

TURNING DREAMS INTO DEGREES



Ed Course 1: Supporting Foster Youth Through Early College Awareness and Preparation

Lessons Learned Activity

The below student vignette highlights common challenges that foster youth experience as they try to prepare for college. Read through the short description and then work with your group to strategize ways to respond to this particular student.

Student Vignette #2

Mia is in the Spring Semester of her 10th grade. She has experienced a lot of trauma, including the death of her grandmother. Mia says that when she grows up she wants to be a cosmetologist and own a salon. She cuts her own hair and has never had her hair cut by a professional. She saw a commercial for Aveda Institute, and plans to attend when she graduates high school. The program costs about \$25,500 to attend. Mia doesn't know anyone that has attended college before and has never met with her high school counselor. While Mia is motivated to become a cosmetologist, she isn't attending her current high school classes. She has difficulty sleeping at night and recently was suspended because she had an angry outburst at her teacher.

Discussion Questions

- What steps should Mia take to prepare for college in the 10th grade?
- What would you do to help create a college-going culture at home and increase her knowledge about college?
- What resources or supports would you recommend for Mia?