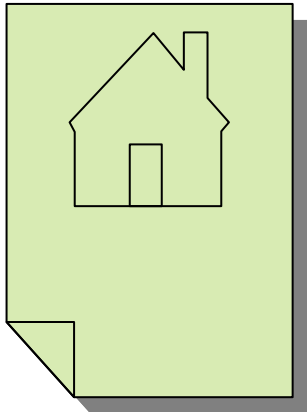


TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT PROGRAM



(T.H.P.P.)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Introduction.....	3
Selecting Participants.....	3
Educational Requirements.....	4
Independent Living Skills Training.....	4
Progress Evaluation and Reporting.....	5
Youth Employment.....	5
Transportation & Owning Vehicles.....	6
Budgeting & Savings.....	7
Housing Options.....	7
Supervision.....	8
T.H.P.P. Staff and Volunteers.....	8
Program Mentors.....	9
Utilities & Phone.....	9
Housekeeping.....	9
Furnishings & Decorating.....	10
Good Neighbor Policy.....	11
Medical	11
Emergencies.....	11
Safety Issues.....	11
Dating.....	12
Pregnancy & Child Care.....	12
Curfew.....	12
Visitors.....	13
Alcohol & Other Drugs.....	13
Disciplinary Measures.....	13
Personal Rights.....	14
Grounds for Termination.....	15
Aftercare Services.....	15
Attachment - Independent Living Skills Checklist.....	16

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INTRODUCTION

Changed Lives, Inc. doing business as Krista Foster Homes Transitional Housing Placement Program is designed to prepare foster youth in their last year of placement for a successful transition to independent living in their community.

Youth are placed in a semi independent living environment, usually in an apartment with another youth and a young adult mentor. While in the program, teens are trained in a broad range of skills through classes offered by this agency, the Independent Living Program, Independent Living Skills Program, as well as individual training by the youth's Independent Living Skills worker and Krista case manager. Our goal is to assist youth to become increasingly independent, to acquire job skills, graduate high school, learn to make healthy choices, earn a good rental reference, and to transition into responsible self sufficiency. This is accomplished by providing the classes and services mentioned above, youth live-in mentors who teach daily living skills, and agency case managers who provide various services such as: 1) monitoring school progress, 2) assisting youth in finding employment, 3) teaching budgeting and saving money for the youth, 4) individual training in various life skills, and 5) transporting youth to all independent living classes offered.

SELECTING PARTICIPANTS

Youth in out of home placement through the department of Children's Services or Juvenile Probation, who are sixteen to eighteen years of age and eligible for AFDC /foster care benefits, are considered for this program. Because this program is designed for youth in their last year of high school, sixteen year olds are only accepted with special county approval. This Transitional Housing Placement Program does not discriminate based on race, gender, sexual orientation, or disability. Youth who are wards to the court under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 602 and/or receiving psychotropic medications will be eligible for consideration in the program and will not be automatically excluded due to these factors.

Krista's T.H.P. program is designed for youth in either their last year of high school and/or last year of placement. Youth are accepted for a time period of three to eighteen months. All applicants need to have an updated T.I.L.P. (Transitional Independent Living Plan) created with their placement worker prior to application for this program. The T.I.L.P. is brought to the interview along with the youth's application. The application process utilizes a team approach. Youth invite those in their natural support system such as a previous caregiver or family member, boyfriend or girlfriend, favorite teacher, youth pastor, or therapist to the interview. The county placement worker, Krista social worker and case manager, and the youth's Independent Living Skills case manager are vital to the meeting. (This intake team becomes the youth's ongoing support team while in the T.H.P. program). A youth will not be accepted if more than one person opposes the application.

