



# STRENGTHENING THE PATHWAY FOR NATIVE FOSTER YOUTH

Identifying Resources to Support Higher Education Enrollment and Completion in Humboldt County



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## FRONT COVER PHOTO CREDITS:

\*Top right graduation sash photograph <http://www.northcoastapparel.net/gallery>.

\*Bottom graduation sash photograph <https://www.ellenadornews.com/2018/05/08/a-sash-of-tradition/>

Page 3- Map of Humboldt County illustration by Pen and Pine. Available for purchase: <https://www.etsy.com/sg-en/listing/613326000/humboldt-county-map-illustrated-map-art>

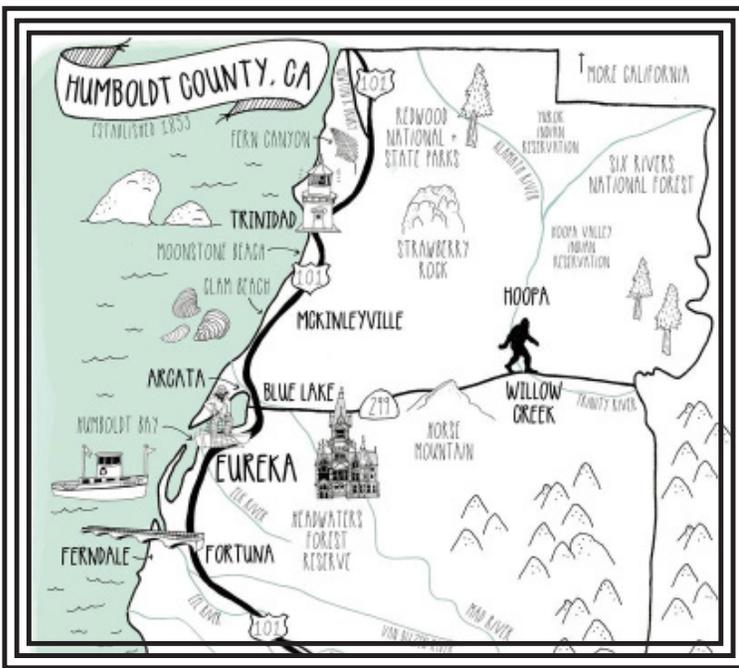
## ABOUT THIS PROJECT

This project was created in partnership with HSU's ITEPP and the HSU Social Work Department for the Masters of Social Work (MSW) Community Project. The goal of this project was to identify resources within Humboldt County that are available to support Native foster youth in transitioning to higher education and assess their strengths, challenges, and promising practices. Assessments were done in one-on-one conversations with community service providers.

## THANK YOU

This project was possible thanks to guidance from ITEPP, the tribes, schools, and community service providers that made time to meet with us and share their perspective. We would also like to thank the Humboldt State University Social Work Department for their support and the CSU Basic Needs Grant for funding this project.

This project was created in partnership with The Indian Tribal & Educational Personnel Program (ITEPP). ITEPP's mission is to facilitate and promote academic success and self-efficacy for primarily Native American Indian students at Humboldt State University that validates tribal cultural values, political status and promotes the federal Indian policy of Indian Self-Determination.<sup>6</sup>

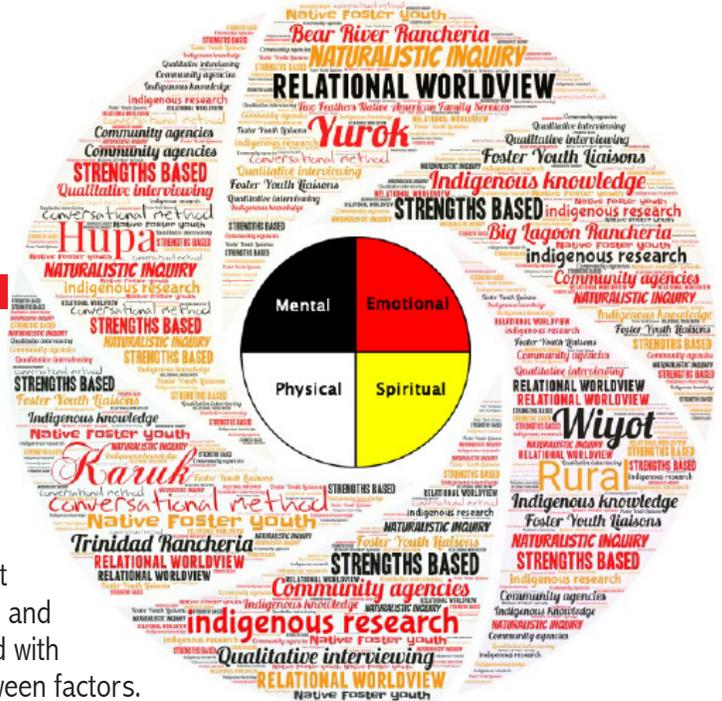


# REGIONS

Interviews were conducted in three different regions throughout Humboldt County: Klamath Trinity & Adjacent areas, Northern Humboldt & Adjacent areas, Eureka City Schools & Adjacent areas.

