

# Fact Sheet

## *Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services Transitional Housing Placement Program*

### **What is the Transitional Housing Placement Program (THPP)?**

The authority for the Transitional Housing Program is Assembly Bill (AB) 1198, (Chapter 799, Statutes of 1993). AB 1198 required the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to develop the Transitional Housing Placement Pilot Program in three counties. AB 2774 extended CDSS' implementation of the THPP for community care facilities to every county.

In Los Angeles County, the Transitional Housing Placement Program is an innovative program which will further the goals of the federal Independent Living Program (ILP), serving as a bridge to ensure foster youth are properly trained, receive a high school diploma or its equivalent, and have affordable housing arrangements to integrate into the community when leaving the foster care system.

### **GOALS**

- Provide an intensified independent living program to ensure youth receive training and skills prior to leaving care
- Assist youth to leave care with the skills and financial means to move towards independence

### **TARGET POPULATION**

- Youth 16 or 17 years old
- DCFS court dependent living with a foster parent, relative or in a group home
- Youth making progress towards their high school diploma, GED or equivalent, or already has a HSD, GED or equivalent
- Youth doing well in school and current placement
- Responsible enough and able to live in an apartment/house alone or with another youth
- Eligible for ILP or enrolled in ILP Individualized Transition Skills Program (ITSP)

### **LENGTH OF PROGRAM**

Most youth will be placed in the THPP for one to two years. However, no youth may remain placed in THPP once he/she turns 18 years old.

## **HOUSING**

Agency supervised apartments or houses throughout Los Angeles County, where the NMD lives alone or with another NMD, and an agency staff person lives in a separate apartment/house on the same property. All apartments/houses are completely furnished with paid utilities.

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The THPP program offers ongoing case management to assist the youth with completing high school, getting employment and preparing for living independently. The assigned CSW continues to visit the youth and receives progress reports from the agency for each youth. Youth participate in recreational activities offered by the agency. Each youth receives a monthly allowance to pay for food, clothing, cleaning supplies, recreational activities, personal care and other miscellaneous items. Some of the allowance is saved every month by the agency. The money saved is placed in an interest-bearing savings account and the youth receives the money (minus any money owed for damages, etc.) when he/she leaves the program.

## **TRAINING**

Youth are required to attend 240 minutes (4 hours) of life skills training per month. The training is intended to help the youth develop educational, vocational, employment and career skills. All trainings are designed to promote overall personal growth, and focus on completing high school, money management, reproductive health, family planning, substance abuse awareness and prevention, etc.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The THPP application is available at [www.ilponline.org](http://www.ilponline.org)

The assigned CSW should speak with the youth about the program and assist with completing the application. The CSW is responsible for sending the application, along with required documents to [thpp@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:thpp@dcfs.lacounty.gov). The THPP supervisor will review the application packet and invite appropriate youth to an interview. Before a youth may move into THPP, he/she must get approval from his/her ILP Transition Coordinator (TC) and the DCFS County Program Manager (CPM). After the ILP TC approves the youth for placement, the THPP agency contacts the CPM directly to request approval.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Youth under the supervision of the Probation Department are not eligible for THPP. For more information, send an email to: [thpp@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:thpp@dcfs.lacounty.gov) or contact

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