to enter the workforce once they graduate with a degree. With the goal of bridging the gap between graduation and unemployment, career counselors conduct aptitude assessments and career guidance, work with students to develop hard and soft job skills, and provide guidance on applying for jobs, writing resumes and cover letters, interviewing techniques, and more.

QUALIFICATIONS

In order to qualify for this program, students must:

• Be in foster care in New York
• Have a high school diploma or GED
• Have applied and been accepted to attend a college or university full time

“Without the support of my tutor and coach it would have been a lot harder to graduate.”
— Fostering College Success Initiative Student at Guttman Community College