

Living Independently & Finding Empowerment



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Transition Age Youth

The young people we serve can be loosely defined as those, ages 16 to 24, who are at high risk of not successfully transitioning into independent adulthood due to the complexity of their needs, the many challenges they face, and the lack of a support system to assist them.



Transition Age Youth

National Statistics for Foster Care

- **More than 23,000** children will age out of the US foster care system every year.
- After reaching the age of 18, **20%** of the children who were in foster care will become instantly homeless.
- Only **1 out of every 2** foster kids who age out of the system will have some form of gainful employment by the age of 24.
- There is **<3%** chance for children who have aged out of foster care to earn a college degree at any point in their life.
- **70% girls** who age out of the foster care system will become **pregnant before the age of 21**.
- The percentage of children who age out of the foster care system and still suffer from the direct effects of PTSD: **25%**.

Programming

Program Areas

- ▶ Housing
 - ▶ Transitional Housing
 - ▶ Independent Housing
- ▶ Career and Education Supports
- ▶ Wraparound Support
- ▶ Parenting Education
- ▶ Mental Health/Substance Use Services

Lifeskills Domains

- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Employment
- ▶ Health and Wellness
- ▶ Financial Capability
- ▶ Support Network



The LIFE Skills Approach

- ▶ Services are Individualized and client-driven using creative approaches (incentives, hands on learning) while focusing on the ‘whole person.’
- ▶ Caseloads are kept small so that staff and programs remain flexible
- ▶ Clients are allowed to make mistakes
- ▶ Clients are given opportunities to make decisions about their lives
- ▶ Exposing clients to new experiences (traveling, different cuisines and hobbies, etc)

