

Indiana Department of Child Services

Older Youth Initiatives

(OYI)



The Older Youth Initiatives (OYI) is Indiana's Department of Child Services (DCS) John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (the Chafee program). OYI encompasses the Chafee program Older Youth Services (OYS), Transitional Services (TS), and Voluntary Services (VS). OYI also oversees ongoing transitional services provided to young adults who participate in the DCS extended foster care program, Collaborative Care. Older Youth Services and Transitional Services are sets of services and supports used to assist youth and older youth successfully achieve their successful adulthood learning plan goals. OYS primarily focuses on developing independent living skills and transitional services primarily focuses on assisting youth with their transition into adulthood for those who are expected to turn 18 in foster care. OYS can be provided concurrently with other case plan goals such as reunification and adoption. Voluntary Services are aftercare services for young adults who have "aged out" of the foster care system. The Collaborative Care program provides placement and supervision to young adults who voluntarily extend their foster care placement while continuing to work on their learning plan goals. Indiana's Older Youth Initiatives services are geared towards assisting current and former foster youth in the areas of housing, employment, education, physical and mental health, and financial education.

Older Youth Initiatives is designed as a continuum of care beginning OYS at age 16 through 17, age 18 with the ability to extend foster care until the youth turns 21 years of age and voluntary services as a safety net for older youth age 20-23.

OYI

Older Youth Services Programs

Older Youth Services	Collaborative Care	Voluntary Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referral for OYS services at age 16 • Youth driven CFTM at age 14 • TPSA begins at age 14 • Youth Bill of Rights provided at age 14 • Youth prepare their own court report at age 14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible at age 18 • Must meet extended foster care eligibility requirements • Permanency Plan of APPLA • Continued foster care placement with additional placement options • Continued transitional services and planning • Ends at age 21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former foster youth • Aged out of foster care at age 18 or CC case closed • Case Management Services • Emancipation of Goods and Services Funding • Room & Board Funding • Ends at age 23

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Older Youth Services Program Goals

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- **Adult Connections**
 - Adult Support
 - Adult Advocate
 - Youth Connections Program
 - **Employment**
 - Career Preparation
 - Career Exploration
 - Employment search
 - Department of Workforce Development
 - Jobs for American Graduates (JAG)
 - Work One
 - **Education**
 - Education Liaisons
 - 21st Century Scholars
 - College Readiness
 - College Support
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- **Housing**
 - Housing Education
 - Apartment Readiness
 - Housing Management
 - **Financial and Asset Management**
 - Financial Education
 - Credit Reporting
 - Budget and Money Management
 - **Physical and Mental Health**
 - Medicaid to age 26
 - Health Education
 - Risk Prevention
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- **Activities of Daily Living**
 - Basic Living Skills
 - Life Skills Assessment
 - Personal Documentation
 - Developmental Development
 - Self-Sufficiency
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OLDER YOUTH SERVICES PROVIDERS

Indiana Department of Child Services provides older youth services through contracted service providers. The Older Youth Service Providers (OYS Providers) provide services for youth / young adults who will or have aged out of foster care with the skills and abilities necessary or desirable to be self-reliant. There are 5 OYS providers contracted to provide OYS services within their service area throughout the State of Indiana. Please see chart below.

<i>SERVICE AREA</i>	<i>REGION</i>	<i>AGENCY</i>
<i>1</i>	1 & 2	Geminus
<i>2</i>	3 & 4	The Villages
<i>3</i>	5 & 6	Damar
<i>4</i>	8 & 9	The Villages
<i>5</i>	10 & 11	Children's Bureau
<i>6</i>	7 & 12	Children's Bureau
<i>7</i>	13 & 14	George Junior Republic
<i>8</i>	16 & 17	George Junior Republic
<i>9</i>	15 & 18	George Junior Republic

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OTHER SUPPORTIVE SERVICES & INITIATIVES

Indiana Youth Advisory Board

- A youth lead board with adult supervision consisting of current and former foster youth ages 14 to 23 that provides leadership experiences for youth throughout the state.

Opportunity Passport

- Financial Literacy program

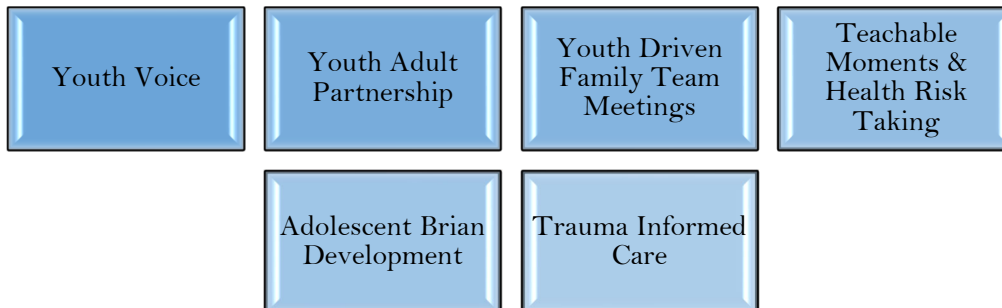
Education and Training Voucher Program

- A federally funded, state-administered program that provides financial and academic support for foster youth who turned 18 in foster care and for those foster youth who were adopted or placed in a guardianship at age 16 and are enrolled in qualified colleges, universities or vocational education programs.

College Dorm Placement Program

- A program that provides assistance to youth who are placed in a college dorm through the Collaborative Care program.
 - Probation youth must have an identified plan indicating the need for Older Youth Services.

AUTHENTIC YOUTH ENGAGEMENT



Older Youth Initiatives Team

Anisa Evans, MSW
Older Youth Initiatives Manager

Sheena Mickelson Independent Living Specialist Regions 3, 4, 6, 7 & 10 - 12	William Thomas Independent Living Specialist Regions: 1, 2, 5, 8, 9	William Day Independent Living Specialist Regions: 13 - 18
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If you have question about older youth services, please email: DCS Older Youth Questions @ OlderYouthQuestions@dcs.IN.gov
