**INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL (ILSAC)**

Planning Meeting

Monday September 8, 2025, 9:30 am-12:30 pm eastern

Microsoft Teams: Meeting ID: 289 516 833 877
Passcode: LK7WC2Ab

***Please note the following agenda is for reference purposes only. To eliminate unnecessary delays for the public and the council, the Chairs at their discretion may deviate from the published agenda.***

AGENDA AND MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions: In attendance, Melody Kohr, Andrea Ziglar, Brittany James-Dean, Brian McMillian, Makayla Quinoes, Heather DeFrancisco, Morgan Robinson, Meinrad John, Tomas Matamoros, Keri Flynn, Liesl Ramos, Frank Avilla, JR Minter, Cindy Walker, Vicki Aldis, Brittany James-Dean, Rebecca Sen, Demarcco Mott, Terrance Watts, Margie Dodson, Melissa Jager, Kelly Faircloth, Cal Walton, Tyrone Cleveland, Marta Torres, and Rebecca Morgan.

New appointed members: Terrance Watts, Melissa Jager, Liesl Ramos, and Ashley. Reappointment for Alison Fulford, Heather DeFransciso, Maria Batista not here today, and Sara Phem is also out today, and Brian is on for her.

1. Self-Sufficiency Assessment Presentation-JR Minter with Selfless Love (9:45-10:15)
* JR reviewed the number of domains, 5-point scale, whole-person view, tracks outcomes and not just services, generates consistent data for evaluation & accountability, and Influenced tools like the LifeWorks Self-Sufficiency Matrix.
* Arizona’s looks a little different and bases it with National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) categories and allows us to capture statewide realities.
* Measuring outcomes for consistency.
* How much support will young adults need for aftercare.
* This could help with case plan goals, have you achieved your goals, etc.
* Andrea will send the overview to members.
* Vicki Aldis commented on how great this looks and having standards in place and help improving us.
* Kelly Faircloth also commented on the assessment and the scoring. Cal asking if we are currently using scoring and intent made based on the goal of EFC and needs assessment should be resolved prior to 18.
1. Housing for Independent Living Populations Presentation-Andrea Ziglar with Department (10:15-10:45)
* 3 main programs to include, Aftercare services don’t include housing requirements. Young adults can live in any type of housing. Most aftercare often does include some type of housing assistance. PESS, they receive $1720. per month to support housing and assessment to determine if that young adult is ready to receive the full amount or housing provider first and then young adult would receive the remainder. EFC is the most intensive program, the CBC must approve the placement and based on supervision level and need.
* FYI voucher, Fostering Youth to Independence; similar to a section 8 housing but only for young adults are in or left within 180 days and at risk of being homeless and at least 18.
* SB 584, the prioritization at College/Universities must prioritize these youth and contact their office. The second section pertains to FYI, partner with Public Housing Authorities.
1. CBC Housing Specialists Presentations
	1. **Family Partnerships of Central Florida**-Meinrad John & Keri Flynn (10:45-11:00)
* Discussed the types of housing they utilize, tiered payment structure, and challenges.
	1. **Communities Connected for Kids**-Frank Avila (11:00-11:15)
* In this position about 11 months-goal was to increase array of housing options for young adult’s aging out-tasked with increasing host homes in community
* Started with good assistance from foster care program with those that are no longer licensed, have increased about 15-20 beds for host homes
* Used community relations team to distribute information through media; starting to attend different events and meetings with marketing materials they’ve created
* Have MOU’s with some apartment complexes
* Largest barrier is difficulty in communicating with PHA’s
	1. **NWF Health Network East**-Tyrone Cleveland & Kelly Faircloth (11:15-11:30)
* Pilot site participant, C2 and C14. We are child protection and ME.
* They discussed housing they utilize, referral process, building community relationships, identifying housing opportunities and funding source identification, problem solving, best practices and implementation strategies. Lastly, moments of impact during the pilot.
	1. **Kid’s Central, Inc.-**Brittany Dean (11:30-11:45)
* Speak to host homes, feels word of mouth is best way to recruit
* Has had trouble finding some landlords that want to know how they are getting paid
* Uses home study that is similar to traditional UHS-use this to protect the young adult as well
* No FYI vouchers in area; had one student denied for FUP voucher-have found they have to educate the PHA’s on FYI as well
* Attends COC meetings, community meetings, etc. and advocates for housing opportunities
* Added mentorship to IL program for young adults-she is overseeing mentorship as well
	1. **Citrus Health Network**-Tomas Matamoros (11:45-12:00)
* Housing market in Miami-Dade is very challenging
* Fair market starting at $1900 for one bedroom
* Have increased number of TYS beds to around 500
* Has housing referral for TYS filled out by case management
* Currently have around 150 FYI vouchers in effect
* Have a housing team of people-have placed new providers on a wait list as they have a high number of other options
1. Follow up discussion on presentations (12:00)
	1. Suggestion of training for housing providers (Meinrad)-put high need kids in homes and then they need more support. They send out trainings that might apply from training program but nothing specific to post-18 providers.
		1. Citrus has an orientation for providers-looking at creating one for current providers as well
		2. Potential questions: how do we retain host homes? What training or supports are in place for providers? What is the approval process for TLP/host homes?
		3. Margie (CCKids)-have good relationships with ELI units and get calls to offer support to young adults-would like data on what the challenges are statewide, discussion on young adult’s transitioning to other areas and how FYI vouchers should transition-Cal will allow the FYI Voucher implementation plans to be distributed to council
	2. Guardianship issues (Margie)-always have struggles with that issue-understand the process but always having trouble finding someone to be appointed-Cal reports the Department is working internally to help get some of these issues resolved
		1. Litty Summers-having difficulty finding guardians when young adults are in other areas
	3. SNAP benefits (Margie)-Have issues with some young adults getting different benefits based on who is processing the application-some are counting PESS stipends when they shouldn’t be-Cal addressed this as the young adult can call OCC and providing support
	4. Self-Sufficiency Assessment
	5. Ginger-doing some statistical tools to break down EFC to see what is working and what isn’t. Will be a way to identify waste of the system and areas that may need improvement. Goal will be to have all CBC’s participate. Take this into consideration when developing focus of ILSAC next year so not duplicating services
2. Planning for next meeting and CBC data collection form
	1. Oct 13 is next meeting
	2. Need to discuss how to move forward in January with dates and locations of meetings
	3. Council members would like copy of final report that was submitted to Department
	4. New council members need all the Council materials to review since there has not yet been an onboarding process-can send and then discuss how to proceed in January