# A RELATIONAL WORLDVIEW

The relational worldview is based on seeing life as harmonious relationships. It is cyclical, intuitive, non-time oriented and fluid. A common illustration of the relational worldview is a circle, dissected into four quadrants that represent the four major interrelated forces of a person's life which need to be in balance to maintain health: context, the mind, the body and the spirit. Although local tribes use different terminology, the concept of a holistic approach to services for indigenous people, families and communities, are targeted toward the restoration of balance and with the understanding that problems reside in the relationships between factors. The relational worldview represents an ethical framework by which to work with and for Native foster youth, whose life circumstances are in an imbalance, making certain pathways, such as higher education, more difficult<sup>1</sup>.



# METHODOLOGIES

We conducted qualitative interviews informed by Indigenous research methodologies, specifically the conversational method<sup>2</sup>. A set of questions were developed using the relational worldview to guide discussions with community agencies, focusing on the agency's role in supporting Native foster youth, collaborating with other agencies and suggestions for improvements in supporting Native foster youth. Through these conversations, we were able to collaborate on identifying the strengths and challenges in supporting Native foster youth toward higher education that exist in Humboldt County.

**The Conversational Method:**  
Aligns with an Indigenous worldview that honours orality as means of transmitting knowledge and upholds the relational which is necessary to maintain a collectivist tradition. When used in an Indigenous framework, it should:

1. be linked to particular tribal knowledge and situated within an Indigenous paradigm;
2. relational;
3. purposeful (most often involving a decolonizing aim);
4. involve particular protocol as determined by Indigenous knowledge and/or place;
5. involves an informality and flexibility;
6. collaborative and dialogic; and
7. reflexive.<sup>2</sup>

Based on discussions with service providers, we identified the following themes...

## Building Relationships with Native Foster Youth

### *Strengths*

- \* Providing one-on-one support and mentorship programs.
- \* Strong Native American presence in institutional settings, such as Native American Clubs, Indian Education Programs, the Indian Action Council, representation with faculty and student populations and campus events geared toward Native foster youth.

### *Challenges*

- \* Supporting Native foster youth beyond academic and basic needs.
- \* Addressing the stigma associated with the term "Foster Youth" in order to identify and engage youth in services.

### *Promising Practices*

- \* Targeted outreach, including of students who are not on the "college track."
- \* Understand trauma-informed practices and creative ways to engage Native foster youth.
- \* Empower Native foster youth identity formation.

## Interagency Collaboration

### *Strengths*

- \* Humboldt County Office of Education provides strong support to school foster youth liaisons.
- \* Data collection is consistently updated and MOUs exist for data sharing with other providers.
- \* Existing connections between community agencies.

### *Challenges*

- \* Monitoring and tracking of academic and personal development (i.e. A-G requirements, event, attendance, etc.) and the independent access of data by some community agencies.
- \* No formal relationship between K-12 education and higher education.
- \* High turnover rates among staff at community agencies.
- \* Coordination and collaboration between agencies/schools/tribes.

### *Promising Practices*

- \* Tracking participation in "cultivation of college interest" events and actively coordinating event dates around school schedules.
- \* Share foster youth database with tribes and expand to include youth placed through Tribal Courts (respect tribes' right to share that information).
- \* Hold multi-disciplinary team meetings to support Native foster youth.
- \* Provide comprehensive trainings around supporting Native foster youth.

