# WELCOME TO • FOUNDRY• CARES FUNDED BY THE FEDERATION OF BC YOUTH

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FUNDED BY THE FEDERATION OF BC YOUTH IN CARE NETWORKS



BY COMING TOGETHER. WE'RE NOT ALONE

# Who is the Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks?

Often called "The Fed", this is a youth-driven, peer-based, provincial non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of young people in and from care in BC between the ages of 14-24. They strive to help communities create a safe space for youth in and from care to come together, build connections, identify challenges, and feel at home. The Fed was created in 1993 by a group of young people in care who saw the need for more supports for their peers. Throughout the year, they host youth retreats, provide bursaries for education and skill development, support youth with training, leadership opportunities, distribute resources and information to young people and their allies across the province.

### What does being in care mean to us?

This means having accessed services from the Ministry of Children and Family Development and/or Delegated Aboriginal Agencies at any time between the ages of 0-19.

- Foster Homes
- Group Homes
- Child and Youth Mental Health Services (CYMH)
- Addiction Facilities
- Community Living BC (CLBC)
- Custody Centres
- Youth Agreements
- Independent Living Agreements
- Extended Family Placements
- Youth Probation
- Child and Youth Special Needs

# · F O U N D R Y·



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## What is Foundry C.A.R.E.S?

Foundry C.A.R.E.S stands for: Connection, Advocacy, Responsibility, Empowerment and Support. This is a social skills group run by Foundry staff for youth between the ages of 16-24 and is funded by the Fed to support youth in and from care. This group follows the Fed's mission and Values Code. There is an annual budget and planning to meet the Fed's goals. Foundry C.A.R.E.S is a unique group in Abbotsford as one of 13 locals currently running across the province. The young people who have been a part of the Foundry C.A.R.E.S group since 2017 have focused on making friends, having fun, learning life skills, and overall connection. Youth help shape this group to best meet their needs. They also assist the Fed in providing a provincial voice for youth in and from care.

#### The mission of local networks?

To create an environment for youth in and from care to come together for support so they don't feel alone in their experiences. Local networks give young people an opportunity to meet new people, do fun activities, develop skills, and unite their voices to create to change in the systems that affect them.

### What do we do at Foundry C.A.R.E.S?

Lots!! We host weekly activities every Thursday from 3:30pm-5:30pm, unless otherwise specified. Depending on the time of year, due to school, holidays, or health restrictions we will be flexible while planning these weekly activities. In the past we have done cooking, painting, cultural celebrations, and much more. We have educational workshops to help young adults learn how to do taxes, know their rights as a renter, and other great life skills. We have hosted trail walks, hikes, bowling, rock climbing, scavenger hunts, and many other fun activities. Once a year, we plan and celebrate BC Child and Youth in Care Week! Check out some of our previous activities in the photos below!



# **BC Child and Youth in Care Week**

Proclaimed by the province of British Columbia in 2011, BC Child and Youth in Care Week (BCCYICW) is a time for everyone in communities across the province to stand in support and celebration of our province's incredible and diverse young people in government care. Youth envisioned a week that acknowledges and celebrates the unique strengths of young people in care. Foundry C.A.R.E.S joins with other agencies to provide young folks a space to celebrate. This is a week dedicated to show children and youth in care that they are loved, welcomed, and they MATTER !

# Why get involved with us?

Youth (ages 16-24)

- Meet new people with similar lived experience
- Have fun with and support peers in and from care
- Help create a safe and fun space
- Unite your voices to create change in the system
- · Build a group that meets the needs of youth in and from care in the community
- Help youth-serving organizations learn how to better work with youth in and from care
- Learn new life skills
- Participate in cultural education activities

### How to get in contact with us?

#### Host agency: Foundry Abbotsford

Address: Unit 101- 32555 Simon Ave, Abbotsford, BC V2T 4Y2 Phone Number: 604-746-3392 Email: info@foundryabbotsford.ca Website: foundrybc.ca/abbotsford Facebook: Foundry Abbotsford Instagram: @foundry\_abbotsford



#### Contact at Foundry Abbotsford: Tiera Murray

Tiera Murray is the group facilitator and hosts the Foundry C.A.R.E.S Group at Foundry Abbotsford Phone Number: 778-809-4410 (call or text) Email: tiera.murray@foundryabbotsford.ca Facebook: Tiera Foundry Instagram: @tierafoundry

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