



KIDS CENTRAL, INC.

A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

Building Better Lives

INDEPENDENT LIVING TRANSITION PLAN

Date of Transition Plan & Time _____

Case Manager's Name _____

Agency and County _____

Case Manager's Phone Number _____

Case Manager Supervisor _____

Guardian Ad Litem _____

Guardian Ad Litem Phone Number _____

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Name: _____

Age: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Type of Placement: _____

Shelter Date _____ Adjudication Date _____

Next court date _____

What is current case plan goal?

Reunification

Permanent guardianship

Adoption

APPLA

Permanent placement with a fit and willing relative

Transition from supervised living to independent living

Do you have any children?

Yes

No

Child's Name	Date of Birth	Where does the child reside?

Are you a legal resident of the United States?

Yes

No

If No, has the paperwork been started for residency?

Yes

No

Summary/ Additional Information

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

Do you receive Social Security?

Yes

No

Comments: _____

If yes, please check one of the following:

SSA (Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Benefits)

SSI (Youth's disability benefits)

Monthly Amount: _____

Trust Fund Total: _____

Summary/ Additional Information (Who is the youth's payee, etc.)

PERSONAL DOCUMENTS AND IDENTIFICATION

Do you have access to your original documents upon turning 18 years old?

Document	Yes	No
Birth Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social Security Card	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drivers License or State ID	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medicaid Card	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Summary/ Additional Information (If the youth or the IL file does not have these documents, please describe the plan to obtain documents)

DJJ

Are you currently on probation or under court supervision?

Yes

No

If yes, name of JPO _____

JPO's phone number _____

Summary/ Additional Information (probationary terms)

YOUTH'S INDEPENDENT LIVING LIFE SKILLS

Describe activities and progress for each life skill area.

Areas	Strengths	Needs
Preventive health/ first aid	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cooking and cleaning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financial literacy and credit development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Responsible parents <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Job and career skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are there any areas you would like to work on that are not listed above?

What is your primary mode of transportation?

Do you currently have a driver's license or learner's permit?

If you do not have a license, what specific barriers exist to obtaining a license?

Do you have a bank account?

Yes

No

If yes, Where? (savings or checking) _____

Summary/ Additional Information

EDUCATION

School name

School type

Current or highest completed grade: _____

Anticipated graduation date: _____

Current GPA & credits earned towards graduation: _____

Who has provided Bright Futures Scholarship information to the youth? _____

Anticipated date to begin applying for FAFSA: _____

What Bright Future Scholarship schools are you interested in attending? _____

What career fields are you interested in? _____

Do you currently have an IEP? Yes No

IEP Expiration date: _____

Is there anything holding you back from doing well in school?

Do you feel you need tutoring or other academic supports to help you be successful in school?

Yes

No

Comments: _____

List any extracurricular activities you are involved in:

Summary/ Additional Information

EMPLOYMENT

Are you currently working?

Yes

No

Current Employer: _____

Job skills obtained: _____

If No:

What are your barriers to employment?

Are you involved in a program to remove employment barriers?

Is the youth qualifying for Extended Foster Care through employment?

Yes

No

N/A

Summary/ Additional Information

HEALTH CARE

Name of Primary Physician:	
Address of Primary Physician:	
Other Healthcare Provider:	
Address of Other Healthcare Provider:	
Name of Dental Provider:	
Address of Dental Provider:	
Name of Mental Health Professional:	
Name of Psychiatrist:	
Date of last Comprehensive Behavioral Health Assessment and does Young Adult have copy of CBHA.	
Immunization records available	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Young Adult has a copy of Immunization record	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Please provide the dates of the last appointment you had in each of the following areas:

General Physical: _____

Dental Check-up: _____

Eye Exam: _____

MEDICATIONS:

Physician/Practitioner:	Prescribed Medication:	Is Medication Psychotropic:
Date Prescribed:	Date Stopped:	

Physician/Practitioner:	Prescribed Medication:	Is Medication Psychotropic:
Date Prescribed:	Date Stopped:	

DIAGNOSIS, ASSESSMENTS AND/OR TREATMENTS FOR THE YOUNG ADULT:

First Service Date:	Last Service Date:
Provider:	Condition Type:
Provider Type:	Type of Service:
Procedure:	
Diagnosis:	
Description of diagnosis, assessment and/or treatment for the Young Adult:	

Do you currently have any health care needs that need to be addressed?