## Provision and Accessing of Services

### *Strengths*

- \* Immediate availability of educational resources and supports when students are ready to seek support or identify interest in higher education or other programs
- \* Assistance with financial aid eligibility for State, Federal, Native American, and others sources
- \* The establishment and funding of new positions to provide direct support

### *Challenges*

- \* Supporting Native foster youth not on college track and/or at high risk of dropping out of school
- \* Limited outreach and staff shortage
- \* Barriers surrounding requirements to eligibility of services/resources
- \* Geographical barriers

### *Promising Practices*

- \* Doing in person outreach specifically targeting N/A foster youth
- \* Invite natural supports into dialogue with service providers
- \* Knowledge of Tribal, federal and state policies and resources

# RELEVANT LAWS

It is important to be aware of current federal, state, tribal, and local policies and legislation to better support Native foster youth who may benefit from those policies. These policies are meant to support school stability during youth's involvement with the foster system. Here are some examples:

## ASSEMBLY BILL 490

Students in foster care must have access to the same academic resources, services, and extracurricular and enrichment activities that are available to all students.

AB 490 outlines the roles of the court, social workers, school districts, care providers, and advocates in supporting educational stability for foster youth. This law also defines the role of liaisons that must be designated for every school district. See the back cover for information regarding local liaisons.

## ASSEMBLY BILL 167

Removes barriers to graduation by reducing the number of credits a student needs to graduate. The amount of credits are reduced to the state minimum requirements but only apply to youth who meet specific eligibility requirements related to school placement changes.

## INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT (ICWA)

This important federal legislation was enacted in 1978 to address the high numbers of Native children and families being separated by state child welfare agencies.

Key facets of the law include: providing active efforts to keep families together; identifying out-of-home placements that fit under the ICWA preference provisions; and working actively to notify and involve the child's tribe and the child's parents in court proceedings even if a child is not an enrolled member (NICWA, 2019).

It is important to learn about ICWA specially when working with Native foster youth. For more information, visit <https://www.nicwa.org/about-icwa/><sup>3</sup>

## CA ASSEMBLY BILL 12

AB 12 allows for foster care to be extended for youth past age 18, and up to age 21. Youth become "non-minor dependents" and continue to receive support while working to obtain educational and/or employment training opportunities. For more information, visit <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Foster-Care/Extended-Foster-Care-AB-12><sup>4</sup>

## CA CHAFEE GRANT FOR FOSTER YOUTH

Youth in foster care for at least one day, between the ages of 16 and 18 as a dependent or ward of the court and have financial need, may qualify for up to \$5,000 per year for career and technical training or college. For more information, eligibility and application forms, visit <https://www.chafee.csac.ca.gov/><sup>5</sup>

You can find additional information at :

- [http://www.cfyetf.org/publications\\_5\\_1692470168.pdf](http://www.cfyetf.org/publications_5_1692470168.pdf)
- <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy/documents/fosteryouthedrights.pdf>
- [hcoe.org/foster-youth-resources/](http://hcoe.org/foster-youth-resources/)
- [kids-alliance.org/programs/education/educational-equity/edtoolkit/](http://kids-alliance.org/programs/education/educational-equity/edtoolkit/)

# EARLY OUTREACH

**Check college campus event dates ahead of time to plan for youth to attend. Invite ALL students even if they haven't expressed interest in higher education!**

## American Indian College Motivation Day

<https://sasop.humboldt.edu/american-indian-college-motivation-day>

Occurs on 1st Thursday of November.

Native American youth across Northern California are invited to HSU for a day of campus tours, workshops, lectures, student panels and special presentations aimed at increasing the representation and success in higher education and degree completion for Indigenous People.

Eligibility:

All 9-12th grade Native American students are encouraged to attend

## Talent Search

(707) 826-4444 | [www.talentsearch.humboldt.edu](http://www.talentsearch.humboldt.edu)

Provides services to help improve the academic strengths and college readiness of students in grades 6 through 12\* individual appointments\*workshops\*campus tours\* information for parents

Eligibility:

Neither parent/guardian have degree OR meet income guidelines and student has interest in higher ed or career training program. Must attend target school:

\*High Schools: South Fork, Miranda Junior, McKinleyville, Six Rivers Charter School, Pacific Coast Continuation, Eureka, Zoe Barnum, Fortuna Union HS, Academy of the Redwoods, East, Arcata, Hoopa Valley, Captain John Continuation.

\*Elementary Schools: Hoopa, Loleta

\* Middle Schools: Toddy Thomas, McKinleyville, Fortuna, Pacific Union, Winship, Zane.

## Humboldt State TRIO Upward Bound

(707) 826-3558 | [www.trioupwardbound.humboldt.edu/](http://www.trioupwardbound.humboldt.edu/)

Five-week summer residential sessions at Humboldt State with academic, recreational, social and cultural activities \* Academic year component with academic support, tutoring, advising, career and college guidance, and financial aid awareness.

