

# Older Youth Initiatives



The Older Youth Initiatives (OYI) program assists current and former foster youth who were under the care and supervision of the Indiana Department of Child Services and in out-of-home placement. OYI is designed as a continuum of care beginning at age 16 with transition to adulthood services at age 17.5 for youth expected to age out of foster care, extended foster care until age 21, and voluntary services to age 23.

## OYI Programs:

**OYS**

**Older Youth Services (OYS)** are basic independent living services. OYS helps youths achieve their independent living case plan goals. OYS primarily focuses on helping youth obtain independent living skills. OYS can be implemented concurrently with other goals like reunification and adoption.

**TAS**

**Transition to Successful Adulthood Services (TAS)** are transitional services for older youth who have a case plan goal of Another Alternative Plan Living Arrangement (APPLA) and are expected to age out of foster care. TSA is designed to assist youth with obtaining stability and self-sufficiency as they emerge into adulthood.

**CC**

**Collaborative Care (CC)** is Indiana's extended foster care program. CC is a continuation of older youth services for young adults (from age 18 until they turn 21) who voluntarily agree to remain or re-enter foster care. CC helps young adults reach their transition plan goals to successfully emerge into adulthood.

**VS**

**Voluntary Services (VS)** are aftercare services for youths who have "aged out" of the foster care system at 18 or whose CC case closed at age 21. These services assist former foster youth in the areas of housing, employment, and education to aid youth in maintaining stability and self-sufficiency.

## Older Youth Services Delivery:

OYS providers offer instruction, experiential learning and monitoring of services including education; employment; housing; physical and mental health; financial and asset management; daily living activities and youth engagement.

## Additional Supportive Programs and Services:

### Education

- Education Training Voucher
- Summer Bridge Program - Catalyst

### Financial and Asset Management

- Opportunity Passport

### Housing

- Foster Youth Independence Program
- Family Unification Voucher

### Leadership

- Indiana Youth Advisory Board

### Youth Outcome Survey

- National Youth in Transition in Database

## Older Youth Services Providers:

Youth are referred to an OYS providers by their DCS Family Case Manager or Older Youth Case Manager. Youth placed in a licensed childcare placement agency or residential facility will receive OYS through the placement agency. Find the OYS provider that serves your county on the OYS Service Provider Map at [www.in.gov/dcs/older-youth-initiatives/](http://www.in.gov/dcs/older-youth-initiatives/).

Learn more about OYI online at [www.in.gov/dcs/older-youth-initiatives/](http://www.in.gov/dcs/older-youth-initiatives/).