Yes No

Please describe any health care needs you have:

1. _____
2. _____

Are you a client of Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)?

Yes No

If yes, please identify Support Coordinator: _____

If yes, please identify type of Waiver: _____

If yes, does the IL Dept have a copy of the Support Plan? _____

Summary/ Additional Information

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Do you have a mentor?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe who:

Contact information:

If no, are you interested in having a mentor?

Who can we contact if you have an emergency?

Name

Phone number

Summary/ Additional Information

INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM INFORMATION

Independent Living Staff:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

The Independent Living Program is managed by:

**Hannah Rios
Kids Central, Inc.
2117 Hwy 484
Ocala, FL 34473
(352) 387-3551**

Independent Living
Informational Materials Checklist

Extended Foster Care (EFC) Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Post Education Services and Support (PESS) Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aftercare Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Educational Training Voucher (ETV) Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Medicaid Benefits Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2-1-1 Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACCESS Florida Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Career Source Florida Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FAFSA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Florida Bright Futures Information	<input type="checkbox"/>
Due Process Rights Brochure	<input type="checkbox"/>

The above documents were discussed and provided to:

Youth
 FCM
 Caregiver

On this date: _____

Signature of receipt: _____

Independent Living Staff: _____



EXTENDED FOSTER CARE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible, a young adult must meet the following requirements:

Participation Requirements

- Be living in a licensed placement on his or her 18th birthday.
- Continue to live in a supervised setting after his or her 18th birthday - which means a family foster home, group home, or supervised independent living location.
- Meet monthly with his or her case manager to discuss progress, issues, needs, etc. and to collaborate with them on Transition Plans, Case Plans, and Judicial Review Reports.
- Sign appropriate and necessary releases to allow the case manager to verify participation in the qualifying activities.

Qualifying Activities

- Be enrolled fulltime in secondary school / GED program **OR**
- Be enrolled in a postsecondary or vocational institution **OR**
- Participate in a program or activity designed to promote or eliminate barriers to employment (such as job skills training; internships; substance abuse programs; other therapeutic programs; etc) **OR**
- Be employed for at least 80 hours per month **OR**
- Have a documented condition that does not permit full-time engagement in these qualifying activities

Age Limitations

Young adults may remain in EFC until their 21st birthday **OR** until their 22nd birthday if they have a disability:

FS 39.6251 Continuing care for young adults -

(1) As used in this section, the term "child" means an individual who has not attained 21 years of age, and the term "young adult" means an individual who has attained 18 years of age but who has not attained 21 years of age."

(5) "Eligibility for a young adult to remain in extended foster care ends on the earliest of the dates that the young adult:

1. Reaches 21 years of age or, in the case of a young adult with a disability, reaches 22 years of age."

Young adults may remain in RTI until their 23rd birthday:

FS 409.1451(2)(5) reads that a young adult may remain in the Road-to-Independence program until he or she, "has reached 18 years of age but is not yet 23 years of age"

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

For young adults who were in licensed foster care at the age of 18 and had spent at least 6 months in licensed care during their lifetimes, there are two types of educational support available - regardless of their participation in Extended Foster Care.

PESS: The Post-secondary Educational Services and Supports (PESS) program provides \$1,256 in financial assistance monthly for young adults ages 18 through 22 who meet the eligibility requirements below:

- Has earned a standard high school diploma or its equivalent.
- Is enrolled full time in a **Bright Futures approved**, postsecondary educational institution (college, community college, and vocational education programs).
- Has spent at least 6 months in licensed care before reaching 18th birthday.
- Was living in licensed care on their 18th birthday **OR** was adopted or placed with a court-approved dependency guardian after age 16 **AND** had spent at least 6 months in licensed care within the 12 months immediately preceding adoption or placement.
- Has applied for other grants and scholarships for which he or she may qualify and has submitted a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Has signed an agreement to allow the department and the community-based care lead agency access to all necessary records, including school records.

