



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
SAN JOSE

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Monday, October 15, 2018

Members of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
70 West Hedding Street
San Jose, CA 95110

Members of the County Office of Education Board of Directors
1290 Ridder Park Drive
San Jose, CA 95131

RE: SUPPORT for the Joint Foster Youth Task Force Recommendations and the Foster Youth Action Aligned Network (FYAAN)

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors and Board of Education,

On behalf of the Junior League of San Jose (JLSJ), I am writing to request your support for the Joint Foster Youth Task Force Recommendations and the Foster Youth Aligned Action Network.

JLSJ is an organization of more than 600 women committed to developing the potential of women, improving the community, and promoting voluntarism through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its community program is focused on helping foster youth successfully transition out of foster care.

JLSJ has been actively involved with the Foster Youth Aligned Action Network for the past year and helped craft many of the recommendations from this Task Force workgroup. Notably, the goals and strategies laid out in the FYAAN proposal represent fully 25% of the final recommendations of the Task Force.

These goals and recommendations are laser-focused on education, employment and income outcomes for youth in foster care, and can be boiled down to three critical concepts:

- Establish a community goal that our foster youth will achieve parity in outcomes with all other youth in the community.
- Embrace and fully implement Data Zone and Foster Vision as a comprehensive tracking system that will combine data from school and social services systems. This will allow us to track outcomes and ensure that youth do not fall through the cracks that are created by inevitable changes in schools and home placements.
- Expand the “definition” of foster youth so that resources are available to these young people even after their cases are closed.

Together, we can make sure to achieve this singular objective: **Youth from foster care in the high school class of 2021 will achieve parity in education, employment and income outcomes with their non-foster peers by 2026.**

We strongly urge you to support the Joint Foster Youth Task Force Recommendations and our efforts to fulfill our promise to youth in foster care by adopting the goal of parity and supporting policies and resource allocations that will allow FYAAN members to execute on their strategies and objectives. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

Kimberly LeDeaux
President
Junior League of San Jose