

Inside this  
issue:

Promises2Kids 2

Guardian  
Scholars 2

Scholarships 3

Banking  
Workshop 3

Opportunity  
Passport 4



## Welcome

E.F.F.O.R.T. is a Grossmont College Foster Youth program that arose out of a state wide initiative designed to assist potential college students who were or are being emancipated out of the foster care system. E.F.F.O.R.T. stands for **E**OPS **F**inancial Aid **F**oster Youth **O**utreach & **R**etention **T**eam. Our mission is to provide this unique student population with the support services they need to not only attain a college education but be successful in the world beyond college. We hope to help students open up a world of opportunity for themselves. You can receive more details from our website at:

[www.grossmont.edu/fa/EFFORT.asp](http://www.grossmont.edu/fa/EFFORT.asp)

Or

Call the **EFFORT** program at (619) 644-7454 ext. **3711**

## Important Dates

Oct 1: CSU  
application  
admission period  
begins

Oct 16: Last Day  
to Apply for Fall  
2009 Degree/  
Certificate

Oct 16: End of  
first 8-week  
session.

Oct 19: Second  
8-week session  
begins

Oct 19-22: Career  
Week

Oct 26-30:  
Political Economy  
Week

October 31:  
Halloween

# Promises2Kids

"Promises2Kids has distributed nearly \$20 million for the care and protection of abused and neglected children"



The Child Abuse Prevention Foundation of San Diego County has changed its name to Promises2Kids.

Promises2Kids has created many programs that foster youth utilize today including the Polinsky Children's Center, the Guardian Scholars Program, and The San Pasqual Academy.

The Polinsky Center is the County's only emergency shelter for abused and neglected

kids and provides shelter, protection and support for more than 3,000 children each year.

Promises2Kids raised millions of dollars for the creation of San Pasqual Academy, a model residential high school for foster children located near Escondido. The Academy opened in September 2001 and currently provides a comfortable living area and education for 250 foster teenagers.

Since its inception,

Promises2Kids has distributed nearly \$20 million for the care and protection of abused and neglected children and provided services for more than 160,000 children in need, including current and former foster youth. Promises2Kids provides critical mentorship, life skills training and monetary support for emancipated foster youth.

## Guardian Scholars

The Guardian Scholars program helps foster youth from all over the country attain a post-secondary education.

Guardian Scholars provides students with:

- \$3,500 or \$5,000 in financial assistance
- Assistance with college admissions
- New-student orientations
- Academic advising
- Employment assistance
- Access to affordable housing
- Mentoring opportunities
- Life-skills coaching
- Post-graduation

career planning and assistance

A few of the eligibility requirements include:

- Must file the FAFSA
- Maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA for the \$3,500 scholarship award
- Maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA for the \$5,000 scholarship award
- Maintain a minimum of 12 semester/16 quarter units of coursework
- Obtain a part-time job (minimum 10 hours per week)

are available online starting in January at [www.promises2kids.com/programs/guardian-scholars/application](http://www.promises2kids.com/programs/guardian-scholars/application).

For additional information please visit the above website.

The deadline to apply for the Guardian Scholars Program is March 2nd at midnight for the following school year. Applications

## Spring 2009 Scholarships

### *Albert and June Van Zanten Memorial Scholarship*

#### Criteria

- Must be a former foster youth.
- Must be currently enrolled in at least 12 units.
- Must have a GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- Must have financial need.

AWARD AMOUNT: 500.00

DEADLINE: November 9, 2009

### *Grossmont College Financial Aid Office Continuing Student Scholarship*

#### Criteria

- Must have completed at least one semester at Grossmont College.
- Must have a GPA of at least a 2.75
- Must have financial need.

AWARD AMOUNT: 250.00

DEADLINE: November 9, 2009

### *San Diego Foundation Dietschman Fund*

#### Criteria

- Must be majoring in the health care field.
- Must be currently enrolled in at least 12 units.
- Completion of a minimum of 12 units.
- Must have financial need.

AWARD AMOUNT: 750.00

DEADLINE: November 9, 2009

### *Grossmont College Foundation scholarship*

#### Criteria

- Completion of a minimum of 12 units
- Enrolled in 12 units
- Minimum GPA 3.5
- Applicants must have a record of service to the school

AWARD AMOUNT: 1,500

DEADLINE: November 9, 2009

The above are only a small sample of some the scholarships available for Spring 2010. For more information about the scholarships available, application process etc., please visit [www.grossmont.edu/fa/scholarships](http://www.grossmont.edu/fa/scholarships)

## \$ Banking Workshop \$

The Financial Aid Office is inviting all E.F.F.O.R.T. students to a Banking Workshop. This workshop is intended to help you better understand how to manage your money responsibly. Some of the topics that will be covered include:

- How to open a bank account
- How to utilize online banking
- Understanding your credit score

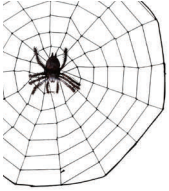
**Friday, October 16, 2009**

**12:30 pm-1:30 pm**

**Counseling Center Room 115**

**\*\*\*This workshop counts towards your EOPS workshop requirement\*\*\***

If you have any questions please contact Nadia Almaguer in the Financial Aid Office at (619) 644-7454 ext. 3711 or via e-mail at [nadia.almaguer@gcccd.edu](mailto:nadia.almaguer@gcccd.edu)



# Opportunity Passport

This program is offered in partnership between Just In Time for Foster Youth and the San Diego County Office of Education, Foster Youth Services. Opportunity Passport is designed to help foster youth learn financial management; obtain experience with the banking system; save money for education, housing, health care, and other specified expenses; and gain streamlined access to educational, training, and vocational opportunities.

The program includes:

\*Financial Literacy Training

\*Employment Services and Work Readiness

\*A Checking Account

\*A Savings account with a \$1 per \$1 match up to \$1000 per year toward your asset.

For Current & Former Foster Youth ages **16-21**.

For more information about the Opportunity Passport Program, please contact

The San Diego Foster Youth Initiative at (619) 683-9340.

## *Are you busing it?*

San Diego County residents

Go to

[www.sdmts.com/tripplanner.asp](http://www.sdmts.com/tripplanner.asp)

to plan your next trip to Grossmont College



Our program is committed to offering our EFFORT students a special kind of service and dedication. We pride ourselves on being able to offer our students the kind of support that they desperately need. Unfortunately, this may not always extend everywhere else they go. Although our team members work very hard to bring you the best services we can, our program wouldn't be what it is today without you, the student. That is why we value your opinion when it comes to how we can better assist you. If you have any questions, comments or concerns about what we do please feel free to contact us with your opinion. Maybe you have a suggestion about something you would like to see us offer, a story that you would like to see included in our newsletter or even just to show appreciation or to encourage your fellow classmates; we always look forward to hearing from you.

You may contact us by e-mailing your questions, comments or concerns to EFFORT Student Liaison Nathaniel Martinez at:

nathaniel\_martinez@gcccd.edu