



PROGRAM BULLETIN

January 2004

Independent Living Program

ILP Experiential Groups will begin in Paradise on January 26th. ILP youth who attend will receive incentives for participating. The groups will focus on preparation for self-sufficiency and cover purchasing and owning a car, renting an apartment, consumer skills, employment tips, and networking with peers. Call Tracie Hoag at 893-2316 ext. 215 for details.

Oroville Girls Night Out will take place on January 13th. Contact Tami Thompson at 893-2316 ext. 212 or 1-888-893-4011 for info.

It is financial aid time for youth who will be leaving care in 2004. Assistance with FAFSA forms will be available from ILP caseworkers and at an upcoming Butte College ILSP class. 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>.

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. Call Tami Thompson at 893-2316 ext. 212 if you need transportation. *CYC's continued success will be dependent on a strong team of adult supporters-CYC needs additional adult supporters. Join the fun!*

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. After a holiday break, the classes will resume on January 14th at the new location – 2491 Carmichael Dr. in Chico. The next incentive store will take place on March 10th. Call Kathy Lovelace at 897-6235 to find out more.

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. Talk to an ILP worker about touring the Sacramento Job Corps site.

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.

ILP encourages foster youth who are seniors to think about saving for year books and senior pictures. ILP suggests that ILP youth work with their ILP workers to set goals tied to incentives now. ILP youth can apply incentives earned toward senior year expenses.

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.

All teens 16 and up who are in placement are entitled to ILP services*. If you know of an unrefereed 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. We have added an aftercare food closet. Call ILP Aftercare at 893-2316 ext. 257 or 1-888-893-4011. *Contact ILP to determine eligibility.

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

Fosteryouth.net is a resource website for current and former foster youth and those who support them. Butte and fourteen other northern counties are involved in this project. While parts of this site are “under construction”, it contains a great deal of useful information.