



PROGRAM BULLETIN

April 2005

Independent Living Program

ATTENTION ILP YOUTH AND YOUTH ADVOCATES! 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. *CYC's continued success will be dependent on a strong team of adult supporters-CYC needs additional adult supporters. Join the fun!* Visit CYC's new website at www.calyouthconn.org.

Expressions From Foster Care, a booklet of poems and art created by Butte County ILP youth, will be available in May. ILP thanks all of the youth who contributed. We received a lot of entries this year. The booklets will be available around Butte County at social service agencies and other locations. Each booklet will sell for \$2 and all proceeds will go to the Butte County California Youth Connection chapter.

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. Interested parties can contact ILP if they are interested in sitting in on one of the meetings.

Butte College ILSP leads the state's community college ILSP's in instruction hours. Classes are scheduled for Wednesdays from 6pm to 8pm at 2491 Carmichael Dr., Ste. 300 in Chico. ILP youth who attend receive valuable life skills information and credit for household goods. Call Kathy Lovelace at 897-6235 to learn more. In April and May Butte College ILSP will offer:

4-6	Healthy Relationships	5-4	Independence City-Prep., <u>must attend to participate in Independence City on 5-11</u>
4-13	Employment Skills	5-11	Independence City
4-20	Employment Skills (cont.)	5-18	Teamwork
4-27	Butte College Campus Tour	5-25	Public Social Etiquette/Final Store Prep

The California Chaffee Grant Program gives up to \$5000 annually of free money to ILP youth and former ILP 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 Chaffee Grants. ILP youth under Butte County jurisdiction who earn a diploma or a GED are eligible to apply for a \$200 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. Soroptimist International of Chico is offering 3 awards of \$500 to young women who are aging out of the system. The deadline to apply is April 20th. Talk to an ILP caseworker to get an application.

Check out ILP's job clipboard. New jobs are added each day. ILP youth can access this fantastic resource at the ILP office. ILP thanks Damien at the Oroville One Stop for sharing these fantastic job leads.

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. In order for ILP to serve youth from out of county, ILP requires a current Transitional Independent Living Plan completed by the youth with his or her county social worker or probation officer. 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. Involvement in ILP Aftercare is the ticket to ILP's START and TBRA II programs. These programs offer move-in cost payment and rent subsidy for up to a year. Call ILP Aftercare at 893-2316 ext. 257 or 1-888-893-4011. *Contact ILP to determine eligibility.