



**SHASTA COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
LIVING PROGRAM**

**PROGRAM BULLETIN
February 2008**

Foster Youth Garden:

The first work day, after our short break, was very successful. Ten youth showed up to help us start the clean up process for spring. The giant storm that hit the area destroyed our greenhouse and canopy so the crew cleaned those up first. We are working on getting another greenhouse; however, this will now put us behind as the youth were going to start their own seedlings this year.

The youth are still planning on selling at the Farmer's Market this year. They will be submitting their plan to the AG Department next month. They are also putting eggs into their plan, to sell at the market, as building a chicken coop is part of their future plans.

We will not be able to obtain our organic certificate until next year. However, we continue to plant, and garden organically. None of the vegetables are sprayed with pesticides. The youth are learning about beneficial insects, organic fertilizers, water conservation, and their sometimes favorite and sometimes not so favorite, composting.

The garden will be open on Tuesdays from 4pm-5:30pm until the time change. If it rains on a Tuesday we will not be working in the garden that day. When daylight savings occurs we will be working from 4-6pm.

Experiential Group for February: Finding and Keeping a job can be a challenge for any teenager. Join us to learn how first impressions matter in a job search; dress and grooming, the importance of being on time and ready to work, and other important skills. **We will meet at Howell Hall in the Downtown Mall on Wed, February 20th from 4-6pm.** We will be having a contest (**with prizes**) for the youth who most appropriately dresses for an interview. Since many youth's first job tends to be in retail the youth should dress for this type of interview.

Pizza Night: Join us on **Wed, February 6th from 4:30pm– 6pm**, for ILP Pizza Night at the Roundtable in the Mt. Shasta Mall. This is a time for youth to talk to peers, connect with their caseworkers and enjoy some pizza. **Please only send youth who do not need to be supervised, individually, by staff. Please pick up youth promptly at 6pm.**

Financial Aid Time: It's that time again. We suggest that all seniors fill out a financial aid packet with their caseworker. Some seniors may think that they do not want to go to college but then change their mind at the last minute. Filling out the financial aid packet does not require that you attend college. However, if you decide to go it makes the process easier.

Reminder: Cal Grant applications are due by March 1st. A FAFSA application must be completed first. You must then make sure that your high school has sent in your GPA verification electronically or get one signed and send it in yourself with your Cal Grant application.

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