



**SHASTA COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
LIVING PROGRAM**

**PROGRAM BULLETIN
January 2006**

Happy New Year! Shasta County ILP is excited about 2006. We will be implementing some new programs for foster care youth. The first will be the beginning of Girls Circle in February. Girls 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. This is a way for girls to get together and talk about issues important to them, participate in activities and possible future retreats. We would like to start a Boys Circle in the future. We would like to start a parenting group for foster youth with children in April. We hope to offer a computer and books to those parents who finish the class.

The January Experiential Group will be on transitioning into adulthood. We have a guest speaker who will talk about her experiences of taking the wrong path into adulthood and what it took to turn her life around. We will also talk about issues surrounding emancipation, moving into your own apartment, dealing with peer issues when you are on your own and what support systems you will need. The class will take place on January 19th, from 4:30-6:30pm at Perko's in Anderson. Perko's is located in the Safeway shopping center.

Annette is continuing her community project for the aftercare youth. She has obtained a storage unit and is collecting items for aftercare youth's first apartment. We are also in need of some good shelving for the storage unit to organize the items. If you have anything you would like to donate please contact Annette at 365-9197.

The January Shasta College ILS class will cover financial aid (student loans, Chaffee Grant, other options). The date is January 5th, 2006 from 4-6 at Northern Valley Catholic Social Services. Please RSVP to Colleen Oshier by January 2nd. This class is very important if you plan to attend college in 2006.

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. Remember, if you plan to attend college in the fall of 2006 you need to get your financial aid forms in by March 1st, 2006. Please call your ILP caseworker if you need to come into our office and use our computers to get these documents filled out. We can do most of them by internet at our office.

Get Involved!! California Youth Connection needs your voice to help make changes to the foster care system. This organization was developed by foster youth. The youth members are between the ages of 14-24. Foster youth members are assisting their county and state in making the foster care system better and breaking the stereotypes of foster youth. Local meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Thursday from 5:30-7pm at the CYC office, 1650 Oregon Street in Redding. For more information call Lisa or Hemal at 243-8450.

2877 Childress Ave, Anderson, CA 96007* Ph: 530-365-9197 ext 120* FAX 530-365-9268*
E-mail: lgoza@youthandfamily.info
For more info, visit us at: www.youthandfamily.info/ourprograms/independent_living.php