ETV: Educational and Training Vouchers Program (ETV) for Youths Aging out of Foster Care are part of the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program. ETV provides vouchers of up to \$5,000 per year to a young adult for post secondary education and training.

AFTERCARE SERVICES

Young adults who do not participate in either Extended Foster Care or PESS may receive services or funding from the state's new After Care Program which goes into effect January 1, 2014.

The After Care program is temporary in nature and intended to provide only a safety net; services should be designed to help transition the young adult either to independence or to help them return to Extended Foster Care or PESS. Services/supports that can be provided through the After Care program include, but are not limited to, mental health services and substance abuse counseling; life skills classes, including financial literacy skills training; assistance with enrolling in or continuing Medicaid and preventive health activities; parenting classes; job and career skills training; mentoring and tutoring; counselor consultations; and temporary financial assistance for necessities, including, but not limited to, education supplies, transportation expenses, security deposits for rent and utilities, furnishings, household goods, and other basic living expense.

The specific services to be provided, including financial supports, are to be determined by a case manager's assessment of the young adult and delivered by the community-based care provider or through referrals in the community. An application will be available before January 1, 2014.



Implementation Guidelines for Medicaid Coverage Up to Age 26 for Young Adults Formerly in Foster Care

Effective January 1, 2014, a new Medicaid coverage group is available for young adults who were in foster care at age 18. This Medicaid coverage gives these young adults the same opportunity for health insurance as many of their peers who are under a parent's insurance policy until age 26.

REQUIREMENTS:

Every young adult who:

1. Is under the age of 26;
2. Is not otherwise eligible for other Medicaid coverage; and
3. Meets at least one of the following criteria:
 - Exited foster care from the Florida foster care system at the age of 18 ("aged out" - did not achieve permanency prior to age 18);
 - Last placement in foster care was in a licensed home/institution or with a relative/non-relative.

For the purpose of this new Medicaid coverage group, foster care means 24-hour substitute care for children placed away from their parents or guardians, for whom the Department has placement and care responsibility. This includes, but is not limited to, placements in licensed foster family homes, group homes, emergency shelters, residential facilities and child care institutions, or placements in unlicensed homes of relatives or non-relatives. For this coverage, a child is considered to be in foster care regardless of licensure status (licensed or unlicensed).

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. **Regions, Circuits and Community-Based Care (CBC) agencies** must educate young adults and youth in care of the availability of Medicaid to 26. CBCs are responsible for the following tasks:
 - identify all youth and young adults who meet the requirements of this program;
 - ensure their "age out" data/status and Medicaid codes are correct in FSFN; and
 - Notify the young adult of the availability of Medicaid to age 26 and the necessity to complete and submit an application. Agencies are encouraged to reach out to foster care alumni organizations and other stakeholders to ensure the young adults are aware of this new Medicaid coverage.

CBC lead agencies might consider compiling a "look-back" data base of qualified young adults who have aged out of the agency since January 1, 2007. To address potential appeals by young adults, CBC agencies must develop alternative means of verifying and ruling out that a young adult does not meet the requirements for Medicaid to 26. For example, a young adult who was discharged from care prior to age 18 with a permanency goal of permanent placement with a fit and willing relative does not meet the "aged out of foster care" condition.

2. **Young adults** are responsible for requesting Medicaid coverage under the new group. This is done by completing a regular application for medical assistance. Please note that when a young adult is no longer participating in Extended Foster Care, Post-Secondary Education or After Care program, he/she must complete and submit an application for Medicaid to 26. Young adults may apply in one of the following ways:
 - Online: <https://dcf-access.dcf.state.fl.us/access2florida/access/default.do?performAction=init>
 - Contact the local Department of Children and Families' ACCESS Office to apply for Medicaid.To find the nearest local office, call 211 from any telephone in Florida.