The criteria for acceptance in this program includes but is not limited to age, educational status and goals, most recent behavior history, and motivation. Employment is not a requirement for acceptance. Youth are not excluded based on their mental health issues, as long as they can function adequately with the assistance of medication and are active in psychotherapy. Having a criminal and/or drug and alcohol history also does not preclude an applicant from acceptance. Those not accepted are: actively psychotic or physically unable, present an imminent danger to oneself or others, and those with serious poor judgment and impulse control issues who frequently make poor choices. Placements are made based on expected outcomes and individualized plans we can create and implement around the participants' needs.

Krista's T.H.P. program primarily serves Shasta and Tehama counties. Applicants from other Northern California counties are first interviewed by this agency, and if accepted for consideration, their application is reviewed by Shasta County's placement team. Placement is made when both parties approve the applicant. When a youth from another county and a Shasta County youth apply at the same time, the Shasta County youth has preference.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Transitional Housing Program youth attend high school, participate in a county approved home study program, continuing education, adult education, and college, or a combination thereof with academic success. The youth are required to inform their case manager when unable to attend due to illness or a medical appointment. A physician's excuse may be required as proof of the illness, especially if more than one day is missed consecutively. The agency case manager monitors the youth's school attendance and academic performance with weekly or bimonthly phone contact with the school, depending on the need. The agency social worker and case manager will be listed on the Emergency Notification Card at the school attended by the Transitional Housing Program youth. This will allow the agency personnel to be contacted when absences occur or disciplinary problems arise.

INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS TRAINING

Transitional Housing Placement Program youth attend classes held in the community offered through Independent Living Skills and the Independent Living Program as well as classes offered through Krista Foster Homes every two to three weeks. Krista coordinates with the I.L.S. and I.L.P. providers to train in areas not offered by their programs. Furthermore, T.H.P.P. youth contact their assigned Independent Living Skills case manager at least bi monthly and meet periodically as well. Youth who miss classes offered by the I.L.S. or I.L.P. program or Krista, other than due to employment or illness, are fined ½ of their current weekly money for missing the class. (Any fines are put into the youth's savings account).

Krista's program has an Independent Living Skills checklist of 60 skills (see attached) which is used to train and evaluate the participant's progress. It is updated monthly by case management. This Checklist is reviewed during the quarterly meetings with the youth's support team indicating a youth's progress. It is our goal that each youth leaving the program has completed all the items listed on the Independent Living Skills checklist. Furthermore, T.I.L.P.s are reviewed and updated periodically by the Independent Living Skills case manager. All these tools are helpful to assess skill attainment for each program participant.

As a life skill, we promote participation in the youth advocacy organization, California Youth Connection. We take program youth to at least one meeting then encourage them to continue participating on their own.

PROGRESS EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The progress T.H.P.P. participants make is based on: the observation of life skills utilized, new skills learned as indicated on their skills checklist, the ILS/ILP and Krista classes attended, the functioning of youth in their home and community, employment achieved, school participation, credits earned, and money saved. Achievements such as getting a driver's license, high school diploma, or G.E.D. are also indicators of progress. Each youth's file is updated monthly by our case management team. A monthly progress report is submitted to the youth's placement worker, I.L.S. case manager, county program manager, and state liaison. The report tracks a youth's progress month to month. It includes the skills learned by our youth, classes attended, employment status, school progress, money saved, medical/dental visits, incidents, and achievements made by the youth.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

All transitional program youth enroll at the One-Stop career center in the SMART office to prepare for and possibly obtain employment within their first 30 days of placement.

Because employment is a basic necessity for living independently, the Transitional Housing Placement Program participants are required to be employed at least eight hours per week. Volunteer work of at least eight hours weekly is required until a youth obtains employment. One half of this time (four hours) can be earned searching for employment. If these job search and volunteer hours are not met, the youth's weekly housing allowance is cut in half.

