

Postsecondary Access and Success for Youth from Foster Care: A National Overview



On any given day in the US, there are

443,000

youth in foster care

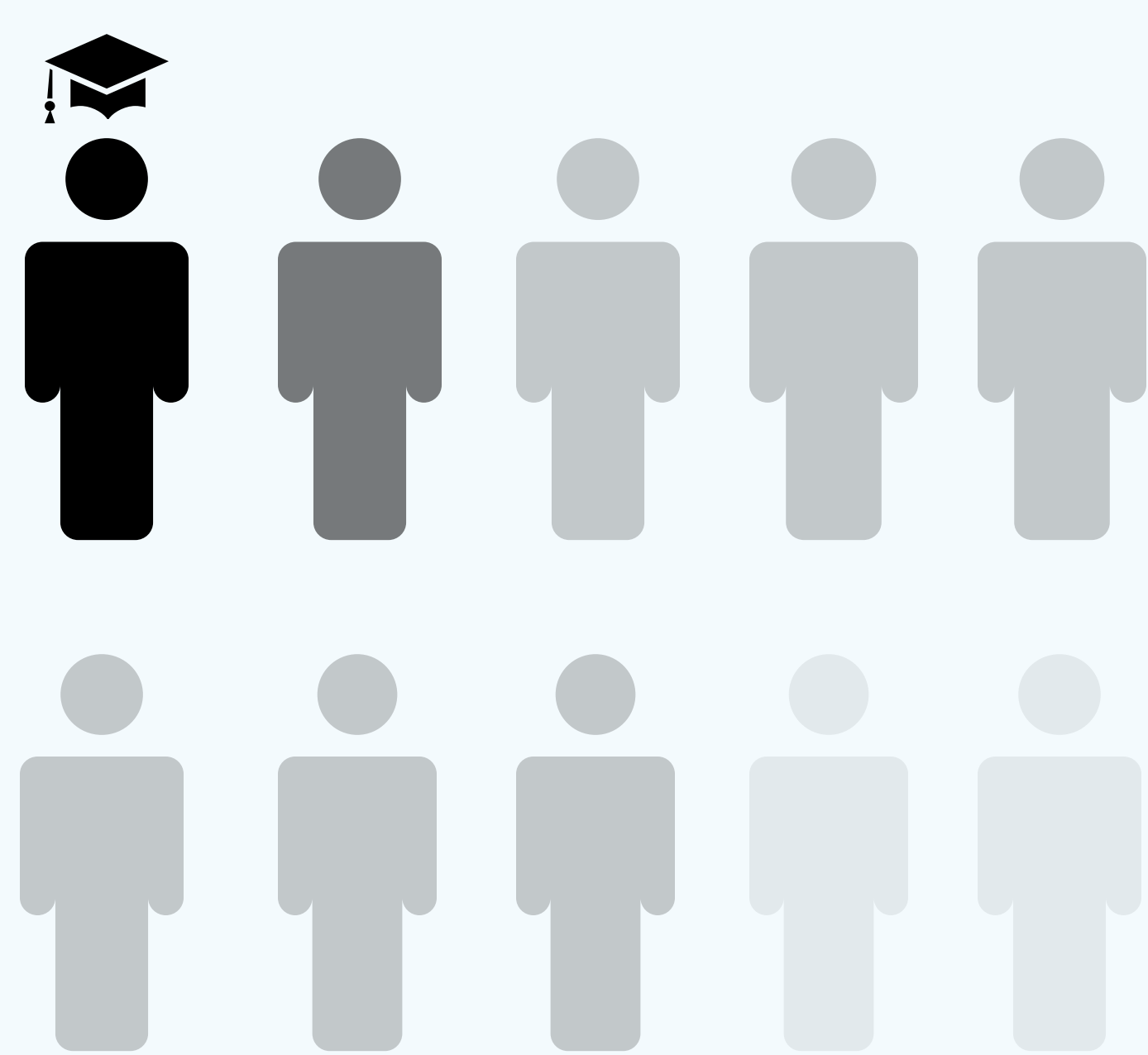
AFCARS, 2017



Of those, 17,000 youth transitioned from the foster care system through emancipation or aging out

