

# Transition to Independence Program at Wayne State University (TIP Wayne State)



School of Social Work

Program Director: Dr. Angelique Day

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Transition to Independence Program at Wayne State University works to increase college access and improve graduation rates of foster care youth through research, advocacy, academic and financial support, all while helping students to create lasting personal and professional connections.

- Coaching: TIP offers campus coach services, tutoring, case management, support, counseling, food assistance.
- Confidence: TIP provides peer mentors and leadership opportunities.
- Career: TIP helps with work study, internships, career mentors, and career preparation.



#### IMPACT

- Since its creation in 2012, TIP Wayne State has served 136 students.
- TIP Wayne State has micro and macro impact:
  - It provides case management to individual students.
  - It addresses the larger issue of youth aging out of foster care: More than 800 youth age out each year in Michigan, most with no financial or academic support systems.
  - Only 13% of these youth enroll in college, and only 2% to 5% graduate.

## **OUTCOMES**

- TIP Wayne State students had a 61% college retention rate for the 2013-14 academic year.
- Four of the program's students graduated in May 2014.
- More than 25 students have received scholarships from TIP Wayne State.
- TIP Wayne State has established a food pantry where students can get non-perishable food and personal care items.
- TIP Wayne State hosts two Warrior dinner events, where student are provided care packages.



# **NEXT STEPS**

- TIP Wayne State and the WSU Office of Financial Aid will begin offering students additional funding to TIP students through its Fostering Independence grant.
- TIP students will be able to receive bags of fresh produce from Eastern Market each week.
- This fall, TIP is partnering with the nonprofit Sisters Inspiring Sisters to offer a more comprehensive career mentoring and career preparation program.