Transitional Housing Placement Program (THPP)

Program Description

THPP is a transitional housing placement opportunity for youth who are 16 to 18 years of age and currently in foster care, including those supervised by probation. The goal of the program is to provide a safe living environment so that the youth can practice the skills necessary to live on their own upon leaving the foster care support system. The program provides supervised transitional housing and supportive services based on a youth’s Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP). The TILP is developed by the youth and support persons with the youth’s social worker/probation officer and details goals and objectives for the youth to achieve while working toward self-sufficiency.

Program Requirements

Participant Eligibility:
Youth in foster care, ages 16-18, are pursuing county-approved TILP goals and are participating in Independent Living Program Services.

County Eligibility:
Counties that have not submitted a THPP plan for minors but intend to start providing this placement option must submit a county plan to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). Counties must have a plan approved by CDSS in order to participate.

Provider Eligibility:
THPP provider must be licensed by CDSS’ Community Care Licensing Division and receive a certification from the applicable county, as specified below.

Services:
Participants receive supportive services from providers to achieve the goals outlined in their TILP. The services assist the youth in attaining emancipation preparation goals, which include but are not limited to education attainment, financial management skills, and gainful employment.

Certification Standards

An applicant seeking to operate a THPP shall obtain certification from the applicable county that specifies the facility will serve foster youth at least 16 years of age but not older than 18. For purposes of certification, “applicable county” means the county where the administrative office or sub-administrative office of a transitional housing placement provider is located, or a primary placing county. For more information on certification standards, see Welfare and Institutions Code (W&IC) section 16522.1(b) and section 30-911 of CDSS’ Manual of Policies and Procedures.

Housing Requirements

- Providers may offer the following:
  - Host Family – placement where the youth lives with a caring adult who has been selected and approved by the transitional housing placement provider.
  - Single Site – placement where the youth lives alone or with roommates in an apartment, condominium or single family dwelling. Staff from the housing provider live on-site.
- Publicly supervised or privately operated shelters, or living with friends, family members, and/or others that provide temporary accommodation, are NOT acceptable.

Funding

THPP is a type of foster care placement. Title IV-E funds are available to help pay for eligible foster youth placed in a THPP.

Additional information or regulations may be found at www.dss.ca.gov, listed under Find Services, Foster Care.

For more information, please contact:
California Department of Social Services
Transition Age Youth Policy Unit
744 P Street, M.S. 8-13-78
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 657-1858 (916) 657-3791 fax
Email: TAYPolicy@dss.ca.gov