3. **ACCESS Florida staff** receive and process the application. If the young adult is not eligible for any other coverage group (e.g. parent, pregnant, disabled) and he or she answered yes to the "aged out" question on the application, ACCESS staff will send an electronic verification request to the Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN). FSFN will look for a matched record and determine whether the young adult has ever been in a removal episode for at least 24 hours and subsequently discharged from foster care with one of the following:
 - a discharge reason of "emancipation," "age of majority" or "child turned 18"
 - a discharge date that is within 5 days prior to, or any time after the young adult's 18th birthday

If FSFN validates that the young adult is a former foster child who aged out of the system, then the young adult will be approved for this coverage group, provided that all other eligibility requirements are met with the exception of income, as no income limit applies to this coverage group.



What is 211

2-1-1 is a telephone based service offered by nonprofit and public agencies throughout Florida and the United States. 2-1-1 organizations provide free, confidential information and referral services. Trained professionals are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to help callers identify and connect with health and human service programs that can meet a variety of needs including food, housing, employment, health care, crisis counseling and more. Services are available statewide through any cell phone provider as well as through landlines in all of Florida's 67 counties and nationwide in all 50 states.

Simply dial 2-1-1 or text your zip code to 898-211 (TXT 211)



ACCESS Florida

www.myflorida.com This website is a quick and easy way for people who live in Florida to find out if they might be able to get:

- Help with buying food
- Low or no-cost health care
- Cash Assistance
- Help paying Medicare Premiums

This website will take you about 15 minutes to use. We will ask you to tell us about the people in your home, the money you get from a job or other places, your housing costs, medical bills, and child care expenses. What you tell us will stay private and safe.

When you are finished, we will tell you if you may be able to get help through programs like Food Assistance, Medical Assistance and Cash Assistance.



CareerSource Florida is a statewide network of career development professionals who work directly for Florida employers to find, develop and keep qualified talent. We also invest in programs to help businesses identify and cultivate our state's talent pool so that prospective employees have the skills and experience companies seek.

Together, we connect employers with qualified, skilled talent and Floridians with employment and career development opportunities to achieve economic prosperity.



Phone number for Citrus, Levy, and Marion County
1.800.434.5627



Phone number for Lake and Sumter County
1.800.757.4598

FAFSA.gov

Federal Pell Grants are usually awarded only to undergraduate students.

The amount of aid you can receive depends on your financial need, the cost of attendance at your school, and more.

A *Federal Pell Grant*, unlike a loan, does not have to be repaid. Federal Pell Grants usually are awarded only to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's or a professional degree. You are not eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant if you are incarcerated in a federal or state penal institution or are subject to an involuntary civil commitment upon completion of a period of incarceration for a forcible or nonforcible sexual offense.

How much money can I get?

Amounts can change yearly. The maximum Federal Pell Grant award is \$5,645 for the 2013–14 *award year* (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014). For the 2014–15 award year (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015), the maximum award will be \$5,730. The amount you get, though, will depend on

- your *financial need*,
- your cost of attendance,
- your status as a full-time or part-time student, and
- your plans to attend school for a full *academic year* or less.

You may not receive Federal Pell Grant funds from more than one school at a time.

If you want to keep receiving your federal student aid, make sure you stay eligible.

You'll need to continue to meet the basic eligibility criteria, make satisfactory academic progress, and fill out the FAFSA® every year.

Once you've filled out your *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) and received your grant, loan, or work-study funds to help you pay for college or career school, make sure you stay eligible throughout the academic year—and in subsequent years.

Continue to Meet Basic Eligibility Criteria

Remember, the basic eligibility criteria that allow you to get federal student aid continue to apply throughout the time you're receiving aid—not just when you first fill out the FAFSA and are awarded aid.

