

October 2015

Volume 4, Issue 10

Project 10 Topical Briefs are published on a monthly basis. Each issue focuses on a specific topic or theme. This month the *Topical Brief* is focused on **Foster Care**.



American Youth Policy Forum Creating Opportunities for Youth in Transition from Foster Care Policy Brief

<http://www.aypf.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/FOSTER-CARE-BRIEF-12.10-2nd-Draft.pdf>

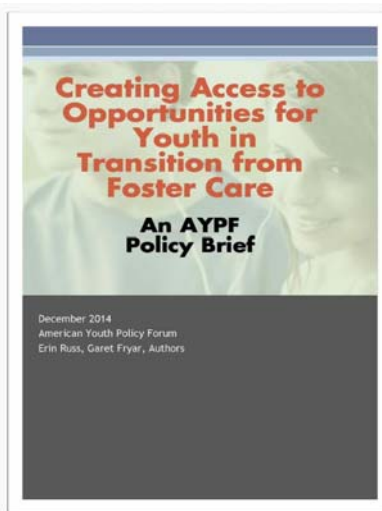
What happens to youth in foster care when they turn 18? Many face unprecedented challenges like homelessness, lack of financial resources, difficulty accessing educational opportunities, and unemployment. In this issue brief, The

American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF) documents these challenges and opportunities in three distinct yet overlapping areas of need:


- Sustainable Social Capital
- Permanency Supports
- Postsecondary Opportunities

For each area of need, AYPF defines the challenges youth face

and identifies promising programs and policies that are in place to help youth transition from foster care to a healthy, successful adult life.



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Bullying Prevention Month



<http://www.fldoe.org/schools/safe-healthy-schools/safe-schools/bullying-prevention.stml>

October is National Bullying Prevention Month! Schools and community organizations across the country are encouraged to come together in an effort to educate on the impact of bullying and raise awareness for bullying prevention. There are many fun and interesting activities and events taking place in schools throughout the state, such

Juvenile Law Center Improving Transition to Adulthood for

Youth with Disabilities in Foster Care

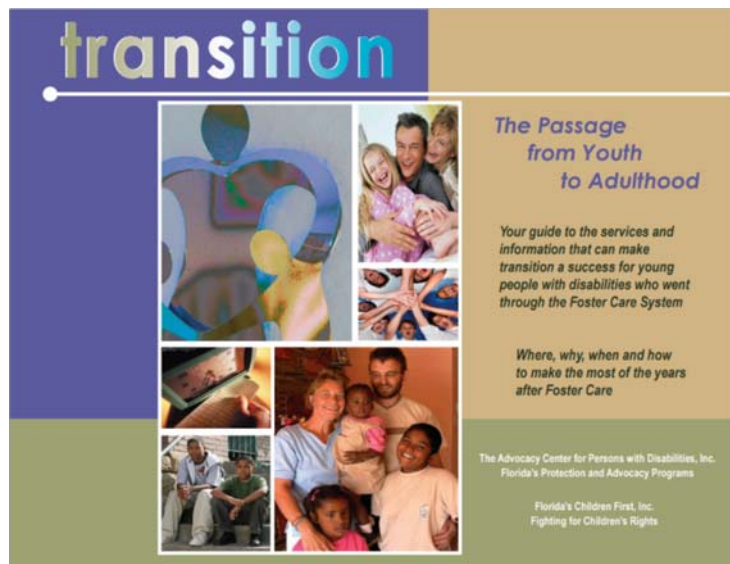


<http://www.jlc.org/current-initiatives/improving-outcomes-court-involved-youth/permanency-and-transition-adulthood/tran>

Juvenile Law Center has developed tools to help youth with disabilities, child welfare professionals and advocates as they plan for the transition to adulthood from the child welfare system. This planning tool was developed for child welfare workers and advocates to use to guide planning for youth with disabilities in the child welfare system from age 14 to 21. It highlights key issues to address as youth with special needs are preparing for and making the transition to adulthood. The Juvenile Law Center also features planning tools for transition for both practitioners and youth.

Florida's Children First, Inc. Transition: A Guide for Foster Youth with Disabilities Transitioning to Adulthood

http://floridaschildrenfirst.org/pdf/Foster_Final_Proof.pdf



Florida's Children First, Inc. and The Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc. have developed this guide featuring services and information that can make transition a success for young people with disabilities who went through the Florida foster care system.

as wearing orange on October 21, 2015 for "Unity Day" as promoted by www.pacer.org.

The Safe Schools section of the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) website features a page on bullying prevention which includes related guidance as well as resources for educators, parents and youth.

Down Syndrome Awareness Month



<http://downsyndromeinfo.org/down-syndrome-awareness-month/>

The Down Syndrome Information Alliance features a list of "21 Things You Can Do to Celebrate & Raise Awareness" for Down Syndrome Awareness Month. This list includes local, state and national activities, social media campaigns and volunteer opportunities.