Furthermore, a "step down" policy is used to motivate program participants to work. Each youth begins the program with \$100.00 per week for the first three weeks then drops \$10.00 weekly until either employed or the amount reaches \$50.00. Fifty dollars is the

least amount given a youth, except when the required eight hours of volunteer and job search are not met. For example, in the 4th week of placement a youth receives \$90.00 for the week's expenses. When we are unable to verify the completion of at least eight hours of volunteer and job search time, the youth receives \$45.00 for the week. Any remaining monies are saved for this youth in an interest-bearing account.

When our program participants become employed, their weekly money returns to \$100.00 and they are allowed to spend 30% of their paychecks. The remaining 70% of their employment income is saved in a savings account earning interest. Program participants may open their own savings and/or checking accounts using their 30% of earned income. In the event youth quit or lose their job, they return to the Week 5 - \$80.00 amount of program money, dropping weekly to \$50.00 until employed again.

When earning \$100.00 or more weekly from employment, program participants may spend their paycheck for all their living expenses and their weekly housing allowance is put into savings for the youth.

The monthly program savings and earned income savings need to reach the combined amount of \$2,000 before youth are able to take money from their savings account for large purchases such as a car. Again, all of these purchases need to be approved by the youth's placing worker and Krista agency social worker. The goal is to assist our teens to save money, keeping at least \$1,000 as a minimum amount to have when completing this program.

TRANSPORTATION & OWNING VEHICLES

Transportation is the responsibility of the program youth. Examples of transportation are the school bus, city bus, bicycle, or skate board. Motorcycles are not allowed. T.H.P.P. apartments are served by public transportation in most cases. Exceptions to this occur when the youth live in rural settings where public transportation is not offered. Agency staff will transport for court, meetings with a youth's placement worker or I.L.S. worker, attorney, doctor, dentist, and I.L.S./I.L.P. training classes offered in the community or through Krista. If a youth misses the school bus or wants a ride such as to the mall or a friend's house, a charge of \$5.00 is required to off-set the cost of gas.

Program participants are encouraged to learn to drive and obtain their driver's license while in the T.H.P Program. Program youth are required to take the driver training course prior to licensure to ensure knowledge of safe driving practices. Program participants may own their own vehicles and drive when they possess a valid California Driver's License and have auto insurance. Case management staff periodically verifies that program participants possess valid insurance for their vehicles. The program's agency staff will not sign for liability nor be held liable in the case of an automobile accident. Sixteen and seventeen year olds may not drive passengers until they have completed six months of driving

experience after getting a driver's license. Eighteen year olds in this program must have at least three months of driving experience after receiving their driver's license prior to transporting passengers. Furthermore, the Krista Social Worker needs to give approval for each program youth to transport passengers, even after they complete the required 3 or 6 months of post license experience. The permission to transport will be based on the youth's driving record and observed capabilities.

\$ BUDGETING & SAVING \$

Budgeting and bill paying is taught on an ongoing basis as a living skill. Program youth will receive \$1000.00 monthly of youth allowance to pay their rent, utilities, phone, clothing, food, cleaning supplies, laundry, transportation, and recreation needs. Rent and savings are paid on the first of the month when monthly budgets are made with participating youth. A weekly allowance, referred to as the housing allowance, is given following the successful cleaning of a youth's apartment. The amount of money varies based on employment. (See employment section of this manual). If a youth does not budget well and runs out of money, borrowing from program staff will not be permitted.

Furthermore, Transitional Housing Program participants must obtain permission from their placing worker and agency social worker before entering into a contractual agreement such as a credit card, auto loan, or major purchase.

HOUSING OPTIONS

Most of the Transitional Housing Program residents share an apartment with another program youth of the same sex and a young adult mentor. However, some youth receive permission to live alone, with an approved friend or relative, or with a certified foster parent who is a specialty home for T.H.P.P. The participant's roommate is required to meet the approval of Krista's social worker, the youth's placing worker, and must clear a background check (criminal and child abuse history). Most youth are required to have an adult mentor for a roommate. In some cases the live-in mentor may be provided for a period of time to transition youth needing more structure or supervision before living alone or with a peer. In most cases the mentor will be a young adult who is a student or is employed in the community. (See Program Mentor for more details).