AFCARS, 2017

For youth transitioning out of foster care, getting to and through college can be difficult without support



84% of youth ages 17-18 with experience in foster care report wanting to go to college

Fostering Success in Education, 2014

20% of youth who graduate from high school will attend college

Fostering Success in Education, 2014

Only 3-11% of youth with experience in foster care earn a college degree

Wolanin, 2005

THE COST OF DOING NOTHING

Taxpayers and communities pay

\$300,000



in social costs such as public assistance and incarceration for **every young** person who ages out of foster care

Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, 2013

That's

\$5.2 Billion



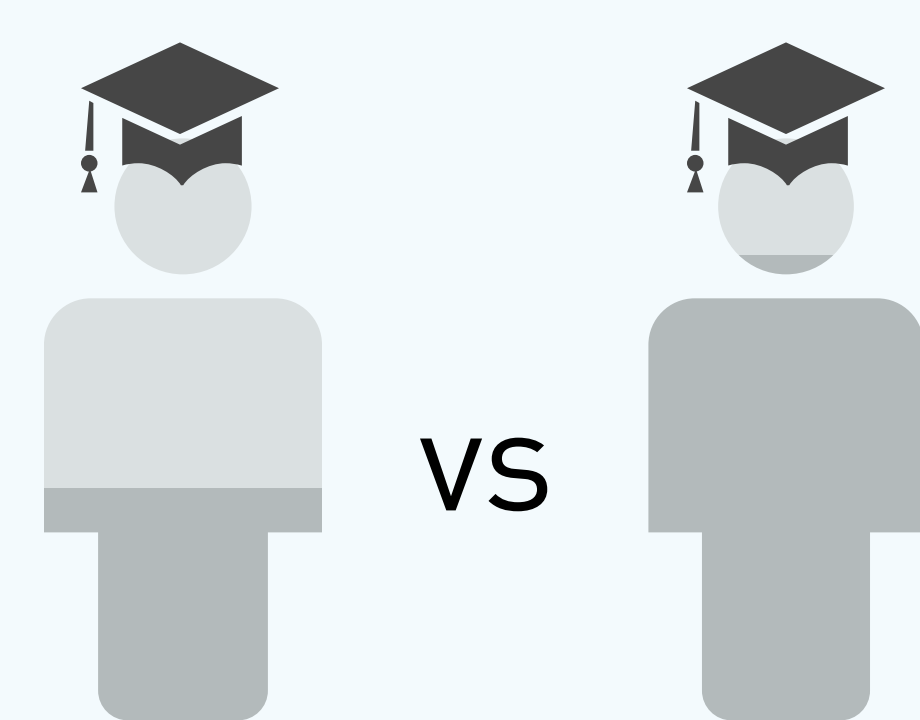
for the total 17,000 youth that aged out in 2017

Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, 2013

Thus, tremendous return on investment can be achieved by providing effective services and supports.

Take a look at what is happening in Michigan to improve college and career outcomes for youth with experience in foster care.

Building a Supportive Educational Pipeline for Youth from Foster Care in Michigan



VS

In Michigan, approximately **40%** of foster youth graduate high school, compared to **80%** of their general population peers

MI School Data, 2019



In 2017-2018, 93% of 11th grade foster youth **did not** meet minimum SAT score criteria