Make Satisfactory Academic Progress

You need to make satisfactory academic progress in order to continue receiving federal student aid. In other words, you have to make good enough grades, and complete enough classes (credits, hours, etc.), to keep moving toward successfully completing your degree or certificate in a time period that's acceptable to your school.

Each school has a satisfactory academic progress policy for financial aid purposes; to see your school's, you can check your school's website or ask someone at the financial aid office. Your school's policy will tell you

- what grade-point average (or equivalent standard) you need to maintain;
- how quickly you need to be moving toward graduation (for instance, how many credits you should have successfully completed by the end of each year);
- how an incomplete class, withdrawal, repeated class, change of major, or transfer of credits from another school affects your satisfactory academic progress;
- how often your school will evaluate your progress;
- what will happen if you fail to make satisfactory academic progress when your school evaluates you;
- whether you are allowed to appeal your school's decision that you haven't made satisfactory academic progress (reasons for appeal usually include the death of a member of your family, your illness or injury, or other special circumstances); and
- how you can regain eligibility for federal student aid.

Fill Out the FAFSA® Each Year

When you fill out the FAFSA, you are applying for aid for a specific year. In order to receive aid the next year, you'll need to submit that next year's FAFSA. Luckily, the FAFSA website makes it easy for you by allowing you to submit a Renewal FAFSA that remembers certain information you reported the year before and places it in your new FAFSA.

Tuition Waiver Eligibility:

1009.25 Fee exemptions.—

(1) The following students are exempt from the payment of tuition and fees, including lab fees, at a school district that provides workforce education programs, Florida College System institution, or state university:

(a) A student enrolled in a dual enrollment or early admission program pursuant to s. 1007.271.

(b) A student enrolled in an approved apprenticeship program, as defined in s. 446.021.

(c) A student who is or was at the time he or she reached 18 years of age in the custody of the Department of Children and Families or who, after spending at least 6 months in the custody of the department after reaching 16 years of age, was placed in a guardianship by the court. Such exemption includes fees associated with enrollment in applied academics for adult education instruction. The exemption remains valid until the student reaches 28 years of age.

(d) A student who is or was at the time he or she reached 18 years of age in the custody of a relative or nonrelative under s. 39.5085 or who was adopted from the Department of Children and Families after May 5, 1997. Such exemption includes fees associated with enrollment in applied academics for adult education instruction. The exemption remains valid until the student reaches 28 years of age.

(e) A student enrolled in an employment and training program under the welfare transition program. The regional workforce board shall pay the state university, Florida College System institution, or school district for costs incurred for welfare transition program participants.

(f) A student who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence or whose primary nighttime residence is a public or private shelter designed to provide temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

(g) A student who is a proprietor, owner, or worker of a company whose business has been at least 50 percent negatively financially impacted by the buyout of property around Lake Apopka by the State of Florida. Such student may receive a fee exemption only if the student has not received compensation because of the buyout, the student is designated a Florida resident for tuition purposes, pursuant to s. 1009.21, and the student has applied for and been denied financial aid, pursuant to s. 1009.40, which would have provided, at a minimum, payment of all student fees. The student is responsible for providing evidence to the postsecondary education institution verifying that the conditions of this paragraph have been met, including supporting documentation provided by the Department of Revenue. The student must be currently enrolled in, or begin coursework within, a program area by fall semester 2000. The exemption is valid for a period of 4 years after the date that the postsecondary education institution confirms that the conditions of this paragraph have been met.

(h) Pursuant to s. 402.403, child protection and child welfare personnel as defined in s. 402.402 who are enrolled in an accredited bachelor's degree or master's degree in social work program, provided that the student attains at least a grade of "B" in all courses for which tuition and fees are exempted.

(2) Each Florida College System institution is authorized to grant student fee exemptions from all fees adopted by the State Board of Education and the Florida College System institution board of trustees for up to 54 full-time equivalent students or 1 percent of the institution's total full-time equivalent enrollment, whichever is greater, at each institution.

