



ILP: Myths & Realities

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Transition Facts

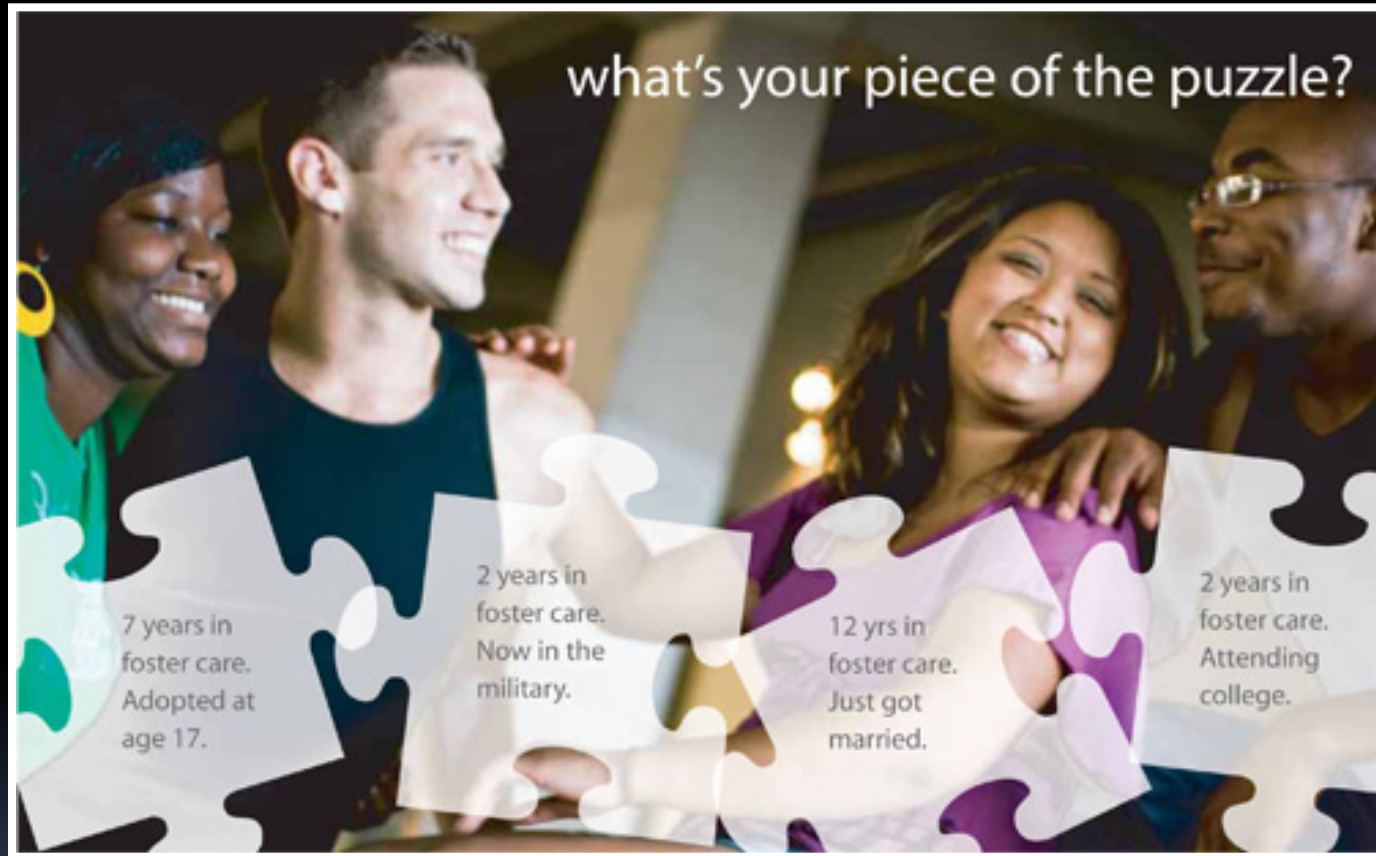
Research shows that youth leaving foster care unprepared for adulthood have higher rates of:

- Homelessness & Poverty –
1 in 5 homeless after 18
- Delinquent/criminal behavior –
1 in 4 incarcerated w/in 2 years
- Pregnancy/Parenthood –
84% became a parent
- Employment vs. Unemployment –
51% unemployed





NYTD



Let's improve foster care. Get U-NYTD

<http://www.fosterclub.com/article/oregon-nytd-page>





Oregon NYTD Outcomes

Baseline (age 17) versus Follow-Up (age 19)