All T.H.P.P. youth are encouraged to select a mentor of their choosing. This mentor will continue to be involved in the life of the youth after completing this program. The mentor can be a family member, friend, school personnel, church contact, fellow employee, C.Y.C. member, or other relationship developed by the youth. This mentor will demonstrate positive role modeling and encourage the youth's success during their T.H.P. program then follow the youth when the program ends. Frequently a program mentor or Krista case manager becomes that person.

If a T.H.P.P. participant lives with someone who is not a program mentor, such as a friend, the youth's agency case manager is responsible for all elements of the youth's program. In other words, the roommate is just a roommate and not part of the program. However, if this roommate chosen by the program participant becomes a negative influence or in any way seriously hinders the success of the program youth, the agency will intervene to separate the youth.

Residents are encouraged to act respectfully toward each other, respecting the property, visitors, and noise levels of their roommate(s). When conflicts arise between residents the T.H.P.P. case manager is contacted to assist. If matters are not easily resolved, a behaviorally specific contract may be written to address the issues. If problems are ongoing and appear to jeopardize a teen's program success moving a participant may be the best solution.

THPP STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Krista's T.H.P.P. program is staff intensive. We find most participants succeed when we have one full time case manager for every six youth and live-in mentors provided as well. The volunteer live-in mentors are at a one-to-one or one-to-two ratio with program youth. Occasionally, we have three youth in an apartment with one mentor. The mentors are usually between 19 – 27 years old and are selected for their ability to provide positive role modeling. We have clerical staff assisting the program and a social worker supervising the staff, involved in the intake and discharge of youth, ongoing meetings with placement counties and ILS, overseeing the needs of program youth, reviewing/revising needs and service plans and incident reports, and on call to the youth as well.

All our staff and volunteers receive criminal background checks and are screened for drug and alcohol use. All paid staff stay current in First Aid and CPR. Our T.H.P.P. social worker is trained by the Red Cross as an instructor and most of our T.H.P.P. youth take the classes from him.

SUPERVISION

Supervision in this program comes in varying degrees based on need. Some youth receive more frequent contact than others. Youth requiring less attention are given the greatest amount of freedom possible. These are youths who function at a higher level of maturity, who typically make good decisions and follow program guidelines. We encourage decision making and natural consequences to guide future decisions. Youth requiring more frequent contact and staff involvement are those who struggle to follow rules, have greater dependency needs, are emotionally needy, have physical or medication needs, mental illness issues and/or lack motivation.

PROGRAM MENTORS

Our live-in mentor program has proven effective in providing youth positive young adult role models who impact their daily lives. Mentors are volunteers who are generally in their twenties and who live in the house or apartment with program youth. We screen and select mentors based on their apparent level of maturity, personal values and lifestyle, knowledge and experience working with youth, and flexibility.

Mentors assist youth with daily living skill development, hygiene reminders if needed, occasional help with transportation, assistance with medication if needed, and guidance in social skill training and conflict resolution. Mentors contact agency staff when problems arise, such as: youth are ill or injured, a problem arises between residents or with a neighbor, a law is broken, youth violate program guidelines such as not indoors at curfew, or a youth is suspected of drinking alcohol or being high on drugs.

UTILITIES & PHONE

The cost of utilities and telephone services are equally divided among the residents. Program youth pay for these from their monthly budget. 900 numbers, long distance service, and international service are not available to program youth.

Residents are encouraged to use pre-paid phone cards for long distance calls. If a youth is placed in T.H.P.P. housing from another county, Krista issues calling cards to be used to contact the youth's placing worker and I.L.S. worker.

HOUSEKEEPING

Transitional Housing Program residents are responsible to keep their apartments clean on an ongoing basis, remembering they are still in placement and their apartment is a state licensed facility. An agency staff person, county placement or I.L.S. worker, and state community care licensing analyst may drop by at any time. Residents clean their apartments in a reasonable and shared fashion, including the program mentor.