Eligibility:

Students in 9th and 10th grade who attend one of the three Humboldt County target area schools (Arcata High, Hoopa Valley High, and South Fork High) and meet criteria. Foster youth are automatically eligible. Application and interview required.

## CA Indian Big Time & Social Gathering

<https://itepp.humboldt.edu/california-indian-big-time-social-gathering>

Occurs in the Spring, usually the 1st Saturday of April. This event is a public celebration of Native American culture that includes sharing of songs and dance from throughout California, an Indian Card Game Tournament, cultural demonstrations, vendor/information booths and HSU campus tours.

Eligibility:

All are welcome to attend.

## Indian Action Council

(707) 443-8401 | 2905 Hubbard Lane, Ste. C, Eureka

Center staff assist schools with: professional development\* counseling\* tutorial services\*parent education\*supplemental and extended day instructional programs to meet the needs of American Indian students.

Eligibility:

Native student

## Gear UP

(707) 826-6206 | [www.gearup.humboldt.edu](http://www.gearup.humboldt.edu)

GEAR UP(Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) is designed to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. Provides funding to provide services at high-poverty middle and high schools. Grantees serve an entire cohort of students beginning no later than the seventh grade through high school.

Eligibility:

Neither parent/guardian have degree OR meet income guidelines and students has interest in higher ed or career training program.

Serving Class of 2020 & 2021 @ Hoopa Valley HS & Eureka HS

## College of the Redwoods TRIO Upward Bound

(707) 476-4277 | [www.redwoods.edu/ub](http://www.redwoods.edu/ub)

Five-week summer residential sessions at CR with academic, recreational, social and cultural activities \* Academic year component with academic support, tutoring, advising, career and college guidance, and financial aid awareness.

Eligibility:

Students in 8th-12th grade who attend target area schools (Eureka High, Fortuna Union High) and meet eligibility criteria. Foster youth are automatically eligible. Application and interview required.

## Indian Education Program

A staple at many public schools nationally and within Humboldt County. All Native American students TK-12 are invited to enroll and get extra academic, cultural and social support throughout the schooling process. Contact Indian Education Office at local school for more details.<sup>7</sup>

# HSU CAMPUS SUPPORTS

## ITEPP - Humboldt State University

(707) 826-3627 | [www.itepp.humboldt.edu/](http://www.itepp.humboldt.edu/)

Supporting students with their cultural identity \* Building strong support networks \* Academic advising, tutoring and mentoring \* Connecting with tribal representatives \* Engaging with faculty \* Setting educational and career goals \* Applying for scholarships, internships and graduate school \* Leadership and student club opportunities \* Providing a physical space for students with computer access, supplies and resources

### Eligibility:

Native American students enrolled at Humboldt State University.

## Indian Natural Resources, Science and Engineering Program (INRSEP) - HSU

(707) 826-4998 | [www2.humboldt.edu/inrsep/](http://www2.humboldt.edu/inrsep/)

Academic and community-based support networks for underrepresented students in the Sciences \* Cultural, community and professional engagement \* Academic advising and holistic mentorship \* Connecting to key campus resources \* Fostering student-faculty connections \* Access to 24 hour INRSEP facility \* Information about scholarship and fellowship opportunities

### Eligibility:

Native American students enrolled at Humboldt State University. Application required.

## Elite Scholars

(707) 826-5197 | No website at this time

ELITE Scholars (Excelling and Living Independently Through Education) is a support program dedicated to providing former foster youth a seamless transition into college by offering dynamic peer and professional mentoring and an all-encompassing network of support.

### Eligibility:

Former foster youth or independent by exception attending Humboldt State University. And college preparation for high school foster youth.

## Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)

(707) 826-4781 | [www.eop.humboldt.edu/](http://www.eop.humboldt.edu/)

Financial assistance \* Support and encouragement for eligible income disadvantaged students \* Tutoring \* Academic Advising \* Personal Counseling \* Learning skills support \* Mentoring \* Referrals and linkages to a variety of services and opportunities \* Graduate school advising \* Summer Bridge Orientation Program \*

### Eligibility:

California Resident \* Meet income guidelines \* Requires completion of the CSU application, including the completion of the supplemental EOP questions and the submission of two recommendation forms

# CR CAMPUS SUPPORTS

## EOPS-College of the Redwoods

707-476-4560 | [www.redwoods.edu/eops](http://www.redwoods.edu/eops)  
7351 Tompkins Hill Rd, Eureka, CA 95501

Financial assistance \* Support and encouragement for eligible income disadvantaged Students \* Tutoring \* Academic advising \* Personal Counseling \* Learning Skills Support \* Mentoring \* Referrals and linkage to a variety of services and opportunities

