From Talking with their Feet to Talking from their Hearts: 
Voices of Youth Who Decide to STAY. 
(Exploring Strategies to Stabilize Foster Youth in Care)

DATE: APRIL 2, 2008
TIME: 5:30PM TO 9PM
LOCATION: AUDITORIUM – ACS CHILDREN’S CENTER- 492 FIRST AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10016

1. Dr. Patricia Attia -Keynote speaker
   Vice President of Liberty Management Group, Inc., /Director of all Downstate Arms Acres Outpatient Clinics in the Metropolitan New York Area / Adjunct Professor at Yeshiva University.

PANELISTS

2. Marcia Blaze Callender
   Program Director, Catholic Big Sisters and Big Brothers

3. Dr. Phyllis Cohen
   Director, New York Institute for Psychotherapy Training

4. Rudy Estrada
   LGBTQ Coordinator –Children’s Services’ Commissioner’s Office

5. Gerald Leventhal
   Families & Children
   Vice President - Westchester Division, Graham-Windham Services for Families & Children

6. Candace Tinagero
   Senior Vice President, Foster Home and Residential Services, Jewish Child Care Association

SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY ANDREW BRIDGE: FORMER FOSTER CHILD, HARVARD-TRAINED LAWYER, CHILD RIGHTS ADVOCATE, AND AUTHOR OF ‘HOPE’S BOY’

HOST: SELINA HIGGINS, Director of Training Design & Implementation for Children’s Services’ DCP

Exploring Strategies to Stabilize Foster Youth in Care

Who should attend?

Foster youth, youth advocates, ACS line staff/administrators, foster care agency staff, and other child welfare professionals.

Presentations by youth and a panel of experts will focus on the strategies to stabilize the following in placement:

- Youth with no history of unauthorized absences from foster care but may be at risk;
- Youth with a chronic history of unauthorized absences; and
- Youth who, even though have a history unauthorized absences, are currently stabilized in care.

The goals are to explore the factors that engender unauthorized absences and identify strategies that may help stabilize foster youth in care. Panelists will explore:

- Current best practices helping to stabilize foster youth in care;
- Current unhelpful practices that may cause, or contribute to causing unauthorized absences;
- Possible helpful practices that may help stabilize youth in care not currently in use;
- Barriers that child welfare experts confront in stabilizing foster youth in care;
- Coping or adaptive strategies that youth utilize to deal with the individual, familial, systemic, and other difficulties they confront in out-of-home care.

WORKSHOPS TO FOLLOW PANEL DISCUSSION

Please E-MAIL completed registration form to: Olatunde.olusesi@dfa.state.ny.us or fax to 646-935-1587

Please respond by 3-26-08

For more information, please call: Leni Kouias at (646)-479-7898 – Daytime
Olatunde Olusesi at 646-935-1333 - Evening

ACS PROJECT STAY

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Please fill out a separate form for each registrant:

Name:

Organization:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

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