When a youth enters the program the youth's mentor or case manager determines the cleaning skill level of the youth and teaches in areas needed. The case manager inspects the youth's apartment weekly. Bedding must be changed, furniture dusted, floors swept and vacuumed, bathroom sink, tub, and toilet cleaned, dishes washed, and kitchen appliances wiped down on a weekly basis. A youth is given the housing allowance after passing the cleaning inspection.

FURNISHINGS & DECORATING

Each apartment is furnished with all the basic necessities of daily living. Residents may choose to use their own household furnishings but must list the items on their personal property inventory form to distinguish them from program furnishings. When T.H.P.P. participants move into their own residents they not only take their personal property and furnishings with them but are given household furnishings by this agency.

If a youth destroys, damages, or loses an item of furniture, the item will be replaced with funds from the youth's savings. Illegal and inappropriate items or pictures are not allowed in the apartment nor on the walls, such as drug paraphernalia, clearly gang related materials, and any form of pornographic material. These items will either be destroyed per placing worker's instructions or held until this youth leaves the program.

The following furnishings are provided in the Transitional Housing Program apartment by the agency:

Bed
Kitchen table & chairs
Lamp
Vacuum cleaner
Telephone
First Aid kit

KITCHEN:

Cookware
Cooking utensils
Pot holders
Dishes (4-6 serving set)
Silverware (4-6 serving set)
Glasses (6-8)
Mugs (4)
Food serving dishes
Food storage containers
Can opener, potato peeler, kitchen knives
Measuring cups and spoons
Dish pan and drainer
Kitchen towels, washcloths (4 each)
Pitcher
Cutting board
Cheese grater
Microwave
Toaster
Blender
Coffee Pot
Hand mixer

Dresser
Couch & Love Seat or Chair
Television
Iron
Fire extinguisher
Covered trash can for kitchen

BEDROOM:

Sheets (two sets) chosen by youth at intake
1 or 2 pillows (depending on size of the bed)
Blanket and comforter
Laundry basket
Alarm clock

BATHROOM:

Rug
Bath towels and washcloths (two per resident) chosen by youth at intake
Shower curtain (as needed)
Trash can

CLEANING SUPPLIES:

Broom, mop & dust pan
Toilet brush

GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY

Program youth are working toward a good rental reference and possibly continuing to rent their apartment or another in the complex when graduating the T.H.P. Program. The youth work with their neighbors to keep their noise at an acceptable level. Furthermore, they participate in being a “good neighbor.” Examples of helpful behavior some of our youth have participated in are:

- Helped a neighbor take out his trash following a hospital stay
- Called 911 when a man was passed out in his car due to health problems
- Put out a fire in an apartment dumpster
- Cooked meals for an elderly lady while her caregiver was away for a few days

MEDICAL

In the case that a youth is ill or injured, the case manager or mentor transports the youth to their physician or the emergency room of a hospital. The medical card and form authorizing the consent for treatment will accompany the youth.

Annual check-ups (C.H.D.P. exam) and dental exams are required of all residents within the first thirty days of placement. Annual eye exams are provided as needed. Youth schedule these appointments in conjunction with their case manager to coordinate a time good for both. The case manager transports the youth and submits the C.H.D.P. and dental reports to the agency.

EMERGENCIES

Each participant in the Transitional Housing Program has the phone number of their case manager and the 24-hour pager number of the agency social worker to contact in the case of an emergency. Emergencies could vary from medical to roommate conflicts. The case manager is the first to respond and is responsible to contact the agency social worker and placing worker to report the emergency. An incident report may be written, depending on the incident or emergency, and submitted to the placing worker, I.L.S. worker, and Community Care Licensing. The emergency may require a call to 9-1-1 before contacting the case manager. The agency pager number for a social worker is (530) 248-6414, and cell phone numbers for the case managers are: (530) 515-8151, 515-3781, and 515-3781.

