



## PROGRAM BULLETIN

April 2004

### Independent Living Program

Ten young ladies attended the latest ILP Girls Night Out in Chico. Youth residing in group homes, foster homes and transitional housing had a meal on ILP and made new peer connections. Look for details about Butte County ILP's next Girls Night Out in the near future.

ILP is sponsoring a project created by CSU, Chico intern Daylyn Kelley. Expressions From Foster Youth is a project that will raise funds for the Butte County California Youth Connection chapter, spread awareness, and inspire. This booklet will offer insight into the experiences of Butte County teens in foster care through their art, poetry and writing. Expressions From Foster Youth will be available at agencies around the county. Call Daylyn Kelly at 893-2316 ext. 260 for details.

It is financial aid time for youth who will be leaving care in 2004. For the first time, the California Chafee Grant Program is available. The program gives up to \$5000 annually to foster youth and former foster youth to use for college courses or vocational school training. Talk to an ILP worker for more info or go to <http://www.chafee.csac.ca.gov/default.asp>. ILP caseworkers are available to assist youth with scholarship applications, FAFSA forms and accessing Chafee Grants. ILP youth under Butte County jurisdiction who earn a diploma or a GED before June 30<sup>th</sup> are eligible to apply for a \$300 stipend. ILP youth placed in Butte from other counties are encouraged to contact their ILP caseworkers to explore stipends offered by their placing counties and available resources at Butte County ILP.

ILP's START Program assists eligible former foster youth with housing costs while the individual completes a vocational or educational goal. ILP has submitted a proposal to the City of Chico which would allow for significant expansion in housing assistance to aftercare youth beginning in the summer of 2004. For info contact Tami Thompson at 893-2316 ext. 212 or 1-888-893-4011.

**ATTENTION ILP YOUTH AND YOUTH ADVOCATES!** Butte County's California Youth Connection chapter wants you! You are invited to help change the foster care system. You can be a part of an organization that can change your life as well as the lives of others. CYC is made up of foster youth and adult supporters just like you. Butte County CYC meets twice monthly at Youth and Family Programs in Chico. Call 893-2316 ext. 261 to hear current Butte County CYC chapter information or leave a message.

Butte College ILSP classes meet weekly in Chico on Wednesdays from 6pm to 8pm\*. Youth who attend earn household goods. Youth must be at least 16 to attend. Classes take place at 2491 Carmichael Dr. in Chico. Call 897-6235. Upcoming class topics include:

April 7 <sup>th</sup>	No Class-Spring Break	April 28 <sup>th</sup>	California Conservation Corps
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Catalyst Presentation	May 5 <sup>th</sup>	To Be Determined
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	To Be Determined	*May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Independence City, <b>5pm-8:30pm</b>

Job Corps is a nationwide employment program for young adults. The Sacramento Job Corps Center offers its trainees the opportunity to develop skills and work habits to start successful careers. It offers free room and board, medical and dental care as well as living and clothing allowances. When training is completed, job placement services are focused on matching the right employer, college or military career with the participant. Go to <http://jobcorps.doleta.gov/> or call 1-800-698-3769. Tours are available.

Butte County Transitional Housing Placement Programs or THPP's are some of the most active and varied in the state. Remi Vista, Youth and Family and Youth For Change each offer unique programs. ILP encourages youth, care providers, and social workers to become familiar with each. Frequently Asked Questions sheets for each program are available. Our county's THPP providers, Butte County CSD staff and ILP staff meet on a regular basis. If you'd like to sit in, contact ILP.

Go to [http://www.youthandfamily.info/our\\_programs/independent\\_living.php](http://www.youthandfamily.info/our_programs/independent_living.php) for Independent Living Program information and links to resources including the Runaway and Homeless Youth Resource Guide for Butte County and surrounding areas.

All teens 16 and up who are in placement are entitled to ILP services\*. If you know of an unreferral teen aged sixteen or up who lives in a foster home or a group home please contact ILP. ILP serves teens placed from other counties as well as Butte County teens. Former foster youth aged 16 to 21, who were in placement at 16 or older, can call Butte County ILP for support in the areas of employment, housing, connecting with community resources and more. Call ILP Aftercare at 893-2316 ext. 257 or 1-888-893-4011.

\*Contact ILP to determine eligibility.

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