



THE PROBLEM

Children, our children, are living without hope. America is the land of opportunity, but for these unfortunate souls there is no future.

Approximately 400,000 youth are currently in foster care in the United States. Of these, over 20,000 of those youth age-out each year without any support as they enter into the real world. In fact, within 18 months of emancipation 40-50% of these foster youth become homeless.

Nationally, 50% of the homeless population spent time in foster care.

Because of their traumatic past, once homeless drug addiction and psychological issues follow. This spiral ends with a life expectancy 20-30 years shorter than the average American – in some studies, as low as 48.

Beyond the statistics are real people. Our children. Our future. We as a society need to find a way to give hope. To give them a future.

THE SOLUTION: SEEDCAMPUS

The SEEDCITIES initiative is an international series of organizations dedicated to stabilizing our future by focusing on making each individual a productive member of society. The initiative begins by providing housing, safety, security, and basic necessities including food, clothing, and medical support. Funds from a variety of financial, foundations, and governmental grants will build six of these campuses across the United States in partnership with supportive state and local governments. With a sustainable design, each SEEDCAMPUS will be created to house and serve 25,000 foster kids who have aged out of the system.

“TEACH A MAN TO FISH”

The cornerstone of this SEEDCITIES program is to enroll each Foster child into a paid “work/study” program. This program will first teach basic life skills, after which the majority of participants will be able to choose from a variety of trade programs. A select group will be enrolled in a 2-year college prep program.

PSYCHOLOGICAL & DRUG COUNSELING

Because of the backgrounds involved with Foster kids, integrated into SEEDCAMPUS is aggressive mandatory psychological counseling for each student. This program will be done in conjunction with the programs of major universities and under the guidance of licensed professionals.

Furthermore, all SEEDCAMPUS housing are drug- and alcohol-free zones. All participants will be subject to random drug testing, with counseling and programs available for substance abuse issues.





SUMMER SEEDCAMP FOR FOSTER KIDS

As an entrée into and to promote SEEDCAMPUS early in a Foster child's life, SEEDCITIES will strive to create a network of national summer camps for Foster children free of charge. This two week summer program will begin to provide a level of community, focus, and new experiences that a child may not have had exposure to in their life due to economic or family issues.

SEEDCAMPUS HOUSES

Foster kids miss continuity. They miss community. They miss family.

Built into the SEEDCAMPUS project, from the camps to the campuses themselves, are the concept of "houses". Akin to the Greek system in colleges, these "Harry Potter-esq" houses provide a level of stability for the Foster children. Once a child is placed in a house, they are a member of that house through the years of camps and SEEDCAMPUS studies, providing a sense of belonging. This also provides a resource for the Foster children and support once they graduate.



**SEEDCAMPUS...Hope for our children.
For our Future.**

SEEDCAMPUS CURRICULUM

The SEEDCAMPUS educational focus is on providing the aged-out Foster children with the education, focus, and habits necessary to become productive members of society and to be successful in their own right.

YEAR 1: LIFE SKILLS

Foster children lead a life of instability. Because of this, they sometimes are missing basic skills or information that are required of working, functional adults. From changing a tire to balancing a checkbook, and from doing laundry to filing taxes, these skills and many others will be taught in the first year of SEEDCAMPUS education. Further, basic education (reading/writing, math skills, etc.) will be taught to those in need.

TRADE SCHOOL

Trade jobs are some of the most in demand careers in the United States. Nurses, for example, are currently some of the most in-demand workers in America. The carpentry trade is projected to grow by 24 percent through 2022, with average wages approaching \$90,000 annually. Most SEEDCAMPUS participants will be encouraged to choose these in demand and lucrative positions and be placed in training and journeyman programs appropriate to their industry of choice.

COLLEGE PREP

Where appropriate, a select group of SEEDCAMPUS participants shall be chosen to complete a 2-year college preparatory curriculum designed to prepare these former foster children for a four-year college program and beyond. These participants will be groomed for scholarships provided by either the SEEDCITIES program, close non-profit partners and foundations, or by the local or national governments.

