



**SHASTA COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
LIVING PROGRAM**

**PROGRAM BULLETIN
February 2006**

Girl's Circle promotes resiliency, confidence, and connections for girls. The girls will meet every other Wednesday for 10 weeks starting on February 8th, from 6-8pm at our Anderson office. This is a way for girls to get together and talk about issues important to them, participate in activities and possible future retreats. **We will only be able to take 10 girls per 10-week session. Please make sure that you sign up by calling Lisa Goza at 365-9260 ext 120. We will not take girls who are not signed up on the night of the class!!**

The February experiential group will be on Domestic Violence and Relationships on February 28th from 5-7pm at Howell Hall in the Downtown Mall. If you park in the upper section of the Downtown Mall and enter through the center doors, make the very first right (by the thrift shop) and then a left, Howell Hall is on the left corner. We will also have someone at the doorway to direct you. We are lucky to have Kathleen Elterman who will teach the class for us.

The February Shasta College ILS class will be at the SMART Center on February 9th and 23rd. Youth will be able to make a resume and learn how the SMART Center can help them with their job search. Colleen is having two classes because the SMART Center only accommodate 15 youth per class. **Please make sure you RSVP her for this class at 247-3321.**

The "Design the Staff Tee Shirt Contest" continues. The designs are due by February 23rd at our Anderson office. Shirts must contain the following information in the design: **Former Foster Teens/Ages 16-21/Could you use some support/finding a place to live/job hunting/becoming more independent/Call 365-9260 ext 120/Toll Free 1-888-893-4011.** The prize is 100.00 for the design we choose to use on the shirt.

If you are preparing to go to college in the fall of 2006 you need to remember these important dates:
January/February

- Submit your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible
- Make sure you get a GPA verification form if you are applying for the Cal Grant. If your school counselor doesn't have one you can contact your ILP Worker for help in downloading the forms.

March 2:

- If you haven't done it by now, today is the deadline for submitting the FAFSA and the Cal Grant GPA Verification Form! If you already submitted your forms sit back and watch your friends scramble around at the last minute while you say, "I told you so" and feel smug.

Your ILP Caseworker can help you with all of your forms for college. The forms can be filled out on our computer, at our office, so they go right to the appropriate destination quickly. Contact your ILP Caseworker for assistance.

**** Beware: Please beware of any sites that ask for money for filing your FAFSA, Cal Grant, or Scholarships. None of these should cost you money to apply for. If you have problems in this area contact your ILP Caseworker to help you straighten it out.**

Shasta County ILP would like to thank Anderson Mini Storage for their generous donation of a storage unit for furniture and household items that are donated for aftercare youth. To all of the generous donations of furniture and household items that continue to come in from people in the Anderson and Redding community. We would like to thank the various property managers who go out of their way to find an apartment for our aftercare youth and work with us to help them have a successful transition. It is a big transition for foster care youth and with everyone working together, youth in transition have a much better chance at succeeding. THANKS!

WHAT IS A TILP? A Transitional Independent Living Plan or TILP is a document required by the state that is to be completed by a foster youth and his or her county social worker or probation officer. According to California Department of Social Services regulations, the initial TILP is to be completed when a youth is between the ages of 15.5 and 16. A new TILP is to be completed at least every six months until the youth's dependency is dismissed. The TILP becomes part of the case plan and steers plans for self-sufficiency preparation. A valid TILP must be in place for a youth to be referred to ILP.

Teens 16 and up that are in placement are entitled to ILP services. If you know of a youth that has not been referred aged sixteen or up, who lives in a foster home or group home please contact ILP. ILP serves teens placed from other counties as well as Shasta County teens. In order for ILP to serve foster care youth, ILP requires a current Transitional Independent Living Plan completed by the youth with his or her county social worker or probation officer. The TILP is the responsibility of the county social worker or probation officer and should be completed every 6 months, starting at age 15.5. Former foster youth aged 16 to 21, who were in placement at 16 or older, can call Shasta County ILP for support in the areas of employment, housing, connecting with community resources and more. Contact ILP to determine eligibility

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For more info, visit us at: www.youthandfamily.info/ourprograms/independent_living.php