- Employed full or part-time: 10% vs. 41%
- Finished High School: 6% vs. 69%
- Attending School: 92% vs. 50%
- Supportive Adult: 92% vs. 79%
- Medicaid Coverage: 66% vs. 56% (training issue)



Fostering Connections to Success

- Title II- Improving Outcomes for Children in Foster Care
 - Option for states to extend care to young adults after the age of 18 up to age 21 (Section 201)
 - Provides requirements for productive activity expectations of youth



Preventing Sex Trafficking & Strengthening Families Act of 2014

- Prudent Parent Standard (CRB/Court oversight)
- Access to age-appropriate activities
- APPLA only for ages 16 or older
- Comprehensive plan for transition to successful adulthood beginning at age 14
- Placement with a fit and willing relative as a permanency plan option
- When APPLA is plan: Court shall ask ward about desired permanency outcome
- Provide a document explaining rights (age appropriate language)

Foster Children's Bill of Rights

DHS Implementation

- Certifiers: review w/FP, placement of poster in the home
- Caseworkers: Review & provide children/youth with a copy
 - Within 60 days of placement
 - Annually thereafter
 - Upon each placement move
 - Notify youth of and offer transportation to court hearings & CRB
 - Provide youth with list of contacts for people involved in the case
 - Provide a "how to packet"
- Residential Facilities: share with youth, post the document, consider how rules and client rights may be affected.

Transition Planning and Services Policy

- Policy I-B.2.3.5, Youth Transitions
 - Requires transition planning and details ILP Services available to assist a youth with the transition to adulthood.
- Policy I-I.2
 - Child Specific Case Plan requires the worker to list transitional programs/services offered and provided to help a youth transition to independent living





Comprehensive Transition Plan Development Policy

- Child 16 years of age or older and in substitute care or a young adult;
- *Child 14 years of age or older with APPLA Permanency Plan; or*
- A former foster child who requests Services described in Child Welfare Policy, I-B.2.3.1, Family Support Services, OAR 413-030-0000 to 413-030-0030 and would benefit from a comprehensive transition plan.



Comprehensive Transition Plan Development Policy

The caseworker must ensure the CTP includes:

- Transition Readiness Index (T1/CF69) and
- Completion of a life skills assessment with a tool approved by the Department (**CLSA**)

Casey Life Skills Assessment
(www.caseylifeskills.org)

Comprehensive Transition Planning

- Education
- Employment
- Housing
- Health (mental & physical)
- Community Connections & Supportive Relationships
- Transportation
- Life Skills





Comprehensive Transition Plan

Benchmark Review

- Six months prior to a child's 18th birthday, the caseworker must convene a meeting for the purpose of a benchmark review of the CTP.
- Worker must invite the child, *and may include* child's parent or legal guardian, substitute caregiver, ILP provider, CASA, child's attorney, service providers, and others the child determines are important to the meeting.



Comprehensive Transition Plan


Benchmark Review-

Determinations to be made prior to age of 18:

- Education Services
- Supportive Relationships
- Identification of Community Resources
- Employment /Academic /or Vocational Education
- Health/ Mental Health services & providers
- Life Skill development needs by age 18
- Transportation
- Sustainable housing



Discussion

- I'm 17 ½ years old and have just been given notice of an upcoming benchmark review.
 - I'm 12 credits short of graduation. What are my options?
 - Board Members—what questions might be helpful during the CRB review?
- 



Dismissal of Ward Commitment

ORS 419B.337

- (i) The department has provided case planning pursuant to ORS 419B.343
- (ii) The department has provided appropriate services pursuant to the case plan;
- (iii) The department has involved the ward in the development of the case plan and in the provision of appropriate services; AND

Dismissal of Ward Commitment

The court will also determine if:

- (iv) The ward has safe and stable housing and is unlikely to become **homeless** as a result of dismissal per ORS 419B.343



Requirements at Independence

At least 60 days prior to the date the Department requests to be relieved of legal custody, they must inform child or young adult of:

- Date, time, and location of hearing
- His/her right to attend hearing and the importance of doing so
- His/her right to request assistance with transportation



Requirements at Independence

When the court relieves the Department of custody of a child or young adult, it must provide the child with information concerning child/young adult's case, including the following:

- Basic family information and placement history
- Health and education records



Requirements at Independence

Copies of the following and documentation in official form:

- Birth certificate
- Official proof of citizenship or resident status
- Social security card/number
- Driver's license or other form of state identification



Requirements at Independence

Copies of the following and documentation in official form:

- *Former Foster Care Youth Medical (FFCYM) as of 1/1/14 and Health Care Representative*
- Death certificate of parents (where applicable)
- Written verification of placement in substitute care
- *Credit Report*





Independent Living Program

Mission

To empower, encourage and allow youth to move into adulthood with the knowledge and skills to become responsible and contributing members of their community.