### Eligibility:

Be a California Resident or Dream Act student \* Qualify for the California College Promise Grant (CCPG) \* Be enrolled full time (12 units or more) or qualify for a waiver \* Be enrolled in or have completed a GS 6 or GS 1 College Success Course \* Have completed less than 70 units of college degree applicable courses \* Be economically disadvantaged, as determined by the EOPS regulations

## MultiCultural & Diversity Center

707-476-4255 | [www.redwoods.edu/mcdc](http://www.redwoods.edu/mcdc)  
LRC 103 at 7351 Tompkins Hill Rd, Eureka, CA 95501

Tutors \* Space for underrepresented student clubs including a Native Student Club \* Social justice information and internships \* Library \* Student leadership development \* Cultural Events \* Meeting spaces \* Comfortable space to relax, heal and network \* Study space and computer access \* Counseling & Advising \* Mentorship \* and much more!

### Eligibility:

Be a California Resident or Dream Act student \* Qualify for the California College Promise Grant (CCPG) \* Be enrolled full time (12 units or more) or qualify for a waiver \* Be enrolled in or have completed a GS 6 or GS 1 College Success Course \* Have completed less than 70 units of college degree applicable courses \* Be economically disadvantaged, as determined by the EOPS regulations

# HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORTS

## Hoopa Higher Education Programs

Hoopa Tribal Education Association Dept | (530) 625-4821  
[www.hoopa-nsn.gov/departments/education-department/hcatep/](http://www.hoopa-nsn.gov/departments/education-department/hcatep/)

Hoopa Career and Technical Education Programs (HCATEP), offering individualized academic advising and tutoring, help with enrollment fees, supplies and course materials, textbook loan program, TI calculators and laptop loan program, onsite information technology support, supplemental mileage assistance, stipend program and honoring ceremonies before graduation and mid semester celebrations.

Eligibility:  
Enrolled members of federally recognized tribes living on or near Hoopa Valley Reservation who have or will have completed high school or equivalency program.

## Karuk Tribe Education Department

(530) 493-1600 | <http://karukeducation.us/>

ACT, SAT and California testing \* GED, online courses and other programs \* College visits \* Financial aid assistance \* Individual Academic Plans \* 6-12th grade College and Career Readiness Lessons \* K-12 tutoring \* Karuk Youth Leadership Council \* Grants and scholarships \* Karuk Housing Rent Voucher Program (Karuk higher education students enrolled full-time) \* Cultural connection services

Eligibility:  
Enrolled members of the Karuk Tribe

## Hoopa Education

Hoopa Tribal Education Association Dept | (530) 625-5081  
[www.hoopa-nsn.gov/departments/education-department/](http://www.hoopa-nsn.gov/departments/education-department/)

Tribal awards for part and full-time students enrolled in higher education \* BIA awards for full-time students enrolled in higher education \* Information on higher education institutions \* The Hoopa Yurok Vocational Rehabilitation Program, which removes barriers for those with disabilities (available for Hoopa and Yurok enrolled members)

Eligibility:  
Enrolled Hoopa Tribal youth graduating from high school or equivalency program.

## Yurok Tribe Education Program

(707) 482-1822 ext. 1021 | 190 Klamath Blvd. Klamath, CA 95548; P.O. Box 1027  
Weitchpec phone number | Address  
[www.yuroktribe.org/departments/education/](http://www.yuroktribe.org/departments/education/)

Monitoring of who is foster youth and student records \* Financial aid application support \* Grant opportunities and support \* College visits \* Connection to services \* Offices in Klamath, Weitchpec and Eureka

Eligibility: Enrolled members of the Yurok Tribe.

## Hoopa Career and Technical Education Programs (HCATEP)

(530) 625-4821 | <https://www.hoopa-nsn.gov/departments/education-department/hcatep/>

Individualized academic advising and tutoring \* Help with enrollment fees \* Supplies and course materials \* Textbook loan program \* TI calculators and laptop loan program \* Technology support \* Supplemental mileage assistance \* Stipend program \* Honoring ceremonies

Eligibility:  
Enrolled members of federally recognized tribes living on or near Hoopa Valley Reservation who have or will have completed high school or equivalency program. HCATEP requires application.

