

IN THEIR OWN WORDS YOUTH COMMENTS ON HAVING A LAPTOP

One young man was receiving Cs in his civics class because he had no access to a computer or the Internet to do the necessary research for his papers. When he received his laptop, his essay on the CA government was so well done his teacher submitted it to a statewide competition. He won and received a scholarship. He called the staff at iFoster to let everyone know how thankful he was. "I was going nowhere, but now I have a scholarship and I want to go to college."

"I feel more empowered. I am able to do what I need to do and want to do because I own a laptop!"

"Having a laptop makes me feel good, more prepared, like other youth. I feel less stressed, more connected and Independent."

I got the laptop and my whole life changed.

"When I didn't have a laptop, I didn't have any one to talk to or share my feelings with. I got the laptop and my whole life changed. I am able to contact family, friends, and acquaintances. It helps with school. I look up answers to my homework. This is me with my own computer, and I haven't had one before. I also let my family use the computer and I am really thankful that you guys sent it to me."



ABOUT IFOSTER

iFoster's mission is to ensure that every child growing up outside their biological home has access to the resources and opportunities they need to become successful, independent adults.

iFoster is the virtual support system for foster children, youth and their caregivers connecting them to the resources, people and opportunities they need. iFoster makes this happen by:

- Building **the largest and most inclusive community** of people and organizations raising these children and youth;
- Providing **the resources and opportunities these children and youth need to thrive through partnerships** with companies, government agencies, non-profits, and foundations who can supply critical resources;
- **Collaborating with local partners** to create a **local support network** that collectively supports these children and youth.

LEARN MORE

To learn more, visit www.ifofter.org

Interested in participating in or supporting the iFoster Jobs Program?
Please contact Reid Cox at 1-855-936-7837 or reid@ifofter.org.



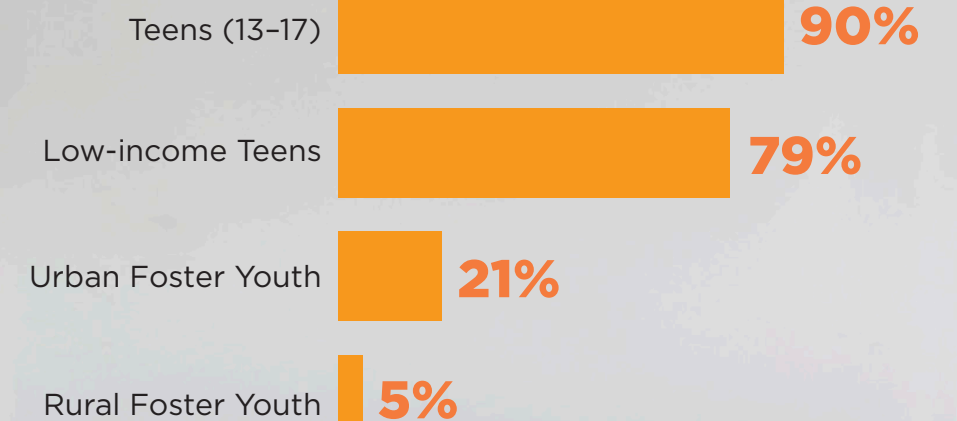
1 LAPTOP PROGRAM

Study on CA Foster Youth Computer Access

DIGITAL DEFICIT

Only 5% of rural foster youth and 21% of urban foster youth have consistent access to a computer in their homes; compared to 90% of all teens and 79% of low-income teens. American foster youth rank in the bottom third of all countries in access to computers.

ACCESS TO A COMPUTER IN THE HOME



SOURCE: Pew Research Center, 2014; iFoster survey of 3,063 foster youth in Fresno, Los Angeles, Madera & Placer Counties

COMPUTER ACCESS MATTERS!

The iFoster 1 Laptop program provides foster youth with the computers they need to succeed in school and find jobs. In the past 4 years, with the help of county child welfare agencies, philanthropy and caregiver's themselves, iFoster has provided over 7,800 computers to foster youth across 48 states.

In California, 4,000 college-bound and in-college foster youth have received computers. Of these, 730 youth were studied in an evaluation funded by Foster Care Counts to find out what impact computers had. When provided with a computer, 98% of youth reported using it on a daily or weekly basis. Significant improvements were found in academic performance, social connectiveness, and life satisfaction.

Based on these results, a coalition of Philanthropy, Silicon Valley leadership and the California State Department of Social Services has formed and is committed to providing as many of the State's foster youth with computers as soon as possible.

