

Lucas County Pathways to Success Initiative



Four Reasons Why Kids Should Stay Put:

- 1. Placement stability minimizes the pain and trauma that children and youth in foster care experience.**

Research indicates that children and youth experience placement changes as unsettling and confusing and that their satisfaction with their foster care experience is inversely correlated with the number of placements that they have. Repeated moves while in foster care can add to the pain and trauma that children have already experienced.

- 2. Placement stability can lessen children's and young people's problems with attachment and behavioral and emotional disorders.**

Placement stability can provide children and youth with the opportunity to build new positive attachments which can then serve as the foundation for achieving later developmental tasks. Placement instability has been linked to behavior problems and mental health issues.

- 3. Placement stability can decrease school mobility and increase academic achievement.**

Changing schools, often as a result of placement changes, has been found to be related to low academic performance and a higher risk that young people will drop out of school.

- 4. Placement stability increases the likelihood that a child will establish an enduring positive relationship with a caring adult.**

When children are in stable living arrangements, they are more likely to develop stronger interpersonal relationships and social support networks with adults

