

FACT Sheet

Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services Transitional Housing Program Plus

What is the Transitional Housing Program Plus (THP - Plus)

In 2001, the Transitional Housing Program Plus was created by the California State Legislature in response to the alarming rates of homelessness among former foster youth. The Los Angeles County Transitional Housing Program Plus is a 170+ bed transitional housing opportunity for young adults who exited from foster care (including those supervised by probation) on or after their 18 birthday. There is no cost to the youth for this program.

GOALS

- The program provides a safe living environment while helping youth to develop life skills for successful independent living.
- It supports youth by providing stable housing and services such as education assistance, counseling, employment support and training, and case management.
- The program provides supervised transitional living housing and supportive services based on a Supportive Transitional Emancipation Program – Transitional Independent Living Plan (STEP-TILP).

TARGET POPULATION

- Eligible youth are those who exited foster care at or after age 18.
- Youth that are able to work full-time, attend school full-time or work and attend school on a part-time basis. (includes secondary, post-secondary, and accredited vocational school)
- Youth that are homeless or at risk of being homeless

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

- Time and age limits for THP-Plus participation are 36 cumulative months or age 25, whichever comes first.

HOUSING

- This transitional housing program is available throughout Los Angeles County.
- Youth will share an apartment with another THP-Plus participant, but will have their own bedroom.
- The apartments are completely furnished with paid utilities.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- As a condition of participation, youth must be actively pursuing the goals of their Supportive Transitional Emancipation Program – Transitional Independent Living Plan (STEP-TILP).
- Youth are expected to contribute a portion of their income into a Savings Plan (30% - 50%). The entire amount saved, plus interest will be returned to the youth upon exit from THP-Plus.
- Youth will receive a monthly food stipend and a bus pass.
- Housing provider will deposit \$50.00 a month for the youth into an Emancipation Savings Fund.
- Youth will receive bi-weekly face-to-face visits from the case manager.

TRAINING

Youth are required to attend 120 minutes (two hours) a month of individual or group life skills training sessions. All trainings are designed to promote overall personal growth, and will focus on money management, daily living skills, employment and housing.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Youth must complete the THP-Plus Housing Application and ILP Verification of Emancipation Status. The application must be completed and submitted directly to the DCFS Supportive Housing Division who will check eligibility and will forward applications to the housing providers. All youth will be screened and interviewed by housing providers prior to acceptance into the program. It is recommended that youth apply to multiple housing providers.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, including if a youth from another County other than Los Angeles County wants to enter THP-Plus or if a youth from Los Angeles County wants to be placed in another County's THP-Plus, please contact:

- Robert Castaneda, Program Manager (213) 763-3849 THP-PLUS-CLOSEDCASES@dcfs.lacounty.gov
- Gregory Lindsey, Probation (323) 549-4111 gregory.lindsey@probation.lacounty.gov
- Michael Scoggins, Housing Director (213) 763-1531 scoggm@dcfs.lacounty.gov