# foster advocates

### Who We Are

We are the only organization in Minnesota focused solely on systems advocacy through research, policy change, and organizing in partnership with Fosters. We advocate for a Minnesota where every person involved in foster care has the same access to opportunities and outcomes as their peers.

### What We Do

- Conduct **research** to identify issues our Foster community prioritizes.
- Build **relationships** with Fosters and partners to create inclusive programs and policy change.
- Promote **reform** of the child welfare system to break the educational, financial, and opportunity barriers with Fosters.



## Fostering Higher Education Act

Fosters want to attend school but cannot afford it. HF1802 would grant Fosters a debt-free education at a Minnesota institution of higher education.

Fosters face significant barriers in postsecondary access and attainment. Just 2% of Fosters in the Midwest were able to complete a two-year degree by age 21, whereas, 60% of their peers have a four-year degree.

We can't give Fosters back what they lost, but we can grant them a better future.

Increasing enrollment of the 4,905 eligible Fosters is a win for Minnesota:

- Through just Pell, ETV, & state grants MN colleges set to gain \$86 million per year
- Increase adoption of older youth
- Will reduce the revolving door of foster care, incarceration, homelessness, and unemployment

#### **Contact Us**

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