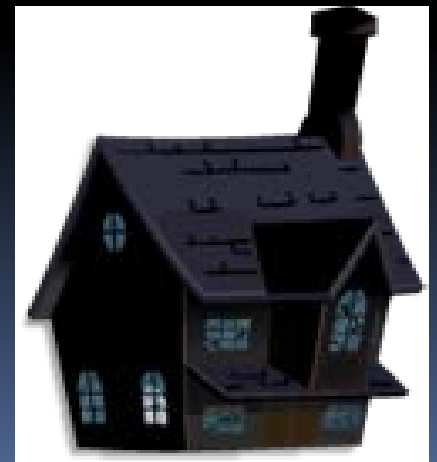
“Kamylii”

https://www.dropbox.com/s/f6zs6y6aigjsac6/kamylii_small.mpg

DHS Independent Living Program

The array of services that ILP can provide includes the following:

- Daily Living Skills Training
- Discretionary Funds
- Education and Training Vouchers
- Housing Stipends
- Independent Living Housing Subsidy Program
- Chafee Housing



Other DHS Transition Services

Additional teen transition services DHS can provide:

- Driver's Education Course Fees
- Credit Reports
- Tuition & Fee Waiver



Contracted ILP Skill Building Criteria

Eligibility:

- Age 16 or older and in substitute care (DHS or tribal) **OR**
- As a former foster youth, *was dismissed from care at age 16 or older with 180 days of foster care placement services after age 14*





Changes *that Occurred* 7/1/14

- Only effect the **Contracted** ILP life skills services.
- Only youth age 16 or older can be referred for Contracted ILP Services.
- More closely aligns eligibility with Federal Grant.
- Able to serve more of the older teens/young adults in care.

ILP Youth Transition Funds

- Discretionary funds
- Driver's education
- Subsidy
- Chafee
- One-time housing
- ETV



ILP Youth Transition Funds

Youth Transition funds are:

- Flexible
- Support the youth's goals
- Accessed using the CF78



Subsidy & Chafee Housing Programs

PURPOSE

Assist youth gain/practice following skills:

- Manage finances and live on a budget,
- Manage a household,
- Manage time,
- Manage life demands,
- Accept responsibility for choices and decisions made.



ILP Housing Services



- **Independent Living Housing Subsidy**
 - Currently in care and custody of DHS
 - **age 16 or older (not yet 21)**
 - Must have court approval

- **Chafee Housing Program**
 - Dismissed from care & custody at age 18 or older.
 - Must have at least 4 hours paid employment

- **One-Time Housing funds**



ILP Housing Program Differences

Category	IL Subsidy Housing	Chafee Housing
Minimum Age	16	18
DHS care & custody	Required	Prohibited - Foster Care must be terminated on or after 18 th birthday
DHS or Tribal	DHS only	DHS <u>&</u> Tribal
Employment	Optional	Must be employed at least part-time
Medical Card	Provided by child welfare	No, youth must apply for Former Foster Care Youth Medical (FFCY Medical)/replaced Chafee Medical - as of 1/1/14
Duration	12 month maximum	\$6,000 or age 21, whichever comes first
Monthly Expenses	Can pay for any monthly expense (transportation, etc)	Can only pay for room and board (rent, food, utilities)
ETV or ETG	OK to use simultaneously	No, if room and board included in cost of attendance



Discussion

- I'm 17 years old and wish to be adopted.
- Will my pre-adoptive family feel any financial effects?
- What subsidies will I be able to access?
- What should be asked during the CRB review?

Ability to Benefit Policy Change and Changes to the GED

Qualifying for Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by passing an "Ability to Benefit" Assessment (via Placement test) has been eliminated. (March 19, 2012)

Must complete high school:
Diploma (modified is OK)
GED

As of 1/1/14, the GED test costs increased, must be taken on a computer, and contains significant content changes.



Independent Student College Cost Reduction and Access Act

Provisions of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act: Effective July 1, 2009

- The definition of independent student adds emancipated minor and being in a legal guardianship to the definition of independent student. It also changes the orphan or ward of the court until age 18 to be orphan or ward of the court or in foster care at any time on or after 13 years of age. Congress has resolved the issue of what orphan or ward of the court really means by saying that all of the above qualify as independent.