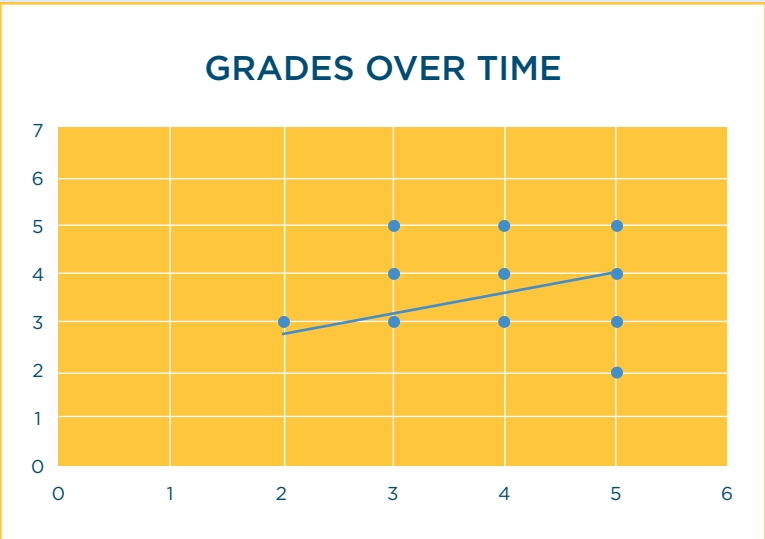


ACCESS MATTERS ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

- Improved grades
- Reduced missed days of school and work
- Increased pursuit of college and employment
- More likely to have access to a computer for school and homework, to search for a job

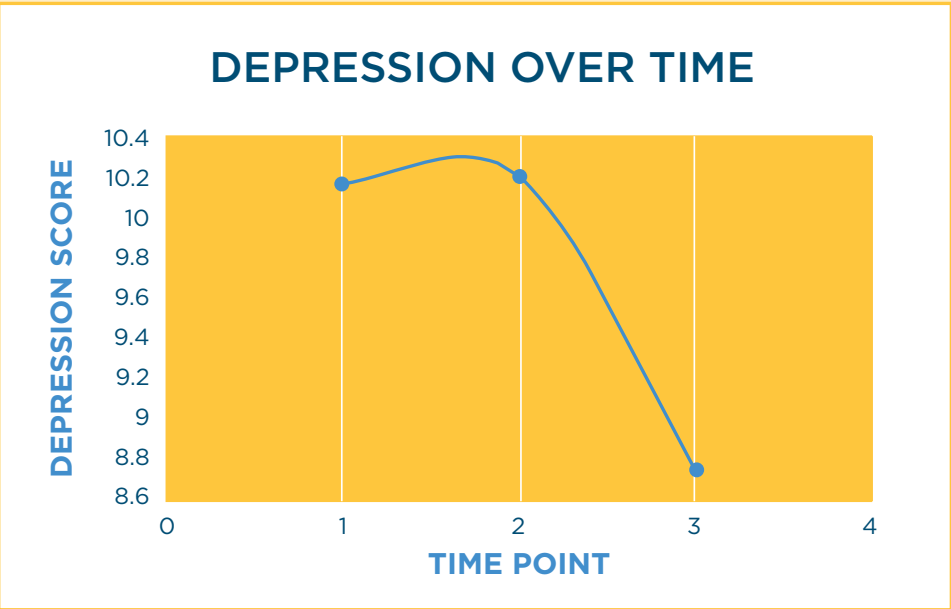
Youth Reported

- 100% reported the laptop helped them significantly with school
- 95% felt better prepared for school
- 90% felt there was more time to spend on homework
- 81% reported improved grades in Placer
- 66% in Madera (an additional 33% reported their grades would have increased but other factors interfered such as placement changes)



