

Fact Sheet

Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services Transitional Housing Placement Plus Foster Care

What is the Transitional Housing Placement Plus Foster Care (THP+FC)?

On September 30, 2010, Assembly Bill 12 (AB 12) Extended Foster Care (EFC) was signed into law. AB 12 allowed California to extend foster care up to age 21 for young adults who met the federal participation conditions for continued eligibility after age 18, including those served under State-Tribe IV-E agreement and supervised by probation. These young adults are referred to as Non-Minor Dependents (NMD).

In Los Angeles County, the Transitional Housing Placement Plus Foster Care (THP+FC) is an innovative program which will further the goals of the federal Independent Living Program (ILP), serving to ensure foster/probation youth are properly trained, and have attained a level of independence and self-sufficiency that allows them to exit care successfully.

GOALS

- Offer high-level independent living classes to provide the NMD with the training and skills necessary for exiting care and living independently; or remaining in care and transitioning to a Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP)
- Help NMDs exit care with the skills and financial means to move towards independence

TARGET POPULATION

- DCFS or Probation Non-Minor Dependents (NMDs) who meet **one or more** of the following AB 12 participation conditions:
 1. Completing high school or an equivalent program
 2. Enrolled in college or vocational education
 3. Participating in a program designed to promote or remove barriers to employment
 4. Employed for at least 80 hours per month
 5. Is incapable of enrollment in school or employment due to a documented medical condition
- Are age 18 through 20 (up to, but not including, 21)
- Current court dependents
- Eligible for participation in ILP
- Responsible enough to share an apartment or house with another NMD

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

Most NMDs (depending on his/her age) will be able to remain in the THP+FC for up to 3 years. However, no NMD may remain in THP+FC once he/she turns 21 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 may also live in another apartment/house on the same property; OR a host family where the NMD lives with a caring adult who provides supportive services and basic board and care. All housing models are completely furnished with paid utilities.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The THP+FC program offers ongoing case management to assist the NMD with maintaining and achieving his/her AB 12 participation condition goals and preparing for living independently. The assigned CSW/DPO continues to visit the NMD and receives progress reports from the agency for each NMD. NMDs have the option of participating in their own recreational activities or attending activities offered by the THP+FC Agency. Each NMD receives a monthly allowance to purchase food, clothing, personal care items and other items identified in his/her monthly budget. NMDs who are custodial parents might be eligible for an allowance (infant supplement) per child.

TRAINING

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

APPLICATION PROCESS

The THP+FC application is available at www.ilponline.org and all applications are submitted directly to each agency by the CSW/DPO. The assigned CSW/DPO should contact one (or more) of the THP+FC Agency's on the provider roster to find out about openings. Before a NMD can move into THP+FC, the DCFS/Probation County Program Manager (CPM) must provide authorization. The agency contacts the CPM directly to request authorization.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information, including if a NMD from a county other than Los Angeles wants to be placed in THP+FC or if a Los Angeles County NMD wants to be placed in a THP+FC that's not in Los Angeles County, please contact:

DCFS Youth: thpplusfc@dcfs.lacounty.gov or

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| Maurissa Mitchem, CSA II | P (213) 351-0119 – F (213) 637-0035 | sanmau@dcfs.lacounty.gov |
| Carlotta Koger SCSW | P (213) 351-0188 – F (213) 637-0035 | kogerc@dcfs.lacounty.gov |
| Vacant | P (213) 351-0120 – F (213) 637-0035 | XXXX@dcfs.lacounty.gov |

Probation Youth: probab12@probation.lacounty.gov or

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| John Randall, SDPO | P (909) 347-9128 – F (213) 637-0037 | johnny.randall@probation.lacounty.gov |
| Diana Finks, DPO II | P (213) 351-0216 – F (213) 637-0037 | diana.finks@probation.lacounty.gov |

We are located at 3530 Wilshire Boulevard, 4th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90010