SAFETY ISSUES

Community Care Licensing monitors a variety of safety concerns for youth in foster care in the form of state regulations. These regulations are followed by participating youth. The following are safety measures required by this agency: 1) Program participants' medication is locked in a lock box when an apartment is shared with a roommate. 2) Youth are encouraged to keep their doors and windows locked and to not open the door to strangers. 3) Each youth participates in water safety, first aid and C.P.R. classes. 4) Youth

are required to have a friend present when swimming if a lifeguard is not on duty. 5) Restrictions are made on visitors that are believed to present a danger to the resident. This includes friends or family members who are on probation or parole. 6) T.H.P.P. youth are asked to ride with experienced drivers who have their driver's license and auto insurance. (See the transportation section for more detail). Furthermore, each apartment passes a safety inspection and is equipped with a smoke detector, fire extinguisher, and first aid kit. Youth entering the program are told to contact their case manager for questions or any type of emergency and to call the Krista pager if unable to reach a case manager.

DATING

Dating out in the community is encouraged. Residents may go the movies, bowling, sporting events, plays/musicals, to dinner or coffee shop dating. Occasionally, an unsupervised date or visit may occur in the apartment, such as having dinner together, with prior permission from the case manager.

PREGNANCY AND CHILDCARE

Our foremost goal in this arena is pregnancy prevention. The dating and visitation policy aid in alleviating some of the risk. Each of our residents, male and female, attend the annual Independent Living Program training on human sexuality. Krista's social worker or case manager may review elements of this course with our youth, clarifying any confusion or questions. Our residents are encouraged to abstain from sex. They are also encouraged to speak freely and honestly regarding this issue. Furthermore, our staff provides birth control and disease control information, strongly encouraging the use of birth control if youth are sexually active. If, after all these steps have been taken, a resident becomes pregnant the youth receives emotional support and will not be terminated from the program due to pregnancy.

If a youth has an infant or child living with him/her, the case manager and mentor teaches and monitors parenting skills and assists the parent in locating safe child care. If a mentor provides direct child care, the program youth pays for the service based on the current market rate.

CURFEW

Transitional Housing Program youth keep their case manager informed of their schedule. A 10:00 p.m. weekday curfew (Sunday through Thursday) and 12:00 p.m. weekend curfew (Friday and Saturday) is required with exceptions granted by the case manager. Exceptions may be granted for activities such as late movies, ball games, or late working hours. All youth must be inside (not loitering outside) at 10:00 p.m. every night of the week with no exceptions. Overnight visits with friends and family outside the apartment may be scheduled with the prior approval of the case manager before 5 p.m. of that night.

VISITORS

Transitional Housing Program residents have visitors as approved by the case manager. Some requests may be denied or visitors excluded if problems arise. Approved visitors of the same sex may be allowed to visit inside the apartment. Opposite sex visitors must visit outside the apartment, with exceptions granted on occasion by the case manager. All visitors must follow the rules of the program and apartment complex. Visitors observe the 10:00 p.m. curfew with the exception of pre-approved overnight guests. All family visitations are arranged by the resident and case manager per placing worker's instruction.

ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS

Because our youth have many challenges in both their past and current living situations, they do not need the further challenge of struggling with chemical addictions. Transitional Housing Program participants are required to be drug-free. Periodic drug screens will be provided. When residents test positive they will likely have to attend AA/NA meetings, may be put on a contract, and will lose this program if positive tests continue. If a resident is found with a quantity of drugs for sale, an automatic termination will result. Furthermore, the youth will be reported to the police department.

DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Discipline is most effective if the offense is closely related to the consequence or a natural consequence results from the offense. This principle is followed in the housing program. For example, if a youth violates a curfew requirement, he/she may not be allowed to leave the apartment past 6:00 p.m. for the next two or three nights. If a youth has an overnight guest without permission, he/she may not have overnight guests for a month.