ACCESS MATTERS ON LIFE SATISFACTION

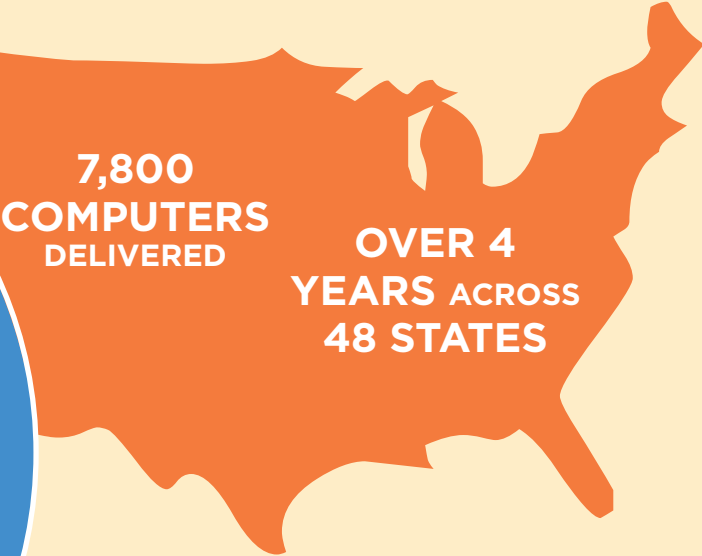
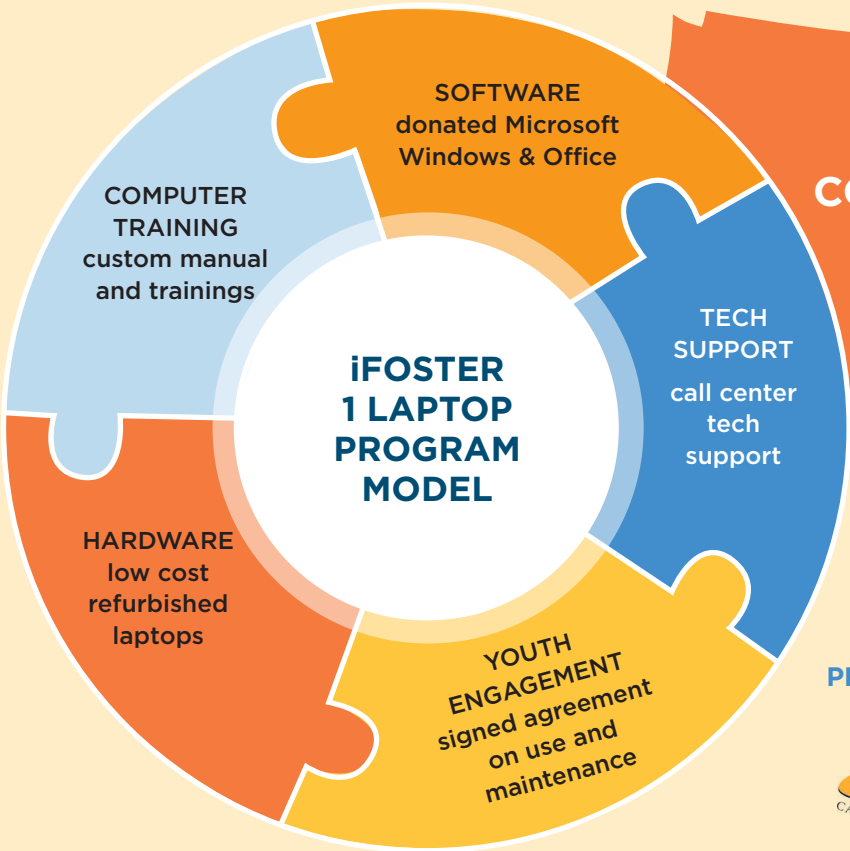
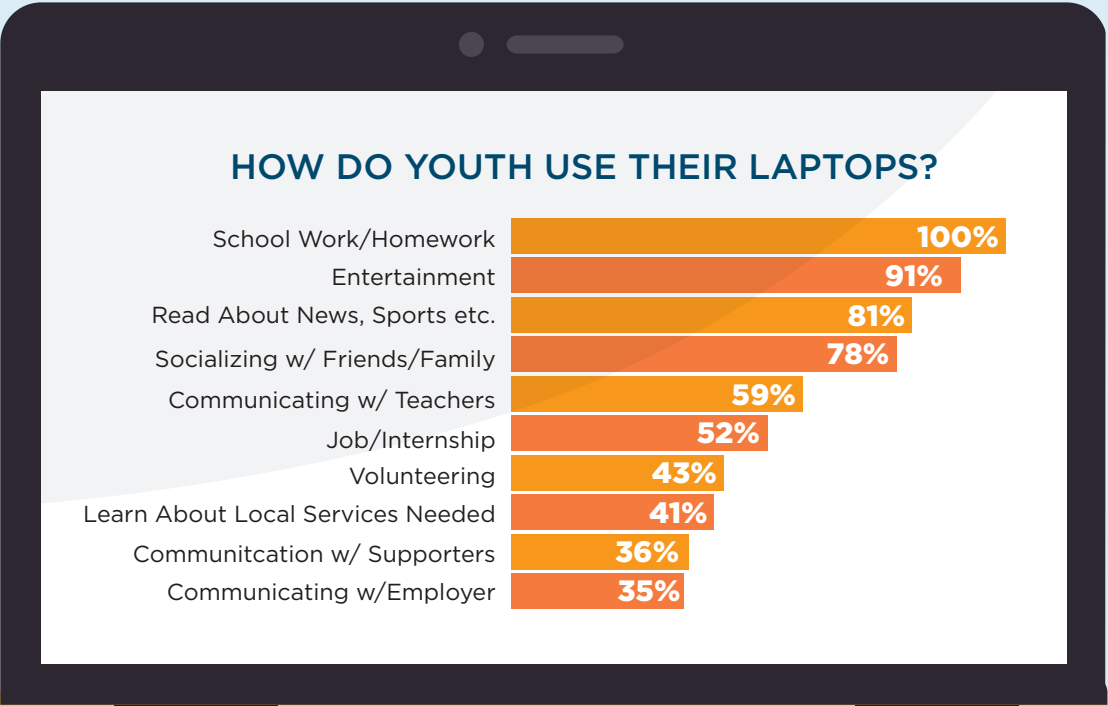
- Increased life satisfaction and self-esteem
- Reduced depression
- More likely to report freedom in life
- Feel that they fit in more
- Believe that they will be wealthy someday



ACCESS MATTERS ON SOCIAL CONNECTIVENESS

- Improved social connectiveness
- Improved relationship with biological families
- Better quality relationships with their biological family members
- More likely to connect with family and friends, to search for a job, to communicate with teachers and employers, for learning opportunities and to speak with their lawyers, caseworkers and employers

Research conducted by
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PROGRAM MODEL PARTNER



STUDY PARTNERS

