

**OUR VOICE
IN ACTION**

Fostering Advocates Arizona (FAAZ) is a community wide initiative backed by the voices of young people who have experienced foster care as critical advisors for change. It is our goal to ensure all young people in foster care have the information, resources and supports needed to successfully transition into adulthood.

This year, we are especially proud of the hard work and guidance of our FAAZ Young Adult Leadership Board, as they took direct action to influence policies and practices on big issues impacting foster care.



2016 Year In Review

LEGISLATION, POLICY, AND ACTION

Young Adult Leadership Board members created and published their 2016 Advocacy Document highlighting their top five priority issues and recommendations for positive improvements for young people in foster care. The Advocacy Document was presented to members of the Arizona Legislature, Supreme Court Committee on Juvenile Courts and the Department of Child Safety (DCS) Community Advisory Board.



8,200

INDIVIDUALS RECEIVED OUR
ADVOCACY DOCUMENT VIA
EMAIL, WORKSHOPS, PANELS &
COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

90

ARIZONA
LEGISLATORS
RECEIVED OUR
RECOMMENDATIONS

Board Members testified in the Arizona House of Representatives' Children and Family Affairs Committee on the importance of normalcy in foster care and the needs of older youth in care that are essential for life success.

Board Members helped create the new Department of Child Safety Foster Home Licensing Rules providing invaluable input on what "normalcy" means for young people in foster care. They also informed content for required trainings on normalcy for an estimated **12,279 people*** including foster families, group home staff, and licensing agency employees.

Board Members created and starred in an educational video on the Federal Strengthening Families Act and its impact on normalcy in Arizona foster care. The video was

shared with hundreds of individuals in trainings, workshops, and presentations as well as viewed **443 times** on YouTube.



*Arrigo, Meghan. "Re: RPPS Training..." Message to Harry Atkins. 23 January 2016. E-mail. Number as of 2016.



2016 Year In Review

BY THE NUMBERS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

Young Adult Leadership Board Members presented to **1,083** attendees at convenings, workshops, and panel discussions. They provided valuable information on federal and state laws and policies supporting successful transitions from foster care.

1,083 **26**

ATTENDEES

PRESENTATIONS

OPPORTUNITY PASSPORT™

Beginning in 2015, the Opportunity Passport™ program delivered **950** participant training hours to youth in foster care. Topics included asset building, money management, credit building, savings and investments, transportation, housing and education planning.

Since implementation, **41** Opportunity Passport™ participants saved **\$68,335** and were matched for a total of **\$136,665** to help pay for life-changing assets such as a vehicle, first month's rent and deposit, and required school supplies and textbooks.

\$136,665

ASSETS SAVED & MATCHED TOTAL

\$1,158

AVERAGE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF
ASSETS PURCHASED

950

TOTAL PARTICIPANT TRAINING HOURS

Credit Building:	\$3,256
Housing:	\$10,570
Education and Training:	\$9,074
Savings and Investments:	\$45,900
Vehicles and Transportation:	\$67,865

DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

Website growth rose to almost **20,000** pageviews. The Resource Library and FAAZ Blog were among the most visited sections in 2016.

19,978

PAGEVIEWS IN 2016

9,989

VISITORS TO FOSTERINGADVOCATESAZ.ORG

2,800

AVERAGE WEEKLY FACEBOOK REACH OF
PEOPLE ENGAGING WITH FAAZ