Other Financial Resources for Post-Secondary Education...



Tuition & Fee Waiver



*May use to complete a Certification Program,
Associates Degree or Bachelors Degree*

The Tuition & Fee Waiver

Funding Stream	Application Required	Benefits
<p>May use a student's Pell, FSEOG, Oregon Opportunity Grant, other federal aid, or institution aid (does not include the Chafee ETG).</p>	<p>Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) www.fafsa.gov.edu</p>	<p>Tuition & fees waived for the equivalent of 4 years of undergraduate education at a public college or public university in Oregon. Eligible foster youth are also prioritized for the Oregon Opportunity Grant.</p> <p><i>May use to complete a Certification Program, Associates Degree or Bachelors Degree.</i></p>

Eligibility Criteria

- Current foster youth (DHS or Tribal) OR
 - A former foster child who left a child welfare substitute care placement at age 16 or older, with at least 180 days (6 months) of foster care placement services after age 14.
 - Volunteer 30 hours per academic year once you begin receiving the waiver to maintain eligibility.
 - Youth *must* access the Waiver by age 25.

ETG and ETV

Education and Training Grant Voucher

Provides up to *\$3,000* per academic year for cost of attendance:

- Tuition, Fees, Books, Supplies
- Room & Board
- Personal Expenses
- Travel/Transportation





Additional Post-Secondary Funding Resources

- DREAM Scholarship for Foster Youth - OSAC universal application:

<https://secure.osac.state.or.us/>

- Foster Care to Success (Formerly Orphan Foundation of America) non-profit organization-OFA application:

<https://www.orphan.org/sch/>

- Oregon Student Access Commission - variety of funding streams universal application:

<https://secure.osac.state.or.us/>

JUVENILE COURT TEEN WARD CHECKLISTS

Name: _____ Completed By: _____

CHECKLIST FOR TEEN

Date Required for all

Documents:

_____ Social Security Card
_____ ID Card
_____ Birth Certificate
_____ Contact List
_____ Proof of DHS Placement
_____ Foster Children's Bill of Rights

Medical:

_____ PCP & Healthcare Proxy
_____ Immunizations Current
_____ Medical, Dental, Vision Current

Education:

_____ Transcript/Credits to Graduate
_____ Benchmark Reviews
_____ SAT Information
_____ College/Career Information
_____ Tuition Waiver/Chafee Information
_____ College Information/Guidance
Application, Financial Aid
& Scholarships

Required if applicable:

_____ Proof of Citizenship/Passport
_____ Parent's Death Certificate
_____ Tribal Enrollment
_____ GED Information/Assistance
_____ Job Corps Information

Recommended:

_____ ODL Manual/Permit/License
_____ Senior Photos
_____ Healthy Relationships Information
_____ OR Foster Youth Connections Info
_____ FosterClub.com membership/Info
_____ Food Handler's Card

Notes:

CHECKLIST FOR AGE-OUT

Date All at left, plus

Documents:

_____ Voluntary Services Application &
Instructions

Medical:

_____ Immunization Records
_____ OHP Application/Card
(OHP - Former Foster Care Youth
Medical Program)

Education:

_____ Transcript
_____ GED or Diploma

Financial:

_____ Credit Report

Other:

Recommended:

_____ Medical Directive
_____ Resources Guides
_____ Family/Tribal History, Location &
Contact Information

More Resources for Your Youth

- CW Procedure Manual, Chap. IV, Sect. 29
- Self Sufficiency for OHP
- Self Sufficiency for food stamps/WIC
- Public Health Department
- Mental Health Clinics
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Family Planning Clinics
- ILP until age 21 (voluntary services)
- Medical to age 26 (effective Jan. 1, 2014)





When DHS Dismisses Custody

- Explain to youth and their families that ILP can continue once custody dismissed
- Assist those youth who want to remain in ILP to transition to voluntary services when at all possible
- Notify ILP when there is case closure
- Make sure that the youth has the essential documents, written records, & official forms that youth transitioning out need to have

Remember...

Research shows the number one indicator of future success as an adult, is for a child to have a **permanent connection** to a loving, caring, supportive person.



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** Note: for more detailed information on the ILP Programs and forms, there are two Netlinks available:*

"DHS Youth Transition Planning" & "ILP Services"

Call us with any questions!



Q and A Time!

- Let's take one last moment to ask questions regarding Independent Living ...

- A BIG thank you to Rosemary for presenting today!