Rural Routes to Employment Project

The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) is seeking applications from school districts and communities to become a project site. Project sites are provided with training, technical assistance and mentoring tailored to the needs of a specific community and transition-age job seekers. This is an opportunity to provide customized employment services for transition-aged youth in rural areas. The application deadline is **November 15, 2015**.

To learn more please download the [notice and application](#).

Foster Care Resources

Child Welfare Information Gateway

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/>

Child Welfare Information Gateway promotes the safety, permanency, and well-being of children, youth and families by connecting child welfare, adoption and related professionals as well as the public to information, resources, and tools covering topics on child welfare, child abuse and neglect, out-of-home care, adoption and more.

Everybody's a Teacher

<http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/initiatives/everybodysateacher/docs/7Resources-byTopic.pdf>

This guide contains resources for people working with children in foster care by topic.

Florida's Center for Child Welfare, Foster Parent Resources

<http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/OutofHomeCare/FosterParent.shtml>

Operating within the University of South Florida's College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, Department of Child and Family Studies, "The Center" works in collaboration with the Department of Children and Families to ensure information contained on this site is timely, accurate and useful to child welfare professionals and others. This page includes Florida specific and general resources and publications.

Florida Department of Children and Families, Foster Care

<http://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/foster-care>

This website provides information on foster care in Florida for current and prospective foster parents, agencies, advocates and professionals. There is information about foster parent training, publications, guides and other Florida-specific resources.

National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections, Independent Living/Transition to Adulthood

<http://www.nrcpfc.org/is/independent-living.html>

This website includes evidence-based practices, research, publications, resources and training on independent living and transition to adulthood for young adults with disabilities for foster care professionals.



Upcoming Events

Working with the Experts for Occupational and Physical Therapists:

The Therapist's Role in Secondary Transition

<http://www.flwwe.net/events.aspx?eventTypeID=1001>

Registration is now open for "The Therapist's Role in Secondary Transition" presented by Emily F. Kertcher, Ph.D., MOT, OTR/L, and Linda Rudd, M.Ed., OTR/L. This training is offered at multiple locations across the state.

- **November 9, 2015**
Miami, FL
- **November 10, 2015**
Orlando, FL
- **November 12, 2015**
Tallahassee, FL

**Save
the
Date**



District transition contacts and teams: Save the date!
Join us to hear the latest transition updates and report on transition progress and activities since the VISIONS/Transition Planning Institute.

- **February 1, 2016: Region 2 (Northwest Florida)**
- **February 2, 2016: Region 1 (Northeast Florida)**
- **February 4, 2016: Region 5 (South Florida)**
- **February 5, 2016: Regions 3 and 4 (Central Florida)**

Registration and additional information will be forthcoming!



Upcoming Webinars

National Resources for Access, Independence, Self-Advocacy, and Employment (RAISE) Technical Assistance Center Webinars :

Sheltered Workshops and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

October 20, 2015

2:30pm - 3:15pm EST

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/raise-webinars-for-parent-centers-tickets-17768074790>

The National RAISE Technical Assistance Center, through the US Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration is offering two webinars presented by National Disability Rights Network in the upcoming weeks and months. RAISE works to create a user-centered technical assistance center to understand the needs and resources of the Parent Training and Information Centers that are supported by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA-PTICs) and collaborate with them to improve products and services.

Standing Up For Me

October 27, 2015 (Please note that webinar is second session of a two-part series)

4:30pm - 6:00pm EST

<https://www.smores.com/ep0e9>

Project 10 Region 1 and FDLRS Emerald Coast are collaborating to provide The Standing Up For Me training virtually through Adobe Connect. This curriculum was developed in Florida and designed to advance the self-determination and self-advocacy skills of youth with disabilities. The 2012 version of this curriculum covers the primary, intermediate, middle, and high school grades.

Connecting Partners and Resources to Prepare Youth for Careers: A Federal Partners in Transition (FTP) Webinar

November 10, 2015

1:00pm - 2:30pm EST

Registration is open through November 9, 2015 and available at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3726245276081155842>

The FPT workgroup highlights the coordinated strategies of several federal agencies, including the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, and the Social Security Administration. Educational practices, career development and employment strategies, and benefits counseling will be presented. The event is designed to inform the transition community including students and youth with disabilities, their family members, practitioners, vocational rehabilitation counselors, educators, public and private sector agencies and other partners

about a wide variety of federally funded resources.

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About **Project 10 Topical Briefs:**

Project 10 *Topical Briefs* provide short information summaries and resource links related to secondary transition.

Have a question? Want to find or recommend a resource? Have some great news to share?

Send us an email at

project10@stpete.usf.edu

For back issues of Project 10 Topical Briefs, visit the newsletter page on the Project 10 website at
<http://www.project10.info/Newsletter.php>.

Project 10:

Transition Education Network

assists Florida school districts and relevant stakeholders in building capacity to provide secondary transition services to students with disabilities in order to improve their academic success and post-school outcomes.

**Project 10: Transition Education Network
University of South Florida St. Petersburg**

Questions or comments?

Email us at

project10@stpete.usf.edu

www.Project10.info