

Employment and Human Services Department

Youth Services Report



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (EHSD)

REPORT TO THE FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE | JULY 25, 2022

PRESENTED BY _____

Independent Living Skills Program (ILSP)

The **Independent Living Skills Program (ILSP)** administered by Children and Family Services (CFS) Bureau provides a variety of services to youth who are in-care or recently emancipated from the Foster Care System. Our program is staffed with Program Specialists who specialize in Education, Employment, Housing and Health and Well Being. Our program serves youth up to age 21.

Education

- Graduation Stipend for Contra Costa foster youth who graduated from high school this year. In partnership with the Office of Education, 58 eligible youth were identified.
- Scholarships from Assistance League of Diablo Valley, Orinda Women's Club, and Methodist Church of Walnut Creek
- Community College workshops
- YearUp, Bridge Tech, and iFoster
- ILSP continues to support foster youth and NMDs with applying for college financial aid, and also provide educational resources

Employment

- Referrals to Job Corps and Civic Corps
- Referrals to WIOA case managers, who help provide employment services to ILSP participants enrolled in their program
- Workshops by Travis Credit Union and Youth Finance Institute of America
- Family Harvest Farm: 9 foster youth employed in paid internship positions
- ILSP continues to assist youth/NMDs in creating resumes, and supports them in filling out job applications

Housing

- Transitional Housing Placement Program (THPP). **In FY 21/22, two foster youth resided in THPP.**
- Transitional Housing Placement-Plus-Foster Care (THP+FC, also known as THP-NMD). **In FY 21/22, 62 NMDs on average were in a THP+FC placement.**
- Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus). **In FY 21/22, 14 non-minors on average were in THP-Plus housing.**

Well-Being

- **In FY 21/22, 469 unique youth in Contra Costa were served individually and in group settings by ILSP staff**
- 14-session Healthy Relationship curriculum provided by Shores of Hope to help youth/non-minor dependents (NMDs) identify healthy relationships
- One-on-one mentoring
- Transitional Independent Living Plans (TILPs) developed
- Emergency food pantry and clothes closet at ILSP building
- ILSP-run recreational activities
- ILSP-run support groups
- ILSP Fund (managed by VESTIA, Inc.) provided timely access to gift cards and tangible items

ILSP Website:
<https://cocoilsp.org>
Contact Number: 1-866-994-4577



HYPE Summer Youth Program

Helping Youth Participate in Employment

(HYPE) is a pilot Younger Summer Youth Program administered by the Workforce Services (WFS) Bureau. WFS coordinates with Pittsburg High School to serve teens age 14 and 15 whose parents are receiving CalWORKs.

Program Highlights

To date, fifteen teens are enrolled in HYPE and the WFS Bureau has become aware of additional teens who are interested in participating.

- As the teens attend Pittsburg High School “Credit Recovery”, commonly known as summer school, the teens will be earning pay for attending and making satisfactory progress in their enrolled course(s)
- Additionally, the teens will have the opportunity to attend various workshops, such as resume writing, money management, mock interviews etc. with the goal being to provide the teens with soft skills and job readiness education in preparation to enter the more formal Summer Youth Program through the Workforce Development Board



Cal-Learn

Cal-Learn is a statewide program administered by the Workforce Services (WFS) Bureau for pregnant and parenting teens, including the child's father if in the home, who are 19 years of age or younger and receive CalWORKs. The goal of Cal-Learn is to help teens graduate from high school, obtain their GED, or equivalent. There is no application process for Cal-Learn as eligibility for the program is determined at CalWORKs approval.

Fiscal Year 2021-22 Highlights

From July 2021 to May 2022, EHSD served 32 participants through the CalLearn program



WIOA Youth Program

The **WIOA Youth Program** administered by the Workforce Development Board (WDB) provides comprehensive career & educational planning, including paid work-experience/internships, GED or HS completion, dollars for training, work readiness, job search assistance, and post-secondary education prep.

Youth Providers by area served:

- Central – Mt Diablo Unified School District (Youth Employment Services) [Youth Employment Services \(mdusd.org\)](http://mdusd.org)
- East & West County – Contra Costa County Office of Education Youth Services (Workforce Programs) [Youth Services \(YS\) - Contra Costa County Office of Education \(cccoe.k12.ca.us\)](http://cccoe.k12.ca.us)

Program Year 2021-22 Highlights

190 disadvantaged Youth/Young Adults ages 16-24, including current & former foster youth, homeless, youth with disabilities, justice-involved, parenting, and dropouts, were served by the program



Youth Center Request for Interest (RFI)

As part of Measure X Community Planning process, EHSD was selected as the host agency to contract for the development and operations of two **Youth Centers** to be established in East and Central County. EHSD will release a **Request for Interest (RFI)** seeking qualified contractor(s) to support the planning process.

Youth Center RFI Details

- EHSD is seeking project management and public engagement services that may include steering committee formation, survey instruments, interviews, focus groups, and public engagement workshops to solicit input from local community based organizations to deliver a youth-centered process, program design, implementation plan and proposed budget for each Youth Center.
- EHSD is looking to release this RFI soon; interested parties may visit the following page for updates: [Contracting Opportunities | EHSD](#)



Questions?