MI School Data, 2019

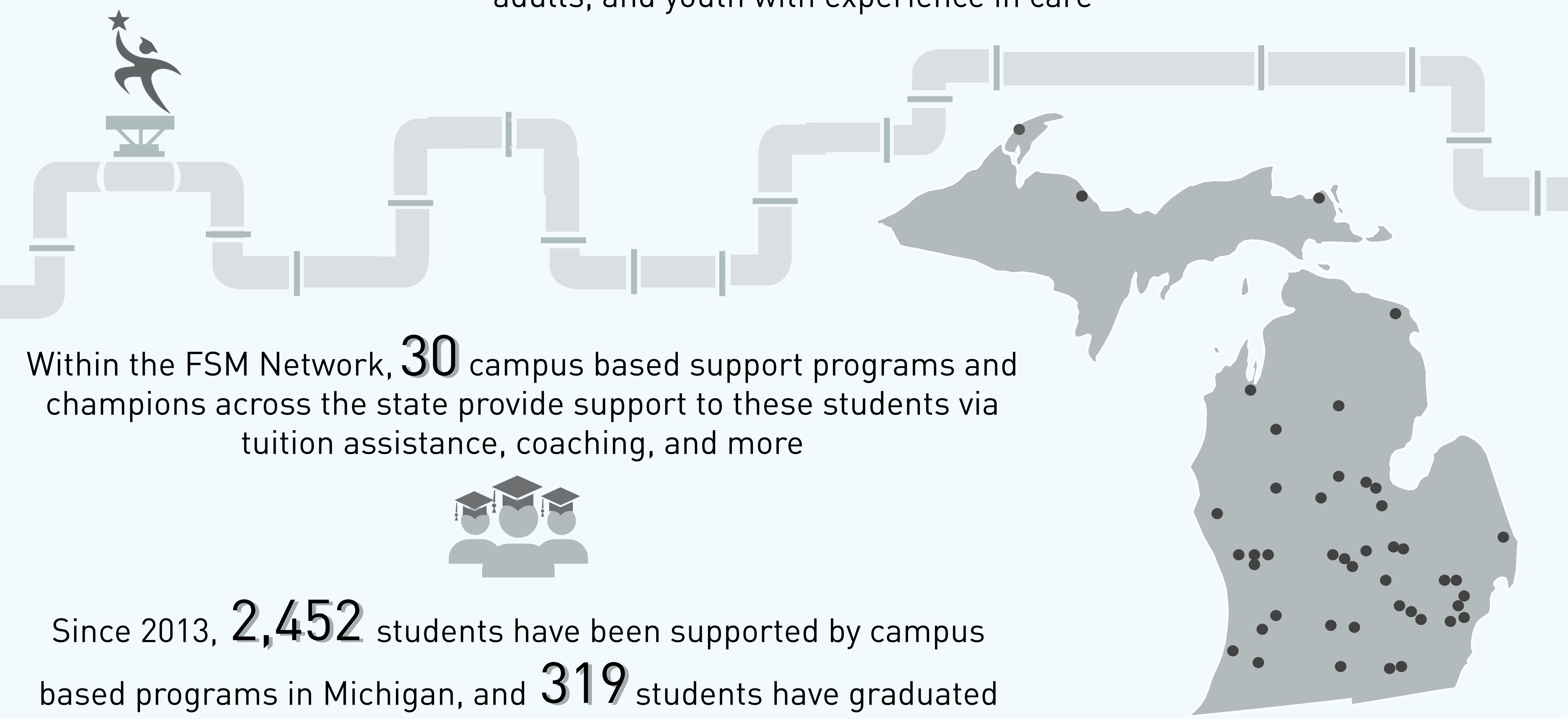


Frequent moves, school changes, and trauma contribute to lack of educational stability, poor academic performance, and negative barriers for these students

Lesnick, George, Smithgall & Gwunne, 2010

In 2012, Fostering Success Michigan (FSM) was established to increase access and success in the education to career pipeline for Michigan students from foster care

FSM provides resources, support, and networking opportunities for professionals, supportive adults, and youth with experience in care



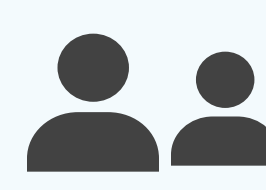
We need **YOU** to be a **CHAMPION** of for youth with experience in foster care



Get informed about the resources available for students with experience in foster care and share it with them!



Get to know and partner with the campus based support programs in your community!



Become a mentor to foster youth or alumni. Supportive relationships and networks are vitally important for these young people!



Advocate for increased resources for youth with experience in foster care. Contact your legislator and share your concerns!