

Independent Living Program Matrix

ILP Services Providers:

Services	Age Group	Eligibility Criteria	Service Category
High school diploma or GED - ILP providers work with the youth to make sure that the youth is attending High School and either will be graduating or completing their GED.	16-19	Emancipated and foster care youth	Education
Employment and education services and referrals – Refer youth to the ILP employment Counselor or other available employment agencies for educational and vocational assessment, summer job assistance and/or employment assistance.	16-21	Emancipated and foster care youth	Employment
Transitional Housing Placement Program - for youth ages 16 to 21. There are a total of 24 beds available, 8 male and 16 female spots. The application for this program is completed by youth and Social Worker, application is reviewed for appropriateness by ILP and then the referral is given to the local providers via a rotation system. Transitional Housing Program is available for youth age 18-21.	16-21	Emancipated and foster care youth	Housing
Training in daily living skills, financial planning and career planning - There are workshops completed in these specific areas, every program is different according to the provider who is providing services. Jan 2006 there was a financial workshop presented by Mark Clark with Bill Wilson. Youth from all contracted agencies were invited to join in the workshops. There was also another collaboration with Evergreen Valley College in February 2006 that provided a financial aid workshop for youth applying to colleges this fall.	16-21	Emancipated and foster care youth	Life skills

Independent City is to generate awareness about a vast array of services and to educate our foster youth on gaining Independent Living Skills as well as to empower them to navigate through tough situations.			
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DFCS Foster Youth Initiatives:

ILP Unclassified Hiring Program - Unclassified Program for Emancipated Foster Youth. Recruitment will be ongoing and a joint SSA/DFCS-ESA endeavor.	16-18	Emancipated foster youth	Employment
DFCS Work Experience Project - established in 2005 at the request of Supervisor James T. Beall, Jr. The primary objective of the DFCS Work Experience Project is to find work experience for 30 current or former foster youth. The Work Experience Program consists of assessment testing, job search techniques, career interest testing and work experience placement	16-21	Current or former foster youth	Employment
Other Employment Opportunities for Foster Youth - SWWIN has identified 14 former foster youth to participate in a 20 hour per week, paid internship program for youth age 16-18. Interns will work under an assigned mentor in public and private organizations in the County.	16-18	Current or former foster youth	Employment

Individual and group counseling – Counseling services are provided to youth based on need's assessment. ILP coordinators will provide counseling on the areas of the youth's life but if needed, there should be collaboration between the contracted ILP Coordinators and the Social Worker for the youth. If there is no Social Worker as the youth is emancipated, contractors should make Mental Health referrals, as needed.	16-21	Emancipated and foster care youth	Life Skills
Emancipation Conferences – these conferences are designed to meet the needs of youth as they prepare to leave the foster care system.	16-21	Emancipated and foster care youth	Life Skills
Emancipated Youth Stipends – stipends for youth between the ages of 18-21 who no longer have an open case in the foster care system due to, legal emancipated by the court or, foster care payments have been discontinued due to graduation from high school or, have aged out of the foster care system.	18-21	Emancipated and foster care youth	Support Services
College Preparation Workshop - Each provider deliver college preparation workshop differently ranging from college tours and financial aid workshop to submitting applications for enrollment, scholarships, and taking entrance examinations.	16-21	Emancipated and foster care youth	Career Planning
Workshops – ILP providers conduct workshops on various topics including but not limited to Relationship, Safe Sex, Drug Abuse, Housing Issues/Legal Rights, etc... At Independent City, 2/25/06, there was workshop on health and community-based organizations such as birthrights and planned parenthood were present.	16-21	Emancipated and foster care youth	Life Skills
Independent City - " <i>Independent City</i> " is a day for the youth to experience what will happen when they emancipate from the Foster Care System. What challenges they are going to face and what kinds of decisions they will have to make. The focus of this year's	16-21	Emancipated and foster care youth	Support Services

Gaps in Services/Barriers:

1. Emancipation Conferences offered too late (majority)
2. Housing not available (majority)
3. Transportation is a big issue. Youth may need to be carpooled to the meetings. It took a youth 2 hours and 45 minutes to go to work. Attending different meeting times may be an issue to foster youth who work or go to school.
4. Goal Setting:
 - There needs to be more courses on helping the youth understand how to resolve conflicts at work appropriately.
 - There needs to be more courses on helping the youth to learn about customer service.
 - Tracking System for youth who have emancipated needs to be improved.
 - There needs to be a better bridge between CWS and CalWin. This way we have a trigger system and former foster youth will get priority.
 - Put signs on Buses and use the VTA to help advertise services available for ILP youth
 - Create an after school program to target foster youth
 - Retrain Staff at Silicon Valley Workforce Investment Network want to make the One Stop Cafés more "youth friendly."
 - Emancipation Conferences need to be scheduled earlier for youth so that the youth have a longer time to plan their futures.
5. Youth need services to help prepare them for colleges
 - a. Tutoring gaps
 - b. Applying for Junior College workshops.
 - c. Scholarship information
 - d. Have a workshop on how to fill out the FASFA
 - e. Follow-up with these youth