

CELCIS REACH: Mike Stein | From care to adulthood: messages from research

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I am Mike Stein from York University. I am a research professor at York University. This morning I was talking about research in relation to corporate parenting and how they can improve the progress and outcomes of young people from care. I identified four key areas that I talked about. One was improving stability, a second area was improving the education of children and young people, the third area was young people leaving care later, and the final area was providing support to young people from care to adulthood. And the reverse of all those things - explaining why young people do very poorly from care - those who move around a lot, who do very poorly at school, leave care very early and who lack support.

Some of the key issues for policy and practice arising from those four areas are increasing stability of young people through permanency, good quality placements is very important. Providing young people with extra support for their education. particularly catch-up learning programs that address their cognitive disadvantages, including literacy and numeracy. Providing ways for young people to leave care later, including staying on in foster and residential care so they can leave care more gradually like other young people leaving the family home, and providing young people with better support on their journey to adulthood - particularly up to the age of 25 when most young people transition from the family home.

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