

True Up Honors Graduates, Educational Excellence

True Up honored 45 foster youth and alums for their educational accomplishments at a celebration reception on May 16.

An impressive group of young people received awards and gift certificates for their accomplishments, which ranged from complete GEDs and graduating high school to completing college courses and earning college certificates.

Frank Harshaw, founder and chairman of True Up, told the group their dedication to education should become a lifelong pursuit. "This is the beginning of the journey, not the end," Harshaw said. "You should have learning experiences all your life."

Harshaw also reminded the standing-room-only crowd in The Green Building gallery of his motto – "education is the force to move people from poverty to prosperity."

Dr. Eugene Foster, executive director of True Up, presented an appreciation award to Eric Friedlander, Deputy Secretary of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, for his help in the passage of Senate Bill 213.

The legislation, passed by the 2012 General Assembly, gives foster youth more information about continuing state care beyond their 18th birthday and additional time (up until they turn 19) to decide whether to reconsider leaving state care.

The following is a list of foster youth and alums who received educational awards:

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2012 RECIPIENTS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
KASSANDRA BAKER	College Semester
KIANA BEARD	High School
SAVANNAH BEAUDOIN	High School
XAVIER BOARDS	High School
SARAH BURTON	High School
AMBER CABANA	High School
SCARLETT CARROLL	High School
DANIEL COLLINS	College Semester
SHERRICE DAVIS	College Semester
PEITON DEMUTH	College Semester
OMA DOE	Certified Nursing Assistant
ASHLEY DREW	College Semester
RAYSHAWN GATEWOOD	High School

MADDIE GIBBS	GED
MONICA GILMORE	High School
RASHANELL GREEN	High School
GRIFFITH HAMILTON	College Semester
ERIN HARRIS	High School
CHRISTOPHER HOLMSTROM	High School
ANGELA HOOK	College Semester
CHELSEA HOOVER	College Semester
SHANE KENDALL	College Semester
SOLANA KIRCHNER	GED
TAMARCUS LEWIS	High School & accepted at EKU
CHARLES MANN	High School
FLORENCE MILES	High School
MARKEESHA MORRISON	College Semester
THOMAS MUNS	High School
CHANLEY NAIR	College Semester
JOSE PARGAS	High School
GABRIEL PARTLOW	College Semester
BRAYDEN RANEY	High School
EMIDIA RENDON	College Semester
KHARMEN RIVEIRO	College Semester
NATALIE ROBISON	High School
AUSTIN ROGERS	High School
JENIA RUSSELL	College Semester
MERCEDES SKAGGS	High School
TORI SUMNER	GED
HYACINTH TAYLOR	High School
MATT TRACY	College Semester
KYLE TYREE	High School
STEVIE VOGEL	High School
GARRETT WILLIAMS	College Semester
MIQUEL YATES	High School