



## Independent Living Program

## PROGRAM BULLETIN

August 2005

The next round of ILP Experiential Groups will begin in Chico on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The group will meet each Tuesday from 4pm to 6pm for six weeks. ILP youth who attend will receive incentives for participating. These casual, fun activities cover topics such as buying and owning a car, consumer skills, employment tips, and networking with peers. Youth in the Chico area can contact their ILP caseworkers for information. Youth aged 17 years and up will be given priority.

**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 ½ 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.

Youth and Family Programs is now the home of Shasta County ILP also. Lisa Goza, the Shasta County ILP coordinator, can be reached at 365-9260 ext. 120.

Expressions From Foster Care 2005, a booklet of poems and art created by Butte County ILP youth, is available! The booklets sell for \$2 and all proceeds go to the Butte County California Youth Connection chapter. To get yours talk to ILP staff or pick one up at Youth and Family Programs or the Butte College Foster Kinship Care Education/Independent Living Skills Program office in Chico. ILP thanks all of the youth who contributed. ILP also thanks Butte College FCCE/ILSP for coming on board and assisting ILP in the production of the booklets.

The Butte County California Youth Connection chapter will be meeting at 5:30 on August 10<sup>th</sup> at Youth & Family Programs in Chico. Teens in foster care and group homes in Butte County-**this is your organization**. You can be a part of an organization that can change your life as well as the lives of others. ILP youth who attend can earn incentives for attending. A Butte County CYC chapter member will be attending CYC's Policy Conference in Redding in August along with foster youth from all over California. Call Adult Supporter, Mary Beth Flanagan at 321-6529 for chapter information. Visit CYC's website at [www.calyouthconn.org](http://www.calyouthconn.org).

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's, Butte County CSD, Community Care Licensing, Butte County Office of Education School Ties and ILP meet monthly. Interested parties can contact ILP if they are interested in sitting in on one of the meetings.

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.chaffee.csac.ca.gov/default.asp>. ILP caseworkers are available to assist youth with scholarship applications, FAFSA forms and accessing Chaffee Grants.

**REMINDER:** Youth who are in placement on their eighteenth birthdays are eligible for no share of cost MediCal (4M) until their twenty-first birthdays. Butte County dependents are enrolled in this program when they age out of foster care. Former foster youth placed in Butte from other counties can access this benefit through their Butte County ILP caseworkers.

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.

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For more info, visit us at : [www.youthandfamily.info/our\\_programs/independent\\_living.php](http://www.youthandfamily.info/our_programs/independent_living.php)