**NO TRANSPORTATION  
=  
NO SERVICE**

**Find, collaborate, and coordinate  
with other service providers like...**

**Probation \* CWS \* TAY \*  
Natural Supports \* Schools \* Tribes**

## KLAMATH TRINITY AND ADJACENT AREAS

### Yurok Tribe ICWA Unit

Klamath Office: (707) 482-1822  
<https://www.yuroktribe.org/departments/education/>

Investigation, intervention and reunification services for children and families \* Facilitation of out-of-home placements \* ICWA advocacy \* Collaboration with schools, agencies and courts \* Offices in Klamath and Tulley Creek

Eligibility:  
Children and families who come under the jurisdiction of Yurok Tribal Court or enrolled/eligible Yurok Tribal members under Humboldt County Superior Court

### Karuk Tribe Child Welfare Services Program

(530) 627-3452 | [www.karuk.us/index.php/departments/child-and-family-services/menu-cfs-cws](http://www.karuk.us/index.php/departments/child-and-family-services/menu-cfs-cws)

Prevention, intervention and referral services for children and families \* Adoption and support \* ICWA advocacy \* Collaboration with schools, agencies and courts \* Offices in Orleans, Happy Camp and Yreka

Eligibility:  
Enrolled or eligible for enrollment Karuk Tribal children and families who are under the jurisdiction of Humboldt County Superior Court.

### Hoopa Valley Tribal TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) Program

(530) 625-4816 | <http://www.hoopatanf.com>

Support services for Native American families \* Educational assistance for GED/High School \* Diploma/College \* Tutoring \* Substance Abuse, Mental Health and Family Counseling \* Tribal work activities including job development, training and education \* Work related transportation services \* Culturally relevant work activities. Additional services include the Diversion Assistance Program, Prevention Programs and the Positive Family Indian Network Program.  
College Intern Program: Targeted to Full-time College students aged 18-24 and helps to provide work experience and training specific to educational goals and career development.

Eligibility:  
Member or descendant of a Federally recognized Tribe or California Judgement Roll whose primary residence is the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation.

### K'ima:w Medical Center

(530) 625-4261 | [www.kimaw.org/](http://www.kimaw.org/)

Medical services \* Behavioral Health services, including counseling for children and adolescents \* Transportation services \* Transportation assistance for out-of-area appointments \* Dental service \* Cultural events.

Eligibility:  
Enrolled Hoopa or Yurok Tribal members. Other community members served with insurance.

### Hoopa Child and Family Services

(530) 625-4061 | [www.kimaw.org/our-services/](http://www.kimaw.org/our-services/)

Investigation, intervention and reunification services for children and families within boundaries of Hoopa Valley Reservation \* Facilitation of out-of-home placements \* ICWA advocacy \* Collaboration with schools, agencies and courts

Eligibility:  
Children and families who come under the jurisdiction of Hoopa Tribal Court or enrolled/eligible Hoopa Valley Tribal members under Humboldt County Superior Court

## NORTHERN HUMBOLDT & ADJACENT AREAS

### Trinidad Rancheria Youth Program

(707) 677-0211 ext. 2707 | [trinidad-rancheria.org/tribal-programs/](http://trinidad-rancheria.org/tribal-programs/)

Cultural activities \* Outdoor activities: Kayaking, Camping and others \* Summer Programs \* Mentoring

Eligibility:  
Must be an enrolled or eligible member of the Trinidad Rancheria

### Two Feathers Native American Family Services

(707) 839-1933 | [www.twofeathers-nafs.org](http://www.twofeathers-nafs.org)

Behavioral Health & AOD Services\* Child Welfare & Social Services\* Youth Wellness & Prevention Programming\* \*Domestic Violence Programming\* Cultural Programming

Eligibility:  
Any self-identified Native American child or adult

### United Indian Health Services (UIHS)

(707) 825-500 | [www.unitedindianhealthservices.org/](http://www.unitedindianhealthservices.org/)

Clinical Services \* Behavioral Health Services \* Community Nutrition \* Teen Advisory Group (requires application) \* Scholarship Opportunities \* Cultural Activities and Events \* Locations throughout Humboldt and Del Norte Counties

Eligibility:  
Enrolled members or family members enrolled members who are not served by the Hoopa Tribal Health Program or the Karuk Tribal Health Program.

