



**CAP Professional Development Institute
November 10, 2011**

Discussion Notes- Case Study #1

After working in small groups to discuss the case study, participants shared some insights about how professionals might help Jamal and/or Alexis:

Jamal	Alexis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “earn while you learn” program with housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “care team” (counselor, social worker, teacher, college advisor, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • college program with “wrap around care” • “early warning program” to keep on track 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pre-collegiate track would be appropriate • raise awareness of resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help with basic needs • look into available homeless services • consider community college as an option • seek out mentor who can invest time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help with pre-collegiate planning • seek out role model who can invest time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tap into his talent • look for programs he can participate in that utilize his music and technology skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make her aware of programs at the school that are designed to support individuals with special circumstances
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deal with immediate goals (living situation, \$, can he stay with family if he contributes to the household?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what will happen when she turns 18 and guardianship no longer applies? will she be able to stay with family? • how can long-term support for her be provided (financial as well as emotional, etc.)

Jamal & Alexis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is an urgency to stabilizing the living situation • involve social worker • address financial concerns for basic living • raise awareness about financial aid available
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • address mental health needs and grieving process • look for local resources like “The Spot” (@Wash U - serves ages 13-24)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deal with discouragement and help with vision for the future • encourage by raising awareness of other people who have overcome difficult challenges • reinforce message- “You can do it. You do not have to abandon your dreams”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meet with the family and connect with social services • place emphasis on dealing with financial situation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help Jamal and Alexis learn to tell their story and to be aware of the special circumstances in their lives at this time • provide coaching on how to articulate their special circumstances so that they will be able to effectively access resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seek out scholarships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grief factor must be dealt with in order to be able to transition • help to build effective coping strategies

If time had permitted, we would have been able to fill many pages with strategies!

Presentation: *Helping Students Put their Best Foot Forward: Finding the right match, and creating outstanding college applications*

by Jane Shropshire, Shropshire Educational Consulting, LLC (Lexington, KY)

The handout from this presentation is available on the CAP website.

Panel: *Strategies for Helping Students in Special Circumstances*

Panelists:

- **Alan Byrd, Director of Admissions- UMSL**
Topic- process for handling special cases and appeals
- **Kevin Drollinger, Executive Director- Epworth Children & Family Services**
Topic- students aging-out of foster care and need for advocacy to support resources for youth; handout available on CAP website
- **Kelly Sullivan, Lead Street Outreach Case Manager- Epworth Children & Family Services**
Topic- homeless youth
- **Maria Rebecchi, Program Director- The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis**
Topic- undocumented students; handout available on website