

MISSION

To ensure that our most vulnerable students receive comprehensive, rehabilitative services and advocacy to maximize successful transitions, re-engagement, academic achievement, social emotional awareness, and post-secondary options.

BACKGROUND

Evidence based research during the 2015 school year showed that among students who were in foster care placement, 6 percent were placed in group homes. Students in group homes and those who experience multiple placements fall behind grade levels due to academic difficulties, interruptions in schooling (including changes in schools), and/or inconsistent delivery of academic supports (childwelfare.gov, 2015). In addition, students placed in group homes are more likely to dropout compared to other students in foster care.



The Group Home Scholars Program (GHSP) was created in order to address the inequities as noted above. In the 2017-2018 school year GHSP provided consistent and targeted supports to approximately 1,009 students residing in 79 group homes across all LAUSD Local Districts.

Group Home Liaison/Pupil Service Attendance (PSA) Counselors are housed at select Department of Children and Family Services offices and Los Angeles County Probation offices throughout Los Angeles County. They assist with school enrollment, conduct Comprehensive Academic Assessments (CAA), monitor Individual Success Plans (ISP), advocate for the educational rights of foster youth, enforce school attendance laws, provide targeted case management and counseling services, implement dropout prevention

interventions and support efforts towards graduation. In addition, they develop transition plans to ensure successful transition between schools and assist in the transfer of student records.

Counselor Aides and PSA Aides assist our PSA Counselors in advocating for the educational rights of foster youth, enforcing school attendance laws, conducting STAR assessments, and providing students with information on educational and career planning, personal/social development, and follow-up activities.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Improve school stability and immediate enrollment
- Improve academic achievement
- Prevent students from dropping out of school
- Engage caregivers, parents and community partners in the educational process
- Ensure successful transition of students from high school to post-secondary education and/or employment

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Group Home Scholars Program collaborates with various LAUSD programs, Department of Children and Family Services, Los Angeles County Probation Department and Los Angeles County Office of Education. The Group Home Scholars Program staff provide the following support services:



- Promote school stability
- Advocate for the educational rights of youth
- Conduct a Comprehensive Academic Assessment and subsequently develop an Individual Success Plan for each youth
- Ensure equitable access to resources
- Provide ongoing intensive case management
- Provide individual/group counseling

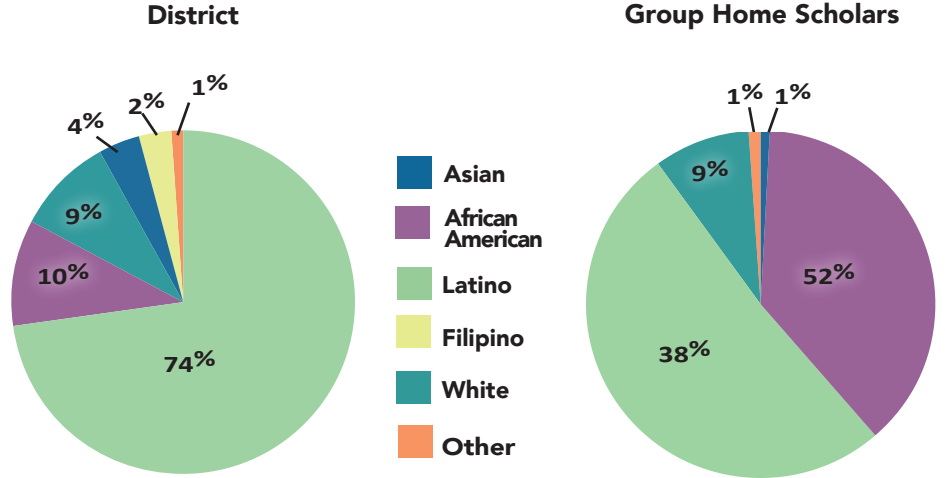
WHO WE SERVE

In the 2017-2018 school year the Group Home Scholars Program provided consistent and targeted supports to approximately 1,009 students residing in 80 group homes across all LAUSD- Local Districts.

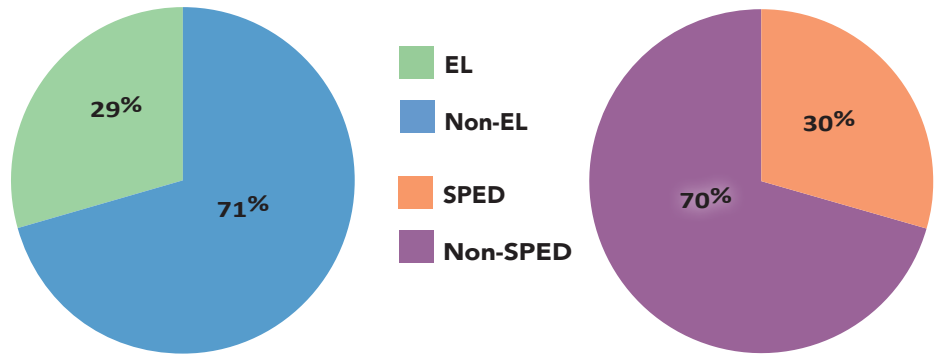
DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Age of Students (yrs old)	Female	Male	Number of Students
4	2	0	2
5-8	0	0	0
9	1	1	2
10	0	1	1
11	3	6	9
12	18	11	29
13	28	32	60
14	62	44	106
15	128	69	197
16	157	87	244
17	187	109	296
18	30	24	54
19	2	1	3
20	2	2	4
21+	2	0	2
Total	622	387	1,009

ETHNIC BREAKDOWN



STUDENT SUBGROUPS



GROUP HOME SCHOLARS PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Earned HS Credits	STAR Assessment Tests Conducted (Pre and Post Test)	Comprehensive Academic Assessments
979	2,376	672

GROUP HOME SCHOLARS PROGRAM OUTCOMES

STAR Test Results 2018	%
*No Change in Grade Level from the Pre- to Post- Test Exams in Mathematics	9%
*Improvement of up to One Grade Level from the Pre- to Post- Test Exams in Mathematics	24%
*Long-term students with Improvement of More than One Grade Level from the Pre- to Post- Test Exams in Mathematics	31%

*Long-term students are those students who were assigned to the program for a minimum of 90 days.