

Subject: Invitation: Foster Care Awareness Day – May 20

Dear Cuyamaca College Faculty,

May is [Foster Care Awareness Month](#), and we invite you to stand with the NextUp program as we continue to raise awareness and support for current and former foster youth. While only about 3–10% of foster youth go on to earn a college degree, our students continue to defy the odds—using their lived experiences, voices, and leadership to demonstrate resilience and persistence in higher education.

You are warmly invited to participate in our upcoming **Foster Care Awareness Day** at Cuyamaca College. This campus-wide event is dedicated to raising awareness, building community, and connecting current and former foster youth with valuable resources and support.

Event Details:

Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2026

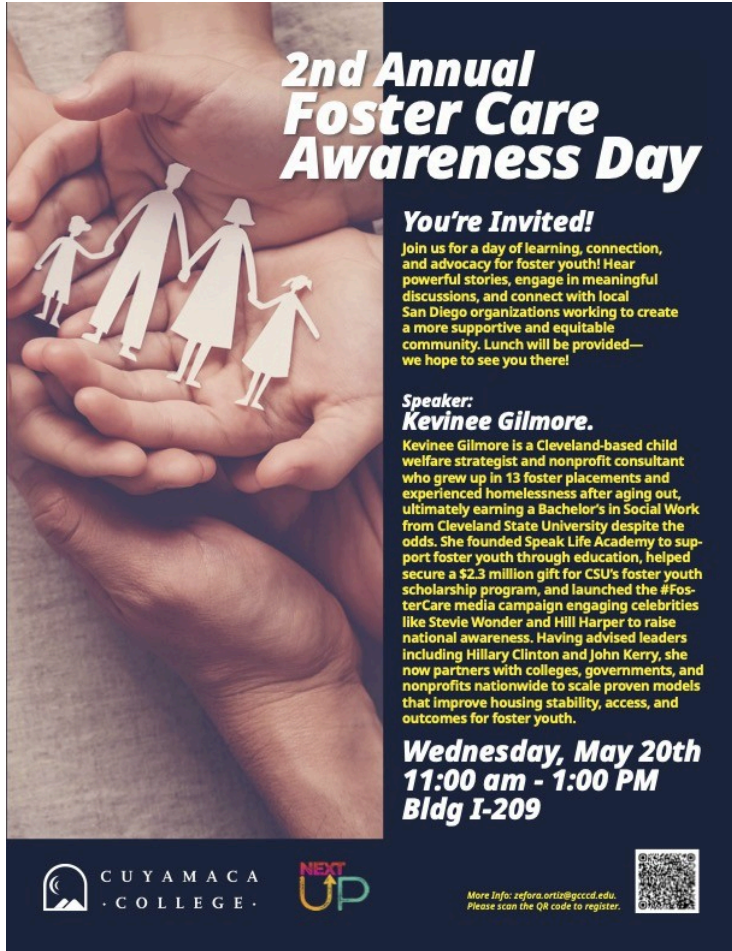
Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: I-209, 2nd Floor, Student Center

RSVP: [HERE](#)

The event will feature a guest speaker, a resource fair, and food for attendees. We encourage you to attend, engage with students, and show your support. Your presence plays an important role in fostering a sense of belonging and connection for our foster youth community.

Thank you for your continued commitment to supporting our students. We hope to see you there.



2nd Annual Foster Care Awareness Day



You're Invited!

Join us for a day of learning, connection, and advocacy for foster youth! Hear powerful stories, engage in meaningful discussions, and connect with local San Diego organizations working to create a more supportive and equitable community. Lunch will be provided—we hope to see you there!

Speaker:
Kevinee Gilmore.

Kevinee Gilmore is a Cleveland-based child welfare strategist and nonprofit consultant who grew up in 13 foster placements and experienced homelessness after aging out, ultimately earning a Bachelor's in Social Work from Cleveland State University despite the odds. She founded Speak Life Academy to support foster youth through education, helped secure a \$2.3 million gift for CSU's foster youth scholarship program, and launched the #FosterCare media campaign engaging celebrities like Stevie Wonder and Hill Harper to raise national awareness. Having advised leaders including Hillary Clinton and John Kerry, she now partners with colleges, governments, and nonprofits nationwide to scale proven models that improve housing stability, access, and outcomes for foster youth.

Wednesday, May 20th
11:00 am - 1:00 PM
Bldg I-209

More info: zefora.ortiz@ccc.cd.edu.
Please scan the QR code to register.

Warm regards,

Zefora Ortiz Gomez
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