

Important Websites

The Independent Living Program's mission is to provide foster youth with the skills, experience and assistance it takes for youth to become productive, self-sufficient adults.

<http://www.ilponline.org/>

California Department of Social Services, foster youth help resource page provides children and youth with information on their rights when placed in foster care. Hotline:1-877-846-1602 email:fosteryouthhelp@dss.ca.gov

www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov

United Friends of the Children was founded in 1979 by Nancy Daly Riordan to address the unmet needs of Los Angeles County's foster youth – a most vulnerable and underserved population. Today, UFC provides support services to more than 2,000 current and former foster youth each year, working to provide them with the opportunity to finish high school, find housing, attend college and build the skills to support themselves. (213) 580-1850 1055 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1955 Los Angeles, CA 90017

<http://www.unitedfriends.org>

The Alliance for Children's Rights - The Alliance becomes a lifeline that helps guide these 16 to 24 year olds through the difficult transition from foster care to independence by educating them about their legal rights and responsibilities and empowering them with skill building workshops and access to resources. Our Allies Mentoring Program is designed to further support these youth by providing them with caring, consistent, adult role models who will help empower them to make good decisions and set attainable life goals. Together with our pro bono attorneys, The Alliance is helping to change the outcomes for these youth.

<http://www.kids-alliance.org>

California Chafee Grant for Foster Youth If you are or were in foster care and have financial need, you may qualify for up to \$5,000 a year for career and technical training or college. To qualify for the Chafee Grant, you must be a current or former foster youth and have not reached your 22nd birthday as of July 1 of the award year.

<https://www.chafee.csac.ca.gov/default.aspx>

El Proyecto del Barrio. The Youth Opportunities Program provides services throughout the San Fernando Valley. The program offers at-risk youth ages 14 to 21 a single point of contact for accessing age-specific and developmental services that provide educational, occupational and life skills attainment. The program provides classroom-based learning, tutoring and study skills instruction as well as employment attainment services - all of which prepare high-risk youth with the skills they need to be successful in the workforce. It is the only program to have achieved a four-star rating (the highest possible) from the City of Los Angeles.

http://www.elproyecto.us/youth_fact.htm

Santa Clarita WorkSource Center. The Center's focus is to provide a workforce development system by bringing job seekers and employers together in one place. Our Center offers employment workshops, computers and printers, Internet access, phones, fax and copy machines.

<http://www.scworksource.com/>

Orphan Foundation of America. Founded in 1981, the Orphan Foundation of America serves thousands of foster teens across the United States. Whether we're providing them with college scholarships, connecting them with mentors and internships, sending them care packages, or testifying before congress, OFA is a passionate champion of foster youth.

<http://www.orphan.org/>

Change a Life Foundation. Helps individuals and families who, through no fault of their own, have experienced an injury, illness, or catastrophic life event, and who are suffering financial hardship, by providing support for critically needed direct services that promote their self-sufficiency and improve their quality of life.

<http://www.changealife.org/>

Casey Family Programs. The nation's largest operating foundation entirely focused on foster care. Since 1966, we have worked to provide and improve – and ultimately prevent the need for – foster care in the United States. As advocates for change, we are committed to our 2020 Strategy – an ambitious yet attainable goal to safely reduce the number of children in foster care and improve the lives of those who remain in care.

<http://www.casey.org/>

The National Alliance on Mental Illness. (NAMI) has launched StrengthofUs.org, a new online community where young adults living with mental health concerns can provide mutual support in navigating unique challenges and opportunities during the critical transition years from ages 18 to 25. Developed by young adults, StengthofUs.org is a user-driven social networking community where members can connect with peers, share personal stories, creativity and helpful resources by writing and responding to blog entries, engaging in discussion groups and sharing videos, photos and other news.

<http://www.strengthofus.org/>