## Normalcy Resources for Older Youth in Care\*



The State Roundtable's Transitional Youth Workgroup has been charged with identifying strategies that normalize the foster care experience and allows children and youth to be granted age appropriate freedoms. In addition, the workgroup are working to make a meaningful transition into independent living for youth aging out of the foster care system.

The Office of Children and Families in the Courts http://www.ocfcpacourts.us/



Recently released, the Independent Living (IL) Services Bulletin and its accompanying appendix are good resources to utilize in the discussion for normalcy and developmentally appropriate freedoms for youth in care.

## **Pennsylvania Independent Living Services Bulletin**

http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/bulletin admin/d 005741.pdf

## **Independent Living Appendix**

http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/bulletin\_admin/d\_005742.pdf





**Youth Thrive** is a part of The Center for the Study of Social Policy. "This multi-year initiative examines how foster youth can be supported in ways that advance healthy development and well-being and reduce the impact of negative life experiences." To learn more about the Center for The Study of Social Policy or about their Youth Thrive Framework you can find their website here:

http://www.cssp.org/reform/child-welfare/youth-thrive



**Youth Fostering Change** is a youth workgroup that was developed by **Juvenile Law Center** to help promote positive changes in the system. Their *Teen Success Agreement* and *Education Resource Guide* can be found at:

http://www.jlc.org/yfc



<sup>\*</sup>QR codes have been provided for quick reference of materials. You can download QR code reader apps on your smart phones.



The **Know Your Rights** Manual was developed in conjunction with the **Pennsylvania Youth Advisory Board and Juvenile Law Center**, in an effort to educate youth in the system about their rights. The guide can be found at:

http://www.independentlivingpa.org/rights.htm



**FosterClub's** has created a very youth friendly *Transition Toolkit* that intended to be youth lead. The pages can be written on, and the lessons can be completed in any order. The toolkit can be found at:

https://www.fosterclub.com/files/transition\_toolkit.pdf



Their *Permanency Pact* can be used during a facilitated discussion that can help youth think through permanent connections in their life. It walks through 40 different activities that can be completed by various permanent connections. The Permanency Pact can be found here:

Permanency Pact 1 <a href="https://www.fosterclub.com/files/PermPact\_0.pdf">https://www.fosterclub.com/files/PermPact\_0.pdf</a>



**Anu Family Services** is one of the Youth Thrive Award recipients. Their work in permanency is progressive. They created the *Youth Connections Scale* to assist in finding permanent connections for youth in their care. They did this work in conjunction with the Center for Advanced Studies in Child welfare. Their websites are below:



https://www.anufs.org/



## **Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare:**



http://cascw.umn.edu/portfolio-items/ycs/



The **Pennsylvania Youth Advisory Board** is made up of current and former youth in care, ages 16-21. Their mission is to educate, advocate, and form partnerships to create a positive change in the substitute care system.

www.independentlivingpa.org

**Facebook Page** 

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