## Environmental Alternatives

(707) 443-7370 | [www.ea.org/](http://www.ea.org/)  
612 G St #104, Eureka, CA 95501

For Families:  
Counseling \* Substance abuse programs \* Medical & dental treatment \* Independent living courses \* Crisis intervention support services \* Placements  
For Youth and Adults:  
Mental health Support \* Transitional housing program

Eligibility:  
Must be a foster parent/s in Humboldt County and and be referred by CWS (Child Welfare Services)

## Yurok Tribe Social Services, Eureka

(707) 444-0433 | <http://www.yuroktribe.org/departments/socialservices/>

ICWA case management\* Transportation to cultural events \* Housing support \* Interagency service coordination \* Mental health and behavioral health support \* North Coast Indian Development Center (NCIDC) short-notice funding \*Tribe guardianship cases \* +more

Eligibility:  
Enrolled Yurok member or descendant.

## Indian Legal Services

(707) 443-8397 | 324 F St | [calindian.org](http://calindian.org)

Self-help\* Community education: Crisis Intervention\* ICWA Tribal Advocate Training\* BIA's ICWA Regulations\* Tribal Customary Adoption \*Exercising Criminal Jurisdiction\* Tribal Economic Development\* Domestic Violence\* Indian Law, Policy and History\* Indian Ancestry\* Protecting cultural resources \* Protecting individual Native American rights and more.

Eligibility:  
Students who are in the foster care system through County or Tribal Courts. Support available to all Humboldt County school districts

## The Forgotten Initiative

(707) 834-1604 | [theforgotteninitiative.org](http://theforgotteninitiative.org) | 511 H St

New and gently used clothing, children's accessories, toys\* shampoo/conditioner\*body wash\* deodorant \* toothpaste/toothbrushes\* razors\*diapers, wipes, baby supplies

Eligibility:  
Foster parents and relative or non-relative placements.

## CA Tribal TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) Program

(707) 476-0342 | [cttp.net](http://cttp.net) | 636 H St

Career development\*Life Skills Workshops\*Youth Employment Programs\* Parenting Workshops\*Cash Assistance\* Non-needy Caregiver assistance for those caring for a Native child/youth\*Transportation/Vehicle Support\*Graduation Package Assistance\*Housing support, including utility assistance.

Eligibility:  
Have at least one eligible Indian child\*Live within the CTTP county service area.

## Child Welfare Services Educational Liaison

(707) 445-6180 | <https://humboldt.gov/497/Child-Welfare-Services>

Follows student from preschool to college \* Protects foster youth's educational rights \* Can participate in IEPs with families, bio or foster\* available to support foster or biological parents\*Foster parent training for tribal RFA and county foster placements\*Refers youth to TAY & College of the Redwoods.

Eligibility:  
Any foster youth placed through County or Tribal court.

## Northern CA Indian Development Center

(707) 445-8451 | [ncidc.org/regional-services/humboldt](http://ncidc.org/regional-services/humboldt)

Workforce Investment Act:  
Job and Career Counseling Referral and Placement\*Work Experience\* On-the-Job Training\*Classroom Training  
Community Service Block Grant  
Provides emergency services to economically disadvantaged American Indians and assists with improving social and economic conditions.  
Resource Center: Use of computers for resumes and job search activities\* Job referral board.

Eligibility:  
All American Indian adults, 18 years or older. Select programs for American Indian youth, ages 16-21

## RCAA Youth Services Bureau

(707) 444-2273 | <http://rcaa.org/youth-service-bureau>

Our House Shelter\*Transitional Housing\* The Turner House \* The Raven Project\*Launch Pad Transitional Living  
\*Services are for youth who are homeless, fleeing abusive or dangerous situations or experiencing severe family conflict.

Eligibility:  
Varies by program. Call 24-hour hotline for referrals.

## Changing Tides Family Services

(707) 444-8293 | [changingtidesfs.org/](http://changingtidesfs.org/)

Family support to parents who have just learned that their child has a developmental disability or who may be at risk of having one \* Assistance in locating and paying for child care \* Training opportunities for child care providers to enhance their skills caring for children who have special needs \* One-on-one support to families in which one of the parents has a developmental disability

Eligibility:  
Must be referred by Humboldt County or other agency

## Wiyot Tribe

<http://www.wiyot.us/> | (707) 733-5055

ICWA advocacy and case management \* Resource and referrals\*Emergency food\* Clothing vouchers\* Mental Health counseling referrals\* Wiyot Scholarship Program\* BIA Higher Education Grant Program

Eligibility:  
Enrolled members of the Wiyot Tribe

## Bear River Tribe of the Rohnerville Rancheria

(707) 733-1900 | <http://www.brb-nsn.gov/>

Youth workshops and activities \* AOD classes \* Parenting classes \* Food pantry \* ICWA/Child Welfare social services \* Transportation \* Referrals and linkages to providers and supports \* Interagency coordination and case management \* Juvenile justice program \* Financial assistance for education and recreation extracurricular activities and programs \* Back-to-School clothing and school supplies financial assistance \* Cultural connections \* Spring Break and Summer youth programs \* Free usage of Recreational Center