Disciplinary measures will not violate the client's rights as prescribed by Community Care Licensing. Disciplinary measures may take the form of: grounding to the apartment (except for work and school), the temporary withdrawal of special privileges or activities, written reports regarding the offense, the restriction of visitors, and monetary fines (which go into the youth's savings account). Transitional Housing Program participants frequently place positive peer pressure on the other residents to keep the rules of the program.

PERSONAL RIGHTS

Each child receiving services from a child care facility shall have rights which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- To live in a safe, healthy, and comfortable home and to be treated with respect.
- To be free from physical, sexual, emotional or other abuse, or corporal punishment.
- To receive adequate and healthy food and adequate clothing.
- To wear their own clothes.
- To possess and use personal possessions, including toilet articles.
- To receive medical, dental, vision, and mental health services.
- To be free of the administration of medication or chemical substances, unless authorized by a physician.
- To contact family members (unless prohibited by court order) and social workers, attorneys, foster youth advocates and supporters, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), and probation officers.
- To visit and contact brothers and sisters, unless prohibited by court order.
- To contact Community Care Licensing Division of the State Department of Social Services of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson regarding violations of rights, to speak to representatives of these offices confidentially and to be free from threats or punishment for making complaints.
- To be informed by the caregiver of the provisions of the law regarding complaints.
- To make and receive confidential telephone calls and send and receive unopened mail (unless prohibited by court order).
- To attend religious services and activities of their choice.
- To maintain emancipation bank account and manage personal income, consistent with their age and developmental level, unless prohibited by the case plan.
- To not be locked in any room, building, or facility premises, unless placed in a community treatment facility.
- To not be placed in any restraining device, unless placed in a postural support and if approved in advance by the licensing agency or placement agency.
- To attend school and participate in extracurricular, cultural, and personal enrichment activities, consistent with their age and developmental level.
- To work and develop job skills at an age appropriate level that is consistent with state law.
- To have social contacts with people outside of the foster care system, such as teachers, church members, mentors, and friends.
- To attend Independent Living Program classes and activities if they are 16 or older.
- To attend court hearings and speak to the judge.
- To have storage space for private use.
- To review their own case plan if they are 12 years of age and to receive

information regarding out-of-home placement and case plan, including being told of changes to plan.

- To be free from unreasonable searches of personal belongings.
- To have all their juvenile court records be confidential (consistent with existing law).

Personal rights violations are reported to Maureen Bromley at (530) 895-5825

GROUNDS FOR TERMINATION

A program participant is expected to follow the guidelines and rules of the program. A warning or probationary term is given when a serious infraction occurs. Termination could occur if the resident repeats the offense during the term of “probation”, is evicted from the apartment, or breaks the law.

The following violations may result in termination from the program: repeated use of alcohol or drugs, allowing a runaway to stay at the apartment, having unauthorized overnight guests, staying overnight away from the apartment, refusing to participate in the program requirements, refusing to attend school, or demonstrating behavior that is dangerous to the resident or to others. Youth are usually placed on a behavior contract when struggling with the program guidelines. An emergency meeting of the youth’s support team will likely transpire to address the behavior issues. The team usually makes a group decision to terminate the youth from this program, unless a serious behavior occurs and immediate termination is made by this agency.

AFTERCARE SERVICES

Youth leaving this T.H.P. Program receive help with their exit plan from our case managers. Help may come in the form of donating furnishings for the youth’s new residence, helping them move, assisting in getting utilities started, and providing emotional support during the transition. Furthermore, our case managers provide continued contact personally or by phone, starting with weekly contact during the first month then monthly thereafter for two years. Case managers have the phone numbers of our program participants’ family and friends so are usually able to track them successfully. Furthermore, successful program graduates are frequently invited to share their experiences with current program youth, attend classes and agency events, and some have become program mentors.