



Student Spotlight: Tymon Young, Madison

Submitted by Michelle Garrison



One might be reminded of the song “On the Road Again” when speaking about Tymon Young. He needed a change in scenery, and Foothills was a perfect choice for him. He was struggling with classes, not staying focused, and feeling a lack of accomplishment. So, this is when Tymon Young decided he needed a change and spoke to his high school counselor. He decided to enroll at Madison Foothills Charter High School.

When he first enrolled, Tymon struggled with working at his own pace. Things then began to slowly but surely change. Then out of nowhere, the big “Road Block, Covid-19” hit. At first, things were a little slow, but out of nowhere, Tymon was “On the Road Again.” He was bypassing obstacles, moving in and out, and getting his modules and classes completed in record time. Tymon proved that staying on course was the pathway to his success. One might say, “Never let a stumble in the road be the end of the journey.”

Through his journey at Foothills, Tymon feels the support from all the staff has significantly impacted his success. He says, “The teachers are always here when I need help, and if I need additional help, I am always provided with a tutor.” He loves to meet with his mentor, Mrs. Laura Bowen. He shared, “She makes sure I am aware of my schedule. She is always encouraging, brings lots of snacks, and is very easy to talk to.” He feels that this support has helped him to stay on course. He also recognizes the counselors and site directors’ efforts to keep him focused and working on his needs. The graduation coaches have also encouraged him to follow his pathway with the military.

This road has just begun, and the possibilities are endless. Joining the Marines is the road Tymon has chosen after high school. He has an uncle who is a Marine who has influenced him greatly. With a big smile on his face, he says, “I have an uncle who is retired from the Marines, and he has been a big influence on my decision to become a member of the Marines. He has told me many stories about his experiences, boot camp, and the people he has met. I feel that the Marines are the most elite in the Military Branch.”

As he winds through this road, Tymon has many more bumps and obstacles to face, but he wants other students to keep in mind, “Just push through it and keep going.”

Message from the Superintendent

As we continue in this unprecedented time, the Foothills journey continues. Many of our sites are open for face-to-face instruction, with the option of continuing virtually for students who prefer to do so. We are excited about the opening of our 100% virtual site this month (pg. 2), as we have recognized and responded to a need for this option.

We are also continuing our focus on the Social and Emotional health of our Foothills students throughout this year. The new partnership with the Augusta University/UGA Free Mobile Clinic (pg. 2) is one example of the way that Foothills is working to meet the needs of our students beyond academics.

As always, our mission is to be responsive to the needs of our students and communities. The mission continues!

Sherrie

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Opening of Virtual Foothills

Through the COVID-19 pandemic, Foothills sites have moved from offering face-to-face instruction to 100% virtual instruction and now to a mix of face-to-face and virtual. Some of our students have responded well and demonstrated a need for 100% virtual instruction.

As we seek to be flexible and responsive to the needs of our students, Foothills has planned for the opening of a 100% Virtual Site. The site will begin operation on Monday, October 19th. Site Director Rebecca Moon and Assistant Site Director Amy Bishop are looking forward to welcoming students to our virtual site!

FTE Success!

To receive funding for the students we serve (FTE), Foothills must document that our enrolled students are attending school during a specific window of time.

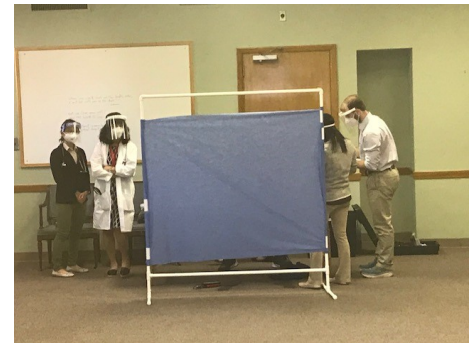
This year, each site set a goal for attendance during the period and 9 of our 16 sites met or exceeded their goal. Overall, Foothills reached 98% of our goal for attendance. Hats off to our sites and staff!

New Partnership with Athens Free Clinic



Former U.S. Surgeon General Jocelyn Elder said, “You can’t educate a child who isn’t healthy, and you can’t keep a child healthy who isn’t educated.” Foothills has recently teamed up with the Augusta University-UGA Medical Partnership to provide well-visit physical exams for Foothills students while empowering them to take responsibility and assume ownership of their own health and lifestyle choices. This aligns with Foothills focus on Social and Emotional Learning and efforts to wrap supports around our students.

Since 2018, the Augusta University/UGA Medical Partnership in Athens has operated a Free Mobile Clinic. The clinic is staffed by medical students who earn community service hours while directly supervised by attending physicians. They screen, diagnose and treat patients. Under the Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program, they can provide free and donated care to patients who are uninsured, underinsured, or meet financial eligibility guidelines.



The clinic services are available to any Foothills student including students served by the Alumni Transition Team. In addition to providing a valuable well-visit physical exam which may be required for college admission and other post-secondary plans, the medical students serving the Free Mobile Clinic are able to talk with Foothills students about the wide variety of careers available in the medical field while they conduct the physical exam. At a recent physical



exam, one of our Foothills students got a refill on an important asthma inhaler he requires. He hadn’t been to a doctor’s appointment in many years and appreciated the chance to ask the medical professionals questions he’s wondered about his body. The Free Mobile Clinic is a win-win for the medical students as well as the Foothills students! For more information, contact Dr. Dawn Meyers, Social Emotional Learning Specialist.

The Foothills Vision

Foothills Education Charter High School strives to be an accessible, high-quality high school option that is flexible and responsive to the needs of the People of Georgia and its communities.



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