Eligibility:  
Must be a member or eligible for membership in the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria

## Independent Living Services

(707) 476-4944 | <https://humboldt.gov.org/541/Independent-Living-Skills-Program>

2-hour workshops basic living skills\* budgeting\* communication skills\*safe sex\* job retention / interviews, \*college campus tours\*financial aid / Extended Opportunity Programs and Services\* landlord / tenant issues\*routine car care \* Individual Services: 1-on-1 assessment\*written Plan for Independence\*assistance with financial aid forms and college applications\*emancipation information and assistance\* job search advising\* help obtaining birth certificates\* California ID cards and other documents.

Eligibility:  
Youth who have been in foster care after their 16th birthdays the day before their 21st birthdays. Youth are referred to the program by their social workers or probation officers.

## Transition Age Youth Programs

(707) 476-4944 | [humboldt.gov.org/542/Transition-Age-Youth-Programs](http://humboldt.gov.org/542/Transition-Age-Youth-Programs)

Clothing Closet for Interviews and Work Clothes\*Educational Support\*GED Preparation\*Interview Practice\*Job Search Guidance\* Resume Building

Eligibility:  
Youth who have been in foster care after their 16th birthdays the day before their 21st birthdays. Youth are referred to the program by their social workers or probation officers.

## REFERENCES

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- 2 Kovach, M. (2010). Conversational Method in Indigenous Research. *First Peoples Child & Family Review*, 5(1), 40-48.
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- 4 California Department of Social Services. (2019). AB 12 extended foster care program and benefits. Retrieved from <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Foster-Care/Extended-Foster-Care-AB-12>
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- 6 ITEPP. (2019). Native american center for academic excellence. Retrieved from <https://itepp.humboldt.edu/>
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## MCKINNEY-VENTO FOSTER YOUTH LIAISONS

Every school district has an assigned McKinney-Vento/foster youth liaison. These positions exist to support homeless and foster youth in continuing and succeeding in their education.

Their roles include:

\*Supporting immediate enrollment in school \* School of origin process in order to maintain educational stability \* Timely transfer of educational records \* Locating and obtaining immunization and medical records \* Transportation plans from the current residence to the school of origin \* Referral and connection services to community resources \* Linkage to university, community college and vocational/technical programs

## HUMBOLDT COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION (HCOE) (707) 445-7187 | www.hcoe.org

Supports and helps improve educational outcomes\* Maintains and shares list of McKinney-Vento/Foster Youth Liaisons. Tribes can request this list.

Available for departmental support in implementation of federal and state laws regarding FY rights. Education regarding policies pertaining to FY

\*Can help students with: immediate enrollment in school\*school of origin process to maintain educational stability\*transfer of ed records\* transportation plans from the residence to school of origin \* referral/connection to community resources \* post secondary education

Eligibility:

Students who are in the foster care system through County or Tribal Courts. Support available to all Humboldt County school districts

## FOSTER YOUTH SERVICE COORDINATING PROGRAM EDUCATION EXECUTIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Per state legislation (AB 854) all County Offices of Education that operate a Foster Youth Service Coordinating Program (FYSCP) must establish Education Executive Advisory Council.

It's the responsibility of the county FYSCP to facilitate and coordinate the advisory council. Council make up rules of operation, priority & goals are set locally by the council itself (in the same spirit of the Local County Funding Formula which governs the financing of TK-12 public education in California).

In general they are supposed to help provide guidance, advice and input for implementation of foster youth education services in Humboldt County.

Locally they agree to:

- 1) Attend regular scheduled meetings
- 2) Provide input regarding priorities and agenda items
- 3) Participate in professional development and training offered by HCOE/FYSCP and community partners and
- 4) Collaborate with county, tribal, educational and community based partners in order to provide foster youth with comprehensive access to education resources and support.

They traditionally meet 3 times a year.

FYSCP-EEAC description courtesy of Roger Golec.

## FOSTER CARE OMBUDSPERSON

1(877)846-1602 fosteryouthhelp@dss.ca.gov  
Available to advocate and support youth.

# THIS GUIDE IS A WORK IN PROGRESS...

If there is a change or update you would like included, please contact  
Adrienne Colegrove-Raymond abc1@humboldt.edu

